



# Our Lady's Catholic Primary School

## Weekly Newsletter

*"A place of learning – A community of Christ"*

**Faith . Hope . Love**

15<sup>th</sup> March 2024

Dear Parents,


It was lovely seeing you all this week at Parents' Evening. I hope you are pleased with your children's progress but also have a few things to work on with them. I would like to thank the teaching staff as it is a very long week for them. Not only have they got the late evenings but also all of the preparation beforehand.

Also, this week we have had two music assemblies, Rocksteady and violin, a playground games festival for Reception, the girl's football team beating Brushwood 7-0, and Nancy our resident artist coming in to work with Year 4. It has been incredibly busy but great fun.

Finally, this afternoon I'm taking some children to take part in a Maths challenge at the Beacon school. The first time they ran it was before the pandemic and we won so I am hoping that we will have some good news later on.

Have a lovely weekend,

God bless,

M. Hold 





You are invited to

**FEDERICA's**

School Chaplaincy  
Induction Mass

Thursday, 21<sup>st</sup> March  
4:00pm Mass



Our Lady's Catholic School  
Followed by Refreshments

Dear Parents and Children,

You are all invited to this Mass. It would be lovely to see as many of you there as possible.  
Please will you respond via the office.

Thank you



## CAFOD's Big Lent Walk!

This Lent our school is supporting CAFOD and joining other schools around the country to help fight poverty around the world.

To raise money, we're going to try and walk from Northampton Cathedral to Jerusalem. Altogether that is 4520km. All of the children and staff are joining in and Mr Holdsworth is trying to run 400km (10km a day)

Well done to all of the children; we have already walked half of the distance. Please share our just giving page.



<https://schools.walk.cafod.org.uk/fundraising/our-ladys-fundraising-page>

[Donate - Donation amount - JustGiving](#)

Please share it with you friends and family

**We really appreciate your support and hope that everyone has fun helping us raise money for CAFOD.**

For more information about CAFOD please visit [cafod.org.uk/families](https://cafod.org.uk/families)

## **Curriculum – Treading the Wheat Field**

In school, we often talk about treading the wheatfield. This is the process of overlearning and practising until we make a change in long term memory. It is a bit like walking through a field of wheat. The first time there will be a bit of a path, but the wheat will probably move back. However, if you walk the same path every day eventually the path will become permanent.

The evidence on ‘overlearning’ seems to suggest that repeating a task to the point where almost no thought is required in its completion is a good way to change long-term memory:

*Overlearning refers to the continued practice on a task after some criterion of mastery on that task has been achieved. A pianist, for example, might continue to practice a piece despite already being able to perform it. ([Soderstrom & Bjork, 2013](#))*

So, what does this mean for parents. Well, there is an enormous curriculum to learn and there is no way that parents can support ‘overlearning’ for the whole thing. However, it does highlight the importance of ensuring your child reads every day and practises their multiplication tables regularly. As they get more fluent, like the pianist, it frees up their working memory to learn other more complex concepts.

When the children go to secondary school, being a fluent reader, means they are concentrating on the knowledge they need to learn rather than trying to read.





## **News From The Parishes**

### **OUR LADY'S AND ST AIDAN'S**

Children's Liturgy is held in the Guild Room during the 9:00 Mass at Our Lady's every Sunday. All are welcome, although it is aimed mainly at children who have not yet made their First Holy Communion.

For parents with younger children (birth to school age), OLOPS Toddler Group is open on Friday mornings from 9:00-10:30 in the Guild Room at the back of Our Lady's Church. OLS parents are welcome to come along with their little ones as soon as older children have been dropped at school. We have a play yard to keep the babies and younger toddlers safe and some soft play equipment for more boisterous preschoolers, as well as a wide selection of other toys and activities. A drink and snack are provided, and we always finish with singing.

On Sunday, the children made gifts for their mothers and sang a special song thanking God for our mothers, who help us to see the Light of Christ.



The new altar server, giving flowers to all the mothers as they left Mass today



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

Website: <https://stcolumbas.church/>

*Priests: Fr Dave & Fr Giacomo*

Mass times: on SUNDAYS only

@ 9am (traditional choir)

@ 6pm (Youth Band)

Next Youth Mass: Sunday 21st April at 6pm

Next Music practice and Youth Club: Saturday 20th April 6-8pm

**IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY (IHM) in Great Missenden:**

Website: <https://www.ihmmissenden.org.uk/>

*Priests: Fr Dave & Fr Giacomo*

Mass times:

Every SATURDAY @ 6pm

Every SUNDAY @ 11am

Next Youth Mass: Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March at 11am

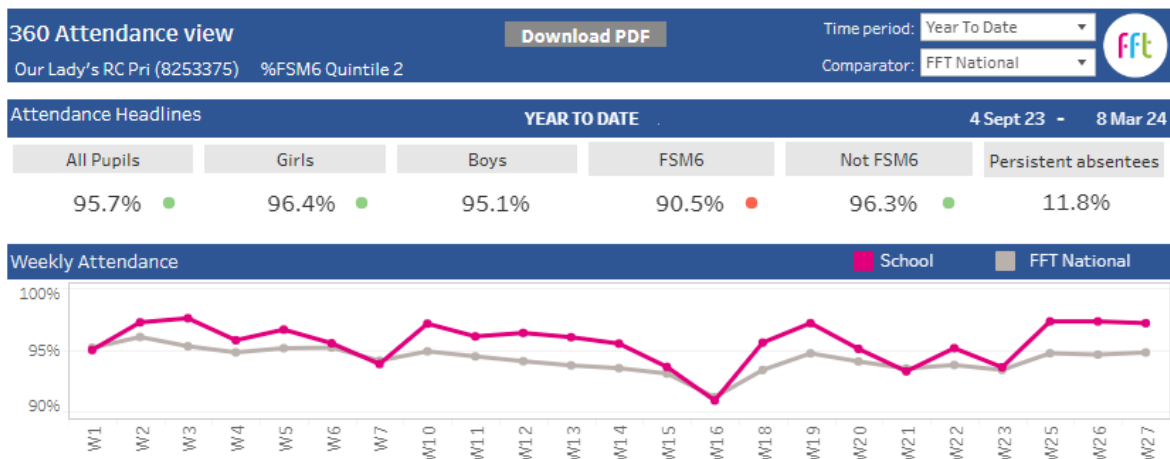
St Patrick's Night: Saturday 16th March @ 7.30pm in the parish Hall at IHM

(tickets £3 pp from parish secretary: [parish.ihm@northamptondiocese.org](mailto:parish.ihm@northamptondiocese.org) - bring your drinks)

If your child wishes to be involved in the Youth-led masses (as readers, welcomers, offertory, music, drama, etc...) please contact the school chaplain, Federica, as some rehearsals can be arranged at school during lunchtime.

# MOMENTS MATTER, ATTENDANCE COUNTS.

That is three weeks in a row now with the attendance where it should be above 97%. Well done everyone.



## Good News Certificates



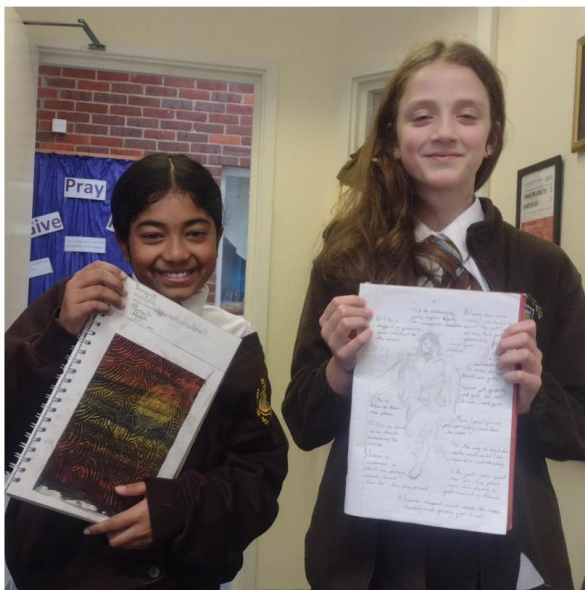
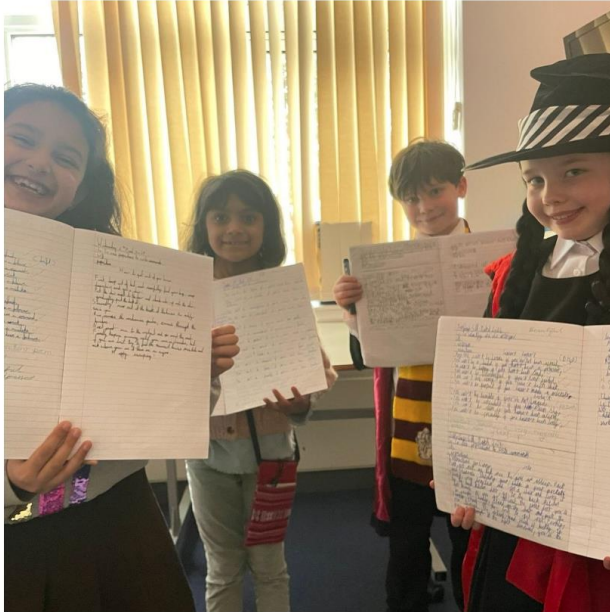
Last week's Gratitude Assembly certificates were awarded to:



Year 1	Grace, Cian
Year 2	Roberto, Josephine
Year 3	Steve, Cat Cat
Year 4	Olive, Arthur
Year 5	Evie, Hannah,
Year 6	Franek



## #OLScheshambois

Here is a quick snapshot of our learning this week:







  **olscheshambois** · 2 d



Year Four have been writing poetry using antonyms. #OLSLiteracy #OLSYear4


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 Add a comment... 





 **olscheshambois** · 2 d



I've seen some great work in Year 6. Some art using Sgraffito and some RE based on the Stations of the Cross #OLSArt... more

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17 likes

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 17  
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olscheshambois · 23 h

We had a great Rocksteady concert this morning. It was loud! But it was absolutely fantastic #OLSMusic

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34 likes

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34



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Add a comment...



olscheshambois · 23 h

Year 6 have been experimenting with light today. They performed 4 different experiments linked to how light travels... more

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17 likes

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17



0



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olscheshambols · 4 h

Year 4 are working today with Nancy our resident artist. They are making textured paper which they are going to use in... [more](#)

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11 likes

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olscheshambols · 3 h

Year 3 are learning all about rivers. #OLSGeography

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10 likes

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olscheshambols 3 h

I'm reading some excellent speeches inspired by Suffragettes The Battle For Equality #OLSLiteracy #OLSBUILDINGTheKingdom... more

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olscheshambols 2 m

A great attacking performance from the girls today winning 7-0 at Brushwood #OLSport #OLSyellowsubmarines

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1 like

**No comments yet.**

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Add a comment...



## March 2024

**March is packed with celebrations! From the Feast Days of St David, St Patrick and St Joseph to Mothering Sunday. Then as the clocks spring forward, we reach Holy Week and the joy of Easter!**

**Among the excitement and reflection of the Lenten season, family life goes on. As you help with homework or do the school run, perhaps you could find your own moment of calm by using the prayer resources below.**

**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.**

## Perfect Promises

**Throughout Lent, our assemblies follow the theme of God's Perfect Promises.**

**Continuing from last month, in March children will explore themes of guidance, presence and belonging connected to stories from the Old Testament.**

**All these help children to understand that Jesus is the fulfilment of God's Perfect Promises. Because of Jesus' death and Resurrection (that we anticipate in Lent and celebrate at Easter) we can be close to God and have a relationship with Him!**

**Perhaps you could use this game to think about 'belonging' with your child/ren and have your own discussions at home.  
See the game here:**

**<https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/parent-portal/>**



## **Accelerated Reader**

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

Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Peregrine	Amelie	Tamsin	Ralph	Pierce
Arthur	Renske	Donnie	Spike	Shaun
Juno	Misha	Elizabeth	Wanda	Matilda
Francesca	Xavier	Simeon	Finley H	Grace
		Jude	Charlie K	Jordan
		Arthur	Michael L	James
		Lorcan	Michael M	Stella
		Hansika	Finn	Sabrina
		Florence	Dominik	Hannah
		Erin	Joseph	
			Curtis	
			Zuzzana	

## **Millionaire Readers**

Sherlyn – Year 6

Arthur – Year 4

Matilda – Year 6

Dominik – Year 5

## **Triple Millionaire Readers**

Harry – Year 6

## **Words Read by Class**

	Words Read
Year 3	<b>1,775,622</b>
Year 4	<b>5,856,313</b>
Year 5	<b>4,600,595</b>
Year 6	<b>13,513,502</b>