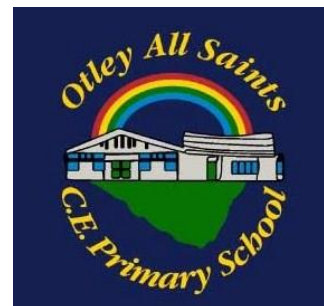


# Otley All Saints CE Primary School

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Headteacher: Luisa Di Palma-Heath



This half term, our core Christian value is:



## Diary Dates

- Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February** – Start of Children's Mental Health Week
- Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February** – Full Governors' meeting, 6:30 pm
- Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February** – KS2 Cross Country Finals, Temple Newsam
- Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February** – Year 5 at PHGS World Sports Festival
- Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February** – 'Dress to Express' day'
- Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February** – 'Stay & Play' morning in Reception
- Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February** – School closes for half term
- Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February** – School opens for Spring Term 2
- Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March** – Yr6 Basketball Festival, PHGS
- Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March** – Comic Relief Day
- Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> & Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March** – Parents' Evenings
- Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March** – School closes for the Easter Holidays

**Future Date – Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October**  
EYFS Training Day – Nursery and Reception will be **closed** for the day.



Next Monday will see the start of **Children's Mental Health Week**, an annual event for All Saints. Every year Children's Mental Health Week sees hundreds of schools, children, parents, and carers participating. We hope to encourage more people than ever to help reach the goal that no child or young person has to face a mental health problem alone. The event is promoted

by the charity Place2Be, and this year's theme is 'My Voice Matters'. The focus is to empower, equip and give a voice to every child in the UK. We are planning a range of activities in school that allow the children to share their thoughts and ideas, give them time to express themselves, and celebrate what makes them unique. During Children's Mental Health Week, we want all children and young people, whoever they are and wherever they are in the world, to be able to say – and believe - "My Voice Matters". If you would like further details about how we support mental health and wellbeing at All Saints, please visit the [pastoral page](#) on the school website. Practical advice on a wide range of wellbeing topics and tried and tested tips for parents and carers can be found at <https://parentingsmart.place2be.org.uk/>.

As part of our work for Children's Mental Health Week, we have organised a **'Dress to Express' Day on Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> February**. Children could wear their favourite colour or a unique outfit to express how they are feeling, it can be as simple or elaborate as you like! 'Dress to Express' is an opportunity for self-expression and celebrating different emotions. The day also provides an excellent opportunity to be open about mental health and start conversations within our school community.

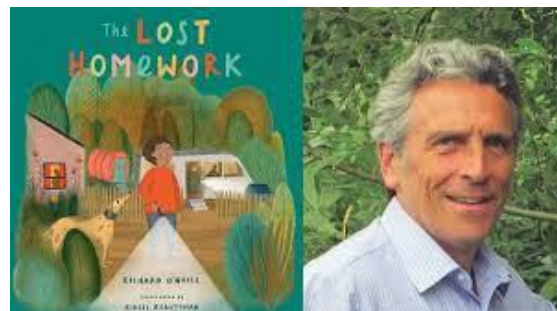


**Staffing news** Sadly, Mrs Binks will leave us at the end of this half-term to work with the One Adoption Agency. Mrs Binks will be very much missed by the whole school community and we all wish her well in her new role. Mrs Kim Hargreaves (Supported Recruitment) will teach temporarily in Year 2 (Mon-Weds), alongside Mrs Nunn from the February half-term until the Easter holidays. After the Easter holidays, Mrs Bennett will move to a job share role in Year 2, teaching Monday to Wednesday. We advertised for the Year 1 class teacher role earlier this half-term and interviews will take place on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February.



**PTA 50:50 Club** Congratulations to our January winners; 1st prize of £88 goes to Lee Jackson, and the 2nd prize of £22 was won by Jill Anderson. If you would like to be included in the draw, which raises money for PTA as well as offering the opportunity for a monthly prize, please fill in a form at the school office

**PTA News – Author Visits** The PTA has kindly funded two author visits to help us celebrate World Book Day. KS1 will have a visit from Richard O'Neill on **Tuesday 27th February, 1:30-3 pm**. Richard is a sixth-generation master storyteller and author from the Romany tradition. His original stories, books and plays are inclusive, inspiring, funny, traditional and contemporary, with strong themes of inclusion, identity, community and ecology.



The author for KS2 is **James Nicol**, and he will be visiting on the afternoon of **Friday 8th March**. James is the author of the critically acclaimed Apprentice Witch series. As a child, he always checked wardrobes for hidden worlds and spent hours reading novels or adventuring in the woods at the bottom of the garden. Following the session, children can have copies of their books signed (order forms have been emailed home). Thank you to Mrs Lewis for organising both events and the PTA for their generosity.

### **PTA – Have you any good quality toys, games at home you no longer need?**

Our after-school club (4, 5, 6 Club) is in need of good quality toys and games for the children to use after school. If you have anything suitable please bring into the school office – thank you in advance.

**Can you help at lunchtime?** This is an urgent request for assistance from adults willing to help us with lunchtime supervisor roles. We require help on Thursdays and Fridays during lunchtime (11:45 am – 1:15 pm). If you are interested in this role, please contact the school office by phone or email at [office@otleyallsaints.co.uk](mailto:office@otleyallsaints.co.uk). We appreciate any help you can offer



### **Hair and Jewellery – a reminder regarding our policy on hair and nail varnish in school**

**Hair** - Children with hair longer than shoulder length should have their hair fully tied back for hygiene reasons and to prevent hair falling forwards as they are working.

**Jewellery** - Nail varnish should not be worn. Jewellery or wristbands should not be worn with the exception of plain silver or gold studs. These should be removed or covered on P.E. days. Watches may be worn, but should be removed for P.E.

### **Half-Term Activities:**

If you are searching for activities for the February Half-Term, the attached flyers may inspire you. Please see the attached information from various clubs across the city: City of Leeds Basketball Club, InGear (PHGS), Swim Splash Learn (PHGS), and Chevin Forest School.

I wish all our families an enjoyable and restful weekend.

Best wishes,  
Mrs Di Palma-Heath