



Our Lady's Catholic Primary School

Weekly Newsletter

"A place of learning – A community of Christ"

24th September 2021

Dear Parents,


This week the learning has stepped up another gear. There is so much going on in school and it is good to see the children have settled so well. We have loads of great work going on across the curriculum and I know the children have particularly enjoyed the sports activities and Forest Schools this week.

Tuesday was international gratitude day and I know we have a lot to be grateful for. I am particularly grateful for the PTA and all the families in school. The PTA organised a fantastic barbecue last weekend for the new starters. It is always a lovely event and just a reminder to me of how lucky we are to have such supportive families.

Also, last weekend we had the first inter-schools cross country for two years, at Chenies Manor. The weather was beautiful and it really was a fantastic event. I want to say a massive thank you to Becky and Nick from Kudos athletics who have ensured that the cross-country league has carried on, as well as thank you to Chenies Manor who have been so accommodating. All the children did really well but I would especially like to mention Jack (Y5) and Albert (Y5) who both medalled, coming 6th and 10th respectively, as well as Elodie Clews (Y3) who came 15th. I hope to see a lot more children running at the next event.

Have a lovely weekend.

God bless,

M. Hold 



PTA Reception Barbecue

Here are a couple of photos from this fabulous event:



OLS Football

OLS bowed out of the ESFA South Bucks cup this week. The boys represented the school fantastically against a very strong Gerrards Cross team. Gerrads Cross scored very early which shocked the boys a bit. As the game progressed, they really started to gel as a team. Special mentions go to Blazej for his tremendously brave effort in goal. He made countless saves, keeping the score down. Also Robert's tireless running in the second half and Kacper, playing up front, made some brilliant mazy runs and showed off his skills on numerous occasions.

Well done Boys, I'm looking forward to the next match!

Mr Weatherill




On Thursday evening, OLS won for the first time in the Chiltern League with a resounding 9-1 victory. Everyone played fantastically well and with great sportsmanship. You might think it was a landslide victory but it could have been even more as their goalkeeper made some terrific saves. Although all nine goals were scored by Harrison and Finlay, it was a great all round team performance. A special mention must go to Mylee who really kept her discipline while everyone else pushed forward managing to break up all the Ivingswood breakaways.

Well done everyone.

Mr Holdsworth




Irish Dancing Club




CHILDHOOD CANCER AWARENESS 2021

September is Childhood Cancer Awareness month and Scoil Rince Ceim Oir alongside other Irish dance schools in the southern region are supporting 'Children with Cancer UK.'

OLS dancers performed in today's Good News Assembly to raise awareness about the good work that this charity does and to remember the children who have gone before us.



IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO DONATE
PLEASE USE THIS
LINK: [HTTPS://JUSTGIVING.COM/FUNDRAISING/IRISH-DANCE-COMMUNITY-SOUTHERN-ENGLAND](https://justgiving.com/fundraising/irish-dance-community-southern-england)
OR ALTERNATIVELY, YOU CAN
DONATE USING PARENTPAY



In our Good News Assembly, we had a lovely performance by our Irish Dancing club who are trying to raise money for a charity "Children with Cancer". It was a fabulous performance. If you would like to donate please see the details in the poster above.

Safeguarding

I wanted to make parents aware of a number of resources on the NSPCC website to support parents. They include support and tips to help you keep children safe. From advice on children's mental health to staying safe online, support for parents and what to do if you're worried about a child.

Please see the resources on their website: [Keeping children safe | NSPCC](#)

Beginning of the Year Mass

Our first Mass of the year will be on Monday 27th September at 10.30 am. All parents are invited, but it would be particularly nice to see the families of the Reception children and any other new children, as this will be a special Mass for them where they are received into the school.

Knife and Fork – Walk and Picnic

Due to the pandemic, we had to postpone the work we were doing with our European partnership schools. As a way of relaunching it, we are hoping to take part in a whole school walk to Chesham Bois Moor and a picnic. This is going to be on Monday – weather permitting. Parents are welcome to join us!!!! It would be nice if the children could have some food, from a country with which they have a link, in their packed lunches. **Please note, a sandwich, a piece of fruit and oreo biscuits will be provided for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2.**

Cafod Family Fast Day

The 1st October is CAFOD's Family Fast Day and it has become our tradition that St Joseph's supplies us with soup and a roll for our school lunch free of charge. I would like to encourage the children to have a school lunch that day and we will donate the money you pay to CAFOD. Not only is this a really good way to raise money but it also helps our children to show solidarity with hungry children across the world.

Traffic – Please be careful

I know the traffic is dreadful at the moment, however, on Wednesday it went up to another level as the lights were stuck on red for a good few hours. I have spoken to Cadence who have promised me they will get the traffic management company there earlier in the mornings.

Please, please, please be very careful. We have had another near miss on the main road. Unfortunately, when people get frustrated they make erratic decisions. It is really important that we use it as an opportunity to teach our children to be extra careful on the roads.

Good News Certificates



Last week's good news certificates went to the following children:

Year 1	Annabelle, Aoife
Year 2	Sean, Arthur
Year 3	Ivor, Michael
Year 4	Matylda, Ava
Year 5	Nuala, Florence
Year 6	Jimi, Jessica

Well done everyone.





OPEN EVENTS

Mr Peter Sweeney, Executive Headteacher and Mr Stuart Hynes, Chair of Governors at St Joan of Arc Catholic School warmly invite all prospective students and their parents who are seeking admission in September 2022 to our Open Evening & Open Morning.

OPEN EVENING

Thursday 7th October 2021

6.00pm to 9.00pm

OPEN MORNING

Friday 8th October 2021

9.00am to 11.30am

There will be opportunities during your visit to:

- View the school facilities, meet Staff, Students, Governors & members of the PFA
- Hear about the Headteacher's vision for the future
- Share our successes

St Joan's is a very popular, highly oversubscribed Catholic School where every child matters, we have a strong system of support, care & guidance, a commitment to high standards of behaviour and academic success.



Find out more about our school and download application forms at:

www.joa.herts.sch.uk

St Joan of Arc Catholic School, High Street, Rickmansworth
Hertfordshire, WD3 1HG

Tel: Main Reception 01923 773881 or Admissions 01923 587970

Email: admissions@joa.herts.sch.uk



ST. JOAN OF ARC
Catholic School

Diary Dates 2021-2022

Please note:

- These dates are published to help parents and children attend as many events as possible. Although we will make every effort to stick to them, we may need to change the times or dates of some. When we do so, we will attempt to give as much warning as possible.

Date	Event	Concerning
27 th Sep	Beginning of Year Mass	Reception Parents
27 th Sep	Walk to Chesham Bois Moor and Picnic	Whole School
	Individual School Photos	All Children
1 st Oct	Family Fast Day – Soup Day	Everyone
11 th Oct	Diocesan Schools’ Mass	Year 6
15 th Oct	PTA Parent Coffee Morning	9.00pm – 11.00pm
17 th Oct	Children’s Disco	KS1 3pm – 4.30pm KS2 5pm – 6.30pm
Wk beginning 18 th Oct	Assessment Week	All Children
22 nd Oct	School closes for Half Term holiday at 3.25 pm	Whole School
1 st Nov	Return to School	Whole School
1 st Nov	All Saints Mass	Whole School
Wk beg 1st Nov	Pupil -Teacher Meetings	All Classes
10 th Nov	Parent consultation evening (Late)	All Classes
11 th Nov	Parent consultation evening (Early)	All Classes
15 th – 19 th Nov	Anti-Bullying Week	All Classes
20 th Nov	PTA Family Bingo	6 pm-8.30pm
23 rd Nov	PTA AGM	7.00pm-9pm
29 th Nov	Advent Liturgy / Crib Blessing	Whole School
3 rd Dec	PTA Secret Gift Room	During school hours
8 th Dec	Immaculate Conception Mass – Our Lady’s School Feast Day	All Invited
10 th Dec	Hollyberry Fayre	.30pm – 5pm
14 th Dec	Year R Nativity Play – morning	Year R Parents

15 th Dec	KS1 Christmas Performance - afternoon	KS1 Parents
16 th Dec	KS2 Carol Service	
17 th Dec	School closes at 1.30 pm	
4 th Jan	INSET DAY – NO CHILDREN IN SCHOOL	Teaching Staff
5 th Jan	School Re-opens	Whole School
6 th Jan	Epiphany - Mass and Blessing of the School and Classrooms	Whole School
16 th Jan	STCAT Review	Staff
31 st Jan	Candlemas Mass	All Invited
Wk beg 14 th Feb	Assessment Week	Whole School
18 th Feb	School closes for Half Term holiday at 3.25pm	All Classes
28 th Feb	School Re-opens	All Classes
Wk beg 28 th Feb	Pupil -Teacher Meetings	All Classes
1 st March	Shrove Tuesday - Carnivale	Whole School
2 nd March	Ash Wednesday Service	All Invited
9 th March	Parent consultation evening (Late)	All Classes
10 th March	Parent consultation evening (Early)	All Classes
8 th April	School closes for Easter Holidays at 1.30 pm	
25 th April	School Re-opens	All Classes
27 th April	Easter Mass	All Invited
2 nd May	BANK HOLIDAY SCHOOL CLOSED	
5 th May	International Day and Evening	
Wk beg 9 th May	SATS WEEK – Y6	Year 6
Wk beg 23 rd May	End of Year Assessments	Year 1 to Year 5
26 th May	May Procession	All Classes
	Year 6 Residential	Year 6
27 th May	School closes for Half Term holiday at 3.25pm	Whole School

6th June	INSET DAY – NO CHILDREN IN SCHOOL	Teaching Staff
7th June	School Re-opens	All Classes
8th June	Pentecost Liturgy	
7th to 10th June	Year 1 Phonics test	Year 1
13th to 17th June	Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check	Year 4
15th June	Meeting for new Reception children & parents 6.00 pm (children starting September 2022)	New Reception Parents
29th June	St Peter and St Pauls Mass– Year 3 First Holy Communicants	
3rd July	Sports Day (am – Foundation and KS1; pm – KS2)	All Invited
8th & 9th July	Year 6 Production	Year 6 Families
15th July	Reports to Parents	All Classes except Y6
19th July	Y6 Leavers Assembly at 9.30 am	All Invited
20th July	Y6 Leavers Mass 9.30 am	All Invited
20th July	School closes for the Summer Holidays at 1.30 pm	