



11th July 2025

Dear Parents,

We really are into the last throes of the year now. This week we had sports day, which was originally going to be on Friday, but due to my availability, we had to move it to Wednesday. I have to be honest, although it was hot on Wednesday, we were quite lucky because the week has become hotter as it has gone on.

Sports day was great fun. In the morning, we had the Key Stage 1 children who just love practising all the different skills. As they say in the Olympics: Faster, Higher, Stronger. Then in the afternoon, it all gets a bit more serious. It is not too competitive, but the children love collecting their stickers for coming first, second, or third. I just want to say a massive thank you to Mr Weatherill and his team of Year 5's for helping the whole day run so smoothly.

Yesterday was our transition day. It is the day all the children move into their new classes just for an hour to meet their new teacher. I would like to introduce to everyone Miss Faizal, who is starting as our Year 3 teacher in September. I know she is very much looking forward to starting. We are a school where teachers very rarely leave, so we are also looking forward to having some "new blood" on the team.

Finally, it was lovely to see the Year 6 families at our annual camp night last weekend. The children's journey at Our Lady's starts off with a delightful family barbecue organised by the PTA, and we round it off with another enjoyable barbecue during the camp night. What a wonderful way for the children to begin and end their life at Our Lady's!

I look forward to seeing you all at the Strawberry Fayre on Sunday.

God Bless

Mass for Mrs Gardner

Dear Parents, Grandparents, family and friends,

You are invited to a Mass next Friday at 2pm to mark the retirement of Mrs Gardner. She has spent the last twenty years serving Catholic Education so it is apt that we mark the occasion with a very special Mass.

Homework

Following feedback from parents we will be looking to change the homework in September. Although the children will still have Century available to them until March, we won't be setting homework through it anymore. It is very expensive and isn't as effective as we would like. We will be looking to send something home which is overlearning so hopefully shouldn't be too challenging but will help to move things such as mathematical written methods into long term memory. There will be more of an expectation from us for parents to ensure the homework is done throughout the school. I'll send more information out in September so watch this space.

Breaktime Snack

Just a reminder that children are allowed fresh fruit at breaktime but they shouldn't have anything in packets. At this time of year, they sneak things out from their lunches but I've told them if they do we will just take the snack off them. I don't want to be a school that bans crisps etc because I don't believe I want to become the food police. But these things should be part of their lunch meal and not a snack.

Thank you

Mr Holdsworth

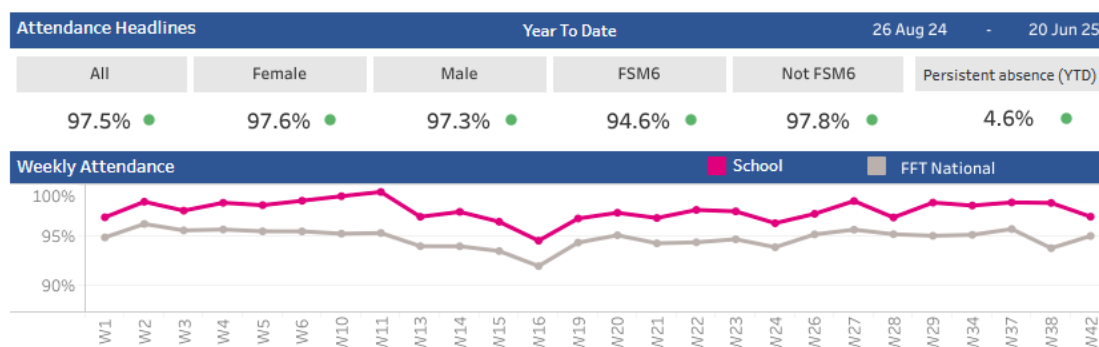
CAFOD - Cancel the Debt Petition

The world's poorest nations are suffering most. CAFOD, with its Caritas partners, is gathering signatures for a global church petition to urge world leaders to take action. Please sign the petition: cafod.org.uk/campaign/the-new-debt-crisis

Thank you.



Attendance



Our attendance is still well above the national average for all the groups. However, our persistent absence is still a bit too high. It basically means that nine children have had more than four weeks off school this year. It is really important to remember that every day matters and school isn't free; somebody is paying for it. Yes, there will be occasions where children are too ill to be in school, but they also don't have to be 100% well to be here.

Finally, just to let you know that at the moment, Year 1 and Year 3 have the best attendance in school and are in the running for an ice-cream, but it is a close-run thing.

Gratitude Assembly Certificates



Last week's Gratitude Assembly Certificates:

Year 1	Grace, Thishen
Year 2	Laiza, Reuben
Year 3	Daisy, Peregrine
Year 4	Klara, Sharvil
Year 5	Divine, Stash
Year 6	Dominic, Robert

Accelerated Reader

Well done to the following children who are reading above their reading target (the lower end of their **ZPD**) and are scoring above 80% in the quizzes.

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Theresa Mayra Joseph P Betty Gaia	Jessica Reuben Alexander Grace Maksim Rory Ayla Noelia	Sofia Arthur Rory Ruby Josephine Ann Juno Elena Francesca Thomas Allison Roberto Arthur Niamh Olivia Caolan Eugenie Martha Peregrine Jan Alex Nathan Mason	Alvin Alyssa James Michael C Szymon Malwina Aoife Renske Adam Michael F Joseph Cuthbert Mason Misha Victoria Hansini Cat Cat Elise Xavier Catherine Klara Hannah Maja	Tamsin Evie Donnie Elizabeth Grace Eleanor Jude Arthur Jacob Karo Jaeda Shanaya Aliza Thomas Hansika Erin Olive Hugo Emilio	Behtin Mark Ivor Wanda Rebecca Charlie F Parth Charlie K Michael L Michael M Dominik Joseph Curtis

News From The Parishes

Youth Masses

ST COLUMBA'S (Chesham):

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 at St Columba's on Sunday 6th July at 6pm

IHM – Great Missenden

Parish Priest: Fr Eustace Durugbo

email: freustace.durugbo@northamptondiocese.org

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 at IHM on Sunday 20th July at 11am followed by refreshments in the hall.

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

Children are the future of our Church and are always welcome at Mass, but parents often worry about small children getting restless and disturbing other members of the congregation. As well as children's liturgy at the 9:00 Sunday Mass, Our Lady's Church now has a speaker set up in the guildroom. This allows you to continue to follow the Mass if your toddler needs a break from sitting still.

#OLScheshambois

Here is a quick snapshot of our learning this week:



olscheshambois

olscheshambois A fantastic RE lesson led by these 3 children. They presented and spoke about Hinduism as part of our RE topic looking at different religions. Year 4 loved it! #OLSYear4 #OLSRE

18 m

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olscheshambois

olscheshambois Year Two tasted a variety of bread bases and pizza toppings today in DT - it was messy but fun!

19 m

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olscheshambois
Original audio

olscheshambois The children had great fun yesterday at after school club #OLSafterschool
8 h

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olscheshambois

olscheshambois Long jump #OLSSport #OLSYear3
2 d


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olscheshambois A natural!!!! #OLSSport #OLSJavelin
2 d


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olscheshambois

olscheshambois Reception have made a fantastic 3D map of Whipsnade Zoo ! Amazing
2 d


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olscheshambois Cricket friendly vs Chesham bois this evening
#OLSport
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oisnesnamoois

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...

**olscheshambois**

The last horse riding of the year
#OLShorseriding @rda




3 d


**teresa-watson7** 🙌🙌🙌🙌

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July 2025

The end of the school year is fast approaching and bringing mixed feelings of excitement, relief, expectation as well as perhaps a little sadness, particularly for families with children preparing to leave for new challenges ahead.

July's resources encourage children to think about living in faith, hope and love, and following Jesus through their words and actions. Our everyday lives are filled with opportunities to live out the Gospel and if we pay attention, we can challenge ourselves to never miss a moment!

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

IN HIS NAME

In the assembly for the week beginning 7th July, we hear how the disciples were amazed at what they could do in the power of Jesus' name. Children will be inspired to know that with Jesus, they too can do incredible things in His name.

The assembly explores inspiring people, Corrie ten Boom and St Oscar Romero, who found that it's not always easy to share in God's mission of loving Him and loving each other. But by putting their faith and trust in God, they continued to do incredible things in spite of the hardships they faced.

With your child/ren, you may also like to ...

- *Take the opportunity to explore the sign of our faith, the Sign of the Cross. As you do the actions and say the words, '**In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen**', explain that at the beginning of prayers this reminds us that we are praying in God's name.*
- *With older children, you might like to explore the lives of people today or some of the saints who show/ have shown great courage and fortitude in God's name.*

DON'T MISS THE MOMENT

In the Gospel for the week beginning 14th July, Jesus tells the Parable of the Good Samaritan which reminds us of Jesus' call for us to love our neighbour. The assembly for that week explores the question 'Who is our neighbour?' and children learn that the answer is - EVERYONE! Through a drama, children will learn how we can love others through our everyday actions, and that little unplanned acts of kindness can make all the difference.

With your child/ren, you may also like to ...

- Read the [Parable of the Good Samaritan](#) (Luke 10:25-37) and discuss what we can learn from the responses of each of the characters.
- Talk about how we can look out for opportunities to show consideration for others and carry out little acts of kindness in our everyday lives. You might want to make this a challenge on one particular day or over the week.

FAITH HOPE AND LOVE

In the prayers for the week of the 14th of July, children hear that God's laws are not beyond us but '*in your mouth and in your heart*'. The prayers this week help children to recognise that when we love God with all our heart, soul and strength He gives us the gifts of faith, hope and love - gifts that guide us and help us to grow closer in our friendship with God.

In your family prayer time you might like to ask God to help you to share these gifts of faith, hope and love with others using the prayer below.

**Heavenly Father,
Thank you for giving us all we need to live according to your Word.
Help us to share faith, hope and love each day.
Amen**

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