



Dispatches from Our Lady's



As we move into the autumn and winter months, helping children stay healthy can reduce illness and minimise time away from school. The UK Health Security Agency encourages families to promote good hygiene habits, including regular handwashing and covering coughs and sneezes, while also ensuring children are up to date with their vaccinations. By taking simple preventative steps, we can work together to keep our school community healthy and reduce time off school this year.

RSHE

All schools in England and Wales are required to review and update our Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSHE) Policy this year following recent changes to Government guidance and expectations. In line with our commitment to providing an education rooted in Catholic values, we have adopted the latest Diocese of Arundel and Brighton model policy, which has been developed specifically to support Catholic schools in meeting both statutory requirements and the teachings of the Church.

The revised policy sets out how we will deliver RSHE across the school, helping children to develop healthy relationships, understand their responsibilities

towards themselves and others, and grow in knowledge and understanding in an age-appropriate manner. The policy remains firmly grounded in our Catholic ethos whilst ensuring that all statutory requirements are met.

We will shortly be consulting with parents and carers re the new policy, with details to follow.



Term Dates 2026/27

Autumn Term
3/9/26—18/12/26
Spring Term
5/1/27—25/3/27
Summer Term
12/4/27—20/7/27

Inset Days
Friday 23/10/26
Friday 27/11/26
Friday 28/5/27
Friday 2/7/27

First Holy Communion 26/27

Details regarding this year's First Holy Communion programme and catechesis sessions will be shared shortly by the Crawley Catholic Parish. The programme will provide children and families with the opportunity to deepen their understanding of the Eucharist and prepare prayerfully for the Sacrament of First Holy Communion.

Further information, including registration arrangements, session dates, and key expectations for families, will be communicated directly by the Parish as soon as these have been finalised.



As part of our Harvest Festival celebrations next Friday (9/10/26), we will once again be supporting the Parish SVP Foodbank through donations from our school community.

The SVP does wonderful work supporting local families and individuals who may be facing difficult circumstances. We would be very grateful for any donations of non-perishable food items and essential household toiletries that can be shared with those in need.

Examples of suitable donations include:

- Tinned vegetables, soup, beans, tomatoes and fruit
- Pasta, rice and noodles
- Pasta sauces and curry sauces
- Tea, coffee and hot chocolate
- Breakfast cereals and porridge
- Toiletries such as shampoo, shower gel, soap, toothpaste and toothbrushes
- Toilet rolls, tissues and other household essentials

Please send any donations into school during the week or on the day of the Harvest Festival.

Thank you in anticipation for your kindness and generosity. By working together as a school community, we can help support local families and put our faith into action through service to others.