

St Nicholas Catholic Primary School

'Love one another as I have loved you'



Headteacher: Mrs J. Burns BA QTS (Hons) NPQH
Address: Oakwood Lane, Leeds, West Yorkshire, LS9 6QY
Telephone: 01132 930 318
Email: schooloffice@stnicholasprimaryleeds.org.uk
Website: www.stnicholasprimaryleeds.org.uk
Instagram: @stnicholasleeds

Head Teacher Newsletter 3

6 October 2025

**Virtue to Live By:
Respect and Courtesy**

Dear Parents and Carers

Last week, staff from our school, along with many other Catholic schools, had the special honour of coming together to celebrate Mass in continuation of the Year of Hope. It was truly wonderful to share this spiritual experience with our wider Catholic community, reminding us of the strength and comfort found in faith during challenging times. The Gospel message from yesterday encourages us to place our trust in God's hope and love, guiding us to support one another with kindness and generosity. We carry this spirit with us as a school family every day.

Month of the Rosary: October is a special month in the Catholic Church as it is dedicated to the Holy Rosary. The Rosary is a prayer that helps us reflect on the life of Jesus and Mary, using the beads to guide our prayers. Throughout this month, the children are warmly invited to join a voluntary daily Rosary prayer session at school. This is a lovely opportunity for them to deepen their faith and participate in a cherished Catholic tradition.

Website: We are excited to share that our school was recently filmed, and this footage will be featured alongside our new website to showcase the wonderful achievements and daily life of our school community. While it will take some time to fully launch the updated website, an interim version will be available shortly. We understand how important the website is in providing a warm first impression and vital information for current and prospective families, so we are working hard to get it just right.

PGL: Year 6 had an amazing time on their PGL residential trip, gaining valuable experiences and building independence and teamwork skills. A huge thank you to our dedicated staff who generously gave up their own time to support the trip, demonstrating the importance of residential visits in enriching children's learning beyond the classroom.

MacMillan Coffee Morning: Our heartfelt thanks to everyone who supported the recent MacMillan Coffee Morning. Your generosity helped us raise an impressive amount for this incredible charity that provides vital support to those facing cancer. Events like this highlight the wonderful community spirit we have at our school.

Harvest: Looking ahead, we are delighted to invite you to our Harvest Assembly on Thursday, 9 October at 9:10am in the school hall. Led by Miss Causey's Year 2 class, the assembly will celebrate generosity and community spirit. Following the assembly, donations collected in decorated shoe boxes will be shared between St George's Crypt, the Franciscan Sisters' Food

Bank, and the SVP parish group, supporting vulnerable people locally. Thank you to everyone who has already contributed; your kindness makes a real difference.

Photos: Individual and sibling school photos will be taken on Tuesday 7th October. We encourage all children to wear their full winter uniform on this day to look smart and represent our school proudly.

Reception 2026: For families who have children due to start Reception in September 2026, please know there is a chance to visit the school and meet staff on **Wednesday at 6:30pm**. Do feel free to share this invitation with friends and neighbours who may be interested.

Mindmate: On Friday, MindMate will be visiting to conduct an assembly focused on emotions and mental health—a topic we consider very important to support the well-being of our children.

Book Fair: It was fantastic to see so many of you at the recent Book Fair! The enthusiasm for choosing books was truly inspiring and supports our aim to foster a lifelong love of learning. To build on this, Upper Key Stage 2 will have the opportunity to meet an author on Wednesday—a wonderful way to encourage their reading passion.

Parents' Evenings: Parents' Evenings will take place on Monday 13th and Tuesday 14th October. These sessions are brief five-minute meetings with your child's class teacher to discuss how they have settled into the new school year. We look forward to seeing you then.

Message: Leeds City Council, Safer Leeds, and West Yorkshire Police have asked us to share a letter regarding recent incidents involving groups of young people in the City Centre. This letter informs parents about the collective response from local authorities to ensure safety. For details, please refer to the attached document sent along with this newsletter.

In light of the heart-breaking terrorist attack at the Manchester Synagogue, our thoughts and prayers are with all those affected in the community and across our city. At times like this, it is vital that we come together as a school family, united in our values of respect, compassion and peace.

Such senseless acts remind us of our shared responsibility to look after one another, champion kindness, and promote understanding among all faiths and backgrounds.

Thank you for your ongoing support and involvement in our school community. Your partnership is invaluable as we continue to nurture our children's growth in faith, learning, and character.

With best wishes

Mrs Burns
Headteacher

Loving God,
We hold in our hearts all those touched by the tragedy at the Manchester Synagogue. Bring healing to the injured, comfort to those who mourn, and courage to all who feel afraid. Help us to be people of peace, forgiving where there is hurt, and building understanding where there is division. May our school family reflect your light, showing love, acceptance and unity to everyone.

Guide us to work for a world where all faiths and all people can live in harmony and safety. We ask this in your name.

Amen.