



# OLA NEWS



18 December 2020

Dear Parent and Carers,

<b>Stars of the Week!</b>	
Reception	Tahira
Year 1	Ethan & Ruth
Year 2	Sarah
Year 3	Monta
Year 4	Delina
Year 5	John
Year 6	All of Year 6



<b>Attendance</b>	
Reception	93.5%
Year 1	99.3%
Year 2	96.3%
Year 3	93.8%
Year 4	94.3%
Year 5	96%
Year 6	97.5%

### A Christmas Prayer

by Robert Louis Stevenson

Loving Father,  
Help us remember the birth of Jesus,  
that we may share in the song of the angels,  
the gladness of the shepherds,  
and worship of the wise men.

Close the door of hate  
and open the door of love all over the world.  
Let kindness come with every gift  
and good desires with every greeting.  
Deliver us from evil by the blessing  
which Christ brings,  
and teach us to be merry with clear hearts.

May the Christmas morning  
make us happy to be thy children,  
and Christmas evening bring us to our beds  
with grateful thoughts,  
forgiving and forgiven,  
for Jesus' sake.  
Amen.



Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic Primary School

Hawthorn Lane, Tile Hill, Coventry. CV4 9LB

## Christmas Wishes

As we break up for the holiday, I would like to wish all our families a very holy and happy Christmas. Hopefully, it will be a chance to spend some well-deserved time together and maybe see family members that you haven't been able to visit as often as you would have liked.

This term, it has been lovely to have all the children back in school - I am delighted with how hard they have worked and how well they have adapted to the changes we have been forced to make. Even though



we have not been able to enjoy all our usual Christmas celebrations, the children have still enjoyed some treats including the opportunity for the whole school to watch the Belgrade's Jack and the Beanstalk, courtesy of the Coventry Freemasons.

For the last 9 years Coventry Freemasons have invited over 550 children from Coventry's Schools to a Pantomime, hosted by the Standard Triumph Club. This is something that many OLA pupils have enjoyed over the years. Due to all the restrictions imposed on us by Covid-19 that was not possible this year. As they did not want the children to miss out on the fun, they very generously brought the Panto to the children, virtually. They even managed to arrange for Father Christmas to send each child a "Goodie Bag" even though, like most grandparents, he is self-isolating.

Coventry Freemasons are a group of local people of mixed heritage and belief. Freemasons have one thing in common – they aim to maintain a high moral standard and help others. Kindness has always been a core principle of Freemasonry and as individuals they give time and money to help communities, whether locally, nationally or globally. It may be realising a dream for a member's child, caring for older Freemasons, volunteering on a local community project, making donations to other UK charities or responding to an international disaster appeal.

Nationally, Freemasons are one of the UK's top fundraisers and grant giving bodies, raising over £33 million a year. At OLA we are so grateful for the joy that they have brought the children this year.

## Goodbye Mrs Mckay



Today we say a sad farewell to Mrs McKay who has been Our Lady's Business Manager for the past 13 years. She has made a huge contribution to OLA and she will be greatly missed. We wish her all the best for a long and happy retirement.

In January, we will be welcoming Ms Boothby as our new Business Manager.

## Wraparound

On behalf of the parents and children, I would like to thank Mrs Chaves and Ms Lucas for all their hard work in Wraparound. I would also like to thank Mrs Wray who covered the Monday sessions. The children have all loved attending each day. Thank you for caring for the children and making sure they enjoyed each and every session.

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## Christmas Carols

As with many of our usual Christmas activities, we have been unable to enjoy our Carol Concert, Carols Round the Tree or our visits to local care homes. This year, the children have still enjoyed singing Christmas Carols and we have recorded each class so that we can share them with you. The songs are available to listen to and download on the website via this [link](#). We will also be emailing the link to local care homes to share with the residents.



## Important information about what to do if your child tests positive for COVID-19 over the holiday:

If your child tests positive for covid-19 over the holiday, it is essential that you still contact school. You can do this by completing an online form via this [link](#). Parents will only be contacted if the information in the form is unclear, or if there is 'in school' contact tracing required. If you cannot access this link, then please send a text to 07783032220. The isolation requirements for positive cases are 10 days from symptom onset, or from test day if asymptomatic. The first day of symptoms or the date of the test will be day 0, so isolation would finish on day 11 if there is no fever for 48 hours.

## This Week's Highlights

### Reception

This week Reception class have been learning about different traditions at Christmas. We have also enjoyed singing lots of Christmas songs - our favourite is 'Jingle Bells'. We had a great time at our Christmas party and on Thursday Santa read us a story online. What a busy week!

### Year 1

Year 1 have had a lovely week this week, they all enjoyed their Christmas party. They have been doing lots of Christmas crafts and Advent preparation. They also enjoyed watching Jack and the Beanstalk.

### Year 2

Year 2 loved their Christmas party this week! They had lots of well-deserved fun as they've worked so brilliantly this term. They've also been learning about the special life of St John the Baptist and also did some brilliant setting descriptions about Whoville.

### Year 3

Year 3 have been jingling all the way this week. A week of crafts and music - look up our videos on twitter. In Advent RE we were identifying which symbol belonged to which person from the bible. We then created a symbol for Jesus and one for ourselves. Wishing you all a peaceful Christmas.

### Year 4

This week year 4 have completed lots of fun Christmas activities. We have made Christmas cards, angels, Rudolph hats. We became detectives and solved the mystery of who stole Mrs Claus' Christmas pudding. We would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas.

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## **Year 5**

This week Year 5 have finished off their Advent unit. They enjoyed learning about the Messiah and reading the Old Testament readings. We have enjoyed watching the Pantomimes this week and had great fun joining in! We have had a fantastic party which was a brilliant way to finish off our first term together.

## **Year 6**

This week Year 6 have been looking at the Nativity story. They have been able to retell the story in detail and explain how the gospel versions may have some differences. We have also been making Christmas tree decorations and enjoyed watching Jack and the Beanstalk.

## **Mrs Pardo**

Many of you will have noticed that Mrs Pardo has not been with us this term. Unfortunately, her daughter is very ill and she is caring for her at home. Please keep Mrs Pardo and her family in your prayers.

## **Appeal for Governors**

We currently have vacancies on our Board of governors for Foundation Governors. The role of a Foundation Governor is to work with the other governors, the head teacher and all the staff to ensure that the distinct Catholic nature of the school is preserved, as set out in its mission statement. If you, or someone you know, is a practising Catholic and would be able to commit to at least two Governor meetings a term, this could be an exciting opportunity to contribute to the Catholic education of the pupils at Our Lady's. For further information, please contact Mrs Askew.

## **Altar Servers**

Would your child like to train to become an altar server? If so, and they have made their First Holy Communion, please let their teacher know that you are happy for us to pass on their name to the Parish Secretary. Father Sebastian is inviting all interested children to attend the 4.30pm mass on Boxing Day at OLA where he will welcome any new children. In the spring, your child will then begin training to serve. This is a wonderful opportunity for some of our pupils to become more involved in the parish and to grow in their faith.

## **Extra Clothing**

In order to reduce the transmission of the virus, we are making sure that all our classrooms are well ventilated. You may wish to send your child in with an extra layer of clothing to keep them warm during the colder weather. This could be a fleecy top or jumper, sports skins or even an extra pair of socks! If you find that providing extra clothing is difficult for you, please do not hesitate to contact the school for support.

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## Reception – September 2021

The closing date for making an application for a Reception place in September 2021 is **15 January 2021**. Applications can be made via the Parent Portal on the Coventry City Council website.

[https://emsonline.lea.coventry.sch.uk/CitizenPortal\\_LIVE/en](https://emsonline.lea.coventry.sch.uk/CitizenPortal_LIVE/en)

## After School Clubs

After School Clubs will resume w/c 11 January 2021.

## Christmas Advent Calendar



## Family Learning Courses

Please follow the links below for the Coventry Adult Education Family Learning courses that are happening in Spring 2021. These sessions are being delivered to parents face to face at Southfields Old School, or online, using MS Teams.

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Stay and Play Online – suitable for nursery aged children and their parents / carers.



New Stay and Play Online Spring 2021 Family Learning.pdf

Positive Family Foundations - a parenting course based on the principles of Triple P, Thrive and Families Connect from Save the Children.



New Positive Family Foundations Spring 2021 Family Learning.pdf

Maths in Primary School – these sessions will enable parents to help their children with learning at home.



New Maths in the Primary School Spring 2021 Family Learning (2).pdf

English in Primary School – these sessions will enable parents to help their children with learning at home.



New English in the Primary School Spring 2021 Family Learning (1) (00000002).pdf

## **Remote Learning**

If your child has to stay at home for reasons related to coronavirus, we will do everything we can to ensure access to quality teaching resources. We have put a number of things in place, depending on the reason why your child is not able to come into school.

The expectation is that your child will engage with the remote learning that is set for them. Please follow the link below with further details.

<https://ourlady.coventry.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/Remote-Learning-Plan.pdf>

## **Class Dojo**

Class Dojo is the main way in which teachers communicate to parents on a day-to-day basis. It is a quick and easy way for parents to ask questions and get a quick response. Also, teachers can let you know how your child is getting on and share their work with you. If you have not already signed up, please do so. This will avoid you missing important updates that are just for your child. If you have already signed up, please make sure your notifications are turned on. Please contact your child's class teacher if you have any questions.

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## PTA NEWS

Thank you to all our School Lottery supporters! We are now 20 tickets away from our 50 ticket goal, **REMEMBER** once we reach our 50 ticket goal we will achieve our target of raising **£1,040** per year! Currently we are projected to raise £624.

**HELP!** spread the word! Once ticket sales increase the guaranteed jackpot will also increase PLUS with the school closing earlier this year and the cancellation of all our usual fundraising events this is our only way of raising much needed funds for the PTA and ultimately for the pupils of OLA! During this challenging time we hope that you can continue to help us raise funds.

### School Lottery

Next draw date: 19 December 2020

**£25,000.00 JACKPOT and £9 Guaranteed Prize to 1 OLA supporter – remember this will increase if we get more supporters!**

Big congratulations to our latest School Lottery guaranteed prize winner who won £9 and very generously donated it back to us!



### Future Fundraising

This year is very different in many ways, not least of all fundraising opportunities for small schools such as OLA, if you have any suggestions/ideas please feel free to contact the PTA/school (details below) to discuss! Remember as parents/grandparents of the pupils we are all part of the PTA.

### PTA Facebook Group

This is a friendly group, please feel free to join - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/OurLadyOfTheAssumptionPTA/> you will be asked your child's name and year group to confirm you are eligible for membership, please answer these so that approval can be granted to the group.

**Contacting the PTA; via Facebook, email – [pta@ourlady.coventry.sch.uk](mailto:pta@ourlady.coventry.sch.uk)**

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## Lunch Orders

Please continue to complete your child's lunch order weekly via our texting system T2P. The text messages will be sent **every Tuesday**; please ensure you respond with your child's lunch choice for the following week. The school orders food based on your selections and therefore if you do not respond it will mean we will contact you requesting you to provide a packed lunch for your child.

If you select the 'packed lunch' option, it means **YOU** are providing the packed lunch as we do not provide them at school. If you order a school lunch and then send your child in with a packed lunch you will be charged for the school meal.

## Drop-off and Pick-up times

	Drop-off	Pick-up
Reception	8.40am	3pm
Year 1 & Year 2	8.55am	3pm
Year 3 & Year 4	9.05am	3.10pm
Year 5 & Year 6	9.15am	3.20pm

Siblings will continue to be dropped off and picked up at your earliest slot.

## School Uniform

School uniform can be purchased through Eduspot, once the order has been received by the office the uniform will be sent home with your child.

## Nursery

We still have places available in Nursery. If you have any friends or family who have children that are eligible to join Nursery now or who will turn three this year, please encourage them to contact the school.

## Christmas Booking arrangements at Our Lady of the Assumption Church

If you would like to attend Mass over Christmas, you will need to book a place in advance. You will need to book online from 12noon on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December: The links are listed below, but they will be made available on all our social media platforms or we can email you a link if you email Michelle on [olassumption\\_cv@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:olassumption_cv@yahoo.co.uk).

### **Christmas Eve at 4.30pm**

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/christmas-eve-mass-tickets-130882279421>

(this Mass has very limited space)

### **Christmas Eve at 8.00pm**

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/christmas-eve-mass-tickets-131201052881>

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## **Christmas Day at 11.00am**

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/christmas-day-mass-tickets-131201231415>

All information given will be used only for the purpose of Christmas Mass bookings and for Track & Trace, and will be deleted 21 days after Christmas Day.

Please note: If you come to a Christmas Eve or Day Mass without booking in advance, the Church cannot guarantee that there will be space.

## **Coventry Rocks**



Hi there, I hope you're well and feeling Christmas-ready!

As we approach the end of a busy term, I wanted to reach out to support local families in finding things to do with their kids over the Christmas holidays. Let me remind you who I am - my name is Jess and I'm the owner of [Coventry Rocks](http://www.coventryrocks.co.uk) - a great local website made especially for families in Coventry and the surrounding areas, to find things to do. You can check us out at [www.coventryrocks.co.uk](http://www.coventryrocks.co.uk)

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We are here to support your pupils and parents, by providing them with a wide range of ideas for things to do over the Christmas Holidays. Due to the uncertain climate, we are covering all bases, and have lots to choose from...

### [Christmas Activities](#)

We have a growing collection of Christmas activities for all the family to enjoy, including:

- [Christmas trails in the local area](#)
- [A Christmas scavenger hunt](#)
- [Christmas recipes for kids](#)
- [Christmas craft ideas](#)
- [Pantomimes](#)
- and so much more!

### [Get Outdoors](#)

On Coventry Rocks, there are over 50 local parks, nature reserves, woodlands, and walks. Perfect for putting on the wellies and getting some fresh air and exercise.

### [Shop Local](#)

This Christmas we are supporting local small businesses by showcasing some lovely gift ideas, all made here in Coventry! There are some gorgeous ideas, from gifts for kids, to stocking fillers, and of course the grown ups! [You can read the article here.](#)

### [Places to see Father Christmas in 2020](#)

Of course this Christmas is going to be a little bit different, as we won't be able to get 'up close and personal' with Father Christmas. BUT there are some lovely events happening in and around Coventry where the big man will be making an appearance! [Have a look at our article here.](#)

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## **Foodbank**

***"The foodbank was there when we really needed it, it was an absolute lifeline."***

We don't think anyone in our community should have to face going hungry. That's why we provide nutritionally balanced emergency food and support to local people who are referred to us in crisis.

Our local foodbanks are:

### **St Oswalds Foodbank**

St Oswalds Church

Jardine Crescent

CV4 9PL

**Opening Times** – Tuesday 10.00 – 12.00

Thursday 10.00 – 12.00

### **Canley Family Centre**

45 Glebe Close

Canley

CV4 8DJ

**Opening Times** – Saturday 11.00 – 13.00

If you are worried about accessing the foodbank, please contact the school and speak to Mrs Lucas.

***Anyone can reach crisis point and we are here to help.***

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