



16th September 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,



Thank you! Last year the Friends of St Winifred's raised £4,000 for the school. With this money we have purchased 6 HP desktop computers. The computers have arrived and have been installed in the St Peter's Class (Nursery), both Year 2s, Year 3s

and in St Josephine's Class (Year 5). These were the classrooms with the greatest need for new computers. This will allow the teachers to be able to teach the children without technical difficulties. We cannot thank you enough! Please find attached the Friends of St Winifred's Autumn Newsletter.

September:

18th: Altar Servers Meeting
19th: School Closed
20th: Meet the teaching team
3:15pm or 5pm
20th: Friends PTA AGM 5pm

State Funeral:

On Monday 19th September, the state funeral of Queen Elizabeth II will be held. The school will be closed on this day. A letter was sent to you all this week. School will reopen on Tuesday 20th. I hope that you have all been able to see the condolence wall in the playground that the children have created with tributes to the queen.



Altar Servers

The next programme of training for new servers will start with an initial meeting in Our Lady of Lourdes on Sunday 18th September at 5pm. Any children, who have already received their First Holy Communion are welcome to attend with their parents / carers. If your child would like to join the servers but cannot make the first meeting, please let Fr Emeka know your contact details.

Meet the Teaching Team:

You should have all received a letter last week inviting you all to a Meet the Teaching Team meeting on Tuesday 20th September at 3:15pm or 5pm in your child's classroom. The Friends AGM will be held at 4pm in the hall.

We are running the same session twice, one just after home time and the other later in the evening, with the aim of trying to accommodate as many families as possible. Please do try to attend to get all the information regarding the routines and curriculum expectations for your child's year group. The home school agreement, new behaviour policy and the Relationship and Health Education Scheme of Work, will also be discussed.

We will be looking after school aged children, in order for you to be able to attend the meeting. If your child is in KS1 or 2, please bring them to the main hall to watch a film on your way to the meeting. If your child is in Early Years, we will look after them in their outside area.

Secondary School Admissions (Year 6):

You can apply for a secondary school place to start September 2023. The deadline for secondary school applications is Monday 31 October 2022. [Read about school admissions](#) on the Lewisham website and [sign up to receive weekly emails about applying for a secondary school place](#).

Many of our Year 6 pupils will be visiting secondary schools and sitting tests during the coming weeks. Please ensure that you inform the office if your child is going to visit a school or needs time to sit a test. In order to minimise disruption to their learning in class, please ensure that they are only absent for part of the school day on which the exam or visit takes place. Open Days / evenings for secondary schools have started. Please look at the secondary schools' websites for date. The dates for all Lewisham schools can be found [here](#).

Cost of Living Crisis:

If there are any families that find themselves struggling and would like support, please do come and talk to us. The school's budget is also under an incredible amount of strain and although will be unable to support financially, we will support you practically, in any way we can. I list here some of the established initiatives we have that may help:

Pupil Premium Funding

Please check to see if your eligible by visiting: <https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals> If you are eligible, additional money is given to the school to improve the attainment of these pupils. This money would not only entitle the children to free school meals until Year 6, but it would also mean that one after school club a term, all trips and instrumental lessons would be paid for.

Food Bank

As you all know the school runs a foodbank for any family, who would like to access it. Please be reminded that the school's foodbank is open. If you would like to access it, please contact the school office. If you are able to donate to the foodbank, all donations will be greatly received.

Uniform Swap Shop

We have a great deal of nearly new uniform which has been donated to the school. Please feel free to ask in the office for uniform in your child's size. Also, when your child outgrows their uniform, if it is clean and in good condition, please donate it and we will add it to our stock. Not only does this save money, it is good for our environment too.

Message from Our Lady of Lourdes

Episcopal Vicar's fraternal visit to Lee Parish

Our newly appointed Episcopal Vicar – Fr Victor Darlington will visit Our Lady of Lourdes parish on **Sunday 18th September 2022 at 9am**. We encourage our parishioners to consider attending 9am Mass to welcome him.

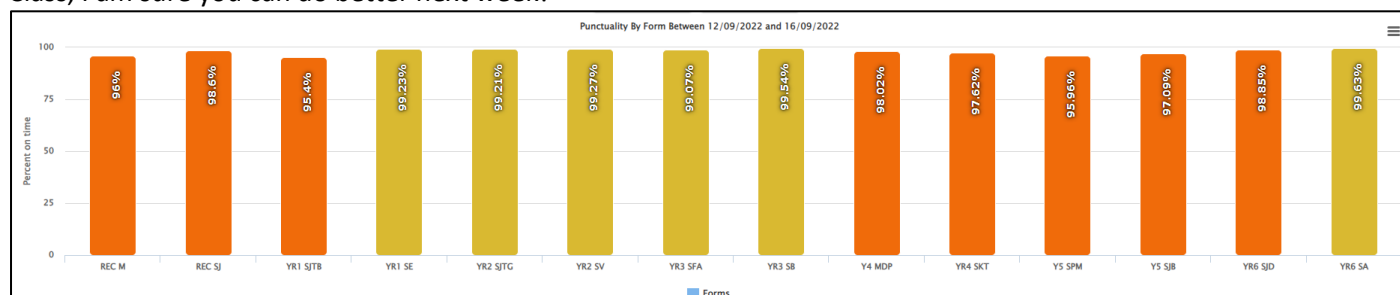
The church hall will be open for tea and coffee after the mass to greet Fr Victor to our parish more informally. All are welcome, even if you were not able to make mass.

Parking

Please care for our neighbours by parking with consideration. Please ensure that you do not park across driveways or in our local estates when dropping off or picking up your child. Our local estates are not public areas and therefore parking of unauthorised vehicles is against the law.

Punctuality:

Well done to Saint Elizabeth, St James the Great, St Francis, St Bernadette and Saint Alphonsa who all had 99% punctuality! It's incredibly important to get the children to school on time. Saint John the Baptist and St Josephine Class, I am sure you can do better next week!



This week's winner is Saint Alphonsa class – Year 6 with 99.63%!

Wednesday Word

Please see the [link](#) to this wonderful resource to share with your child, to support them in understanding the Mass Readings for the coming weekend.

Parent App:

We sent an email again today to all the parents who have not downloaded the ScholarPack App. Within the email is the code needed to access your child's information on the app. From the app you are able to access all the information we hold on your children. If you need any help with downloading it, please do not hesitate to ask us.



Social Media:

Just to remind you, follow us on:



St Winifred's Catholic Primary School



St_winifreds_lee



@stwinifredslee

Thank you for taking the time to read the newsletter.

Claire Gillespie