



14<sup>th</sup> March 2024

Dear Parents,

The highlight for me over the last week was definitely last weekend's cross country. It was a beautiful sunny day and there were over 400 children from the local area running. We had a really successful day and for the first time had two winning teams. Year 3 girls and Year 5 girls both came second. As well as that, we also had several individual medals for top ten finishes from Michael (Year 6), Evie (Year 5), Zoe (Year 3) and Juno (Year 3). My favourite bit though was seeing Emily in Year 3 run her first ever cross-country race and then seeing the Year 3 girls all rushing back after finishing the race to run with her. I can't tell you how many lovely comments I had from the staff of other schools and how proud I was as their headteacher. Those children are learning something that we can't really teach and only comes out of being a truly inclusive school.

Also earlier this week, Year 1 and Year 2 went to their first Forest School of the year. It is great to see the woods at the end of winter so that they get to watch it as it changes going into spring and summer. I know that they really enjoyed lots of literacy and DT activities and I'm sure they can't wait to get back out there.

Finally, today Year 1 are at Woburn Safari Park. I haven't seen them yet, but I imagine they will have an amazing time!

Have a lovely weekend. God Bless

M. Howarth





## **Parent Survey**

Sorry as I know you have all just given you views during our inspections, but the Multi-Academy Trust have asked us to do another survey.

Dear Parents and Carers,

**Subject:** Your Feedback Matters: Parent/Carer Survey Invitation

As part of our ongoing efforts to enhance the educational experience for your child, we are seeking your valuable input through our Parent/Carer Survey.

Your feedback is essential in helping us understand your perspectives on various aspects of our school community, from communication and school policies to your child's learning environment. The survey will take only a few minutes to complete, and your responses will directly influence the decisions we make to support our students and their families.

### **Survey Details:**

- **Deadline:** 28<sup>th</sup> March
- **Access the survey here:** <https://forms.office.com/e/NZMPhd7YZp>

Your responses will be kept confidential, and we highly encourage all parents and carers to participate. The insights you provide will help us create a positive, supportive learning environment for everyone.

If you have any questions or need assistance with completing the survey, please feel free to contact me. Thank you for your time and support. We greatly appreciate your involvement in making our school community the best it can be.

Thanks

Mr Holdsworth



## **School Football**

We have had two football matches this week. Firstly, we had a girl's game as part of the Chiltern League against a very strong Waterside school. After being 4-0 down at half time, we finished with a very strong second half in which we didn't concede another goal. With the last kick of the game, we came within inches of scoring our first goal. Keep going girls it will come!



Then on Wednesday the boys played in the U11 cup against Stoke Poges. Mr Weatherill said we played more like Stoke with lots of long balls, but it worked. We won 2-0 and go marching onto the next round. Hopefully, you'll be able to see Charlie's Worldie on Instagram.

## **Playground After School**

I think it's great that the children and parents like to stay around after school playing and chatting. Please can you just make sure the children aren't kicking footballs around because it is quite dangerous for the younger children. Also, please can you just be mindful of the after-school clubs going on because the playgrounds are being used on Monday and Thursday.

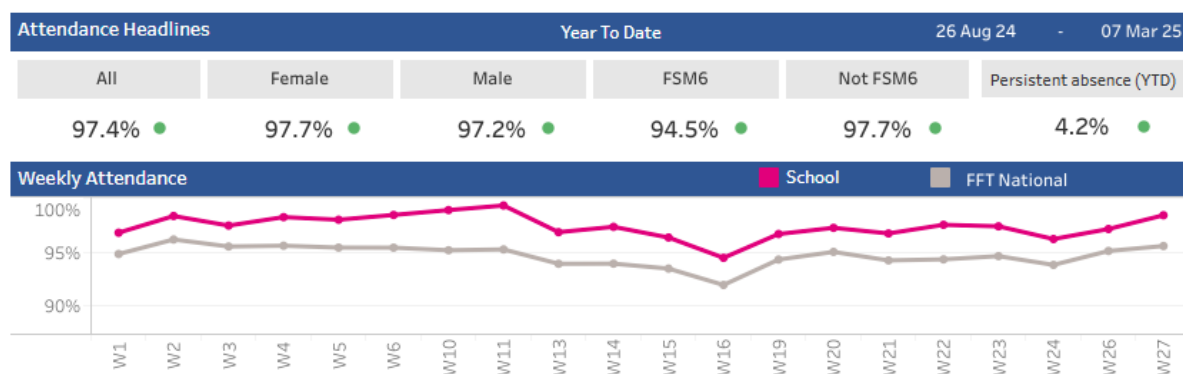
Thanks

Mr Holdsworth



## Attendance

Here is the current year to date attendance for each class:



We currently have 8 children in school with attendance below 90% (Persistent Absentees) and out of those there are only 2 that I am not worried about achieving expected levels when they leave Our Lady's. That just goes to show that even at Our Lady's, where the attainment is so high, there is nothing we can do for children who don't attend regularly.

## Parking and Dropping Off

Just a quick reminder to park sensibly in the local area. Please be aware of people's driveways so that they can get to and from their houses.

Also, I've been monitoring the car park a few times this week. There are a few groups of people using the car park:

- People, often elderly, with mobility issues who have permission from me.
- People with blue badges.
- Two people who have won the PTA raffle for the term.
- A very small group of selfish people.

Please keep our children safe by refraining to use the car park and walk the extra 50 metres.

If your child is in Key Stage 2 and you wish to drop them, I would suggest you drop them in Chiltern Rd between 8.35 and 8.50. At this time, there are plenty of people around. It is much safer to do that than drop them in a car park full of cars.

Thank you



## 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 Reuben Alexander Rex Romeo Grace Maksim Oliver Rory Charlie Ayla Sofia Noelia Antonio	Sofia Arthur Rory Amelia Ruby Josephine Ann Juno Elena Megan Francesca Thomas Roberto Zoe Zachary Arthur Ralph Niamh Caolan Eugenie Martha Peregrine Daisy Alex Nathan Mason	Keera Alyssa James Michael C Malwina Aoife Renske Michael F Joseph Mason Misha Victoria Hansini Julia Elise Sharvil Annie Klara Hannah Nikolay	Tamsin Sienna-Rose Evie Giovanni Donnie Dominik Elizabeth Grace Eleanor Jude Arthur Jacob Shanaya Hansika Thomas Florence Erin Hugo Emilio	Leo Mark Mia Ivor Ralph Spike Wanda Rebecca Lola Parth Finley H Charlie K Michael L Michael M Finn O Evelyn Dominik Robert Joseph Adam Curtis Zuzanna
Year 1				
Aariv Freddie Gaia				



## **CAFOD Reading Challenge**

Your children should have brought a reading challenge sponsor form home. Please help and encourage them to get sponsored and do lots of reading.



Name	Amount per number of words <small>words</small>	Up to a maximum of	Money collected
Harry Potter	5p/100 words	£20	✓



## Gratitude Assembly Certificates



Last week's Gratitude Assembly Certificates:

Year 1	Joseph, Freddie
Year 2	Rory, Sophia
Year 3	Peregrine, Mason
Year 4	Annie, Mason
Year 6	Mia, Zuzanna



## News From The Parishes



### **ST COLUMBA'S (Chesham):**

*New Parish Priest: Fr Eustace Durugbo*

*email: [freustace.durugbo@northamptondiocese.org](mailto:freustace.durugbo@northamptondiocese.org)*

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

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

### **IHM – Great Missenden**

*New Parish Priest: Fr Eustace Durugbo*

*email: [freustace.durugbo@northamptondiocese.org](mailto: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)



## **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

As part of our commitment to the Jubilee Year 'Pilgrims of Hope' we are supporting Youth Masses across the parishes. It would be great to get as many children to the following Masses as possible.

**St Columba's:** on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> March at 6pm

**St Aidan's:** on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> March at 6.15pm

**IHM:** on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> March at 11am.

Thank you

Mr Holdsworth



A poster for the Ramadan Soup Kitchen. The background is a warm yellow with faint illustrations of hanging lanterns and watermelon slices. The title 'Ramadan Soup Kitchen' is in large, bold, dark blue letters. Below it, 'Starting Saturday 8 March 2025' is written in a smaller, bold, dark blue font. A dark blue rectangular box contains the text 'Open to friends of all faiths and none!' in white. Below this, the text 'This Ramadan, free hot meals are available for anyone in need.' is in bold dark blue. A paragraph of smaller text follows: 'If you use the foodbank or are in need for any reason please contact us on the details below to reserve your meal. If you can't reserve then just turn up & collect. If you can't collect we will deliver. (Chesham only)'. At the bottom left, a quote in bold dark blue reads: '“He is not a believer whose stomach is filled while his neighbour goes hungry.”'. On the right side, there are two circular images: the top one shows hands serving soup from a pot, and the bottom one shows a bowl of orange soup with a green garnish.

# Ramadan Soup Kitchen

**Starting Saturday 8 March 2025**

**Open to friends of all faiths and none!**

**This Ramadan, free hot meals are available for anyone in need.**

If you use the **foodbank** or **are in need for any reason** please contact us on the details below to reserve your meal. If you can't reserve then just turn up & collect. If you can't collect we will deliver. (Chesham only)

**“He is not a believer whose stomach is filled while his neighbour goes hungry.”**

I am really pleased to be promoting the Ramadan Soup Kitchen. I know Mr Qasam – Aliza and Ayla’s dad – is involved in this and is running through Ramadan to raise money for a great initiative. Ramadan Runners are running while fasting between dawn and dusk to raise money for the Ramadan Soup Kitchen so that they can help those in need. Every £5 you donate pays for a nutritious meal for one person. 100% of your donations goes directly to Mosque Ramadan soup Kitchen Fund.

Every runner will donate £5 towards the cause for every run they complete.

We meet up every afternoon in the park at around 16:15 and run an easy 5km. So come join us in the challenge and complete a run with us!

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/ramadan-runners-fundraising-for-the-ramadan-soup-kitchen>



# #OLScheshambois

Here is a quick snapshot of our learning this week:



**olscheshambois** A great day yesterday at the last cross country meeting of the year. A lovely sunny day. 400 children running. Special mention to our medal winners - Michael (Year 6) Evie (Year 5) Zoe (Year 3) Juno ((Year 3) and teams - Year 3 girls and Year 5 girls #OLSsport

5 d

[View Insights](#)

[Boost reel](#)



**olscheshambois**

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**olscheshambois** Some great RE work in year 4 #OLSYear4

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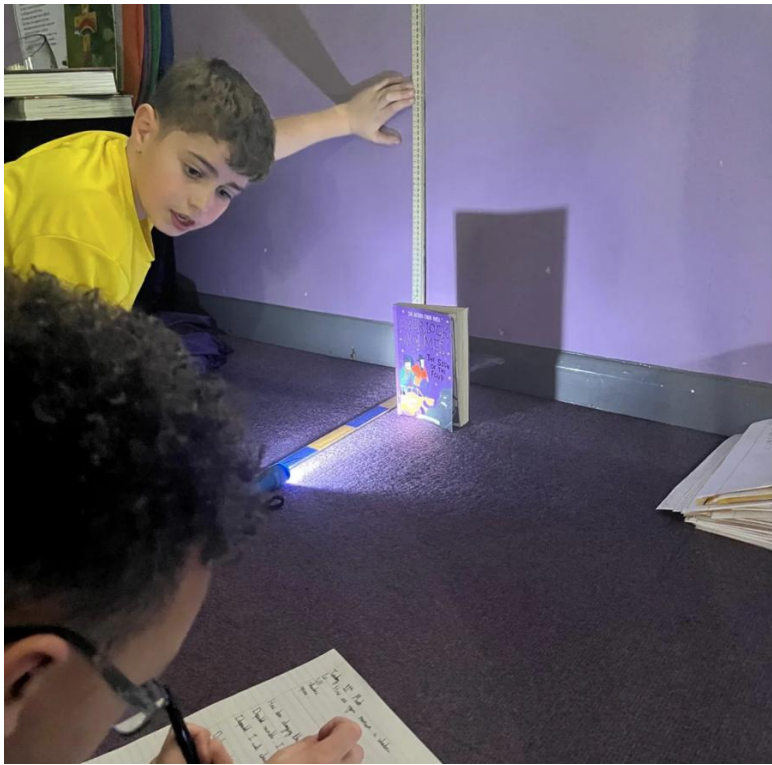
7 likes

3 days ago

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olscheshambois



olscheshambois Investigating shadows in Year 6 this afternoon  
#pupilleadsience

2 d



readyformenopause 🍷❤️

1 d Reply

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Boost Post



Liked by hawridgeandcholesburyce and 10 others

2 days ago

Add a comment...

Post

olscheshambois Not as sunny as last week but still a great day to get into the woods #olsforestscool

2 d

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Boost reel



Liked by maria\_holds and 24 others

2 days ago





olscheshambois



olscheshambois A re- enactment of the Billy Goats Gruff by Year Two at Forest School today! Then lots of building bridges. #OLSForestSchool #OLSYear2

2 d

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[Boost Post](#)



Liked by hawridgeandcholesburyce and 13 others  
2 days ago





## March 2025

March marks the beginning of Lent, a time in the Church that focuses on prayer, fasting and almsgiving (charitable giving). This year also brings the added invitation to explore and grow our friendship with God through the celebrations of the [Year of Jubilee](#).

The season brings an exciting opportunity to slow down, put the most important things first and experience the joy that God offers each one of us.

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

## JUBILEE JOY: FREEDOM

Our Lent series of Celebration of the Word Assemblies begins by exploring the Year of Jubilee theme of slavery and freedom. Inspired by Jesus' temptation in the desert, children will explore how we can all be 'slaves' to things that distract or stop us from following in God's way. Children learn about the true freedom that God offers all people and that when we put God first, we can experience the freedom that only God can give.

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

- *Read the account of Jesus' 40 days in the desert together ([Luke 4:1-13](#)), and notice how Jesus found the strength to say 'no' to temptation.*
- *Discuss the habits, thoughts or temptations that you would like to be freed from and how you might support one another in achieving this.*
- *Research the Jubilee themes shared in March: forgiveness, managing debt, care for creation and restoration of the family.*
- *Listen to our prayer reflection song for the Year of Jubilee - 'Song of Hope' by One Life Music that has been made available in the [Parent Portal](#). You might like to talk about how experiencing freedom, hope and joy helps you to grow your friendship with God before you listen.*



## MORE TO THE STORY

Jesus knows that we need help to understand God's way, so He taught using parables. During the week beginning the 3rd of March, in the Celebration of the Word Assembly, children will discover how Jesus' stories give us clues on how to live holy lives and love others like God loves.

*You might like to take this opportunity with your child/ren to ...*

- *Play a game of charades, acting out different fairytale stories and then talk about the moral or lesson that the story teaches.*
- *Use the Prayer for Peace in your family prayer time to invite God to help you love others, even when it is difficult.*

**Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:  
where there is hatred, let me sow love;  
where there is injury, pardon;  
where there is doubt, faith;  
where there is despair, hope;  
where there is darkness, light;  
where there is sadness, joy.  
Amen**

## JESUS, SHINE YOUR LIGHT

The prayers for the week beginning the 17th March use religious artwork to reflect on aspects of Jesus' nature. Inspired by the Transfiguration, where some of the disciples witnessed Jesus' face shining, children will consider how artists have expressed Jesus' divine, Godly nature through their work, to help others know Him.

Through exploration of the images, children ask Jesus - the King, our teacher and friend - to shine His light and enlighten our minds so we can understand more about Him.

You might like to use this prayer as you pray together:

**Jesus,  
you are with me as I pray.  
Shine your light on me today.  
Amen**