OUR LADY OF LOURDES NEWS

VISIT OUR WEBSITE REGULARLY

Autumn Term **www.lourdes.brent.sch.uk** **Friday 20th November 2026**

Dear Parents & Carers

Home/School Communication



Thank you to all of the parents and family members who attended Parents' Evening earlier this week.

We appreciate that family life can be busy and that you have many demands on your time. However, we kindly ask that you make every effort to read all communications sent home by the school. These messages contain important information, updates and reminders that help you stay informed and support your child's learning and school life.

Your time and engagement are greatly appreciated, and we thank you for your continued support and cooperation.

Christmas Fair - Parent Staff Association (PSA)



Our Christmas Fair will be held on Thursday 3rd December from 3:30 - 5pm. Over the years, this festive gathering has been a huge success thanks to the team effort of our hard-working PSA and our very generous families. We hope that this year's event will be equally successful. Please make a date in your diary to come along on and share in the festive fun!

Christmas Sweet Jars – Decorating Christmas sweet jars is now a long-standing tradition here at Our Lady of Lourdes. Please send in your filled sweet jar by Monday 30th November.

Other donations welcomed:

- Bottles Stall – both alcohol and non-alcoholic bottles welcomed
- Toiletries, food, drinks, hamper items
- Festive boxes of chocolates/biscuits/crackers etc

Cultural Food Table



This is one of our most popular tables at the Christmas Fair. We are therefore, asking parents to come along on Thursday 3rd December and donate some traditional food dishes that can be sold on the day

Our Lady of Lourdes Christmas Raffle



Please ensure that all sold and unsold raffle tickets (with correct money) are returned by Wednesday 2nd December. Please note; that stubs returned without money or clear contact information will not be entered into the draw.

Thank you for your continued support and good luck to all who purchase a ticket.

Cashless Event

This year we are moving away from using cash at the Christmas Fair. Tokens, in denominations of £5, £10 and £20 will be on sale in the school office for you to purchase in advance. Tokens will also be available to purchase on the day. 1 token = £1.

Year 6 Charity Pre- Christmas Coffee & Online Safety Morning -Thursday 26th November 2026

Parents are invited to attend a festive pre-Christmas Charity Coffee Morning, hosted by year 6, on Thursday 26th November from 8:45am - 9:45am. Please see the poster at the end of the newsletter for more information. Come along and start your day with a hot chocolate, tea, coffee plus an assortment of goodies.



Unfortunately, although widely advertised, parents were unable to attend the Online Safety Morning on Thursday 19th November at 3:45 hosted by Mr Hambidge. The purpose of the morning was to provide parents with up-to-date information about how to keep our children safe online. Therefore, we will combine the Charity Coffee Morning and the Online Safety Session next Thursday 26th November at 8:45am.

Polite Reminder – Please Wear the Correct School Uniform



We are seeing a few girls wearing black, flared fashion trousers. Please note that our School Uniform Policy (www.lourdes.brent.sch.uk) clearly shows the colour (grey) and style of trousers that pupils are expected to wear. Please ensure that you send your child to school in the correct school uniform. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Winter Warmers

As the temperature is now starting to drop, and we are experiencing intermittent rain showers, please ensure that your child comes to school wearing their correct school (plain black/navy/school logo) coat as they will be asked to put them on before going to break. Please visit www.lourdes.brent.sch.uk for our School Uniform Policy. Thank you.

Permission for School Trips

Please make sure that you give permission for your child to attend class trips. We are not able to take children on trips without parental consent. Failure to provide permission in advance of the trip will result in your child remaining in school, where they will be given work to complete in an alternative classroom.

Pre-Loved Uniform For Sale

Purchasing pre-loved uniform is not only a great way to help the environment by reusing items but it is also a cost effective way to purchase items for you children. We have a number of used / pre-loved school uniform items for sale. Items are charged as follows:-



Branded School Jumper	-	£5
Coloured PE T-Shirts	-	£2
PE tracksuit items	-	£5

Please enquire at the school office to see if we have the sizes you are looking for.

After School Club – Dates closed in December

Please note that the After School Club will be closed on the following dates in December:-

- Thursday 3rd – Christmas Fair
- Friday 4th – Staff Event
- Friday 18th – Last day of term



Kindly ensure that arrangements are made for your child to be collected at 3:30pm on these dates. Thank you for your understanding.

Mrs S. Sharyf
School Business Manager

Creating a Community of Readers – Book of the Week

At the end of the newsletter is this week's recommded book choice by Miss Elawad.

Booking Clubs in Advance

Please remember that you must top up your child's account before booking into our Morning and After School clubs. It is also extremely important that you then book your child into the club **IN ADVANCE**. There are a limited number of spaces in each club so please do not drop or leave your child at either club without booking them in as this can lead to safeguarding issues. Please also note that if you book your child into After School club after 3pm you must call the school office to advise them. The register is printed each day at 3pm and bookings made after 3pm will not be listed. Thank you for your continued support.

Applying for a place at OLOL – Reception Class for September 2027 start

If you wish to apply for a place in our Reception class from September 2027 you must apply via the London Borough of Brent – www.brent.gov.uk/admissions. You should also complete our Supplmentary Information Form (SIF) and provide a copy of the child's baptismal certificate. SIF form's are availble from the school office.

Closing date for Primary School applications is: Friday 15th January 2027

Autumn Term Dates

- Year 4 theme dress up day - North America – Wednesday 25th November
- Year 5 theatre trip to Matilda – Wednesday 25th November
- FGB Meeting - Wednesday 25th November
- RNLI Parents' Coffee & Online Safety Morning- Thursday 26th November at 9am
- Year 3 trip to Westminster Cathedral Advent Service – Wednesday 2nd December
- Year 4 Class Liturgy – Wednesday 2nd December at 2pm – School Chapel
- Year 6 theatre trip to The Lion King – Wednesday 2nd December
- Christmas Fair – Christmas Fair – Thursday 3rd December
- Year 6 Christmas Carols at Victoria Care Home - Wednesday 9th December at 10am
- Year 4 theatre trip to The Snowman – Wednesday 9th December
- EYFS / KS1 Nativity to Parents - Friday 11th December 9:30am / 2pm
- Christmas Lunch - Wednesday 16th December - Christmas Jumper Day
- KS2 Carol Service - Thursday 17th December at 2pm at Five Precious Wounds
- **End of Term - Friday 18th December at 3:30pm**

Winter School Uniform

To ensure that all of our pupils return in the correct school uniform, particularly hats, gloves, scarves and ear muffs please see the uniform list below.

Thank you for adhering to our School Uniform Policy.

KS1 & KS2 Winter Uniform	
Boys	**Girls**
Royal blue official school jumper*	Royal blue official school jumper*
Official school tie*	Official school tie*
Grey school trousers	Grey school pinafore or skirt or trousers
Black or Grey socks	Black or grey socks or tights
Black sensible shoes (No tassels, logos, coloured laces etc)	Black sensible shoes (No tassels, logos, coloured laces etc)
Official school coat* or plain navy/black coat (No other coats or jacket is permissible)	Official school coat* or plain navy/black coat (No other colour coat or jacket is permissible)
Our Lady of Lourdes hat* (No other colour hats/scarves are permissible)	Our Lady of Lourdes hat* (No other colour hats/scarves are permissible)
Ear Muffs - plain black or navy	Ear Muffs - plain black or navy
Plain black or navy gloves	Plain black or navy gloves
	Head scarf or covering - school blue

PLEASE NOTE POLO TOPS ARE NOT PART OF THE WINTER UNIFORM.

DfE National Average Attendance Figures – 95%

Our Lady of Lourdes Attendance Figure currently 97.1%. Congratulations! We have now reached above national average for attendance. Thank you for your continued support in sending your child to school every day.



Absence Recording

Please remember that you must call the school **BEFORE 8.30am** on each day your child is absent from school. Please call 020 8961 5037, select option 1 and leave a message clearly stating your child's name, class, the reason for their absence and their expected date of return. Thank you.

Polite Reminder

The school will no longer authorise any absence requests other than for exceptional and emergency circumstances. Emergency requests that require travel will only be authorised if the date of booking is provided. We do not require the travel tickets as this only shows the date of travel.

What is the impact on my child if they are absent, or regularly late for school?

Absence - Every Day Counts

% Attendance	No of Missed Days	Missed Learning
100% attendance	0 days missed	No learning missed
97% attendance	5 days missed	A week's learning missed
94% attendance	12 days missed	2 weeks and 2 days learning missed
90% attendance	19 days missed	3 weeks and 4 days learning missed
85% attendance	30 days missed	6 weeks of learning missed
80% attendance	40 days missed	8 weeks of learning missed

Punctuality /Lateness – Every Minute Counts

Arrival time	Hours Missed	Missed Learning
Always on Time	No hours missed	No learning missed
5 minutes late every day	15 hours of learning missed	3 days learning missed
10 minutes late every day	32 hours missed	6.5 days learning missed
20 minutes late every day	65 hours missed	13 days learning missed
30 minutes late every day	95 hours missed	19 days learning missed

Online Safety Reminders



We take the safety of our pupils very seriously both in and out of school. In order for us to assist you in keeping your child safe online we have put together the following informaton. This can also be found on our school website and by scanning this QR Code

Our **very clear advice** is as follows:

- Do not give children under 10 a smart phone.
- Be clear on your reasons for giving your child a smart phone – would a standard mobile phone without internet access suffice for your child's needs?
- Monitor your child's mobile phone and other device activity at the end of each day.
- Remove all devices from your child at bed time and give them a book to read inappropriate messaging and use of your child's mobile phone. Set strong privacy settings on all devices from your child at bed time and give them a book to read.
- Monitor all WhatsApp, texts and social media activity. Mobile phones are registered to you as the adult; therefore, you may be held responsible for all inappropriate activity on your child's mobile devices.
- Regularly check your child's Google search history
- Set Strong Privacy Settings on devices.
- Be aware of the recommended ages for games your child is playing e.g. Roblox. Know who your child is talking to when playing the game.

Zero Tolerance of Intimidating and Aggressive Behaviour towards any member of our school community:



Please be aware that abusive, intimidating, threatening or aggressive behaviour will not be tolerated in our school. **It is also completely inappropriate for parents to approach other parents or pupils to address issues that have happened in school – Please do not do this! We have a very clear Complaints Policy that must be followed**.

For further information please see our Dealing **with Unacceptable Behaviour By Parents / Visitors on School Premises Policy** on our school website. This policy outlines the action the school will take when such incidents occur.

Parents in Partnership

Parents and schools must work in partnership and therefore should you have any concerns about your child's academic progress, or overall wellbeing please ensure that you follow our procedures to **make an appointment to speak to us here at school**. Your first point of contact should always be your child's class teacher. If you arrange a meeting with your child's class teacher and are unable to attend, please ensure that you contact the school.

Please note that should you have any queries or minor concerns, the Headteacher and other members of SLT are available at the start and end of the school day. However, requests for formal meetings are by appointment only. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

SAFEGUARDING & SAFETY NOTICES

ENTERING WESLEY ROAD

Wesley Road is now open for vehicle access for residents. Therefore, we must request that you use the pedestrian pathways when approaching the school.

To ensure the safety of our school community please refrain from walking down the centre of the road. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

WALKING HOME FROM SCHOOL

If you require your child to walk home unaccompanied or with another minor you must provide this information, including the name of the accompaning minor, in writing to the school. Pupils will not be released without this information.

NUT FREE SCHOOL

Please be reminded that we are a nut free school. This means all forms of nuts and products that contain nuts in any form must not be sent into school. Please be vigilant when sending food items into school as, for some individuals, contact with nuts can be life-threatening. Please ensure the school holds updated medical information on your child. If your child requires a Epi-pen please ensure you have supplied the school with one.

THE DANGERS OF GRAPES, CHERRY TOMATOES AND OTHER SMALL FRUIT ITEMS

Whole grapes, cherry tomatoes and other small fruit items **are a choking hazard**! If you are sending grapes or cherry tomatoes in as part of your child's packed lunch please ensure that you have sliced them in half or quarters. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

MEDICAL NEEDS

Please ensue that you notify the school of any updated medical needs for your child. It is vital that you notify us immediately of any changes. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Wishing you all a peaceful and relaxing weekend.

Ms Halpin

Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary School

Term and Holiday Dates for 2026 - 2027

AUTUMN TERM 2026

69 Days

First Day of Term for pupils:	**Wednesday 2nd September 2026**
Half Term	*Monday 26th October to Friday 6th November 2026*
Last Day of Term for pupils:	**Friday 18th December 2026 (School Closes 3:30pm)**

SPRING TERM 2027

55 Days

First Day Spring Term:	**Tuesday 5th January 2027**
Half Term	*Monday 15th February to Friday 19th February 2027*
Last Day of Term for pupils:	**Thursday 25th March 2027 (School Closes 3:30pm)**
Easter Holidays:	*Friday 26th March to Friday 9th April 2027*

SUMMER TERM 2027

71 days

First Day Summer Term:	**Monday 12th April 2027**
Bank Holiday – School Closed	*Monday 3rd May 2027*
Half Term:	*Monday 31st May to Friday 4th June 2027*
Last Day of Term for pupils:	**Friday 16th July 2027 (School Closes 3:30pm)**

PSA

Parent and Staff Association



Our Christmas Fair is fast approaching. Please remember to send in your donations as soon as possible. Please also remember to return your raffle tickets and money to the school office as soon as possible.

Caterpillars, Nursery, Reception Year 1 - small raffle prizes, such as games, chocolates, arts & crafts.

Years 2, 3, and 4 - bottles of wine for the tombola, adults kindly bring these to the school office.

Years 5 and 6 - toiletries such as bath and body products, aftershave/perfume box sets.

EVERY CHILD - **A Christmas Jar** - Please fill and decorate jam jars with general party bag fillings approximately £1 in value. For example: small sweets, toys or stationery then decorate them (Christmas themed). These are always really popular so the more you can fill and bring in, the better.

Please send your donation to school by **Friday 27th November.**

Help on the day

We will need lots of parent volunteers to help run each stall. A sign-up sheet will be sent out shortly, please give up a little bit of your time to help make the event a huge success.

Raffle Prizes and Donations

We are contacting local business to ask for donations for our raffle. If you work for a company that might be willing to donate a prize, please let the school office know. We can prove the fundraising letter if needed.

Alternatively, if you have anything at home that we could use as a raffle prize please hand it into the school office. Please note that it must be brand new, unopened and in perfect condition.

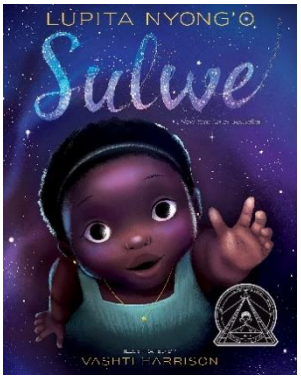
Thank you for your continued support – **The OLO PSA**




CHRISTMAS
PARENT
COFFEE MORNING
Thursday 26th November
8:45am
In the school hall
Run by Year 6
Christmas music
£2 for
coffee and cake
Funds go to the school charity

Book of the Week – Sulwe by Lupia Nyong'o

Chosen by Miss Elawad



I really enjoyed reading Sulwe and highly recommend it for pupils from EYFS to Year 3. An inspirational, heart-warming story about self-love, confidence and embracing what makes us unique. Sulwe is a young girl who wishes she had lighter skin because she feels different from everyone around her. One night, she goes on a magical adventure through the night sky and discovers an important lesson about beauty and learning to love herself. Every page is filled with beautiful illustrations and a powerful message, making it a wonderful story to share and discuss. Will Sulwe discover that true beauty comes from within? Now, if you really want to find out, then you must read Sulwe!

Attendance Winners

Reception – St Bernadette



Year 1 – St Peter



Year 4 – St Mark

100%



Year 3 – St Matthew



98.9%

Achievements







Isabelly Rubin	Reception
Nathaniel Erskine	Year 1
Santiago Sarmento	Year 2
Joy Sambo	Year 3
Maame Kwofa	Year 4
Michaella Dulgheriu	Year 5
Rodney Pagaduan	Year 6



OUR LADY OF VIRTUES



Faithfulness	Bruno Gordon	St Bernadette – Reception
Attentiveness	Rovisha Vales	St Peter - Year 1
Determination	Mia Dias	St Paul – Year 2
Resilience	Lorenzo Marques-Peixoto	St Matthew – Year 3
Kindness	Candis Davis	St Mark – Year 4
Self – Control	Miguel Vieira de Paula	St Luke – Year 5
Love of Learning	Angela Matawaran	St John – Year 6



KS2 Class Of The Week	Year 4