



# Our Lady's Catholic Primary School

## Weekly Newsletter

*"A place of learning – A community of Christ"*

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12<sup>th</sup> March 2021

Dear Parents,


It has been absolutely great to have all the children back this week. I already feel like we've never been away. The resilience they have shown yet again is remarkable. It is clear that they have really enjoyed being back together with their friends. I am certainly over the moon to have the children back where they belong.

Although we are hoping we never have to go back to online learning (I think I've written this before), we do hope that some of the skills the children have picked up, collaborating online, will stay with them and be useful moving forward. During lockdown, as a school we shared 32,973 Teams messages, organised 305 meetings (live lessons or interventions), and the teachers have shared their screens for 136 hours altogether. This shows just how well we have embraced a very difficult situation. I just want to say a really big thank you to everyone, staff, children and parents.

Earlier this week, the OLS trust agreed to pay for Century; a computer system which can be used in Key Stage 2 to support personalised learning. It uses a mixture of Artificial Intelligence, Learning Science and Neuroscience to identify gaps the children may have and plot a pathway of short lessons called nuggets. We are hoping this will be used by the children for homework as an alternative to Doodlemaths in Key Stage 2, so watch this space. I am really grateful to all the people who contribute regularly to the trust fund as without their donations we just couldn't afford this.



Have a great weekend.  
God bless,

M. Hold 



**Turn on the Sub-Titles**



## **Communicating with the Teachers**

During the lockdown, parents have had unprecedented access to the teaching staff through emails and Microsoft Teams. Clearly, this was completely necessary as you were all trying to support your children's learning on a daily basis. However, as we move back to normality please will you contact them through the office again as we did previously. The teachers are all teaching in the day and we need to ensure that they can switch off as much as they can when they are away from school. Thank you

## **Ten-Ten Resources – March 2021**

**As we move through Lent towards the end of a tumultuous term, our eyes are fixed on the message of hope that Easter brings. May we at Ten Ten take this opportunity to wish you and your communities a Lent filled with grace and insight and an Eastertide filled with joy and celebration.**

# Moved to Action

Our theme for Lent this year is 'Pray, Stop, Go', where children commit to make their **prayer** life richer, to **stop** doing some things, which in turn will free them to **go** out to others with acts of service.

The Gospel for Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> March shows Jesus in the temple, angry about the unjust behaviour and practice of the money lenders. He was moved to action, turning over the tables and casting out the dishonest traders. Take a look at the video where we shared this Gospel story with children:

<https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/parent-newsletter/>

In response to this, we helped children to use the Lent theme of 'Pray, Stop, Go' to respond to injustice in the world.

Children discussed what we can do about homelessness:

- **PRAY – pray for the person on the street**
- **STOP – give up treats to save pocket money...**
- **GO – ...and give that money to a homeless charity**

We also discussed what we can do about graffiti/vandalism:

- **PRAY – when you pass that place, say a prayer for those who feel the desire to vandalise**
- **STOP – instead of watching TV at the weekend...**
- **GO – ...do something that makes that area more beautiful – perhaps clean up street rubbish or plant some flowers**

You might like to discuss with your child further instances of injustice in the world and how we might respond using 'Pray, Stop, Go'. Some talking points could be:

- **Food banks being necessary**

- **Families/friends not getting along**
- **Old people being lonely**
- **Children not being properly cared for**
- **Refugees having to leave their homes and not being welcome at their destination**

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# Holy Week

In these uncertain times where we can't control whether we will be able to go to Mass or not, you might like to take time at home to remember the events of Holy Week.

It starts with **Palm Sunday**, when Jesus is welcomed triumphantly into His own holy city of Jerusalem. Later in the week, **Maundy Thursday** marks the beginning of the Easter Triduum (the three holy days) and when the disciples shared the Last Supper. That night we remember Jesus in agony in the garden and we try and spend some prayer time keeping Him company. Then follows His betrayal, arrest and cruel trials which continue into **Good Friday**: Jesus' final passion and death on the Cross. **Holy Saturday** is the quiet day of the three holy days. Then there is the climax of joy, as the Church celebrates Jesus' resurrection from the dead! 'Alleluias' resound throughout the Liturgy and continue on until Ascension and Pentecost.

We have produced 4 audio reflections which, if in school, children will hear Monday – Thursday as part of their collective worship. We have provided these here for you to listen to together at home. You can listen to them Monday – Thursday, or play them on the days they correspond to:

<https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/holy-week-reflections/>

1. **The Last Supper (Maundy Thursday)**
2. **The Arrest (Maundy Thursday)**
3. **The Trial (Maundy Thursday / Good Friday)**
4. **The Crucifixion (Good Friday)**

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# Prayer

**Father God,**

**Thank you for the grace of Lent.**

**Please help us in our Lent adventure to pray more.**

**Help us to stop doing some things so that we are free to go out to others with acts of service.**

**Show us how best to prepare for Easter.**

**Amen**

# NSPCC

## Safeguarding

The children have all seem to have taken returning to school in their stride. However if you are worried and feel you need to give your child or children any extra support this NSPCC have added some useful information to their website:

[Keeping children safe at school | NSPCC](#)

## Top Doodlers

The top 3 classes for earning stars over the last week on the Doodle Apps are:

	DoodleMaths		DoodleTimesTable		DoodleEnglish		DoodleSpell	
<b>Gold</b>	Year 6	3949	Year 3	253	Year 3	161	Year 5	375
<b>Silver</b>	Year 3	1088	Year 5	192	Year 4	131	Year 2	132
<b>Bronze</b>	Year 5	1063	Year 2	110	Year 2	110	Year 4	128

Well done Year 6. You've obviously woken up and decided to come to the party. A phenomenal number of stars earned this week. Great work. Please get the most out of using DoodleEnglish and DoodleSpell as we only have it for the rest of this month.

## Accelerated Reader

Top readers this term

	Words Read
<b>Year 5</b>	3, 619, 273
<b>Year 4</b>	3, 413, 561
<b>Year 6</b>	3, 400, 715
<b>Year 3</b>	999, 880

Children who have already read over 100,000 words this term

### Year 3

Harry  
Alasdair  
Xavier

Ewan  
Lucy  
Harry  
Alex  
Amelia  
Albert  
Ula  
Sai  
Thomas

### Year 4

Wiktor  
Louis

**Year 5**

Buddy  
Charlie  
Ben  
Amelia  
Robert  
Callen  
Michael  
Abigail  
George  
Florence

**Year 6**

Sarah  
Olivia  
Gabriel  
Malachi  
Aidan S  
Filip  
George  
Barnaby  
Tommy  
Maria  
Kimberly  
Florence  
Joshua  
Fintan