



## NEWS from the Head

### Awards Assembly

On Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October the following children were awarded the Mission Statement Award in assembly:

Yr R – Megan and Jaden

Yr 1- Theo and Tilly

Yr 2 – Isla and Lachlan

Yr 3-Alanna and Adrijus

Yr 4 –George and Isla

Yr 5 – Chinedu and Hannah

Yr 6 – Emilia and Anesu

The award is given for the children who make a special effort to live out Our Lady School Mission Statement. Very well done to our current role models.

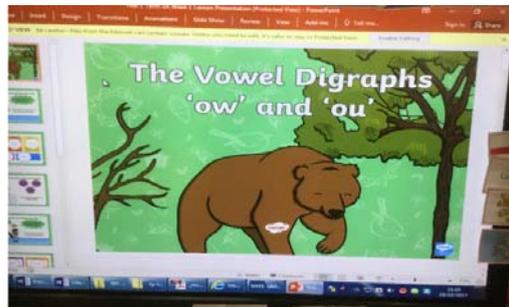


## Events from this half term

### Parent Workshops

On Monday 18<sup>th</sup> September each teacher held workshops for parents on the curriculum relevant to each year group. Parents who attended the workshops provided extremely positive feedback about how worthwhile and valuable they were. It is our aim to provide similar workshops in the Summer term.

### Interactive Whiteboards update



What a fantastic addition to each class the new interactive whiteboards have been. Children from across the school have made the following comments:

“We don’t have to look at a small screen anymore and they make learning really fun because we get to watch videos”

*Daniel Yr 5*

“We love to play whiteboard games and solve problems as a class”

*Kieran Yr 6*

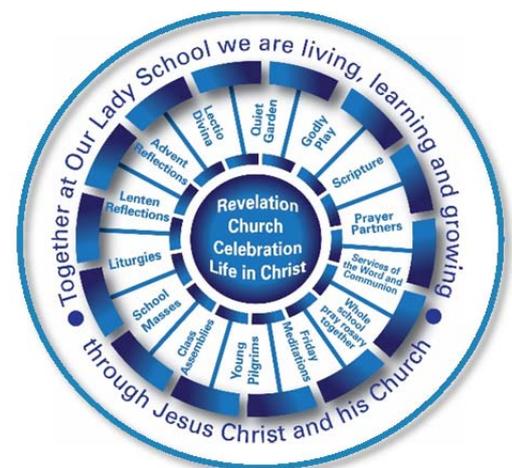
### Staffing Update

Unfortunately, within the first week, Mrs Hilary Egan resigned due to unforeseen personal circumstances. Mrs Madga Marinho is the new class teacher for Year 3 and has made a fantastic start to her time at the School. We are still recruiting for a teacher for Friday as the person we had lined up e-mailed me earlier in the week to explain she was no longer able to commit.

Due to continued ill health, Mr Walker has had to resign from his position as Site Manager. Mr Liborio Provenzano will be taking over the position from 6<sup>th</sup> November 2017.

### Chaplaincy Team

Congratulations to ten pupils from Yr 6 who make up Our Lady School Chaplaincy Team. Following interviews with myself, Fr Tom and Mrs Phillips the successful candidates are: Emelia B, Joseph, Jennifer, Layla, Sean, Violet, Crystal, Jessica K, Chideraa and Ruth. The children will play an active part in helping me to lead the Catholic life of the School. They begin work on an in school and international project after half term.





### Events from this half term

w/c 4<sup>th</sup> September –Coffee mornings for new parents

10<sup>th</sup> September –Education Sunday

12<sup>th</sup> September –PTA meeting

15<sup>th</sup> September –PHASE wellbeing workshops for Yrs 5 and 6

18<sup>th</sup> September – Parent Workshops

29<sup>th</sup> September-School Disco

29<sup>th</sup> September –Year 5 class assembly

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> October –PTA

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October –Year 4 class assembly

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October-Awards Assembly

### Prayer

*This day, Father,  
may my eyes be opened  
to see the beauty  
in all that is ordinary - yet special -  
around me.  
May the glory of all that you have  
made  
remind me of your presence  
and lead me closer to you.*

Our Lady Catholic Primary School  
Old Hale Way  
Hitchin  
Hertfordshire

[www.ourladys.herts.sch.uk](http://www.ourladys.herts.sch.uk)

## Governance

The Governing Body have been busy this half term working on a number of key areas related to school improvement.

Governors are each allocated an area of responsibility and a link teacher to work alongside. As part of their work to ensure they have an accurate and up to date picture of what happens in school, each governor has met with their link teacher in recent weeks to discuss their respective areas in detail and plan for the year ahead.

The Board of Governors has met twice this half term. At the meetings, governors focus on shaping the strategic direction of the school as well as ensuring the school complies with all of its statutory duties, including the review and updating of key policies. On 29<sup>th</sup> September, staff and governors met to review the School Development Plan and set new priorities for the academic year 2017-18. As a school, the main priorities for this academic year include: adopting a mastery approach to the teaching of mathematics; a renewed focus on ensuring we meet the needs of all our pupils including those with SEND and our most vulnerable pupils; and developing the Catholic life of the school through a Diocesan programme of child-led liturgy.

The two main sub committees have also met this half term. The Operations Committee focus their efforts on Finance, Premises and Health and Safety. The committee is currently reviewing new ways to generate additional income for the school and since September we have successfully secured two regular lettings. The School Curriculum Committee met to review academic results and progress from 2016-17. The Committee also review the role and impact of subject leaders within the school.

Finally, the governors have met to review Our Lady School Vision and work on a 5 year strategic plan for the School. Further details will be shared by Mr Adams in due course.