

# Our Lady of the Wayside Catholic School



School Newsletter – Friday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2022

## This Sunday's Gospel

Taken from the Gospel for 18th September 2022 (Luke 16:1-13):

### The Dishonest Steward

Jesus said to his disciples, "There was a rich man and he had a steward who was denounced to him for being wasteful with his property. He called for the man and said, 'What is this I hear about you? Draw me up an account of your stewardship because you are not to be my steward any longer.' Then the steward said to himself, 'Now that my master is taking the stewardship from me, what am I to do? Dig? I am not strong enough. Go begging? I should be too ashamed. Ah, I know what I will do to make sure that when I am dismissed from office there will be some to welcome me into their homes.' Then he called his master's debtors one by one. To the first he said, 'How much do you owe my master?' 'One hundred measures of oil,' was the reply. The steward said, 'Here, take your bond; sit down straight away and write fifty.' To another he said, 'And you, sir, how much do you owe?' 'One hundred measures of wheat,' was the reply. The steward said, 'Here, take your bond and write eighty.' The master praised the dishonest steward for his astuteness. For the children of this world are more astute in dealing with their own kind than are the children of light. And so I tell you this: use money, tainted as it is, to win you friends, and thus make sure that when it fails you, they will welcome you into the tents of eternity. The man who can be trusted in little things can be trusted in great; the man who is dishonest in little things will be dishonest in great. If then you cannot be trusted with money, that tainted thing, who will trust you with genuine riches? And if you cannot be trusted with what is not yours, who will give you what is your very own? No servant can be the slave of two masters: he will either hate the first and love the second, or treat the first with respect and the second with scorn. You cannot be the slave both of God and of money."



## Gospel Reflection

*This parable can be deeply disquieting if we take it as an allegory, that is, if every element in the story is meant (as in Matthew's Parable of the Wheat and the Tares) to have an equivalent in reality. We can't have God praising the steward for his frauds! No, the point of the story is simply the steward's energy and inventiveness, his shrewdness as a 'child of this age'. A lot more thought often goes into how to make money than into how to spend it to the best advantage of others! The danger and encumbrance of wealth is such that skill and imagination is needed in using it to live justly here on earth and to prepare ourselves for life in heaven. The full brilliance of the story is even more subtle: Jews were forbidden to lend to Jews at interest. The steward cuts off the interest from the bills of his master's debtors, for oil was commonly lent at 100% interest, and wheat at 25%. It was easy to return olive oil adulterated with cheap sesame oil, but if I scatter handfuls of chaff in the grain I give you back, you will spot it immediately. So the steward makes his master obey the Law! The sayings added at the end hit the nail on the head: no slave can serve two masters, God and money. Is there anything in your life which prevents you from fully serving God?*

Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB

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## HM Queen Elizabeth Prayer Service

We came together as a school community on Thursday afternoon to remember Her Majesty the Queen and to give thanks for all the ways she loved and served those in her care. Children prepared very moving poems and prayers which they shared in a very respectful and reverent way. Our thanks to parents who joined us in church for the service.



Below is a prayer written by Class 6O which captures the happy times and challenges in her life.

Elizabeth, Elizabeth, a glorious name  
A glorious Queen with a glorious reign  
at a very young age, you came to lead  
it was at times, a difficult deed.  
You are without doubt, the corgi lover  
We also realise you're a fantastic mother  
You definitely have the longest reign  
Being the Queen's not an easy game  
Elizabeth you were an Arsenal fan  
And in turn married a handsome man

Loving animals especially horses too  
So when visiting Kenya you popped to the zoo  
She reigned for over 70 years  
Passing crowds were full of cheers  
Edward, Andrew, Charles and Anne  
Queen Victoria was her great, great gran  
15 Prime ministers in her life  
That possibly gave you lots of strife  
Eliminating the worst of our fears  
You were so loved for many years

A reminder that School is **closed for a national bank holiday on Monday 19th September**, the date of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's State Funeral. This will allow individuals, businesses and organisations to pay their respects to Her Majesty and commemorate Her reign, while marking the final day of the period of national mourning.

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## A Warm Welcome

This week we welcomed our new Reception children into school. It has been delightful watching them getting to know their new friends, teachers and classroom.



## Understanding your Child Course

Solihull Parenting Team are pleased to announce that they have the opportunity to run the **Understanding Your Child** course again at Solihull College Blossomfield Campus this term, Thursdays from 28<sup>th</sup> September.

**Understanding Your Child** is a 10-week parenting group designed to support parent/child relationships. It is intended for parents and carers who want to know more about sensitive and effective parenting. Participants will be able to develop ways of thinking about parent/child relationships which can be developed into lifelong skills in a friendly and supportive environment. Areas of discussion will include topics like exploring feelings, parenting styles, communication and behavioural difficulties, as well as others.

If you are interested please see that attached flyer for details.

## St Peter's Catholic Secondary School - Open Evening

St Peter's Catholic School are holding an open evening on **Thursday 22nd September between 5:30pm to 8:00pm** for families applying for a secondary school place for September 2023. There is also an opportunity for parents to arrange a visit to see the school in operation by appointment on **Monday 26<sup>th</sup> September and Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> September.**

St Peter's Catholic School  
Faith is our Foundation

**VISIT OUR SCHOOL**  
meet our staff and pupils

Open Evening  
Thursday 22nd September 5.30pm - 8pm

Open Mornings  
Visits to see the school in operation by appointment on  
Monday 26th September • Tuesday 27th September

Click this link OR call  
0121 705 3988  
to book

We look forward to meeting you

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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		
Year 1	Class 1C 95.0%	Class 1Y 95.8%
Year 2	Class 2F 98.3%	Class 2CS 98.5%
Year 3	Class 3M 94.3%	Class 3TS 93.9%
Year 4	Class 4C 95.6%	Class 4L 98.4%
Year 5	Class 5E 96.9%	Class 5P 96.0%
Year 6	Class 6O 96.2%	Class 6W 97.6%

Overall attendance for this week is 96.4%. Well done this week to Class 2CS with an attendance figure of 98.5%

## Coffee Morning

Want to meet some other parents and make some new friends? We have arranged a coffee morning for parents on **Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> September** between 9:00am and 10:00am in the Scout Centre. You are all most welcome



## Nut Products

With a number of children in school with allergies to nut products, please can we ask that any products containing nuts are not sent into school in lunchboxes. In particular, please avoid products which can look deceptive, e.g. pastries and pancakes which can contain hazelnut chocolate. Thank you for your support in this important matter.

## School Lunches

Please see attachment for lunch menu next week. (Week 3)

## Brain Teaser

### Last week's brainteaser:

Claire leaves New York by eight in the morning, driving 35mph. Nina starts driving to New York at a speed of 50mph. When they meet, which one will be furthest away from New York?

### Answer:

When they meet, they will be the same distance away from New York.



### This week's brainteaser:

What makes the number 8,549,176,320 special?

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OLW School Association AGM  
Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> October 3.30pm



Annual General Meeting to be held in the school hall

Without your support, the School Association simply won't be able to continue running events such as Christmas and Summer fairs and raising valuable funds for the school.

We really need new members, even if you only have a small amount of time to give. Please come along and find out more.



<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/happys-circus-returns-to-our-lady-of-the-wayside-school-tickets-358605979137>

**Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup>  
September**  
Gates open 5pm for refreshments  
Big Top entry 5.30pm  
Pre-show entertainment 5.40pm  
Main show 6-8.30pm with a

## Golden Ticket Winners

Today some children received a free golden ticket to the Circus with an accompanying paying adult. Winning names were taken out of a hat. Congratulations to all our winners.

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## School Association News Continued

Once again this year, the School Association are running their Christmas Card Project which they are undertaking in partnership with Art Projects for Schools Ltd (APFS). If you have not taken part before, the process is simple, and more importantly recognises and celebrates your child's creative effort. They are great to send to family and friends. At the end of the term, APFS also send the school a cheque to go towards the School Association fundraising. For further details, please see the attached letter and poster. Children will bring home stickers with QR codes today to attach to their artwork.

### Mass

Middle Phase will celebrate Mass with Our Lady of the Wayside Parish on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> September. Mass starts at 10:00am; you are all most welcome.

*Please find attached to this newsletter items which may be of interest to you. We do not endorse external clubs or businesses, but as part of our commitment to extended provision we signpost opportunities. Additional details can be found at the front of the school office or by contacting the organisation directly.*