



Christ is our light

All Souls' Catholic
PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

15th September 2023

A message from Mr Cooke

We have continued to enjoy a very positive start to the new academic year and it is great to see the children settling into their new year groups and routines so well. I've been particularly impressed with how Year 6 have settled and their enthusiasm in undertaking their new responsibilities within leadership groups and as prayer friends.

Now we have completed our first full week of the academic year I would like to take the opportunity to extend the warmest of welcomes to all of the new families who have joined All Souls this year in Nursery and Reception and I very much look forward to getting to know you and your children as the term and year progresses. I hope that, for you, this is the beginning of many years of happiness and success for your children and that, in partnership, we can work together to ensure that they reach their full potential as happy, confident and articulate members of our community.

I'd also like to extend an equally warm welcome to the new members of staff who have joined All Souls this academic year. It already feels like Mrs Smith, Mrs Corkerry and Mrs Alford are part of the school family and I hope that, as the children have done so far, you will continue to support and make them feel welcome as they settle into their roles and the school.

We continue to pray for the children and staff who left All Souls in July and hope that they are settling well in their new schools.

God bless, *Mr Cooke*

Nasal Flu Vaccinations – 29th September

A reminder to give or decline consent for your child to have a nasal flu vaccine:

<https://iv.covwarkpt.nhs.uk/form?identifier=96f98ad3-ae9f-4d2a-b6dd-75dc9b215a18>

School Photos – 28th September

Your child's school photo will be taken on the 28th September. Please ensure they have their cardigan or jumper with them. Siblings from outside of All Souls/All Sorts are welcome – please wait outside of the hall from 8:30am to be called in.

Home/School Agreement

The school's home/school agreement outlines the core responsibilities of the school, parents and children as we work in partnership to achieve the best possible outcomes for all. Each year we ask all parties to renew this commitment by re-reading and signing this agreement. Over the next week, teachers will be talking to children about this, sharing their commitment and our expectations of the children, and then signing two copies of the agreement with the children.

These two copies will then be sent home for parents to also read and sign. We ask that one copy of the agreement is then returned to school to be kept in the classroom and the other copy remains at home as a reference. If you feel that you are unable to sign this agreement, please do discuss this with your child's class teacher.

Uniform

It is great to see the children looking so smart as they return to school for a new school year. The uniform expectations can be found on the school [website](#). Whilst we endeavour to ensure that our uniform requirements place the least financial burden on families as possible, we know that purchasing uniform items does cost, and therefore ask that parents do ensure that all uniform items are clearly labelled with children's names so that any 'lost' items can be returned.

Attendance

We worked hard in partnership last year to raise whole school attendance and reduce the number of children who are persistently absent and this is something which we must continue into this new academic year. Attendance will continue to be a high priority for all schools as the evidence is clear that it has a direct impact on children's attainment, progress and well-being. Attached to this week's newsletter is a copy of our attendance policy, which was approved by Governors this week. It outlines the school's approach to attendance in light of changing national and local guidance. Quite simply, it is an expectation that all children will be in school, arriving on time, every single day of the academic year unless they are too unwell to attend. Children can, and should, still attend school with minor ailments and school staff will always make contact with parents if they feel that children are too unwell to remain in school. All absences should now be reported to the school via StudyBugs and I encourage any parents who are yet to download this app to do so and register as soon as possible. We are currently at a 78% parental take-up and it would be great to get this up to 100%. If you require any support with this, please do get in touch with the admin team.

The school cannot authorise holidays during term time and can only authorise term time leave in exceptional circumstances. All such leave must be requested in advance, via the form located on the school website.

Please note that the school is obliged to challenge all absences and that, if a child accumulates 10 unauthorised absences (equivalent to 5 days, as there are two sessions per day) during a term we will apply to the local authority for a penalty notice to be issued.

We will continue to reward children who achieve 100% attendance each half term and will continue to report on attendance on a weekly basis within the newsletter.

Attendance for the week ending 8th September 2023:

| Year R | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 | Year 5 | Year 6 | Whole School | Whole School Year to date |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------------|---------------------------|
| 87.1% | 92.9% | 97.5% | 95.7% | 95.0% | 88.8% | 87.5% | 92.0% | 92.0% |

Late marks (before the close of register) recorded for the week ending 15th September 2023:

| Monday 11/09 | Tuesday 12/09 | Wednesday 13/09 | Thursday 14/09 | Friday 15/09 | Total |
|--------------|---------------|-----------------|----------------|--------------|-------|
| 4 | 0 | 3 | 8 | 2 | 17 |

It has been a disappointing start to the year, attendance wise, with it being just 92% for the first 4 days of the school year. Again, the school attendance policy is attached to the newsletter and available on the school website.

Please can we also remind you that children should be collected at 3:15pm. We understand that delays can happen from time to time; in these instances we would be grateful if you could call the school to let us know.

Staff contact outside of school hours

Please be aware that we do not expect our staff to reply to emails outside of school hours. We understand that due to life commitments it may be that late evenings or weekends are your chance to send an email. We will always endeavour to acknowledge an email within 24 hours of receipt on working days. However, emails sent in the evening or over the weekend will not be acknowledged the next working day. Thank you for your understanding.

Year 1 Teddy Bear Hospital

Year 1 will be visited by the Teddy Bear Hospital on Wednesday 20th September. The children need to bring in a teddy bear from home on this day (please try and guide them to choose one of a sensible size!) They will meet real-life paediatric doctors who will give each bear a 'diagnosis'. The children will take their bear around to different workshops which will equip them with different skills. This includes knowing how and when to ring 999, teeth cleaning, healthy eating, x-rays and even a bandaging station!

Please do not use the driveway

Please can we remind you that the driveway should not be used at any time for drop offs or collections – this includes breakfast club, after school club, extra-curricular clubs and Nursery. The driveway is not wide enough to accommodate moving cars and pedestrians. The safety of our children is paramount; thank you for supporting us in keeping them safe.

Volunteer Readers

If you are interested in being a volunteer reader for children at our school please email roisin.mcgrath@allsoulsschool.co.uk to express interest and give a brief overview of days/times that you would be free. Thank you to our volunteer readers from last year. If you are interested in continuing this this year, please send an email confirming you wish to continue and confirmation of your availability.

Sacramental Letters – Year 3 and Year 6

Last week, Fr Paul visited the school to deliver letters for children in Year 3 and 6 who will be receiving Sacraments this year. Please ensure that you read these letters carefully as they contain a number of key dates and, if you haven't already done so, return any completed forms directly to the parish. Thank you.

The Precious Blood and All Souls Coventry

BARN DANCE

at All Souls School, Abercorn Road

Saturday 14th October 2023

6.30pm -9.30pm

£8 per person

£12 for a couple

£16 for a family

Includes supper: sausages and beans (vegetarian chilli available)

Please bring your own drinks (including alcoholic drinks if required)

Tea, coffee, water and squash will be available



HOUSE POINTS

| | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Jerusalem 275 | Bethlehem 353 |
| Cana 174 | Nazareth 220 |

WINNERS: Bethlehem

SUPER STARS

Year 1: Ella & Christopher

Year 2: Olive & Eva

Year 3: Cerys & Max

Year 4: Sarah & Mark

Year 5: Evie & Joachim

Year 6: Terrelle & Percy

Reception will join Super Stars soon!

Waterproof coats are essential!

Please can you ensure your child brings a waterproof coat to school. This week, a number of children were unable to go outside when there was light rain at break/lunchtime as they did not have a coat with them. With the warmer weather now coming to an end, it is essential your child comes to school prepared for wet and colder days. Please ensure all items are labelled to prevent them from being lost.

What's On Next Week

| Date | Year | Event | Time |
|--------------------------|------|--|------|
| Wed 20 th Sep | 1 | Teddy Bear Hospital – <i>bring a bear!</i> | AM |

**We hope you
have had a
restful weekend!**