

Our Lady's Catholic Primary School

A Place of Learning -
A Community of Christ

Faith
Hope
Love

13th February 2026

Dear Parents,

Well, it is the end of a not-very-long but very wet half term. However, on Tuesday Year 4 managed to get just about the only day without rain to go on a conservation trip with Chiltern Rangers. They were outside all day, so it would have been absolutely miserable if it had rained. In the end, though, they had a great day clearing brambles and bushes to help the rare brown hairstreak butterfly. It is a great project with fabulous links to the Catholic Social Teaching theme of Stewardship.

Also this week, I want to say a massive thank you to the PTA for organising a brilliant disco last weekend. The disco made a fantastic profit of £636.40. This is amazing - but the most important thing is that the children loved it. A big thank you to everyone who helped. There were lots of parent helpers, which makes everything so much easier. We are at the halfway point of this academic year, and the PTA's total profit to date is already an incredible £9,072.85! Thank you so much, because this makes such a difference to your children's education. But even more importantly, these events are what build a great community.

Finally, yesterday the tag rugby team travelled to Chesham Bois for a very muddy match. The weather really has been against us, and although it was meant to be a home game, we had to move it. The children had great fun, and the best thing was that no one complained about the rain or the mud. It was a slow start again, and we were playing catch-up, so in the end, although we made a great comeback, we lost 28-24. Most importantly though, they are improving each game.

Have a lovely half term,

Mr Holdsworth



Car Park

Please can parents avoid parking in the car park without permission. It is really frustrating because there are some families with siblings with significant special needs or disabilities themselves who really need to park in there. When I was leaving for rugby yesterday, I could see those parents and grandparents who really need to park there struggling because of a handful of selfish parents.

It is very frustrating and I am just appealing to that group of parents to be more considerate.

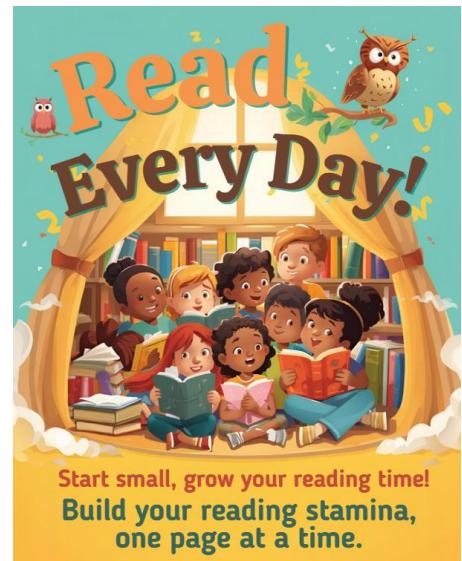
Thank you
Mr Holdsworth

Fit for Reading

Not their physical fitness, but their reading fitness. How long can they read without interruption?

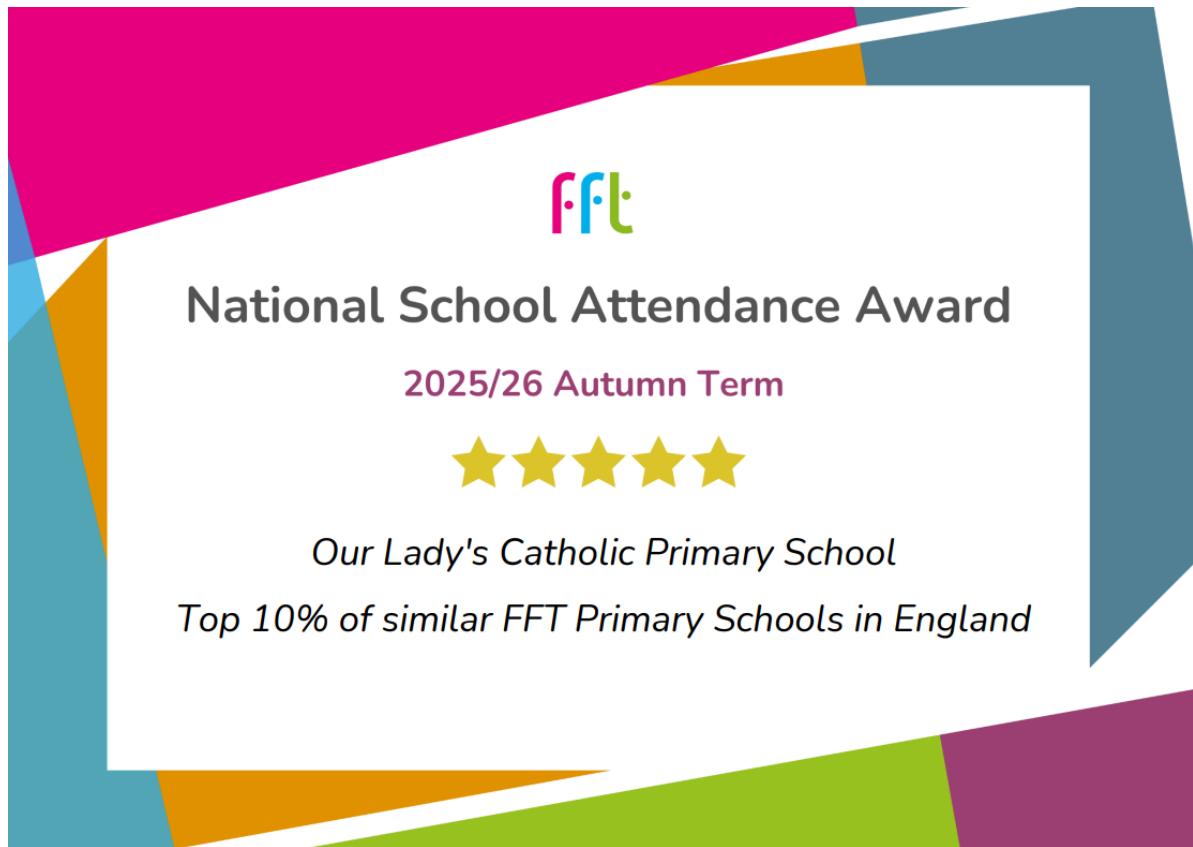
When I sit in a classroom, I don't even need to listen to the children read to make a judgement about their reading. I can simply watch them reading independently. Children who don't read at home often find it very difficult to sit and read for more than a couple of minutes at a time.

Parents can make a real difference with this. Help your child develop good habits. Start small and build up gradually. If they aren't reading regularly, you can't expect them to read for half an hour in one go. Begin with five minutes a day and slowly increase the time. It's just like training for a marathon or doing Couch to 5K.



Attendance

A massive well done to everyone as we were awarded an FFT certificate for being in the top 10% not only nationally but for similar high achieving schools.



We do still have about 11 children whose attendance isn't above 90%. I can't reiterate the importance for their future. An adult whose attendance at work is below 90% makes them considerably less employable. These are habits which stay with them forever.

This table which St Joan of Arc share with parents really shows that 90% is actually quite a low bar.

ATTENDANCE	NUMBER OF STUDENTS ACHIEVING 5 GCSES WITH GRADES 9-4
93-94%	54.9%
92-93%	40.65%
90-92%	33%
	90% attendance over 2 years = 1/2 a term of missed education

Accelerated Reader

The children who are already above their target and are higher than 85% in their quizzes are:

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Rose	Aariv	Jessica	Harish	Keera	Tamsin
Ambrose	Theresa	Reuben	Sofia	Alvin	Sienna-Rose
	Mayra	Joseph	Evie	Alyssa	Evie
	Filip	Layla	Rory	Michael C	Giovanni
	Margot	Tiernan	Amelia	Malwina	Donnie
	William	Rex	Ruby	Renske	Dominik
	Freddie	Pola	Josephine	Adam	Elizabeth
	Zac	Maksim	Juno	Joseph	Rory
	Joseph P	Rory	Elena	Cuthbert	Simeon
	Bettie	Sofia	Francesca	Mason	Elizabeth
	Gaia	Noelia	Thomas	Misha	Liam
	Julian	Varun	Allison	Victoria	Eleanor
		Robyn	Roberto	Hansini	Jude
		Robin	Zachary	Cat Cat	Arthur
		Tosia	Arthur	Elise	Jacob
			Ralph	Xavier	Erica
			Niamh	Antra	Karo
			Olivia	Sharvil	Jaeda
			Caolan	Annie	Nathan
			Eugenie	Catherine	Shanaya
			Martha	Klara	Aliza
			Genevieve	Hanna	Thomas
			Daisy	Nikolay	Bianca
			Alex	Minchun	Hansika
			Nathan		Erin
			Mason		Olive
					Hugo
					Emilio



The following children have been awarded a Numbots certificate in the last week.

Rust	Iron	Tin	Brass	Copper	Steel	Chrome
	Manny C	Manny C	Betty R	Betty R	Betty R	
		Patrick P	Manny C	Manny C	Mika H	
				Joseph P		
				Bertie W		
				Mika H		



These children have gone green in Times Table RockStars which means they know all of their times table facts. New children this week in bold:

Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Sofia	Joseph	Elizabeth
Arthur	Alysa	Eleanor
Rory	James	Arthur
Ruby	Szymon	Jaeda
Josephine	Malwina	Karo
Ann	Adam	Aliza
Francesca	Michael F	Emilio
Thomas	Hansini	Divine
Zoe	Cat Cat	Florence
Niamh	Klara	
Olivia	Hanna	
Jan	Misha	
Nathan	Sharvil	
Allison	Alise	
Mason	Antra	
Artie	Minchun	
Genevieve		
Harrish		

Gratitude Assembly Certificates



Last week's Gratitude Assembly certificates were awarded to:

Year 1	Leo, William
Year 2	Filip, Theresa
Year 4	Olivia, Jan
Year 5	Annie, Chloe
Year 6	Aliza, Jude

#OLS Learning



olscheshambois

olscheshambois Science club have been creating burglar alarms this afternoon using homemade pressure pads! #OLSScience

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olscheshambois

olscheshambois Year 1 are making 20 with lots of different equipment #OLSHandsOnLearning #OLSMaths

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olscheshambois

olscheshambois The children enjoyed making fruit kebabs at After School Club last week #OLSAfterSchoolClub

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olscheshambois Thank you to @kellysambucci for coming in to present to year4. Kelly told us all about her work with Gorillas in Uganda and the human impact on their environment. Year 4 found it fascinating! #OLSyear4 #OLSscience #OLSStewardship #OLSbuildingthekingdom

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Original audio

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olscheshambois Thank you to the #OLSppta for a fun disco yesterday. The children loved telling me about it. Here is the Key Stage 1 disco #OLSks1

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olscheshambois

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olscheshambois #OLSYear4 using counters and cubes to help them with dividing 2-digit numbers by 1-digit numbers #OLSmaths #OLSpracticalmaths

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Chitty Chitty Bang Bang

I am delighted to share performance details for Chitty Chitty Bang Bang, a production by The Panda Players, at the Elgiva Theatre. One of our Year 6's, Florence, will be on stage performing as Jemima Potts. Florence is rehearsing hard and is very much looking forward to the upcoming shows in March. I have included a link below with full details on how to book tickets for anyone who would like to go along and support the show.

<https://elgiva.com/chitty-chitty-bang-bang/>



News From The Parishes

ST COLUMBA'S (Chesham):

Parish Priest: *Fr Mirek Misiura*

email: FrMirek.misiura@northhamptondiocese.org

Sunday Masses @ 9 am (children's liturgy) & 6 pm (Youth Band/ Choir)

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

IHM – Great Missenden

Parish Priest: *Fr Mirek Misiura*

email: FrMirek.misiura@northhamptondiocese.org

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

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

Our Lady's and St Aidan's parishes

Priest: *Father Roy*

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)

For those of you with younger children, OLOPS Toddler Group runs in the guildroom at the back of Our Lady's Church on Fridays in term time for children aged 0-4 and their parent or carer. We have lots of toys to play with and always finish with a snack and singing. The official timing is 9:15 to 10:30, but you are welcome to come earlier if you're at a loose end after dropping your older child off at school.

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

The next Youth Mass at St Aidan's: Saturday 7th February at 6.15

Everybody welcome to join the choir/band!

If anyone wishes to read please let Federica know at school.