



Weekly Newsletter

15th November 2024

Dear Parents,

I've been away for 3 days this week working with another school, but I imagine as the staff here are so good you probably haven't even noticed. However, I know it has been a really busy week.

On Wednesday, the Faith Ambassadors went to St Michael's for training along with Mission Teams from the south of the trust. The theme was the upcoming Jubilee Year 2025 – Pilgrims of Hope. The children did lots of different activities which hopefully they will be able to bring back into school to do with the other children. They then looked at planning a Celebration of the Word based around Pilgrims of Hope. The children do a lot more planning of prayer and liturgy and it is great that they can work with Jane Porter, the trust Chaplain, to refine their skills even further.

Then yesterday, the Minnie Vinnies organised a tea party for some of the elderly in our wider community. The feedback was absolutely amazing! As well as being important for our children, it really is important for the elderly people some of whom have the start of dementia. There is a lot of research now in how the company of children can really help. It was really nice to see the legendary Mrs Haines back in school. For those who don't know she was a teacher here for many years and was "acting" head at least three times. She was so impressed and passed on the following message to me:


"It was "unbelievable" how the children conducted themselves and how much joy they communicated to all those around them. The team behind was also amazing. The Holy Spirit is visibly at work at OLS. Love and blessings. X"

We also had some lovely feedback from a prospective Reception parent this week who had a tour of the school. He said to Mrs Cid-Fuentes “This school is extraordinary. Normally you go into a school and they take you into the classrooms with the well behaved kids and the best teachers. But here every single place you’ve taken us the children are behaving: in the classrooms, corridors at playtime. Every child knows you and all the teachers know every child. The atmosphere is amazing and you can’t fake that.” It is really nice to get feedback like that from a complete stranger. So, thank you for all for having such wonderful children because believe me it is not all down to a school.

With two lots of feedback like that, I should stay away more often!

Have a lovely weekend,

God Bless

M. How 



Year 6 Careers Fair - Can you help?

The Pupil Parliament and Mrs Cid-Fuentes have been talking about ways of developing the Year 6 children's aspirations and helping them think about their future career options. What started off as an idea for them all to come in dressed up as people in different jobs turned into the idea of a Careers Fair. I think this is a great idea and maybe something we could do every year for Year 6. However, we need your help! We are looking for parents who could come in and set up a stall showcasing their job. It would be great for children to get a sense of what sorts of jobs they can do and what their educational path to getting there might be.

We have a provisional date of the morning of Thursday 30th January. If you think you could help, then please will you email the office. Your own child doesn't need to be in Year 6. We are hoping this is something we will do every year.



Attendance

Number of pupils 213	Overall attendance % 98.1%
Persistently absent	
Number of persistently absent pupils 10	Percentage of persistently absent pupils 4.7%

Well done everyone! At this rate the whole school attendance will be above 98% at the end of the year and I'll have to buy all the children an ice-cream.

Also over the last two weeks, 5 classes have had a weekly 100% attendance.

Last Week	Year 3 and Year 5
This Week	Year 1, Year 3 and Year 4

This year, the children will get an extra afternoon break if they have 100% attendance. Well done everyone and keep it up!

Parking



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
Reuben Rex Charlie Varun	Sofia Evie Rory Josephine Juno Francesca Thomas Zachary Olivia Caolan Eugenie Daisy Jan	Keera Alyssa James Renske Adam Michael Cuthbert Mason Misha Victoria Hansini Cat Cat Xavier Sharvil Annie Klara Nikolay	Tamsin Sienna-Rose Evie Dominik Elizabeth Simeon Grace Andrew Arthur Jacob Erica Jaeda Shanaya Lorcan Aliza Hansika Erin Chanuga Hugo Emilio	Leo Mark Mia Ivor Spike Wanda Rebecca Charlie F Finley Michael M Evelyn Dominik Robert Joseph Curtis Zuzanna

Gratitude Assembly Certificates



Last week's Gratitude Assembly certificates were awarded to:

Year 1	Thishen, William
Year 2	Marilyn, Antonio
Year 3	Josie, Ruby
Year 4	Michael, Misha
Year 5	Bianca, Nathan
Year 6	Michael M, Curtis

News From The Parishes



ST COLUMBA'S (Chesham):

New 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)

Next Youth Mass on Sunday 24th November at 6pm.

Next Music practice for Youth Mass on Saturday 23rd November at 5-6pm.

Next Youth Club on Saturday 23rd November at 6-7pm.

IHM – Great Missenden

New Parish Priest: Fr Eustace Durugbo

email: 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)

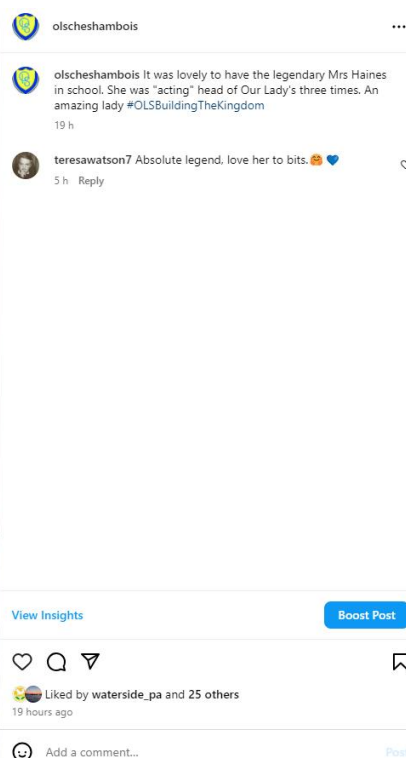
St Aidan's - Saturday 6:15 pm; Sunday 9 am (Polish Mass) and 11 am

There is a baby and toddler group in the guildroom behind Our Lady's Church on Friday mornings - officially 9:15-10:30, but you're welcome to come round as soon as you've dropped off your older child(ren).


The first First Communion classes will be held this week in both Our Lady's and St Aidan's - you should have received details of these classes if you have registered your child.

#OLScheshambois

Here is a quick snapshot of our learning this week:






olscheshambois

olscheshambois Today the Minnie Vinnies organised a fabulous afternoon tea for some local elderly people #OLSMiniVinnies #OLSBuildingTheKingdom

19 h

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olscheshambois

olscheshambois Today, I'm at a Headteacher's day with fellow Heads in @stcat_schools . We are listening to David Wells about being Authentic Catholic Schools #OLSBuildingTheKingdom

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olscheshambois

olscheshambois November is the time when we remember our loved ones #OLSBUILDINGTHEKINGDOM
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olscheshambois

olscheshambois Chesham united penalty shoot out #OLSSport
5 d

robbiehayes72 And well done OLS, a great effort and now onto the next round 🏆
5 d Reply

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November 2024

November is a month of special feasts starting with the Solemnity of All Saints and Feast of All Souls and ending with the Solemnity of Christ the King which marks the end of the liturgical year.

Our November resources invite children to explore what is most important. The Gospels encourage us to prioritise God over all things and love our neighbour. Jesus explains that true generosity of heart means giving with the confidence to trust that God will provide us with all that we need and He is always there ready to help and guide us.

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

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

**Jesus,
We want to be like you.
Send your Holy Spirit to
help us to be good leaders in all we do.
Amen**