



OUR LADY OF LOURDES
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

THE GREEN
ROTTINGDEAN
BRIGHTON BN2 7HA
www.ourladyoflourdesprimaryschool.co.uk



15th December 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we head towards the Christmas holidays, I wanted to take a moment to look back over what has been a joyful, busy and very productive term. The children have grown in confidence, kindness and resilience, and there has been a genuine sense of community across the school. Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support. It makes such a difference.

We have had so many special moments this term that it's hard to choose just a few, but here are some highlights that really stood out.

Our Nativity and Christmas performances once again filled the school with excitement and joy. The children performed beautifully, and it was lovely to see so many of you in the audience. A huge thank you must go to the staff who worked tirelessly behind the scenes to prepare the infant nativities. From rehearsals to costumes and calming little nerves, their creativity and care made the performances truly magical.

Our KS2 Advent Reflection was another very special moment. The children read and sang with such thoughtfulness, creating a beautiful sense of calm as we prepare for Christmas. Alongside this, the children took part in an Advent treasure hunt to "find Jesus". Every classroom had a tiny model of Jesus hidden somewhere, and the children loved searching for him, sharing clues and working together. There was a real buzz of excitement, and it was a lovely reminder of the message at the heart of Advent.

We also celebrated the Jubilee Year of Hope with a whole-school pilgrimage. Each class created a prayer station, and the children travelled around the school reflecting on how they can bring hope to others. As a community, we have pledged to offer hope to those in need, including people who are homeless. The children's compassion throughout the day was truly inspiring.

Music has been a big part of our term. Our choir has been incredibly busy, performing at the One Voice Concert at the Brighton Dome, singing for residents at Gate Cottage Nursing Home, and helping to switch on the Christmas lights at The Grand Hotel. At every event, the children sang beautifully and represented the school with such joy and kindness. We have also introduced a new school ensemble, and our Rocksteady band members have been rehearsing with great enthusiasm. New drumming lessons have begun too, and it has been wonderful to see so much musical talent emerging across the school.

Sport has been another real strength this term. Our Year 5 and 6 runners performed brilliantly in the recent cross-country event, with many children placing very well across the races. A particular highlight was the outstanding performance of the Year 5 boys, who achieved an impressive first and second place finish. We were also thrilled to win the Indoor Athletics competition as part of the ACE Partnership. The children showed real determination, teamwork and enthusiasm throughout. Well done to all involved - we are very proud of you.

We've also enjoyed a wide range of trips, workshops and enrichment activities across the school. One of the highlights was the Year 3 Stone Age workshop, which took place in our School in the Woods area and

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Head Teacher: Anita Philbrook



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back in the classroom. Parents joined the children to help them create Stone Age tools and artefacts, experimenting with natural materials and bringing history to life in a hands-on way. It was wonderful to see families and children working together with such enthusiasm. Across the school, a variety of other trips and activities have deepened the children's learning and sparked their curiosity this term.

We have also seen remarkable generosity from our school community. Our Marathon Mums – Gemma, Jane, Jo and Michelle – completed an incredible fundraising effort, raising an amazing £1,145 for our children. We are so grateful for the time, energy and heart they put into supporting the school. In addition, our GamMed mufti day raised £347, which has already been used to provide packs for the children and post-operative analgesia for those in need. Thank you to everyone who contributed; your kindness makes a real difference.

The PTFA continue to play such an important role in bringing our community together. The PTFA discos were a real highlight for the children, who loved every minute. Thank you to everyone involved in making them happen, from planning and setting up to being there on the night. The Christmas Fair was also a great success, with a lovely sense of community throughout the afternoon, and we are incredibly grateful for the hard work, creativity and enthusiasm that the PTFA put into all their events.

Thank you as well for your continued support with attendance. We know it has been a busy season of coughs and colds, but every day in school really does make a difference.

As we look ahead to the spring term, we are excited to continue building on the wonderful start the children have made this year. There is plenty to look forward to, and we can't wait to share new learning and experiences with them.

A Christmas Prayer for Our Families

Loving God,
As we celebrate the birth of Jesus,
fill our homes with peace, hope and joy.
Watch over our families during the holidays,
and help us return in the new year refreshed and ready to grow.
Amen.

Thank you once again for everything you do to support our school.
Wishing all our families a peaceful Christmas and a very Happy New Year.
We look forward to welcoming the children back on Monday 5th January.

Warmest wishes,
Mrs Philbrook
Headteacher

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