

Issue 24
October 2019



Our Lady Star of the Sea Newsletter

Autumn 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am very happy to inform you that our school has recently been awarded the **Silver Games Award** and the **2019-20 Music Mark**. These two awards recognise the enthusiasm and commitment of both staff and pupils and the high priority the school has in developing the children's love of sport and music.

This year we aim to continue to promote 'sport' and 'music' and provide our children with many more opportunities to develop their skills in these areas. The school is committed to providing high quality experiences and providing a broad and balanced curriculum which meets the needs and interests of all our pupils.

On the 10th and 11th of November 2019 the school was visited by Mr Humble (RE Inspector for the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle) who carried out a Section 48 Inspection. This inspection focuses on the school's provision, ethos and liturgical life as a 'faith school'. Throughout the inspection visit the inspector had many opportunities to talk to school leaders, governors, staff, children and parents. Many thanks to everyone for their support of the school and contribution to the inspection process.

The inspection report will be sent to the school after the half term holiday and we will ensure that you have access to the report.

We have had a good start to the academic year 2019-20 and look forward to further enhancing our curriculum and providing quality experiences and opportunities to support your children's education.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Jones', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Miss J. Jones
Exec. Headteacher

Dates to remember!

Wednesday 23 October	Parents Evening—contact school office for appointment.
Thursday 24 October	Football Team—Shotton Hall Primary from 3:30 –5:00 p.m.
School closes at 3 p.m. on Friday 25 October 2019 for half term holidays School re-opens for teaching purposes at 8:50 a.m. on Monday 4 November 2019	
Monday 4 November	Y6 only to Safety Carousel, The Work Place
Wednesday 6 November	Mass in school with Fr. Neylan at 10 a.m. Everyone welcome!
Wednesday 6 November	TAG Rugby Festival—Peterlee Rugby Club (team to be announced)
Wednesday 6 November	Meeting for FHC parents (letter sent separately) 3.15 p.m.
Friday 8 November	YR and Y6 heights and weights with school nurse (in school)
Wednesday 20 November	Assembly and Workshop with Gillian Bell (Parliament’s Senior Education Officer) - whole school/school council 1 p.m.
Wednesday 27 November	Christmas Fair—3 p.m. Please make every effort to support us.
Monday 2 December	Flu immunisation in school
Wednesday 4 December	Mass in school with Fr. Neylan—10 a.m. Everyone welcome!
Thursday 5 December	Class 2 to Gymnastics Festival, East Durham College 1—3 p.m.
Monday 9 December	Key Stage 1 Craft Afternoon - 2 - 3 p.m.
Tuesday 10 December	Key Stage 2 Craft Afternoon - 2 - 3 p.m.
Wednesday 11 December	Christmas Lunch (for staff and children) and Christmas Jumper Day (more information to follow)
Thursday 12 December	Key Stage 1 Nativity (tickets will be available nearer the time)
Monday 16 December	Key Stage 2 Christmas Carol Service in school from 3.30 p.m.
Tuesday 17 December	Key Stage 2 Party Day
Wednesday 18 December	Whole school visit to Sunderland Empire to see the pantomime Cinderella
Thursday 19 December	Key Stage 1 Party Day

**School closes at 3 p.m. on Thursday 19 December 2019
for Christmas holidays
School re-opens for teaching purposes at
8:50 a.m. on Monday 6 January 2020**

(Key stage 1 refers to children in Classes 1 and 2, Key stage 2 refers to children in classes 3 and 4)

esafety

Remember Cyber Bullying

Cyber Bullying is when people send nasty and upsetting messages

You should always tell a trusted adult if you receive nasty messages

Bullying is never a nice thing to do to others

Everytime you get a nasty message make a note of it and tell a trusted adult

Replying to nasty messages is not a good idea

Be careful who you give your mobile number to

Upsetting messages should always be reported

Learn the 'Think u Know' Cyber Bullying safety rules

Let a trusted adult know if you think one of your friends is being bullied

You can get lots of help if you are being bullied

It is not your fault if you are bullied

Nasty messages may seem like just a bit of fun but they are not

Good friends will always help you

Cyber Bullying - True or False

Answer true or false to the questions below:

	Parent		Child	
	True	False	True	False
If I am upset about being bullied I should keep this secret				
All nasty messages and e-mails should be kept and shown to a trusted adult				
Bullying is a normal part of growing up and should be ignored				
If you receive a nasty message you should send a nasty message back				
Anyone can become a victim of Cyber Bullying				
You cannot spot a bully just by the way they act or post comments				
Cyber Bullying affects people of any age and from any background				
Many children will not speak to an adult if they are bullied as they feel ashamed				

Welcome to our new School Council



On Friday 11th October 2019 most pupils in school voted to elect our new school council. It was very exciting and we all gathered in the hall to hear the outcome once the votes had been counted.

Representing Year 1

Tristan & Emily (Vice)

Representing Year 2

Blaine & Katie (Vice)

Representing Year 3

Taylor Jade & Reece (Vice)

Representing Year 4

Freddie & Karol (Vice)

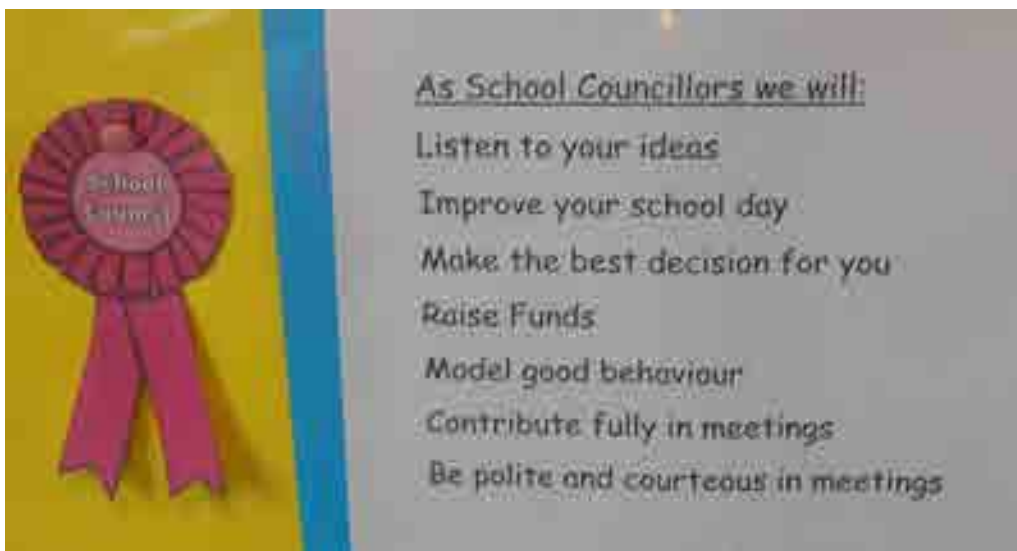
Representing Year 5

Rosie W & Rosie E (Vice)

Representing Year 6

Michelle & Jasmine S (Vice)

Each one of the elected representatives made the following pledge:



As School Councillors we will:

Listen to your ideas

Improve your school day

Make the best decision for you

Raise Funds

Model good behaviour

Contribute fully in meetings

Be polite and courteous in meetings

School holidays for the 2019/2020 academic year

Holiday	Closing Date	Re-opens for teaching purposes
Summer 2019	Thursday 18 July 2019	Wednesday 4 September 2019
Autumn half term 2019	Friday 25 October 2019	Monday 4 November 2019
Christmas 2019	Thursday 19 December 2019	Monday 6 January 2020
Spring half-term 2020	Friday 14 February 2020	Monday 24 February 2020
Easter 2020	Friday 3 April 2020	Monday 20 April 2020
May Day 2020	Thursday 7 May 2020	Monday 11 May 2020
Summer half term 2020	Thursday 21 May 2020	Monday 1 June 2020
Summer 2020	Friday 17 July 2020	Tuesday 1 September 2020

Training Days

Tuesday	3 September 2019
Friday	20 December 2019
Friday	17 April 2020
Friday	22 May 2020
Monday	20 July 2020

An important reminder to parents



Although we have been advised we should no longer send out 'alert letters' to parents when a case of headlice is reported, we would like to remind you to check your child's hair on a weekly basis. If you require any advice on treating headlice, please contact the school nurse on 03000 261700 or your nearest pharmacy. Thank you!

After School Clubs for next half term

	Activity	Year Group	Time
Monday			
Tuesday	Kick Boxing*	Y3, 4, 5 and 6	3 – 4.15 p.m.
Wednesday	SpaG Booster	Y6	3 – 4 p.m.
Wednesday	Games and Puzzles	YR, 1, and 2	3 – 4 p.m.
Thursday	Zumba Kids	YR, 1 and 2	3 – 4.15 p.m.
Thursday	ICT Club	Y3, 4, 5 and 6	3 – 4 p.m.
Thursday	SVP	Nominated pupils	3 – 4 p.m.
Thursday	Choir	Y3, 4, 5 and 6	3 – 4 p.m.

* to start on Tuesday 12th November 2019

Our OLSots Stars



Rosie has become an Ambassador for 'Girls Golf Rocks' based at Castle Eden Golf Club. This is a county wide initiative promoting the benefits of playing golf.



Well done to Karol our very own superstar swimmer. At a recent swimming gala he scooped five medals! What an achievement - all down to his own personal dedication, hard work and attitude.



Wow! Rosie competed in the championships at Cayton Bay this October and danced away with three trophies! She gained two first and one second place in a highly contested competition. Keep up the great work Rosie - a star in the making!

Events from last term



The Awards Assembly held in July was another great success.



SVP Fund Raising

The children were encouraged to bring in coins to support the work of the Mercy Ships - the focus was on helping burns victims. A total of £129.05 was raised.



The whole school took part in Durham County Big Sing. The children performed a wide range of song styles to a packed audience.



The Year 6 leavers voted to go bowling as their treat on their last day. They all had a great time.

Our pupils in Years 5 and 6 children ended the year with a fabulous production of 'A Lad in Trouble.'



A snapshot of what's happening in each class this half term

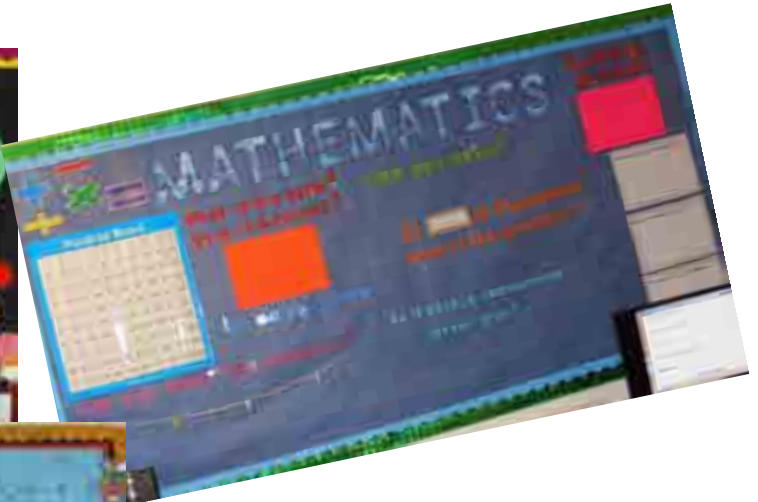
Class 1



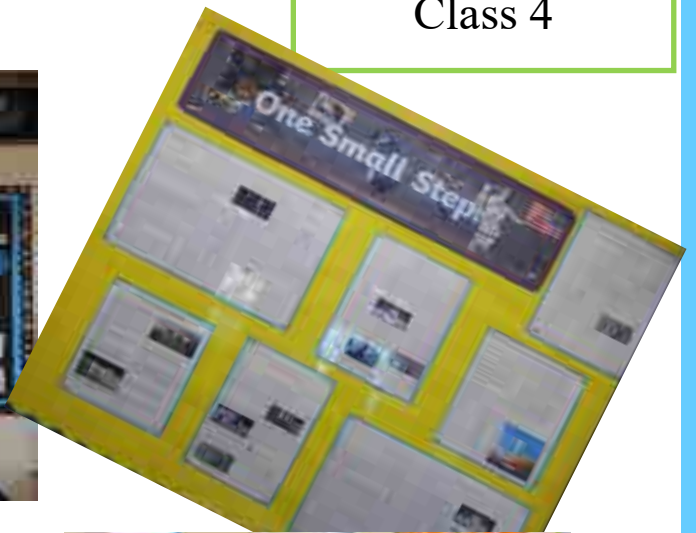
Class 2



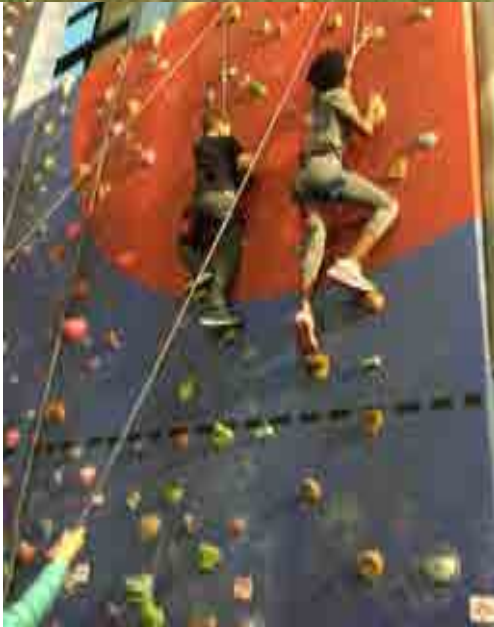
Class 3



Class 4



Fitness and Sport



Forest Schools/looking after our environment



This term each class has been out in the school grounds litter picking, retrieving seeds from the sunflowers to fill up the bird feeders and making sure the raised beds are ready to re-plant in the Spring.

They have also built hedgehog houses and bug hotels to ensure the wildlife have a safe, sheltered home for the winter.

They had great fun searching for acorns and building dens too.



R.E. and Collective Worship

Our Lady Star of the Sea

Mission Statement

Together may we create a home for God inside our hearts

We are unique and strive to be accepting of all

We do our very best to follow the path of God and together, we will walk in the light of Jesus

We are special in our own ways and believe that anyone can achieve anything!

We are kind, loving and respectful of everyone.

We are growing in God's love ... achieving our dreams.



The theme for this half term is 'Loving'

