

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TONY MCDAID**

**Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School**

**Head Teacher: Mrs Eileen Brady**

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 **August 2017**

Dates for your

Diary (so far)

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the new school year and I hope that everyone had a restful summer. The children look fantastic in their school uniforms and most seem delighted to be back at school and ready for the new term.

A particular welcome to our new Primary 1 parents (whether you have other children at our school or are brand new to Our Lady of Lourdes this year) you are most warmly welcome and I look forward to engaging with you in your child’s learning in the many years to come. It is an exciting time as a parent and your children have been a credit to you so far especially since they are the first set of pupils to have started school for a full day: well done Primary 1!

I am looking forward to the new school year and to working with all of our parents to meet the needs of all of our children in order that they become Successful Learners, Confident Individuals, Responsible Citizens and Effective Contributors.

Please feel free to contact me throughout the year if you have any questions or concerns as I am always here to help.

Yours sincerely

Eileen Brady

Head Teacher

**August:**

23rd – 7pm PTA Meeting

30th – EK News in: P1 Photographs

**September:**

8th – 10am First Friday Mass in church

11th – PTA Event: ‘Little Mix Magic’

13th – Child Smile for P1

15th – Pitch/Playground Upgrade (This was postponed during the holidays and will now commence on 15th for a proposed 3 weeks)

19th – P1 Curriculum Evening 6.30-7.30pm

20th – Individual & Family Photographs

*22nd & 25th – September Weekend*

**October:**

4th – 11th – Book Fair

5th – Parents’ Evening

*16th-20th – October Week (closed)*

**November:**

1st – All Saints’ Day Mass in church

20th – In-service Day (closed to pupils)

29th – P1-7 Immunisation

**December:**

22nd – School closes at 2.30pm

*23rd – 8th* ***Jan Reopens –*** *Christmas Holidays*

**Key dates in 2017 (more to be added)**

**January:**

22nd – 25th P7 at Barcaple Residential Visit

**March**

13th – Sacrament of Reconciliation (P3)

**May**

3rd – Parents’ Evening

12th – Sacrament of the Eucharist (P4)

***PARENT VOICE:*** *We are always interested in listening to any comments that you have about our school. As part of our ongoing consultation process, if you have any suggestions to help move our school forward, please complete and tear off the speech bubble below and give it to your child to return to their class teacher. Thank you!*

**Our Lady of Lourdes: Parent Voice**

I suggest…

Parent of\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ P\_\_\_ Rm \_\_\_ Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**January 2017:**

8th – School Reopens at 9am

**February:**

12th & 13th – February break

14th – In-service day (school closed to pupils)

**March:**

29th – School closes at **2.30pm**

**April:**

16th – School reopens at **9am**

**May:**

7th – May Day Holiday

8th – In-service day (school closed to pupils)

25th & 28th – Local holiday

**June:**

28th – School closes at **1pm** for summer break

**September:**

22nd – September Weekend Holiday

25th – September Weekend Holiday

**October:**

16th-20th – October Week Holiday

**November:**

20th – In-service Day (School closed to pupils)

**December:**

22nd – School closes at **2.30pm**

**Holiday Dates for Session 2017/2018**

**Classes 2017/18**

P1 Rm 1 Miss Burns P4 Rm 8 Mrs Sweeney/Mrs Tollan

P1 Rm 2 Miss Shields P4/5 Rm 9 Mrs Fusi/Mrs Richmond

P2 Rm 3 Miss Docherty P5/6 Rm 10 Miss Maguire

P2/3 Rm 4 Miss Boyle P6 Rm 11 Mrs Perez

P3 Rm 5 Miss Carroll P6/7 Rm 12 Mr McLaughlin

P3/4 Rm 7 Mrs Jack P7 Rm 13 Mrs Bell

**Staffing**

A warm welcome to *Mr Swail who will be joining our staff this year to cover Non Class Contact Time with a focus this year on Science, Music and Health and Wellbeing.*

*Welcome back to Mrs Tollan who has returned to Our Lady of Lourdes after her maternity leave.*

**Improvement Plan Priorities 2017/18**

The Improvement Plan Priorities for the coming session are as follows:

* Promote our new vision, values and aims;
* Implement Active Reading within the school;
* Promote a Growth Mindset throughout the school;
* Revise our Assessment and Moderation procedures;
* Develop a homework policy throughout the school.

The parent audits carried out in June helped to contribute to our Improvement Plan Priorities. Thank you for your terrific response to these.

**School Uniform (Label all items please)**

The children have returned to school very smartly in their school uniform:

- *Light blue shirt;*

*- School tie;*

*- Navy trousers/skirt/pinafore;*

*- Navy V-neck jumper/cardigan;*

*- Navy blazer (optional).*

Supplier: [*www.logoxpresschoolwear.co.uk/*](http://www.logoxpresschoolwear.co.uk/)

*(Blue polo shirts on PE days only please).*



**School Reminders for the New Session:**

* Please complete and return the annual data and permission forms given out yesterday as soon as possible.
* Absence reporting: please phone in before 9.30am if your child is going to be absent from school. In the interest of your child’s safety, you will receive a phone call from the school office if we have not heard from you. Phone again on the 3rd or 4th day if the absence continues. When your child returns to school, they should bring a note.
* All medicines need to be kept at the school office and parents should complete the relevant form for allowing medicines to be administered to your child. Please hand in medicines (including inhalers) to the school office asap.
* Pupils are encouraged to bring plain water every day for class in a suitable water bottle and one healthy snack for interval. We continue to promote healthy eating *every day* but have a particular focus on ‘Fruity Friday’.
* The school is a nut free zone (please remember that this includes peanut butter sandwiches).
* After school clubs are now being arranged and will start in September – more information to follow.
* The Evangelical Church (across the road) is available to park your car at 9am/3pm if our school car park is too busy. Our thanks to them for this continuing generous offer to help ease our parking. In the interests of health and safety, please do not park in the school bus bay at these times. Thank you for your support in keeping our children safe.
* We are always looking for parent helpers to support various activities within and outwith the school. If you wish to put your name forward, please contact the school office for a PVG form. I am trying to extend our parent links this year to helping within the school library and supporting some lunch time or after school clubs for blocks of time throughout the year (more information to follow). Parents will also be given opportunities to contribute to leading forward our Improvement Priorities throughout the year.
* We are delighted to invite all parents to join the Parent Council or PTA this year – please contact the school office if you are interested in attending a meeting or helping out at an event. All welcome!! The first PTA meeting is tomorrow, Wednesday 23rd, at 7pm in the school.
* The excitement of another year begins…

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