



# Our Lady's News

Volume 8 Issue 8 9th February 2024

*'With God, all things are possible' (Mt 19.26)*



Watkin Street

Fenton

Stoke-on-Trent

ST4 4NP

Tel: 01782 254832

Email:

[office@olca.org.uk](mailto:office@olca.org.uk)

Website:

[Our Lady's - Home](http://Our Lady's - Home)  
[ourladysca.org.uk](http://ourladysca.org.uk)

Dear parents/carers,

This week there have been lots of activities across the school linked to Children's Mental Health Week, and this year's theme was 'My Voice Matters' which is about empowering children and young people by providing them with the tools they need to express themselves. As parents and carers, you play an important role in your child's mental health. Please take a look at the suggested conversation starters below which can help your child to feel confident talking about their mental health...

TELL ME ABOUT  
YOUR DAY

WHAT WAS THE BEST  
THING ABOUT TODAY?

WHAT IS THE BIGGEST  
STRESS / WORRY IN YOUR  
LIFE RIGHT NOW?

WHAT'S YOUR  
ONLINE LIFE LIKE?

WHO WOULD YOU TALK  
TO IF YOU WERE FEELING  
WORRIED ABOUT YOUR  
MENTAL HEALTH?

WHAT CAN I DO  
TO HELP YOU?



**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> February is Ash Wednesday – the day that** marks the start of the season of Lent. The information below explains the tradition. When the children return to school for the new half term, they will be learning about Lent and taking part in liturgies which focus on the themes of prayer, fasting and works of charity. On Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February, our assembly will be led by Cafod who will be sharing some information about 'The Big Lent Walk' – information will be sent out to parents about how you can get involved in this event with your children.



Ashes were worn by people in the Old Testament to show their repentance (Jonah 3).

We also wear ashes on Ash Wednesday as a sign of our repentance and grief for our sins.

The ashes are a public sign of our intent to die to our world desires and live in Christ. As our foreheads are being marked, the priest says:

'Remember that you are dust and unto dust you shall return'. (Genesis 3:19)



The ashes come from the blessed palms used in the Palm Sunday celebration of the previous year.

Ash Wednesday is the first day of the season of Lent.

Have a wonderful week off school.

I look forward to welcoming you back on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February! - Mrs Oakley

Join our 700+ followers on Twitter @OLCAFenton Follow us to see all recent news, events and pictures!

## DIARY DATES

**09.02.24:** Last day of Spring term 1  
**12.02.24-15.02.24:** Half term holiday week  
**19.02.24:** School reopens—start of Spring Term 2  
**19.02.24:** Y5 Swimming lessons continue every Monday this term  
**20.02.24:** School Mass in Church Y1,Y2,Y3 9.15am-10.15am—Families Invited  
**29.02.24:** Y5/Y6 Football Matches at St Maria Goretti 4pm-5pm—Invite only  
**05.03.24:** School Mass in Church Y4,Y5,Y6 9.15am-10.15—Families invited  
**07.03.24:** World Book Day  
**12.03.24:** Little Library van visiting Nursery  
**19.03.24:** School Mass in Church Y1,Y2,Y3 9.15am-10.15am—Families Invited  
**19.03.24:** Dance 2024 at Victoria Hall  
**22.03.24:** End of Spring Term 2  
**08.04.24:** School reopens—start of Summer Term 1

*All the dates of this year's school terms and holiday dates can be found on our website <https://www.ourladyasca.org.uk/parents/term-dates>*



## P.E Spring term 2024

Children should arrive in school wearing their P.E kits on the day of their lesson. Kit to be worn all day. Pupils should remove all

jewellery (including earrings) prior to taking part in any physical activities.



### Tues 9th Jan - Fri 22nd March

**Monday - Y4 & Y6**

**Tuesday - Reception & Nursery**

**Wednesday - Nursery, Y1,Y3,Y5**

**Thursday - Y2,Y4,Y3 & Y6**

**Friday - Y1 & Y2**

## Children's details

Please let the School Office know if any details need amending for your child, for example; contacts details, change of address. Also, please let the Office know if there are any changes to the list of people who can collect your child at the end of the school day.

Thank you

## Medical Appointments

The school discourages medical/dental appointments during the school day.

Parents are requested to arrange non-emergency, non-urgent medical/dental or other appointments at the end of the school day.

Please note, if urgent appointments are required during the school day. Medical evidence must be provided. Please call before arriving to collect.

Thank you for your cooperation

## School Attendance & Punctuality

At Our Lady's Catholic Academy, we are working hard to improve the punctuality of our pupils. It is essential that our pupils arrive on school on time, ready to begin learning. We would like to remind you that the law requires pupils to attend school regularly and on time.

The school gates open at 8.45am and close at 8.55am. Children are expected to be in class by 8.55am. All pupils are expected to arrive on time. Children are to be collected on time at the end of the school day.

End of the school day finishing time:

YN & YR 3.05pm

Y1 & Y2 3.10pm

Y3-Y6 3.15pm

## Parking around School

May we remind everyone of the importance of parking safely outside of the school and being mindful of pedestrians. Please do not park on the pavements or park on the zigzag markings/pedestrian crossing. Can we remind you that it is, in fact, illegal to park on zigzag markings and can incur a penalty charge notice. Please be respectful towards others and not use offensive language in and around the school site, especially in front of children.



Thank you

## Attendance

w/c 05.02.2024

Class	Total Percentage
YN	94%
YR	89%
Y1	89%
Y2	91%
Y3	94%
Y4	91%
Y5	97%
Y6	87%

Designated Child Protection Officer: Mrs K Oakley

[www.safeguardingchildren.stoke.gov.uk](http://www.safeguardingchildren.stoke.gov.uk)

Executive Headteacher: Mrs K Oakley

Chair of the Academy Committee: Mr P Williams

Email; [office@olca.org.uk](mailto:office@olca.org.uk) or [headteacher@olca.org.uk](mailto:headteacher@olca.org.uk)

Child Protection Academy Rep: Mrs V Wareham

Stoke on Trent Children's Services: 01782 235100

