



St Lawrence's Catholic Primary School
Headlam St, Byker, Newcastle Upon Tyne
NE6 2JX Tel: 0191 2659881
Email: office@stlawrencesprimary.org.uk

Friday 1 December 2023

Dear parents,

As we run up to Christmas, I thought it would be useful to share a further update on school life and upcoming events.

OFSTED REPORT:

Our OFSTED report from our visit in late September has now been published. The Inspector made a two day visit to our school and decided that the school retained its 'GOOD' provider status. The experience was very thorough and rigorous but an entirely fair process. We have been given two areas to work on which you can read in the full report. We will get to work on those immediately as we continually seek to evolve and improve the school.

Among other things, the report states that:

- Leaders, staff and stakeholders have high expectations for all of the school community. Pupils rise to these high ambitions and achieve well.
- Behaviour across school is calm and focused. Pupils have strong relationships with staff. Pupils' attitudes to school are positive.
- This is a truly inclusive school.
- Leaders have carefully planned out the school's curriculum. It is clear what the school wants pupils to know and remember over time. This includes the skills and knowledge that are important.
- Pupils' pride extends to their attitudes to school. Behaviour across school is focused. Pupils understand the rules, rewards and consequences.

Full access to the report can be accessed on our school website. You can also find it through the following link:

[St Lawrence's Catholic Primary School - Open - Find an Inspection Report - Ofsted](#)

ATTENDANCE:

Our attendance continues to improve. We are currently just above the national average as a school. We are at the time of year where we have lots of colds and bugs and we recognise our younger children in particular will be tired. However, we need to balance that with the very obvious links between good attendance and good outcomes and the children should be in school whenever they possibly can. If they are too ill to attend, then please inform the school office on the first day of absence.

PUNCTUALITY:

A number of children are often late for school. This is disruptive for them and for the class. Being late often makes a child nervous and affects their ability to learn. Also, we often have our most important lessons at the start of the day as the children are at their freshest. If they miss this, then their progress will be impacted. The school day starts at 8.45am or 8.50am depending on which class the children are in and it is important that the children are here on time.



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TRAFFIC:

A lot of children now walk or scoot to school, which is excellent and very good for them. If children are driven to school, please could I remind you of my request to park a short distance away from school and then walk the rest of the way. The roads around our school are extremely narrow and accidents could easily occur unless we take steps to mitigate this. If you witness dangerous driving around our school, please do not hesitate to report this to the police.

CHRISTMAS EVENTS:

Here is a reminder of our scheduled Christmas events.

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>CLASS</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>
Christmas Crafts Day	Nur, Rec, Y1, Y2	6 December	All day
Christmas Fair	Everyone	8 December	2.00pm
Early Years Nativity	Reception and Nursery	12 December	9.20
Choir and Orchestra concert	Parents of children in choir and orchestra	12 December	1.50pm
Key Stage 2 Christmas Party	Y3, Y4, Y5, Y6	18 December	All afternoon
Key Stage 1 Christmas Party	Y1, Y2	20 December	All afternoon
Key Stage 1 Christmas Play	Y1, Y2	20 December	9.20am
Christmas Dinner (Children can wear Christmas jumper)	All	20 December	12.00pm
School Christmas Mass	All	21 December	9.30am
Christmas Movie Afternoon	All	21 December	All afternoon
Christmas Carols	Y3, Y4, Y5, Y6	22 December	2pm prompt

Yours Sincerely

Mr P A Brown
Executive Head Teacher

Miss C Murray
Head of School