



Our Lady's Catholic Primary School

Weekly Newsletter

"A place of learning – A community of Christ"

1st October 2021


Dear Parents,

It has been another great week at Our Lady's. The children have settled in really well and there is a fantastic learning environment in school. Last Friday, I was visited by two representatives from the Poor Servants of the Mother of God who were the Sisters that founded Our Lady's school (or St Mary's school as it was originally known) in the 1940's. Sister Mary and Chris Donovan (a recent headteacher from one of the other PSMG schools) were incredibly impressed with all we were doing to keep the values and charism of the PSMG alive in our school today. It is lovely to hear how impressive the school is from people who haven't been here before.

The highlight of this week was definitely the beginning of year Mass. It was a really joyous celebration and I would like to thank Father Alessandro for really bringing it to life with the children. It was also lovely to see so many parents here joining us. It is the time when I am most proud as a headteacher and something that makes us completely different from every other school in the area. I look forward to seeing many of you at our next Mass.

Have a lovely weekend.

God bless,

M. Hold 

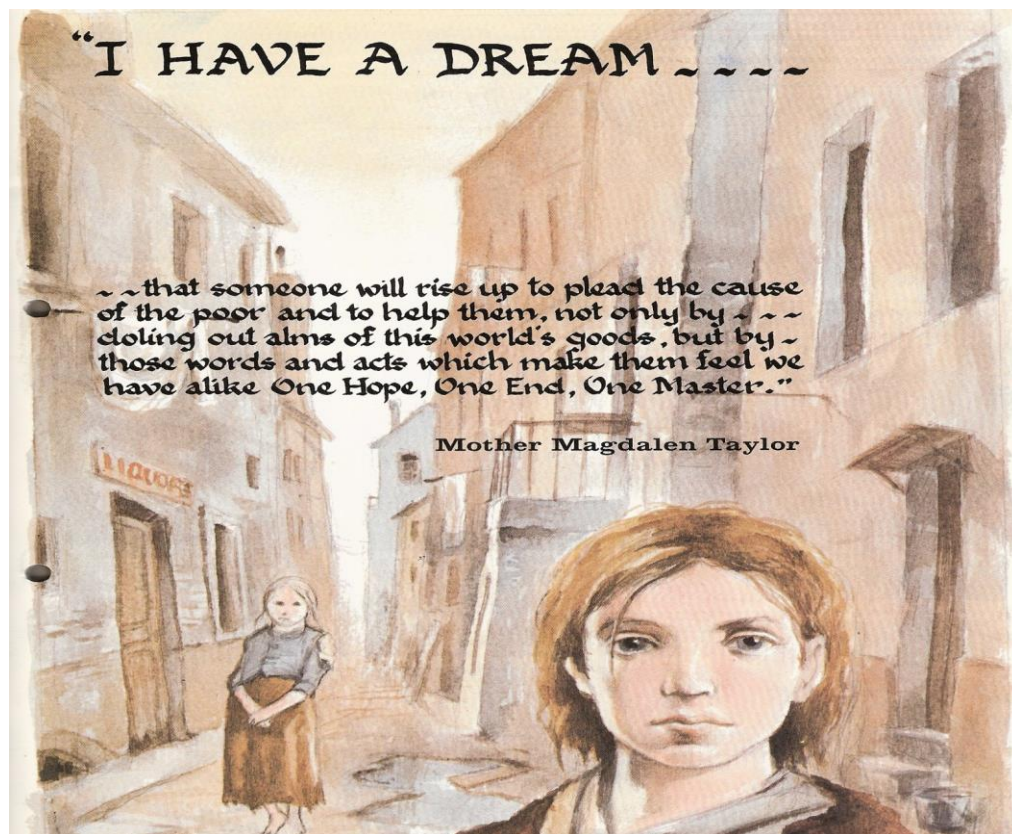


Poor Servants of the Mother of God – Mother Magdelene

Frances Taylor who became Mother Magdelene was the founder of the Poor Servants of the Mother of God.



I am going to try and use the newsletter to remind ourselves of the people that have come before us and the foundations on which our school was built. Chris Donovan shared this lovely quote with me last week which really encapsulates the vision which Mother Magdalene had.



Covid-19 – Hybrid Learning

Over the last few weeks, we have had a handful of Covid cases in school. Fortunately, this is nowhere near as disruptive as it was previously as it doesn't result in lots of children isolating. However, it does mean that the children who test positive need to isolate for 10 days.

Whilst children are isolating, we will set some work for the children as we did in lockdown. However, parents will need to be aware that this is creating an incredible amount of work and although we are doing our best it isn't going to be ideal. I have had staff working until 11 o'clock at night and then having to come in and teach the rest of the children the next day - which isn't sustainable. Our priority really has to be the majority of the children who are in school so, please be patient and understanding.

Fortunately, children are unlikely to test positive more than once in the academic year so hopefully the disruption will be very short term for any individual child.

Safeguarding

I wanted to make parents aware of a number of resources on the NSPCC website to support parents. They include support and tips to help you keep children safe. From advice on children's mental health to staying safe online, support for parents and what to do if you're worried about a child.

Please see the resources on their website: [Keeping children safe | NSPCC](#)

Knife and Fork – Walk and Picnic

Unfortunately, after a very wet morning, I decided to cancel the picnic. The sun did come out but I think we would have got very wet bottoms had we tried to have the picnic on the Moor. We did have an indoor picnic in the hall which was fun. I am still really keen to do this as it will be a lot of fun so I promise we will plan it again in the summer term.

Cafod Family Fast Day

Thank you to all of the children and staff who took part in our CAFOD soup day. It really is a lovely way for the children to relate to so many children around the world who are less fortunate than themselves.



Good News Certificates

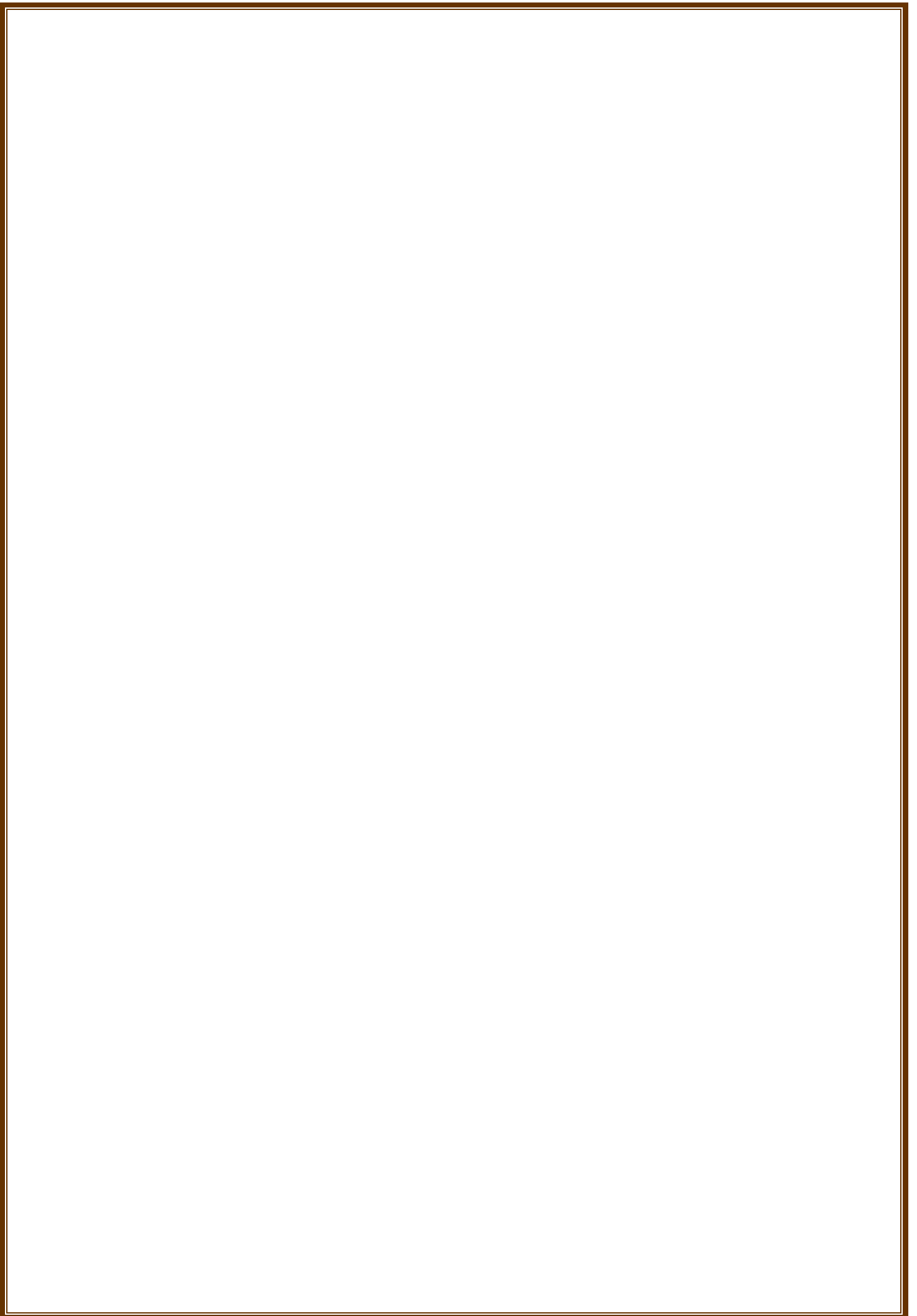


Last week's good news certificates went to the following children:

Year 1	Hansini, Xavier
Year 2	Bianca, Stash
Year 3	Finlay, Joseph
Year 4	Xavier, Kome
Year 5	Thomas, Matthew
Year 6	Mary, Seb
Pen Licence	Lena, Nathan, Ellie, Leo, Matlyda

Well done everyone.





Accelerated Reader

Top readers this term

Words Read	
Year 6	2,246,572 words
Year 5	1,600,389 words
Year 4	549,173 words
Year 3	119,730 words

Children who are reading above their target and have scored above 85% in the quizzes:

Year 3

Mia
Spike
Leonardo
Bea
Finn O'D
Robert
Emily

Year 4

Tosia
Stella
Luna

Alasdair

Year 5

Louis
Thomas
Alex

Year 6

Harrison
Jimi
Finley
Kester

Diary Dates 2021-2022

Please note:

- These dates are published to help parents and children attend as many events as possible. Although we will make every effort to stick to them, we may need to change the times or dates of some. When we do so, we will attempt to give as much warning as possible.

Date	Event	Concerning
11th Oct	Diocesan Schools' Mass	
15 th Oct	PTA Parent Coffee Morning	9.00pm – 11.00pm
17 th Oct	Children's Disco	KS1 3pm – 4.30pm KS2 5pm – 6.30pm
Wk beginning 18 th Oct	Assessment Week	All Children
22 nd Oct	School closes for Half Term holiday at 3.25 pm	Whole School
1 st Nov	Return to School	Whole School
1 st Nov	All Saints Mass	Whole School
Wk beg 1st Nov	Pupil -Teacher Meetings	All Classes
10 th Nov	Parent consultation evening (Late)	All Classes
11 th Nov	Parent consultation evening (Early)	All Classes
15 th – 19 th Nov	Anti-Bullying Week	All Classes
20 th Nov	PTA Family Bingo	6 pm-8.30pm
23 rd Nov	PTA AGM	7.00pm-9pm
29 th Nov	Advent Liturgy / Crib Blessing	Whole School
3 rd Dec	PTA Secret Gift Room	During school hours
8th Dec	Immaculate Conception Mass – Our Lady's School Feast Day	All Invited
10 th Dec	Hollyberry Fayre	.30pm – 5pm
14 th Dec	Year R Nativity Play – morning	Year R Parents
15 th Dec	KS1 Christmas Performance - afternoon	KS1 Parents
16 th Dec	KS2 Carol Service	
17 th Dec	School closes at 1.30 pm	

4 th Jan	INSET DAY – NO CHILDREN IN SCHOOL	Teaching Staff
5 th Jan	School Re-opens	Whole School
6 th Jan	Epiphany - Mass and Blessing of the School and Classrooms	Whole School
16 th Jan	STCAT Review	Staff
31 st Jan	Candlemas Mass	All Invited
Wk beg 14 th Feb	Assessment Week	Whole School
18 th Feb	School closes for Half Term holiday at 3.25pm	All Classes
28 th Feb	School Re-opens	All Classes
Wk beg 28 th Feb	Pupil -Teacher Meetings	All Classes
1 st March	Shrove Tuesday - Carnivale	Whole School
2 nd March	Ash Wednesday Service	All Invited
9 th March	Parent consultation evening (Late)	All Classes
10 th March	Parent consultation evening (Early)	All Classes
8 th April	School closes for Easter Holidays at 1.30 pm	
25 th April	School Re-opens	All Classes
27 th April	Easter Mass	All Invited
2 nd May	BANK HOLIDAY SCHOOL CLOSED	
5 th May	International Day and Evening	
Wk beg 9 th May	SATS WEEK – Y6	Year 6
Wk beg 23 rd May	End of Year Assessments	Year 1 to Year 5
26 th May	May Procession	All Classes
	Year 6 Residential	Year 6
27 th May	School closes for Half Term holiday at 3.25pm	Whole School
6 th June	INSET DAY – NO CHILDREN IN SCHOOL	Teaching Staff
7 th June	School Re-opens	All Classes
8 th June	Pentecost Liturgy	

7th to 10th June	Year 1 Phonics test	Year 1
13th to 17th June	Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check	Year 4
15th June	Meeting for new Reception children & parents 6.00 pm (children starting September 2022)	New Reception Parents
29th June	St Peter and St Pauls Mass– Year 3 First Holy Communicants	
3rd July	Sports Day (am – Foundation and KS1; pm – KS2)	All Invited
8th & 9th July	Year 6 Production	Year 6 Families
15th July	Reports to Parents	All Classes except Y6
19th July	Y6 Leavers Assembly at 9.30 am	All Invited
20th July	Y6 Leavers Mass 9.30 am	All Invited
20th July	School closes for the Summer Holidays at 1.30 pm	