



## NEWS from the Head

### Awards Assembly

On Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December the following children were awarded the Mission Statement Award in assembly:

Yr R – Joshua and Holly

Yr 1- Theo, Emily and Gianni

Yr 2 – Robyn and Ramona

Yr 3-Alanna, Emily and Ronnie

Yr 4 – Valentina and Eoin

Yr 5 – Patrick

Yr 6 – Adam and Sean

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

### Baubles

What a fantastic Christmas production from our Year R, 1, 2 and 3 pupils! On Monday 17<sup>th</sup> December, the children showcased their singing and acting talents beautifully in the production 'Baubles' and helped us all to focus on the story of the Nativity as we began our Christmas countdown in the final week of the term. Many thanks to all the adults in school for their work in putting on such a wonderful show, in particular Mrs Rose, Mrs Dye, Mrs Miles and Mrs Marinho.

### Catholic life of the School

Throughout this half term we had two visits from our Diocesan Adviser, Michael Coracan, who was very impressed by the wonderful work going on in RE. In addition to his visit, we have had a number of in school events including:

1<sup>st</sup> November: All Saints Mass

8<sup>th</sup> November: Remembrance Mass

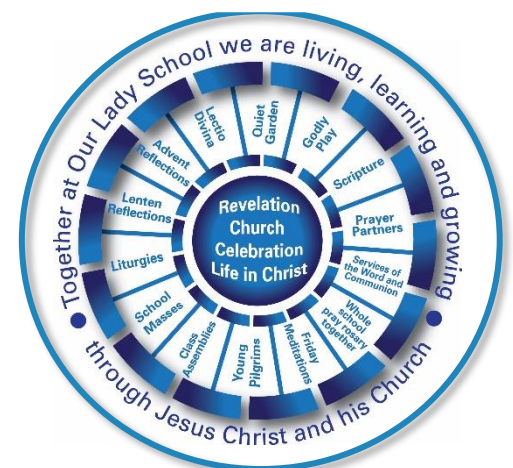
27<sup>th</sup> November: Fr Kukuba visited Yr 5

As part of the Parish's programme for Reconciliation/First Holy Communion, Young Pilgrims continues on a Monday for our Year 3 pupils.

Thanks to Trish Bonnett and Kevin Mc Calman, we have been very fortunate to continue with our Thursday hymn practices. Trish and Kevin have led some fantastic sessions with the children really bringing the singing to life!

## PTA

As you know it has been a busy term for Our Lady PTA. All of the events this term have been very successful and raised much needed funds for the school. I was particularly impressed with the Christmas Fayre and the efforts of everyone prior to and on the day. The Fayre alone raised almost £4,500 towards the whiteboard fund which is no mean feat. Thank you all, your support of the school is deeply appreciated. A note of thanks to all our sponsors of the fayre, in particular Acumen Insights Ltd for their sponsorship of the ice rink. It was a hit with everyone brave enough to have a go!





### Events from this half term

**9<sup>th</sup> November:** Year 5 trip to an Anglo-Saxon village

**13<sup>th</sup> November:** Fire Crew visit Yr 2

**20<sup>th</sup> November:** Amnesty International workshop

**30<sup>th</sup> November:** Spirit of the Wild workshop

**5<sup>th</sup> December:** Year 6 trip to Bletchley Park

**15<sup>th</sup> December:** Christmas Panto

**18<sup>th</sup> December:** Nativity production.

We had an Advent Service scheduled for Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December but unfortunately due to the snow day we were unable to proceed. Thanks to the Chaplaincy Team for their hard work in preparing this.

Thank you to each class for sharing their learning, from throughout the term, as part of their class assembly on Fridays half this term. It was great that so many parents could attend.

### Well done Mrs Rose and Miss Knight!

Thanks to the hard work and effort of Mrs Rose and Miss Knight, we won Hertfordshire School of the Year for PE for the third year in a row. Very well done!

### Changes to school routines

#### Plimsolls

From 4<sup>th</sup> January 2018 we would ask that children no longer wear plimsolls during the school day. Wearing plimsolls provides limited support for arches and, following medical advice, we have made the decision that children should wear normal school shoes throughout the day. We will send home plimsolls on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> December.

#### Morning routine

Please be aware that prior to the school day, children are under parental responsibility. We ask that when children enter the playground they line up and do not run around/use the play equipment. When the first whistle is blown parents may leave; when the second whistle is blown teachers will walk the children to their classes. In an effort to ease the congestion next to Year R, from 4<sup>th</sup> January KS2 children will walk to their classrooms via the main entrance rather than through the red gate. The children will practice this on the last day of term in preparation for next term.

Please be aware that if you drop your child off and their line has already gone, the child must be signed in at the school office. This is a safeguarding issue and no exceptions will be made.

#### A Christmas Blessing

May love come alive within your heart  
As Christmas time draws near.  
May hope fill each room you decorate  
And bring joy to those you hold dear.  
May peace be before you at every meal  
And faith ring through every song.  
For Christ is alive, the light of the world  
May he bless you all season long.