



#01: 20 October 2023 **Tel: 222412**
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LEARNING TOGETHER, LOVING GOD

Dear parents and carers,

It has been another busy, action packed half term, full of fantastic learning experiences and opportunities for the children and staff. We have also had out Catholic Schools' Inspection and I hope to be able to share that report after the holidays. I know I say this often, but we are very fortunate to have such talented, creative and skilled staff who work tirelessly for the good of the school.

We have had a big focus on presentation this term, and I've been delighted to see the improvement in the children's work in their books. They all have a growing sense of pride in what they have been learning and many have been keen to show this off to me. Hopefully you saw some of this during the parent/teacher meetings held this week. We had a great turnout and almost everyone managed to get in to meet their child's class teacher and discuss how this half-term has gone.

Over the page you'll see a chart showing how attendance affects a child's learning. If your child has approximately 19 days off in a year—this is 90% attendance. If this happens every year then your child will have lost half a year's learning in 5 years! Please try not to book holidays and appointments during term time, and now that Covid rules have been dropped, only keep your child off unless they are really unwell. Our School's Attendance Officer will be following up with attendance and lateness this term.

As always, please can I thank the entire school community for your continued support as it is only together that we can make a difference! Our PTFA have already raised over £550 with the first movie night this term. They have lots of other exciting things coming up, including a Christmas jumper sale, a Christmas shop and also our beautiful Our Lady of the Rosary Calendars, that will be on sale after half-term.

Thanks to everybody who has contributed to all our fundraising this half-term. So far we have raised £1200 for Guernsey Mind and the Guernsey Youth Commission through the Swimathon and over £500 for CAFOD and we have collected lots of food that will go to St Julian's Homeless Shelter. We are always blown away by your generosity—it just shows what a caring Catholic community we have here at Notre Dame.

Over the half-term, please keep up with reading and times tables if you can. Our Reading Raffle Draw will be held at the end of term, so its important to get as many of those reading tickets in the box as you can!

Have a lovely break.

Best wishes

Mrs Robertshaw

Dates for the Diary

OCTOBER

Fri	20	Break up for half-term
Mon	30	Back to school

NOVEMBER

Wed	1	Rotary shoeboxes being collected
Wed	1	Whole school Mass — All Saints Day
Fri	3	Y5/6 to Ladies College for WW1 event

DECEMBER

Tue	5	Infant Christmas performance
Wed	6	Infant Christmas performance
Thu	7	Infant Christmas performance (Parish)
Tue	12	Junior Christmas Performance
Wed	13	Junior Christmas Performance
Thu	14	PTFA Christmas shop
Fri	15	PTFA Christmas shop
Mon	18	Y5/6 to PAC to watch Cratchit
Tue	19	Whole school Mass
Thu	21	Christmas party day
Fri	22	Term ends - 1pm infants / 1.15pm juniors

WINTER UNIFORM

When the children come back to school on 30th October, they should be in winter uniform.

Winter Uniform includes:

- Grey shorts, trousers, skirt or pinafore
- Blue shirt
- Grey, navy, royal blue or white socks or tights
- Blue cardigan or jumper
- Black shoes

A school tie must be worn by everyone

How Does School Attendance Affect a Child's Learning?

