



13th June 2025

Dear Parents,

This has been an incredibly busy week. Firstly, I wanted to say a big thank you to everyone who came to St Columba's to be part of a truly joyous Pentecost Mass on Sunday. I know the parishioners love to see all the children involved, and it really does make for a special occasion. It is wonderful that we can come together in different parishes once in a while.

On Tuesday, Year 1 and Year 2 had their Forest School session. They had a great time examining the trees more closely. This time of year is fantastic with so much growth accelerating in the woods.


A massive thank you to the PTA who funded M&M Theatre's visit on Wednesday to perform *The Jungle Book* for the whole school. The children loved it, and coincidentally, it seems to have tied into the theme for our float at Chesham Carnival this weekend.

Yesterday, Year 3 went on their annual rivers trip to The Rye and Kingsmead. It is great to get out and do some real fieldwork. This is the sort of activity that secondary school children did in the past, but it is a great addition to our curriculum. We were lucky enough to have some great weather!

On top of all that, we had Chiltern League cricket matches, sports festivals, and lots of great learning in class.

I hope the weather stays nice for the carnival on Saturday, and I look forward to seeing many of you there.

God Bless

M. Hold 

Attendance

Pupil group	Attendance 2023/4	Attendance 2024/5
All pupils	95.9%	97.5%
Pupils with FSM	91.1%	95.5%
Pupils with no FSM	96.4%	97.7%
Pupils with SEN	92.1%	95.2%
Pupils with no SEN	96.4%	97.8%

I have cut this table from a report that the Department of Education produce for schools comparing our attendance with this time last year. As you can see our attendance is considerably better in every area compared to this time last year. Well done everyone and thank you.

Gratitude Assembly Certificates



Last week's Gratitude Assembly Certificates:

Year 1	Mindy, Tom
Year 2	Santana, Joseph, Alex
Year 3	Allison, Olivia
Year 4	Malwina, Keera, Catherine
Year 5	Karo, Eleanor
Year 6	Adam, Joseph

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 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Jessica Alexander Grace Maksim Oliver Rory Leon	Sofia Arthur Rory Ruby Josephine Megan Thomas Allison Roberto Niamh Olivia Caolan Martha Jan Alex Nathan Mason	Alvin Alyssa James Michael C Szymon Malwina Renske Adam Michael F Joseph Cuthbert Mason Misha Victoria Hansini Cat Cat Elise Annie Catherine Hannah Maja	Tamsin Evie Donnie Elizabeth Grace Eleanor Jude Arthur Jacob Jaeda Erin Hugo Emilio	No targets yet. Been a bit busy preparing for tests.

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)

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)

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** Year 4 Indian art topic. Using watercolour and chalks to create sunsets with elephants, Taj Mahal and Rangoli designs [#OLSart](#) [#OLSYear4](#)
21 h

[View Insights](#) [Boost Post](#)

 Liked by [hawridgeandcholesburyce](#) and 9 others
21 hours ago



 **olscheshambois** ...

 **olscheshambois** What a fantastic day in Reception class today learning all about Fossils. Thank you to Thea's grandpa for showing us his amazing collection ! [#OLSReception](#) [#OLSHistory](#)
21 h

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 Liked by [holdsworthtimmy](#) and 16 others
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olscheshambois

olscheshambois Year 1 Forest Schools #OLSForestSchool #OLSYear1

4 h


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7 likes

4 hours ago

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Post



olscheshambois

olscheshambois

A big thank you to the #OLSPTA for funding a great live show of the jungle book today. It was great fun. #OLSLiteracy #OLSfun #OLSpta

1 h

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2 likes

1 hour ago

Add a comment...

Post



June 2025

In June we see the end of Eastertide and the beginning of a month full of joyful feast days in the Church. Dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, June presents us all with the opportunity to reflect on the amazing love and mercy of Jesus Christ, displayed through His death and Resurrection.

This month children will learn about God's presence, in them and the world around them, taking time to think about how they can share faith and love with others.

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

PENTECOST PARTY

The assembly for the week beginning 9th June marks the Church's birthday with the feast of **Pentecost**. Through a party game and the Scripture reading, children will discover that the arrival of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost is cause for celebration!

In the Gospel, Jesus promised that His disciples would receive the Holy Spirit and Pentecost is the day His promise came true. In a time of prayer, children will also have the opportunity to be filled with the Holy Spirit and reflect on our calling to be the dwelling place of God's presence.

You might like to hear more about the Holy Spirit and the events of Pentecost by watching our video 'Who is the Holy Spirit?' with your children on the **Parent Portal**.

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

- *Invite the presence of the Holy Spirit to be with you in your family prayer time by praying, 'Come, Holy Spirit.'*
- *Talk about some of the fruits of the Spirit from Galatians 5:22-23 , and discuss how you might grow in these gifts through your thoughts, words and actions.*

5 + 2 = 5000?!

The Gospel for the 4th week of June accounts the miracle of Jesus feeding the 5000. Children will understand that Jesus provides just what we need, both physically *and* spiritually.

Seeing parallels between Jesus' actions in this miracle and the breaking of bread at Mass, children will explore the **Solemnity of The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ** (Corpus Christi) which invites us all to celebrate Jesus' real presence in the Eucharist.

Children will also learn that when we offer our prayers and our talents to Jesus, He multiplies our efforts and fills us with His love.

With your child/ren, you might like to...

- *Bake some bread together and remember Jesus' words from the Last Supper (Luke 22:14-20) as you share it.*
- *Pray together the prayer that children will be praying over the week in their Daily Classroom Prayers.*

**Jesus,
I adore you.
I love you.
I thank you.
I ask you.
I respect you.
Fill me with the
food of your love.
Amen**

THE WORK OF GOD'S FINGERS

The prayers for the week of the 16th of June reflect on Psalm 8 and invite children to praise God for His gift of Creation which He made for us to live in and enjoy. Everything we see, touch, smell and hear in the natural world is the work of God's fingers!

In their prayers, children will take time to notice the wonders of nature that surround us and offer their thanks to God for them.

As a family, you might like to bring your own praise prayers to God and conclude with the prayer below.

**O LORD, our Lord,
how majestic is your name through all the Earth!
When I see the work of your fingers,
I give you praise!**

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