



OUR LADY OF LOURDES  
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

THE GREEN  
ROTTINGDEAN  
BRIGHTON BN2 7HA  
[www.ourladyoflourdesprimaryschool.co.uk](http://www.ourladyoflourdesprimaryschool.co.uk)



Friday 14th January 2022

- Update on PTFA Fund Raising and Planned Spending
- Academic Standards and Reporting Arrangements
- Attendance and Punctuality

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy Friday! Despite writing only last week I wanted to keep you updated on some events in school and give you the 'heads up' on some correspondence that you can expect over the coming weeks.

My first piece of news is to inform you that thanks to all of you and the work of the PTFA, we plan to spend an incredible £4,000 on reading resources for our library and, even more crucially, guided reading resources for Year 1 and 2. At Christmas, 80% of children in Year 1 had reached a standard in phonics which should see them pass their screening test in June. This is really incredible and is thanks to your support at home and the work of the phonics team led by Miss. Cordell. We now have five months to support those that need to practice their sounds and embed the skills across the cohort, but also want to 'push on' those that have their phonics secure. We plan to do this through the group reading of high quality, challenging short stories; which is what our PTFA will be supporting. In the library, we'll supplement the books already in place with fresher, challenging, interesting titles that truly reflect the diversity of our student body and their families. We are so amazingly grateful to everyone who has helped support our wonderful PTFA in the events over the past year. Reading is the key to everything; so supporting your children at home through reading to them or sharing any text or book is really important and embeds a love of reading and literature which can last a life time! Audio books at bed time is also a fantastic way to fall asleep...

Over the last week the SLT and I have met with all the teachers to look at the results of the assessments undertaken in reading, writing and maths prior to Christmas. One of the things you can expect in the coming weeks is an update for you on how well your child(ren) are doing in these areas and also details of how we'll continue to work with you in supporting them as we approach the mid-point of the year. For those parents of Year 6 children, we'll be informing you of the plans we have to help them prepare for their end of year exams (SATs) and details of the plans we have to enable them to prepare for this challenge calmly and steadily, but with really high expectations.

Finally, you'll have read in my previous letters the importance of high levels of attendance and punctuality and the importance of both of these in supporting children in their learning. Of course, we've had the challenges of Covid and there are set regulations around the absences required for that; however, what we're experiencing at the moment are relatively high numbers of the same children (10+) being late to school on a regular basis. I'm not in the business of casting any aspersions at all and I know there can be mitigating circumstances around this; but the impact within school is honestly huge: phonics sessions can be missed in EYFS or Year 1, interventions in maths and English are disrupted in Years 2 to 6. I'll be in touch with the relative families to see what support we can give and explain why we need children in by 8.50am. To add to the issue, children who come in late also won't have chosen their lunch choices, which, considering we have growing numbers of special diets, also raises the chances of these numbers being incorrect.

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Head Teacher: Mr Paul Barber



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Have a good weekend when it arrives.

Yours sincerely

Headteacher

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