

Our Lady of the Wayside Catholic School

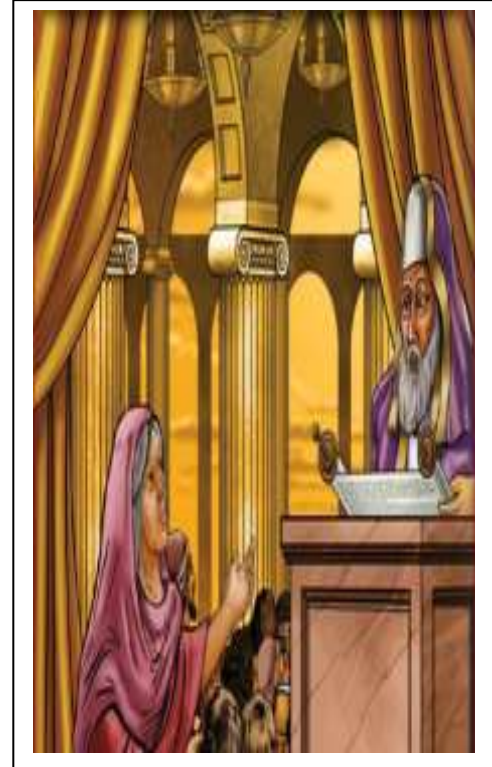


School Newsletter – Friday 14th October 2022

This Sunday's Gospel

Taken from the Gospel for 16th October 2022 (Luke 18:1-8):
The Answer to Prayer

Jesus told his disciples a parable about the need to pray continually and never lose heart. "There was a judge in a certain town," he said, "who had neither fear of God nor respect for man. In the same town there was a widow who kept on coming to him and saying, 'I want justice from you against my enemy!' For a long time he refused, but at last he said to himself, 'Maybe I have neither fear of God nor respect for man, but since she keeps pestering me I must give this widow her just rights, or she will persist in coming and worry me to death.'" And the Lord said, "You notice what the unjust judge has to say? Now will not God see justice done to his chosen who cry to him day and night even when he delays to help them? I promise you, he will see justice done to them, and done speedily. But when the Son of Man comes, will he find any faith on earth?"



Gospel Reflection

We often think of prayer as mere asking, and this parable encourages us to pester God as the wronged widow pestered the Unjust Judge. But that is only one aspect of Luke's teaching on prayer. He also shows us what our attitude in prayer should be in the parable which immediately follows today's passage from the gospel: the parable of the Pharisee and the Tax-Collector. The tax-collector wins approval because he just stands there, admitting his sins. Most instructive, however, is Luke's teaching on Jesus at prayer: he reminds us that Jesus is always quietly at prayer to his Father. He needs to slip away to spend the night in prayer. Especially he prays at the most important moments of his life: at his Baptism, when he chooses his team of disciples, before he teaches them to pray, at the approach of his Passion, finally forgiving and comforting others at his death. Paul tells us we should pray continually. The prayer of asking must be built on a relationship of love and dependence, just as the request of child to parents is built on their loving relationship. It does not matter if the child is at times naughty; the deep relationship between parent and child is one of love. So too we do not need to be perfect to make our requests to our Father.

Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB

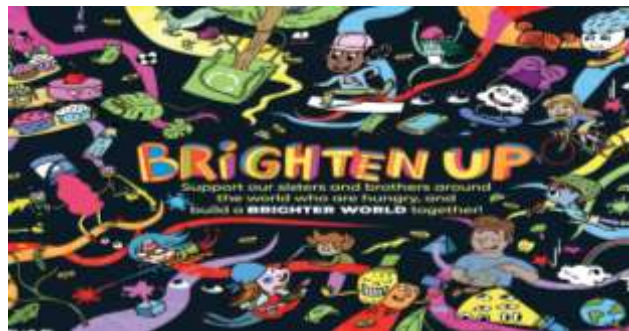
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Cafod Fast Day

Today we held a CAFOD Fast Day where children went without their normal morning snacks in support of CAFOD, a Catholic charity which works in some of the poorest regions of the world. This year's theme was 'Brighten Up'. In recognition of this, we encouraged children to come to school dressed in bright colours and make to make a donation to this important charity. Thank you for your generosity.



One World Liturgy

Today, we also celebrated our One World Harvest Liturgy, gathering as a school community to thank God for this year's harvest and for our awesome world. As part of this liturgy, we asked for donations of food in support of a Catholic charity called Brushstrokes (<https://www.brushstrokessandwell.org.uk/>). We had a really positive response managing to totally fill the Brushstrokes representative's van! Thank you for your support.



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Mass Times at OLW Church

Saturday evening Vigil Mass for Sunday
5.30pm Evening Mass
Sunday Mass
10:00am with Children's Liturgy

Parish/School Family Mass

Well done to the Year 4 children and Year 4 staff for leading us so beautifully in our first Parish/School Family Mass on Saturday evening. It was lovely to see so many families in attendance. The next Parish/School Family Mass will be held on Saturday 12th November. This will be an induction Mass for Y3 children making the sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Communion.

National World Mental Health Day

Monday was World Mental Health Day and the theme was 'make mental health and wellbeing for all a global priority'. The mental health of our children, and our staff, is something which we are very aware of here at OLW. We want all our children to be happy, healthy (physically and mentally) and to be resilient. We use a variety of strategies to promote mental well-being and to support children and families when they feel unwell. If you, or your child, is feeling mentally unwell please do make contact with school. If we are unable to provide the appropriate support, through our own school based programmes, we would signpost support from external agencies.

St Bernadette Relic Tour of England and Wales

During September and October the relics of St. Bernadette are on tour and will be visiting each one of the 22 dioceses of England and Wales. The relics were in the Archdiocese of Birmingham from 7-10th October. On Monday we joined other schools from across the Archdiocese in a livestream event from The Church of the Immaculate Conception in Bicester. This time of prayer included praying the Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary and was led by His Grace, Archbishop Bernard.



Month of October and the Rosary

As we are now in the month of October, throughout this week different year groups have been praying the Rosary at the end of the school day in church. The focus has been on the Glorious Mysteries and creation. Other classes joined in with this collective worship via livestream in their classrooms.

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Attendance

It is essential that children regularly attend school, poor attendance has a serious and long lasting impact on your child. To promote and encourage good attendance we publish weekly attendance figures.

Reception	Red Group 98.8%	Blue Group 95.9%
Year 1	Class 1C 91.8%	Class 1Y 93.7%
Year 2	Class 2F 97.0%	Class 2CS 98.5%
Year 3	Class 3M 97.0%	Class 3TS 98.5%
Year 4	Class 4C 98.9%	Class 4L 96.1%
Year 5	Class 5E 96.9%	Class 5P 97.5%
Year 6	Class 6O 95.4%	Class 6W 95.1%

Overall attendance for this week is 96.3%. Well done this week to Class 4C with an attendance figure of 98.9%



Brain Teaser

Last week's brainteaser:

I come in different shapes and sizes. Parts of me are curved, other parts are straight. You can put me anywhere you like, but there is only one right place for me. What am I?

Answer: A jigsaw puzzle piece

This week's brainteaser:

A red house is made from red bricks. A blue house is made from blue bricks. A yellow house is made from yellow bricks. What is a green house made from?

Job Vaccancies in School

We currently have the following Lunchtime Supervisor roles available in school:

2 x 10 hours

1 x 7.5 hours

Please contact the school office for further details. The closing date for applications is Tuesday 18th October.

School Lunches

Please see attachment for lunch menu next week. (Week 1)

Pupil Report Cards and Review Meetings

Your child's report card is now available to you via your child's Microsoft Teams account (Years 1-6). We sent out information earlier this week, via your child, on how to login into MS Teams. If you are struggling, please contact school and we will do our best to assist you. You will see a number of important changes to this year's Pupil Report Card. Next week we begin our first round of Pupil Review meetings. These are focused on your child and their voice and input is at the core of these meetings. Working together, your child and your child's class teacher, will discuss what is working well and agree next steps. Their Pupil Report Card will then be updated on MS Teams. We hope parents are able to join for these discussions (via School Cloud). This is a very new way of working for us all so please do bear with us. Once we have completed this first cycle we will review and make adjustments, if required. Thank you.

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Golden Thread Enrichment - Year 5 Visit to Big Pit in South Wales

On Tuesday our Year 5 children visited Big Pit, the Welsh National Coal Museum. The Museum is set in a unique industrial landscape, designated a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 2000 in recognition of its international importance to the process of industrialisation through iron and coal production. During their visit children had an opportunity to go underground and to experience how challenging life was as a miner. The visit also provided an opportunity for children to understand the importance of coal as part of the industrial revolution and to consider the impact of burning coal, which is our fossil fuel, on our planet's climate.



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Reminders for this week:

Mass

Upper Phase will celebrate Mass with Our Lady of the Wayside Parish on Tuesday 18th October. Mass starts at 10:00am; you are all most welcome.

Open Day

Parents seeking a Nursery, or a school place, for September 2023 are invited to visit Our Lady of the Wayside School on October 18th 9:30 - 11:00am and Thursday 17th November, 9:30- 11:00am. Year 6 guides will be available to show visitors around the school.

Year 5 Religious Residential Retreat

Next Wednesday to Friday children in Year 5 will be on retreat at Alton Castle. This provides them with a wonderful opportunity to grow closer to God through prayer and reflection. We hope they all have a wonderful time.