

Our Lady & St Thomas Catholic Primary School, Willington



Newsletter - September 2021

You are unique, talented and loved by God



Welcome to our new starters!

Our new Reception pupils have settled in really well and we are delighted to officially welcome John, Jessica, Loraine, Harper, Ralph, Emilia, Eva, Rosie, Alexandra, Charlotte, Patrick, Josie, William and Nicholas. We also welcome Oscar into Year 5. We welcome you as families to OLST. I am sure over the coming weeks and months you will soon start to feel very much part of our school community and we look forward to welcoming you at school events.

Well done Bede - who ran the Great North Run to kick off our fund raising for a Daily Mile running track at OLST. If you would still like to donate, please go to –

https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/bede?utm_term=bjRbjWnvq

OLST is 'Going Green' for two excellent causes on Friday 1st October.

Please see attached letter from our new Year 6 Team! They have great plans for the coming year. Watch out!!!



OLST Staffing

We would appreciate parents understanding at present as OLST is short-staffed in various posts. Should you need to speak to your child's class teacher, please either send an email to the class email account or email / telephone the office to arrange an appointment. Staff are preparing to teach and welcoming children from 8.40am, and therefore, unfortunately will not be able to meet parents at this time.

Wrap Around Tea Club

As you are aware, OLST is working with The Trust to make this a reality. We need to appoint an external Extended Club Lead. Interviews are next week, and we aim to start the Club immediately after the half term break, as we will need to carry out safeguarding, security and DBS checks prior to them commencing their role. Unfortunately, this is a change to the anticipated 1st of October date which cannot be avoided. We are working within new circumstances as a new entity under the Bishop Hogarth Catholic Education Trust. The pricing structure for this is currently being negotiated, having taken back parental feedback regarding sibling discounts. We are working on a premise of providing this service from the end of the school day – 3.15pm until 5.15pm. We will obviously review this over time. I am aware that some of you required care until 6pm. Unfortunately, there was very limited demand for this, which may change. A snack and drink will be provided. Further updates to follow.

SCOPAY

Please ensure you go to SCOPAY and choose and pay for your child's meal. This must be done before 12 midnight the day before they require a meal, but can be added weeks in advance making it easier for you. Our kitchen makes the school dinners to order on a daily basis and therefore it is essential you do this.

Breakfast Club

We are delighted that so many children are once again using the Breakfast Club. Our new door into the hall makes this much easier for everyone. Breakfast is served between 7.45 and 8.15am. We would request that children attending the Club arrive between these times to ensure they have time to eat their breakfast.

Good to Grow

We have joined the Morrison's Good to Grow scheme. For every £10 spent in store or online, you will get **ONE Grow Token**, which you can then donate straight to school via the app or website. In exchange, we can redeem gardening equipment from this scheme.

Welcome to your Child's new Class - Telephone calls

If you would like to speak to your child's new class teacher about how they have settled back into school, we aim to provide this opportunity week commencing 4th October. Please email the school office if you want a short telephone appointment and we will arrange these and let you know a date and time. Please note that this opportunity will not replace Parents Evening which will take place later in the autumn term around November. class1@olstlearning.net class2@olstlearning.net

class3@olstlearning.net, class4@olstlearning.net class5@olstlearning.net

from Monday, the new email for the school office is office@olst.bhcet.org.uk

St Johns Open Evening - Reminder to Year 5 and Year 6 Parents. Their Open Evening is on Tuesday 28th September between 5.30pm and 7.30pm. All welcome.

Thank you to Mr Amos who has kindly supplied our new gate covers in school colours. I think you'll agree they look very elegant!

We are working on a **Calendar of Dates** for school events which will be sent to you soon.

Regards,

Mrs Veitch