



10th January 2024


Dear Parents,

I hope you had a great Christmas! It was lovely that the holiday was “book ended” by weekends as it always makes them seem a bit longer. However, it is great to be back at school and see the children back refreshed.

This week has been very much about getting back into the swing of things, getting the routines going again: reading, swimming etc. We had some great training on teaching and learning on Wednesday by somebody called Peps McCrea who is nationally renowned for his work on research led teaching and learning. Some of this training was about how important it is to minimise distractions when children are learning and the importance of routine. Peps shared with us an incredible bit of research which says that the typical classroom is interrupted 2000 times a year and those disruptions result in 10 to 20 days lost learning time. It has certainly made us think about some of the things we do in school. However, we have also thought of ways you as parents can help. For example, children being in school on time and ensuring they have the right equipment are really important as it not only gets in the way of their learning, it also effects the learning of other children. Things will never be perfect, but every little thing helps.

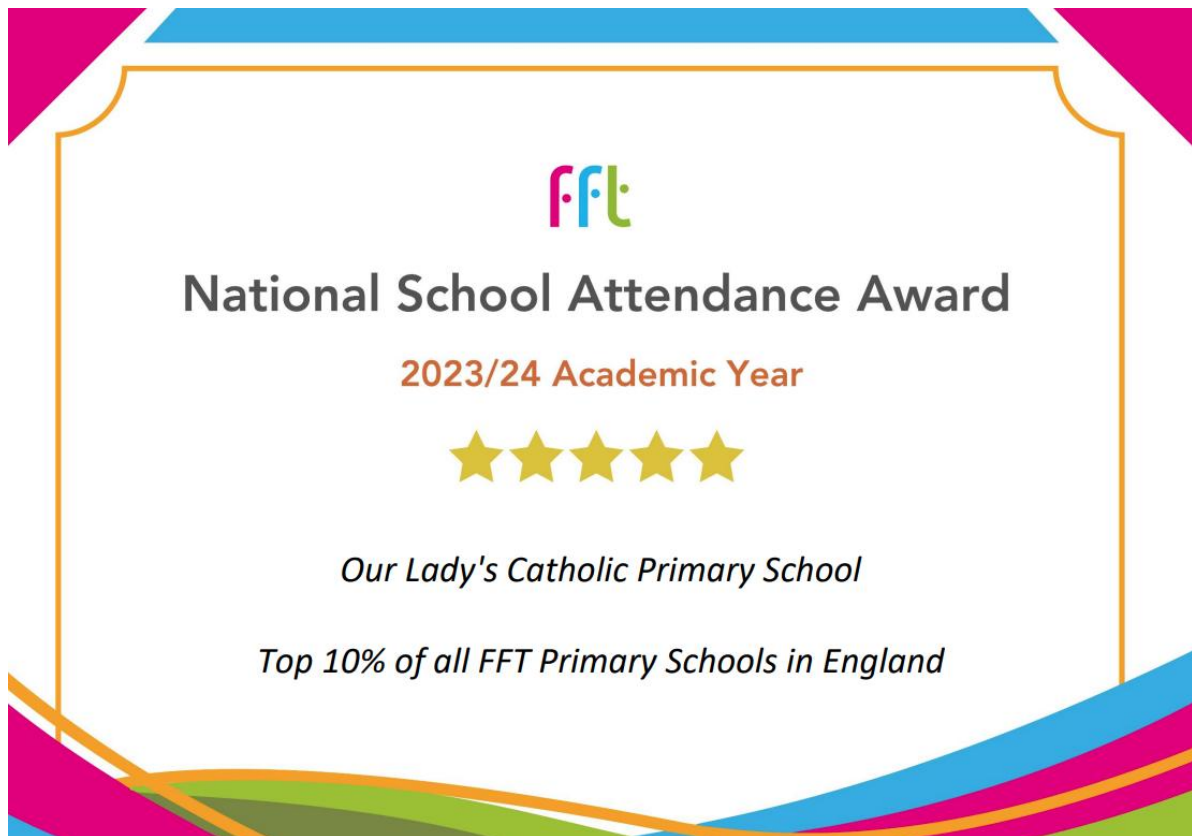
The second thing is the importance of routine. Humans are creatures of habit. It is not only for your child's learning but also their happiness that you have a good routine. It is the routine which helps them feel safe. This routine needs to have things like reading and homework built into it. Once again nothing is perfect, and life is busy and complicated, but we need to remember the positive impact routine has on our children and try and model good routine to them.

Have a lovely weekend. God Bless

M. Hold 

Attendance

Well done everyone. Last month, we were awarded a certificate for our 2023-2024 attendance which was in the top 10% of schools. And that was a year in which we were disappointed! This year our attendance is even better. Keep up the great work. There is no denying that children with attendance above 90% get better qualifications at the end of their education and then children with attendance above 95% even better.



I hope you all received your child's attendance report at the end of last term. If you have any questions, please let us know.

Accelerated Reader

The children are all doing their reading star tests currently so I will update you on the children meeting their targets next week.

Admissions

Please note that the admissions for Reception close on Wednesday 15th January. If you have a child who should start in September, remember you need to apply online with Buckinghamshire County Council. You can also submit further evidence by completing our application form and supplying any evidence such as baptismal certificates. Please make sure you get your applications in or we won't be allowed to allocate a place in the first round.

Thank you

News From The Parishes



ST COLUMBA'S 

YOUTH MUSIC GROUP & CLUB 



WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

EVERY SUNDAY @6PM FOR MASS

SATURDAY MONTHLY PRACTICE
(5-6PM) FOLLOWED BY
YOUTH CLUB (6-7PM) WITH PIZZA, GAMES,
ARTS & CRAFT



FOR FURTHER DETAILS CONTACT: FEDERICA@OLSCESHAM.CO.UK

ST COLUMBA'S (Chesham):

New Parish Priest: Fr Eustace Durugbo

email: freustace.durugbo@northamptondiocese.org

Sunday Masses @ 9am (traditional choir) & 6pm (Youth Band/ Choir)

Polish Mass @ 12 noon (1st & 3rd Sunday of the month)

YOUTH MASS on Sunday 12th Jan at 6pm

Choir practice on Saturday 11th Jan at 4-5pm followed by Youth Club 5-6pm

(for catering purposes please let Federica know if you are attending the

club: federica@olschesham.co.uk)

First Holy Communion session on Saturday 11th Jan at 4-5pm

IHM – Great Missenden

New Parish Priest: Fr Eustace Durugbo

email: freustace.durugbo@northamptondiocese.org

Saturday Mass @ 6pm

Sunday Mass @ 11am (with children's liturgy), followed by refreshments in the hall.

Polish Mass @ 12.15pm (2nd & 4th Sunday of the month)

YOUTH MASS on Sunday 19th Jan at 11am followed by refreshments in the hall.

Music practice before Mass starts from 10am

Our Lady's and St Aidan's parishes

Priest: Father Roy

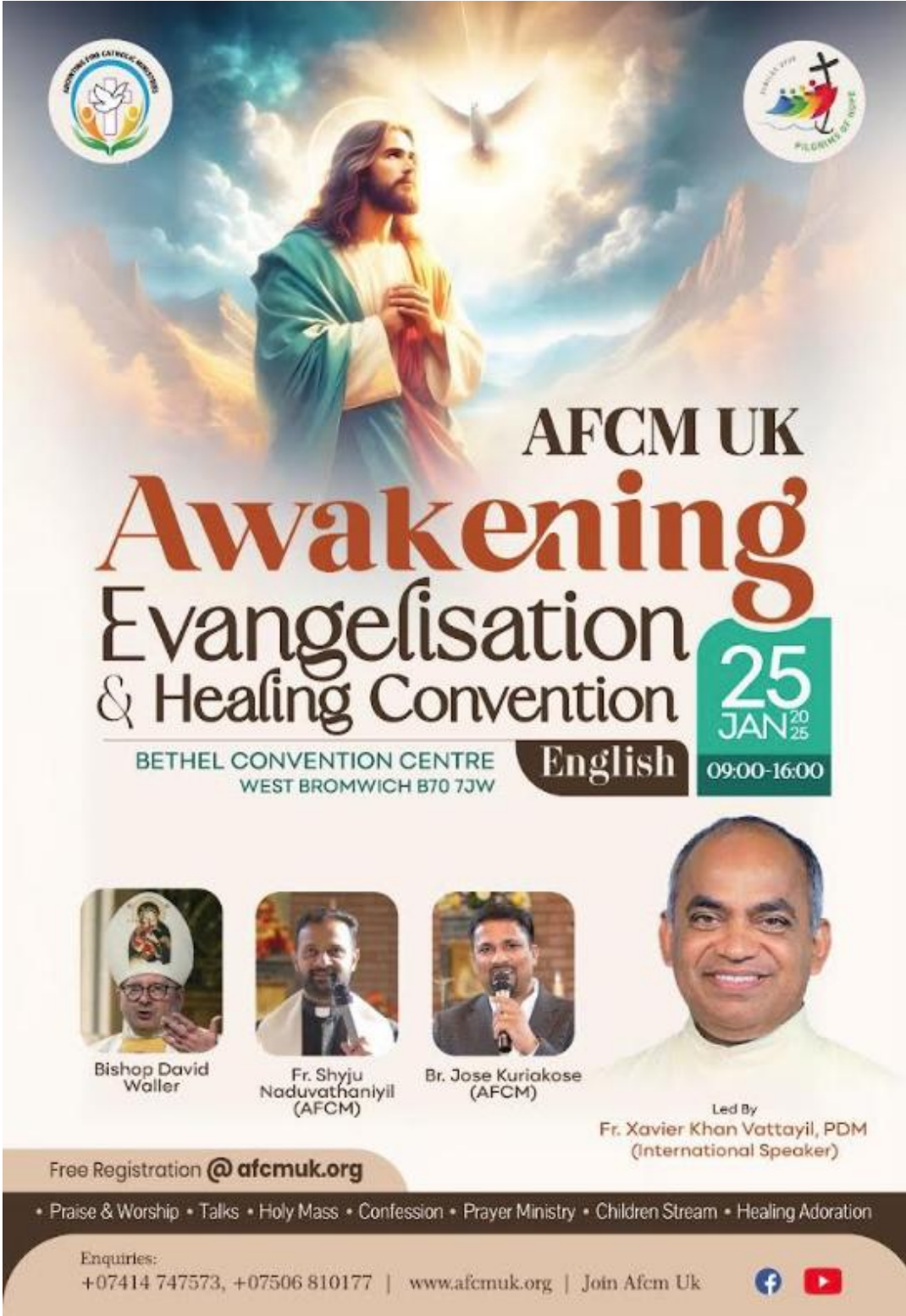
Sunday Mass times:

Our Lady's - Saturday 5 pm; Sunday 9 am (with children's liturgy and a choir for children in Year 3 and above - all welcome to come and sing, and there's a brief practice after Mass)

St Aidan's - Saturday 6:15 pm; Sunday 9 am (Polish Mass) and 11 am

Awakening

Please see the following opportunity for families to take part in this wonderful event. AFCM run regular family events which some of our families attend and highly recommend. Thank you for sharing.



The poster features a central image of Jesus Christ with a halo, standing against a dramatic sky with clouds and a dove. Two circular logos are in the top corners: the left one says 'AWAKENING THE CATHOLIC MIND' and the right one says 'PILGRIMS OF HOPE'. The main title 'AFCM UK Awakening Evangelisation & Healing Convention' is prominently displayed in the center. Below the title, the location 'BETHEL CONVENTION CENTRE WEST BROMWICH B70 7JW' and the language 'English' are noted. A green box indicates the date '25 JAN 2025' and the time '09:00-16:00'. Four speakers are featured with their portraits: Bishop David Waller, Fr. Shyju Naduvathaniyil (AFCM), Br. Jose Kuriakose (AFCM), and Fr. Xavier Khan Vattayil, PDM (International Speaker). The bottom section includes registration information, a list of activities, and contact details.

AFCM UK

Awakening Evangelisation & Healing Convention

BETHEL CONVENTION CENTRE
WEST BROMWICH B70 7JW

English

25
JAN 2025
09:00-16:00

Bishop David Waller

Fr. Shyju Naduvathaniyil (AFCM)



Br. Jose Kuriakose (AFCM)

Led By
Fr. Xavier Khan Vattayil, PDM
(International Speaker)

Free Registration @ [afcmuk.org](https://www.afcmuk.org)

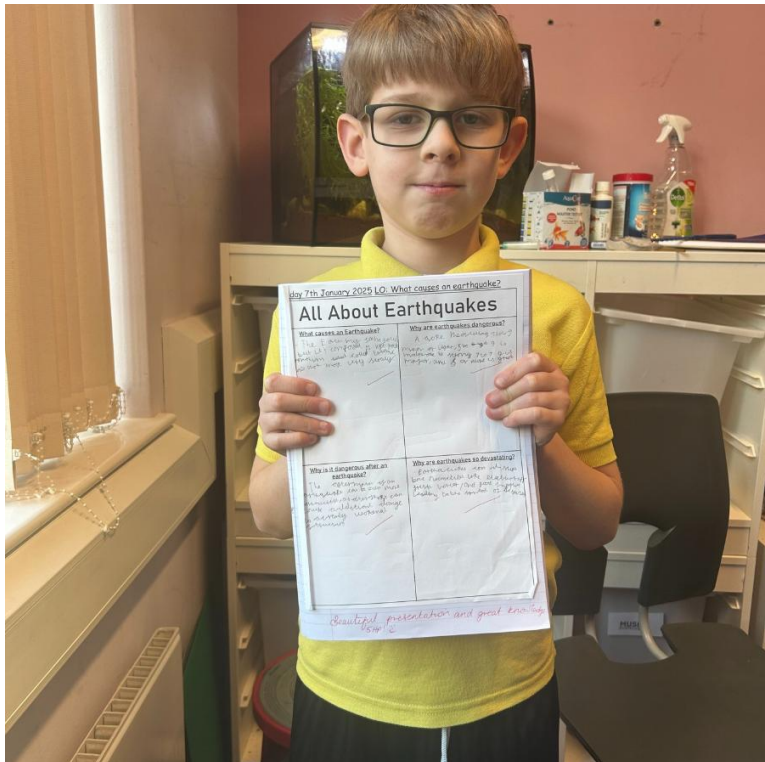
• Praise & Worship • Talks • Holy Mass • Confession • Prayer Ministry • Children Stream • Healing Adoration

Enquiries:
+07414 747573, +07506 810177 | www.afcmuk.org | Join Afcm Uk

#OLScheshambois

Here is a quick snapshot of our learning this week:





olscheshambois

olscheshambois I've just seen some great writing inspired by Winter's Child #OLSLiteracy @theliteracytree

2 d

View Insights

Boost Post

15 likes

2 days ago

Add a comment...

Post



olscheshambois

olscheshambois Some amazing artwork using cross hatch, blending, feathering etc inspired by Cezanne, Velázquez, Van Dyck, Flegel and Damien Hirst #OLSArt #OLSYear6

1 d

View Insights

Boost Post

Liked by theliteracytree and 14 others

1 day ago

Add a comment...

Post




olscheshambois
...


olscheshambois Year 1 are learning all about the presentation of Jesus #OLSYear1 #OLSRE
1 d

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🔖


Liked by hawridgeandcholesburyce and 10 others
1 day ago


Add a comment...
Post




olscheshambois
...


olscheshambois Year 1 are using pastels to draw African animals #OLSArt #OLSYear1
23 h

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🔖


Liked by hawridgeandcholesburyce and 10 others
23 hours ago


Add a comment...
Post



January 2025

Just when we thought the celebrations might stop after Christmas, the New Year starts with a month full of significant Church calendar events. What's more, [the Year of Jubilee](#) has begun! This special celebration year comes with an invitation from Pope Francis to place our hope in God's love for us and to share His love with others.

This newsletter shares some of the content children will experience in school throughout January and suggests ways for you to engage with them about it. We hope it is a useful resource for your family prayer time.

A Gift for Jesus

The Celebration of the Word assembly for the first week of term celebrates the Epiphany of the Lord. This is when Jesus was revealed to the Wise Men after their long journey following the star.

Through this, children will reflect on how God the Father gave Jesus as a gift for us all. They will also consider what gifts they can offer Jesus, such as their time and attention.

After spotting clues in a painting of the Wise Men meeting Jesus, children will use their imaginations to join with these wise travellers on their journey to see the baby King for the first time.

With your child, you might like to...

- *Watch this guided meditation with your child/ren and discuss what imagining this great event inspires you to give or say to Jesus in prayer.*
- *Spend time drawing, painting or modelling your own artwork depicting the arrival of the Wise Men.*

<https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/prayers-for-home/parent-newsletter/>

**Jesus,
We want to be like you.
Send your Holy Spirit to
help us to be good leaders in all we do.
Amen**