



# School Newsletter

(for parents, pupils, governors, staff and parishioners)

**Friday 16th January 2026**

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## Key Dates:

**January 22<sup>nd</sup>:** Year 3 & Year 4 Parish Mass

**January 29<sup>th</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> February:** Scholastic Book Fair Returns

**January 30<sup>th</sup>:** PTFA Hot Chocolate & Doughnuts

**February 5<sup>th</sup>:** Year 5 & Year 6 Parish Mass

**February 13<sup>th</sup>:** Last day of term

## Message from Mrs Wilson:

Welcome back to term 3! I say that loosely, as we're already two weeks in!

It has been a wonderful start to the term. The biggest highlight for me has been the calm atmosphere throughout school. Our children have really stepped up, showing they understand what is expected of them and playing their part in ensuring everyone can enjoy their right to learn. I am incredibly proud of them. We're also celebrating children reaching important milestones with their reading and Dojo rewards. Let's keep up this brilliant momentum!

I want to take a moment to thank you, our families. I know that welcoming a new headteacher can feel uncertain, as it may bring changes to different aspects of school life. Our Lady of Lourdes is a very special place, and I have loved joining the team here and working with our whole community to consider improvements that will move our school forward.

School improvement is truly a team effort – involving our pupils, families, and staff working together. At times, difficult decisions need to be made to ensure we're providing the best possible outcomes, opportunities, and experiences for your children. I recognise that not everyone will agree with every decision, and that's okay. I'm grateful to those who have taken the time to speak with me, whether to share appreciation for changes or to raise concerns for us to consider together.

Let's continue moving forward, together!

Mrs Wilson

*'Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their work'*  
(Ecclesiastes 4:9)

## Catholic Life of the School

As we begin Term 3, Religious Education continues to be at the heart of our school life. We started the term by coming together as a whole school to celebrate Mass for the Feast of the Epiphany, led by our Chaplaincy Team. This was a joyful and prayerful celebration, reminding us of the visit of the Wise Men and encouraging us to reflect on how we can recognise and follow Jesus in our own lives.

Each Monday, pupils take part in Gospel Worship, with a clear focus on listening to and reflecting on the Word of God. These moments of worship provide valuable time for prayer, reflection and discussion, helping pupils to deepen their understanding of the Gospel and how it guides our daily lives.

This term, we have also introduced new whole-school Missions, which are linked directly to the Sunday Gospel of the week. Each week, the mission is shared with the whole school and referred to throughout the week in classrooms, worship and daily interactions. Every child and adult is encouraged to take on the mission and try to live it out through their words and actions, helping to strengthen our shared faith and sense of community.

## Miss Toyne Leaving

Today we say a temporary farewell to Miss Toyne as she begins her maternity leave. We want to wish her all the very best as she starts this exciting new chapter of motherhood with her baby girl.

We hope she gets plenty of time to rest, recharge, and enjoy those precious early moments with her new arrival. We look forward to welcoming her back to Our Lady of Lourdes when she's ready!



## Welcome Miss Mitchell

We are delighted to welcome Miss Mitchell to Our Lady of Lourdes as she joins our reception class team. Miss Mitchell brings with her extensive knowledge and expertise in the Early Years curriculum, and she is really excited to become part of our school community.

We know the children will benefit greatly from her experience, and we look forward to seeing her settle into life at Our Lady of Lourdes.



## SEND Support Plans

Presently, teachers are finalising their SEND support plans for any children on the SEND register. They will be making contact in the next week or so to share these with you and discuss any questions.

## Scholastic Book Fair

We are pleased to announce that the Scholastic Book Fair will return to school on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> January to Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> February, afterschool in the hall!

**Scholastic Book Fair**



## Parking Reminder

We would like to take this time to politely remind everyone that unfortunately, there are still situations where some are parking illegally or without thought of the impact on others. I urge us to all get on board and work together on this. The safety of the children here is always a priority and that includes how we park around the school during drop offs and pick- ups. Please also be mindful that Mr Ellacott, our caretaker, is also trying to keep children safe and therefore if he is reminding you not to park on zigzags and/or double yellow- he is trying to ensure the safety of the children- please do not swear at him!

Thank you to the vast majority of you who park with consideration of our children's safety and the respect of our neighbours during busy drop-off and pick-up times.



## E Safety

Supporting children's safety is a shared responsibility between families, schools and wider society. For parents and carers, this responsibility has become increasingly complex as children's lives are now deeply intertwined with the digital world. Many parents face difficult decisions about how to balance protecting children from online harm with enabling access to spaces that are now central to learning, socialising and play.

Some useful information and resources to support your children can be found here:

<https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/resource/what-i-wish-my-parents-or-carers-knew-a-guide-for-parents-and-carers-on-managing-childrens-digital-lives/>



## Attendance Reminders

### Medical Appointments

We acknowledge that hospital and specialist clinic appointments, including orthodontic and ongoing dental treatment may require a student having time out of school. Our expectation is that the minimum amount of learning is lost. We will seek an explanation from parents where a whole day is missed for this reason. Proof of unavoidable medical appointments in school time must be provided to the school.

Routine, non-urgent appointments must be made after 3.30pm and during the 12 weeks of school holiday during the year.

### Illness

Parents/Carers are expected to contact the school on the first day of absence (01454867160) and each day thereafter informing the school of the reason for absence and the expected date of return to school.

### Bereavement

If there has been the death of a close family member and an absence from school is required. Please complete a 'Request for Leave' form and hand it into the office to be reviewed by the Headteacher or deputy (delegate). Evidence of a death certificate, where necessary, may be requested for coding purposes.

### Holiday Absence in Term Time

If a parent feels there are exceptional circumstances that support a request for leave of absence in term time; they must put the request in writing by completing a 'Request for Leave' form to the Head Teacher. The Head teacher or Deputy Head Teacher (as delegate) will respond to these requests.

### Punctuality

Pupils who arrive late to registration after 9.00am are recorded as L (late before registration closes.) If a pupil arrives after the register has closed at 9.15am, this is recorded as U (unauthorised late arrival.)



## Attendance

Whole School attendance this week is: 95.73%!

The class with the best attendance this week is: Year 6 with 99.3% - fantastic, keep up the good work!



## DISCOVERY DAYS

at WEMA Music Centres

Our free-of-charge Discovery Days are the perfect chance to try out our Music Centres, meet new friends, and experience the fun of playing in an ensemble. Bring your enthusiasm and see where music can take you!

Ensembles available for a wide variety of instruments, ages and playing levels.



Sign up using the QR code or visit:  
[wema.org.uk/wema-music-centres](http://wema.org.uk/wema-music-centres)



Future  
talent

## BRISTOL CREATE DAY

With Siobhan Clough

Sunday 8th February 2020

10:30am-3:30pm

Future Talent & West of England  
Music and Arts

**SIGN UP HERE**

This Create Day will focus on **Open Scores** - a flexible, creative way of making music that welcomes all instruments and experience levels. Young musicians from **Future Talent** and **WEMA** will join together to explore ideas, experiment, meet new friends, and create new music as a group.



Trinity Academy  
Romney Avenue  
Lockleaze  
Bristol  
BS7