



OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

News in School

12th September 2022

Dear Parents, Carers and Children



Queen Elizabeth II

As we join the nation in the period of national mourning, we share our deepest condolences with the Royal family following the sad news of the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. We thank her for her constant commitment, wisdom, selfless service and care for others, which will remain an inspiration to us all.

During this week, the children will create a whole school book of prayers which will be offered up for the repose of her soul.

School will be closed on Monday, 19th September 2022 as the nation comes together to celebrate her life at her funeral.

Statement from Bishop Patrick McKinney, Bishop of Nottingham, on the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II

On behalf of the Catholic Community here in Nottingham and across much of the East Midlands, we wish to express our deep sadness at hearing the news of the death of Her Majesty the Queen. I wish to take this opportunity to express our gratitude and love for the late Queen. We have always admired her deep sense of duty, service, and commitment, but also her very evident love for the people she has served so generously these last 71 years.

We also want to pay our respects to the Queen as a woman of a faith, as a Christian, whose faith always inspired and shaped the way she lived. We pray that Christ Jesus, whom she faithfully served throughout her whole life, may now welcome her into His Kingdom with these words: 'Well done good and faithful servant.' Our prayers go out to her family at this very sad time for them, as well as the whole nation. God save the King.

During this time of national mourning, Nottingham Cathedral will open daily (from 7am-7pm) for people to sign the book of condolence, to light a candle and to spend some time in private prayer or reflection. All are welcome.

Almighty God,

**You are the author and sustainer of all human life;
grant that your servant, Elizabeth our Queen,
whom you granted a long and happy reign as Monarch of these lands
may be forgiven her sins and rewarded with that eternal life
promised to all those born again
in the water of baptism and power of your Spirit.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit
God, forever and ever,
Amen.**

**Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let
perpetual light shine upon her. May she rest in
peace.**

**May her soul, and the souls of all the faithful
departed, through the mercy of God, rest in
peace.
Amen**

Statement to Live By

'Statements to Live By' are a resource, used in school, which has been developed by the diocese to help the children, and all of us adults too, to think about who we are, what we believe and what we hope to become. There are 36 statements in all which are linked to our Religious Education programme and the Catholic life of the school, but each one is relevant no matter what our religious beliefs are.

Each week, I shall share a different statement, such as 'I try to be just and fair', with you. Each statement is displayed in every classroom and around the school, and introduced and explained to the children, usually through an assembly. Children are encouraged to think about the statement at the beginning of the school day - it is then reinforced throughout the day, explored in collective worship and reflected upon before going home.

Over the next few weeks the children will be working together to....

'Understand their uniqueness as made in the image of God and develop self awareness, positive self-esteem and confidence'.

Please take the opportunity to discuss with your child at home and support them as they learn about....

- We are all special
- I can say one good thing about myself
- I can say how I feel
- I can laugh and have fun


What makes them special and what makes mum/dad/carers special?

This week's Statement to Live By is, '**I can say one good thing about myself**'. Please support and encourage your child/ren, throughout the week, to recognise something positive about their themselves: appearance, their qualities, or maybe the gifts and talents God has given them.

Weekly Attendance

A huge well done to YR, Y1, Y2 and Y5 for having 100% attendance for the first week back. Let's see if this can be maintained!

W/C	YR	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
06.09.22	100%	100%	100%	97.69%	94%	100%	96.67%



I shall be monitoring attendance on a weekly basis and will be running a monthly report to monitor each child's attendance data. Ideally, the children should be aiming for their attendance to be over 96%. Where your child's percentage drop below this, I shall be writing out to parents to inform you. Of course, I appreciate that children can become poorly, and may need days off because of this, which will affect their percentage!

Safeguarding

Many thanks to those of you who have returned the Student Update forms, Home School Agreements, Acceptable IT Use forms and any Medical forms. If you have not yet returned your forms, please could I ask that they are all returned by Wednesday, 14th September. Thank you.



Holy Communion

First Communion Programme 2022/ 2023

Following the announcement of the Queen's funeral on Monday, 19th September, Father Peter and Jacky Griffiths have decided that the parents' meeting, for those planning to take their First Holy Communion next year, **WILL** go ahead on Monday, 19th September at 7.00pm.

If you were planning to go to the meeting, but now feel you will be unable to, and you are still interested in your child joining the programme, please contact Jacky Griffiths on 01526 323275/07752 677820 or email jackyegriffiths@gmail.com.

Little Church

Please note that Little Church will be running on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of every month. The next session will be on Sunday, 18th September 2022.



Non-uniform Day

A huge thank you to you all for your fantastic contributions to raise money for the Lincs & Notts Air Ambulance as part of our non-uniform day on Friday. We have raised an amazing £131!

Celebration Liturgy

Celebration Liturgies will recommence on Friday, 16th September. Please come and join us, each week at 9.00am, to share and celebrate the children's achievements and successes. We look forward to seeing you!

Equaliteach Survey

Many thank to those of you who has complete the parent survey as part of our commitment to the Equaliteach programme, which aims to tackle identity-based bullying and to ensure nobody is discriminated against under the protected characteristics of race, gender reassignment, sex, sexual orientation, marriage and civil partnership, age, disability, religion or belief and pregnancy and maternity. If you have not yet completed the survey, please could I ask that you do so by tomorrow morning. Please click on the link to access the survey. Your support is greatly appreciated. <https://forms.office.com/r/SeRachbTEY>

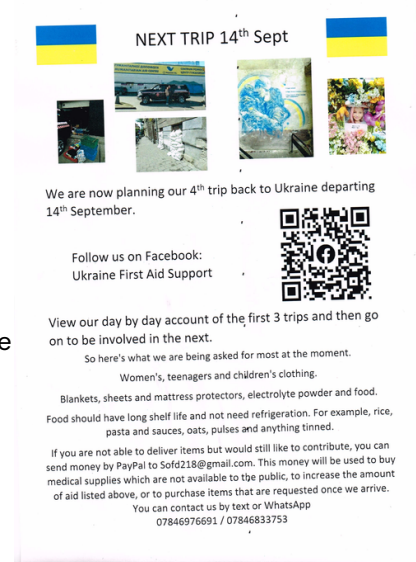


Support for Ukraine

As you are aware, the war in Ukraine has continued for many months. Whilst other news events have drawn our attention away from the ongoing war, it is important that we continue to support the people who live there and continue to have daily threat to their lives.

I would like to draw your attention to an amazing couple from Boston, Joe and Sophie Durso, who are about to go on their 4th mission to Ukraine to help people in the main war zones who are trying to escape, or have been injured in the fighting in Southern and Eastern Ukraine. Joe is a fireman in the Boston Fire Service and Sophie is a nurse. Their reason for doing these trips is purely compassion and the fact they are trained to deal with people in trauma.

If you are able to support them, by donating food, clothing, blankets or sheets etc, please find the information on the flyer at the very end of the newsletter. Thank you in advance for your generosity.



The flyer features the Ukrainian flag at the top corners. The main heading is 'NEXT TRIP 14th Sept'. Below this are several small images: a person in a medical setting, a person in a field, a map of Ukraine, and a group of people. The text reads: 'We are now planning our 4th trip back to Ukraine departing 14th September.' It includes a QR code and the text 'Follow us on Facebook: Ukraine First Aid Support'. Below the QR code, it says 'View our day by day account of the first 3 trips and then go on to be involved in the next.' The list of items requested includes: 'Women's, teenagers and children's clothing', 'Blankets, sheets and mattress protectors, electrolyte powder and food', and 'Food should have long shelf life and not need refrigeration. For example, rice, pasta and sauces, oats, pulses and anything tinned.' It also provides contact information: 'If you are not able to deliver items but would still like to contribute, you can send money by PayPal to Sofd218@gmail.com. This money will be used to buy medical supplies which are not available to the public, to increase the amount of aid listed above, or to purchase items that are requested once we arrive. You can contact us by text or WhatsApp 07846976691 / 07846833753'.

Thank you

As the school begins the new academic year, it is with sadness that Mr Bill Martindale has made the difficult decision to retire from his position as Foundation Governor. Mr Martindale has been a governor at the school for over 14 years. Throughout his time on the governing body, Mr Martindale has worked tirelessly, showing dedication and commitment, for the continued development of the school. Mr Martindale has been the driving force behind many of the large projects across the school - the biggest being the redevelopment and extensive building works carried out in 2010/2011.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr Martindale for everything he has done for the school. His support to the children and staff has been unwavering and I would like to thank him as he has personally been a huge support for me over the years. Enjoy your retirement Mr Martindale!

Harvest Festival

On Friday, 7th October, I would like to invite parents to our Harvest Celebration Liturgy, where, as a whole school, we will perform an assembly of gratitude in recognition of the gifts from God we have received in this year's Harvest. We also express our gratitude to the farmers who continue to work throughout the year to provide us with the food we eat.

As part of the school's continued Missionary Discipleship in supporting charities, I would ask for any food donations which will be sent to Sleaford's New Life Community Larder to help our neighbours in need. Please could all food donations be sent into school by Thursday, 6th October. Traditionally, we have made this into a competition to see which class can make the biggest food tower. However, in the current economic climate, I do not want to put pressure on families, or for the children to feel sad if parents cannot spare any food for them to bring in. Any donation will be gratefully received. Many thanks in advance for your generosity.



PE Timetable

Please see below the days in which your child/ren will have PE. As a reminder from last week's newsletter, EYFS and KS1 need to come to school dressed in their uniform as they will get changed in school as part of developing their independence skills. KS2 children should come to school dressed in their PE kits. Please ensure your child wears a white t-shirt. Already, we have had children arrive to schools in a variety of t-shirt colours.

	YR	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
Mon	✓						
Tues		✓	✓	✓			✓
Wed					✓	✓	
Thurs		✓	✓	✓		✓	
Fri					✓		✓

Morning Drop-off

In order to promote the children's independence skills, and to become much more independent with routines in school, please could I ask that children come into school each morning by themselves. If your child is upset, a member of staff will be on hand to support and comfort your child. Please note, If your child is in YR, this does not apply to you and you should continue to drop of your children at Reception's outdoor area each morning.

Wrap around care - Breakfast Club and ASC

In order to provide the best possible care, as part of our wrap around care service, please note that any bookings need to be made 3 days in advance. Should you require urgent wrap around care, please contact the office at your earliest convenience and we will add your child to the list.

If you have any queries or questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or Mrs Hunt. We are always here to help!

Yours sincerely

Mrs N Malthouse
Headteacher

Dates for your diary

17th September	11+ Verbal Reasoning Paper
18th September	Little Church
19th September	School Closed for Queen Elizabeth II Funeral
24th September	11+ Non-verbal Reasoning Paper
6th - 13th October	Scholastic Book Fair
7th October	Harvest Celebration Liturgy
11th October	Parents' Evening
12th October	Mass in School Parents Evening
20th October	End of Term 1
31st October	Start of Term 2
31st October	Deadline for Y6 Secondary School applications with the Local Authority



NEXT TRIP 14th Sept



We are now planning our 4th trip back to Ukraine departing 14th September.

Follow us on Facebook:
Ukraine First Aid Support



View our day by day account of the first 3 trips and then go on to be involved in the next.

So here's what we are being asked for most at the moment.

Women's, teenagers and children's clothing.

Blankets, sheets and mattress protectors, electrolyte powder and food.

Food should have long shelf life and not need refrigeration. For example, rice, pasta and sauces, oats, pulses and anything tinned.

If you are not able to deliver items but would still like to contribute, you can send money by PayPal to Sofd218@gmail.com. This money will be used to buy medical supplies which are not available to the public, to increase the amount of aid listed above, or to purchase items that are requested once we arrive.

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