



Our Lady & St. Francis Primary School & Nursery Class



December 2023 Newsletter

Golden Anniversary and Masses

The whole school will attend mass on Friday 1st December for First Friday Mass and the Feast of St. Francis Xavier. Mass will be led by Primary 7a. Please come along to our Coffee Morning afterwards where P7a and P7b will entertain you with some festive Christmas songs.

We will celebrate the Golden Anniversary of the church on Monday 4th December by having a non-uniform day. A donation of £1 per family is suggested, with all proceeds going to the church. We will also attend Holy Mass on the same day at 7pm, which will be celebrated by the Right Reverend Bishop Toal. Over the course of the week children will be involved in 'Anniversary Activities' such as composing a school prayer and creating St Francis Xavier art work. You will see some examples of these on 'X'.

Primary 7

Primary 7 have started their transition to Taylor High School. Last month they visited the high school and took part in various activities organised by the staff of Taylor High School and this month members of the Maths, English and Spanish departments will visit Our Lady and St Francis to meet our Primary 7s and provide taster lessons.

Some of our Primary 7s have been selected to represent our school at a football tournament at Taylor High School on 8th December. Letters regarding this event will be issued separately.



Infant Nativity

The boys and girls in P1-3 have been busy practising the nativity 'Lights, Camel, Action'. There will be 4 performances over the 6th and 7th December, to accommodate as many families as possible. You should have received a letter regarding tickets. After all allocated tickets are purchased the remainder will go on general sale on 4th December. We will send instructions

on how to access these. For the evening performances, children should arrive at the school at 6pm. Doors to both performances will open 20 minutes before the show starts.

Easyfundraising

Do you do Christmas shopping online? If so, collect FREE donations for Our Lady & St. Francis Primary by using the Easyfundraising site to redirect you to your favourite online retailers. Please register at:

<https://easyfundraising.org.uk/olsfparents/>



You simply download the app and register, then anytime you do any online shopping you visit the app first and click the retailer. All funds go straight to OLSF.

Christmas Lunch

Our School Christmas lunch is on Monday 11th December. Please remind your child what they have ordered for each course and ensure your child (P6 and P7 only) has money on their card. We will send a reminder the evening before.



Christmas Party Arrangements

The dates for our Christmas parties are as follows. Please note these are held for each year group rather than class, so if your child is in P4/5, they will attend either the P4 or P5 party.

Nursery – 19th December

Primary 1 and 2 – 13th December

Primary 3 and 4 – 18th December

Primary 5 and 6 – 14th December

Primary 7 – 15th December



Each party will start at 1:30 pm. Children who are going home for lunch can be collected from 12:10pm and should be back by 1:20pm. Children will only be permitted to leave early if an adult is there to collect them, unless written permission is given. Please note there is no crossing patrol at lunchtime. If your child is staying in school a staff member will help them change.

Reports

The interim reports will be issued on 19th December. Please check your child's bag for these.

Christmas Raffle

We are selling 20p raffle tickets for Christmas prizes. Wendy, from our school cafeteria, has once again very kindly donated many fabulous Christmas gifts to raise funds for our school and some of our select charities. Every child will be given one free ticket and we will continue to sell tickets over the next few weeks. We will draw our raffle w/b 18th December.

Advent Services



We will hold our first Advent Service on Monday 4th December, hosted by Primary 7 in the gym hall. The subsequent Advent Services will be held each Monday in December and will be led by Primary 6 and Primary 7.

Christmas Festive Days

December 8th - We will be having our annual Christmas Movie and Jumper Day. We suggest a donation of £1 per family and proceeds raised will go to Missio.



December 15th – Christmas Socks/Odd Socks Day. Wear your favourite Christmas socks to school or mismatch your snazziest cosy socks for the day.

December 22nd – Christmas Jumper Day (again – well why not?). We all love a Christmas jumper. Wear your Christmas Jumper on this day and get in the festive spirit. If you have any Christmas jumpers that are too small and would like to donate, we would be very happy to take them.

Every December we issue a date list as there is so much going on. This is attached at the back of the newsletter.

Panto – Oh yes it is!

Thank you so much to our wonderful Parent Council who have purchased a panto for us, which will be performed live in our gym hall on the 18th December. The panto will be performed twice to accommodate all the children in the hall.

Regent Shopping Centre Choir Competition

Our fabulous P5/6 and 6 choir have recorded their song for the Regent Shopping Centre Competition. The winning choir is the choir who receives the most online votes, so please enlist all of your family and friends and get voting at: www.musicdance.co.uk/choir (voting is open) Our choir will also perform at the Regent Shopping Centre on 5th December at 11 o'clock. If you are free, come along and support us (and join in the singing!)

School Uniform

We pride ourselves on our beautiful uniform here in OLSF. Please note that all school shoes/boots should be black, and children should wear their shirt and tie every day to school with the exception of PE days. Our PE uniform consists of a blue polo shirt, school jumper (no black tracksuit tops) and dark trousers. Please also note, that jewellery should be kept to an absolute minimum, and the only ear-rings that are permitted are studs (for health and safety reasons).

Christmas Holidays

Please note that school closes at 2.30pm on Thursday 22nd December for our Christmas break and reopens on Monday 8th January. We wish you all a happy and Holy Christmas.



Important December Dates

- 1st December – First Friday/ St Francis Xavier Mass
- 4th December – Non-uniform day for St Francis Xavier’s Church
- 4th December – Golden Anniversary Mass at 7pm
- 5th December – P5/6 and P6 perform at the Regent Shopping Centre
- 6th December – Nativity Performance (1:00pm and 6:30pm)
- 7th December – Nativity Performance (1:00pm and 6:30pm)
- 8th December – Christmas Movie and Jumper Day
- 8th December – P7 Football Team to Taylor High School
- 11th December – School Christmas Lunch
- 13th December – P1 and P2 Party
- 14th December – P5 and P6 Party
- 15th December – P7 Party
- 15th December – Christmas Socks/Odd Socks Day
- 18th December – P3 and P4 Party
- 18th December – Panto (in school)
- 19th December – Interim Reports issued
- 22nd December – Christmas Jumper Day
- 22nd December – School closes at 2:30pm

