



17<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Dear Parents,

We've had another really busy week in school. The children have settled back into their learning well and I've seen lots of great work. This year, we have been focussing on Deliberate Practice. This is where you identify a skill or some knowledge you need to put in your long-term memory so that you can use it automatically. This is called fluency. Some children will need to practise 100 times and others only 10 times which is natural. However, as most top sports coaches know hard work will eventually overtake natural talent.

In Key Stage 2, we are dedicating 15 minutes a day to Deliberate Practice. However, little and often is what makes the biggest difference so I have started posting some videos that parents can use to help their children practise at home. Children will have been shown these methods in school and will have had the methods shared with them in Microsoft Teams.

All the videos can be found here: [Deliberate Practice Playlist](#)

There is also a page on the website if you lose the link to the playlist.

[Deliberate Practice - Our Lady's Catholic Primary School](#)

Have a lovely weekend. God Bless

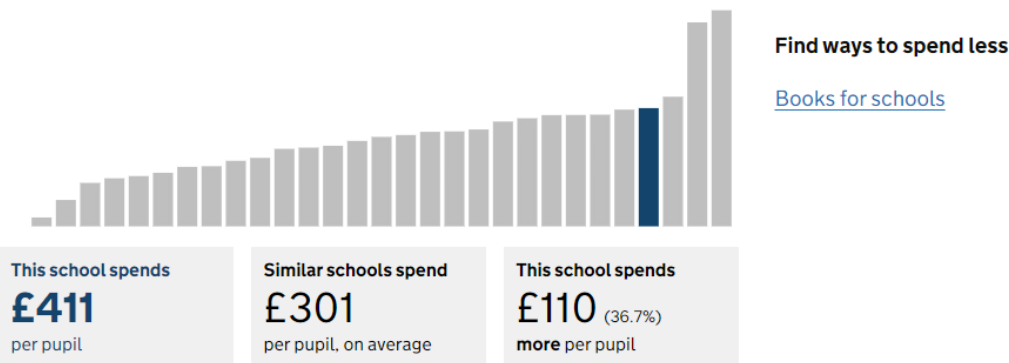
M. Holden

## Funding

This week I was doing some benchmarking with other school and came across the following information:

### Educational supplies

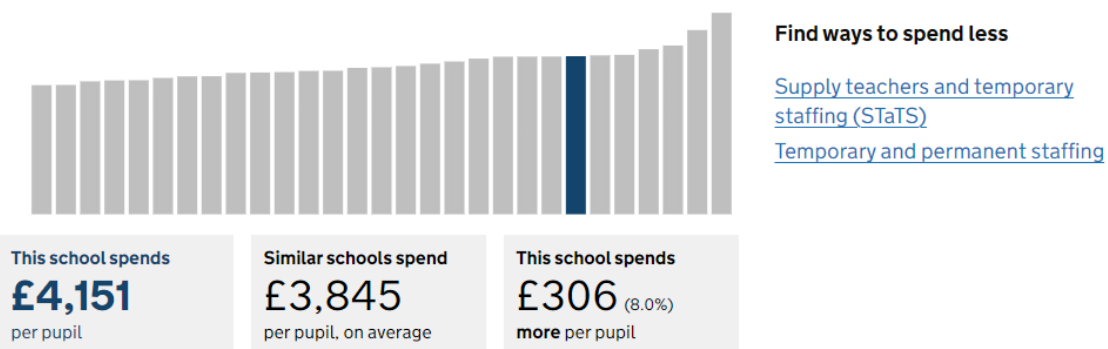
**High priority** Spending is higher than **90%** of similar schools.



[View all educational supplies costs](#). This includes examination fees and learning resources (not ICT equipment).

### Teaching and Teaching support staff

**High priority** Spending is higher than **80%** of similar schools.



I think this is a really nice way to demonstrate how lucky our children are at Our Lady's. It is also a good time to thank the PTA for all of the work they do and also the OLS trust which I know many of you donate too. Without the work they do, there is no way we would be able to spend more per pupil than other school. One way that you can make a contribution without it costing you anything is to buy supermarket vouchers for which we get commission. Please have a read of the letter from the PTA which is coming home today.

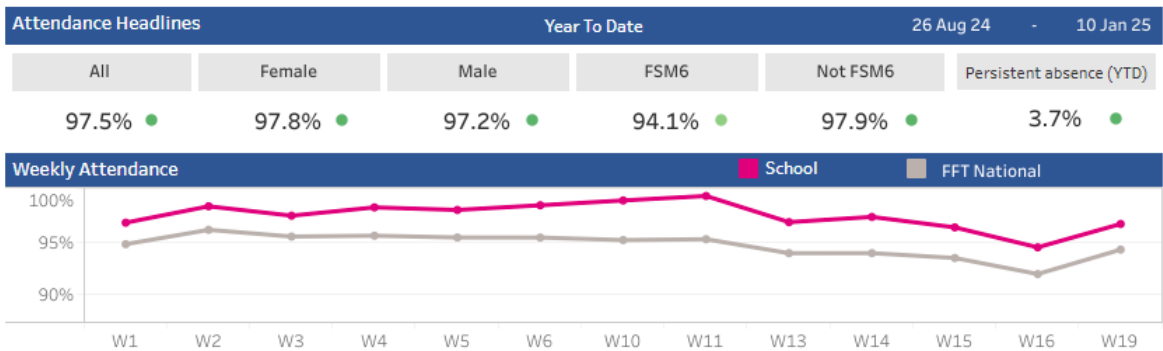
# Chiltern League

Well done to the touch rugby team who won their first game of rugby 15-12 against Chartridge school on Thursday evening. They were playing contact last week, so they had to adapt considerably but they've made a great start.



## Attendance

These are our current attendance statistics.



It is great to see that we are now green in all areas. Let's keep striving to get even better. I am particularly pleased that the number of persistent absentees has dropped to about 7 children. I'd love that to be none by the end of the year.

## Accelerated Reader

The children are all doing their reading star tests currently so I will update you on the children meeting their targets next week.

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 Rex Maksim Sofia Noelia Varun	Sofia Evie Rory Josephine Juno Francesca Thomas Roberto Zoe Arthur Ralph Niamh Daisy Jan Nathan	Alyssa Szymon Aoife Renske Michael F Misha Cat Cat Julia Elise Sharvil Annie Klara Nikolay	Tamsin Sienna-Rose Evie Giovanni Andrew Jacob Hansika Erin Chanuga Hugo Emilio	Leo Behtin Mia Archie Ralph Spike Wanda Charlie F Lola Charlie K Michael L Finn O Evelyn Dominik Joseph Adam Emily Curtis Zuzanna
Year 1				
Aariv Freddie				

## Gratitude Assembly Certificates



Last week's Gratitude Assembly certificates were awarded to:

Year 1	Gaia, Joseph
Year 2	Grace, Joseph
Year 3	Evie, Ralph
Year 4	Adam, Hansini
Year 5	Chanuga, Jacob
Year 6	Bea, Charlie K, Charlie F, Finley, Isabella, Leo



## **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)

**YOUTH MASS on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> Jan at 11am followed by refreshments in the hall.**

**Music practice before Mass starts from 10am**

## **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

**Congratulations to Daisy, Sofia, Ruby, Jash, Thomas and Rory who all received the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time last week**



# #OLScheshambois

Here is a quick snapshot of our learning this week:



olscheshambois



olscheshambois Year 4 are learning all about the Nicene Creed #OLSRE

2 h

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olscheshambois Year 6 are measuring power using data loggers. #OLSScience #OLSSYear6

23 h



flobeamay @saltymorg



18 h Reply

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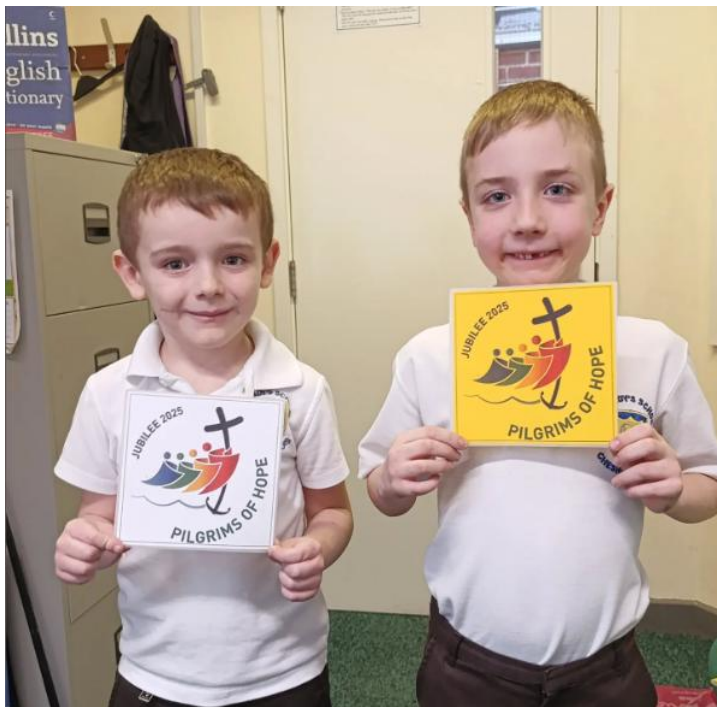
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olscheshambois
...

olscheshambois In the build up to the launch of the Jubilee Year of Hope in schools across England and Wales, we are hiding three tickets for a raffle around the school every day. These two superstars have found the tickets today #OLSBuildingTheKingdom #OLSJubilee #OLSHope

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...

olscheshambois Year Five have completed their first book with Mrs. Cassidy during year five book club. Well done year Five and thank you, Mrs Cassidy! #OlsLiteracy #OlsBookClub #OlsYear5

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olscheshambois Preparing for pupil led collective worship #OLSchaplaincy  
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olscheshambois Year four have been working on aboriginal inspired artwork using PowerPoint. What wonderful creations! #OlsArt #OlsYear4  
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olscheshambois Year 5 have been finding links between the scriptures. They are looking at AGAPE and the greatest commandments #OLSRE #OLSYear5

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olscheshambois Horse riding weren't ready for us today so we went for a lovely walk in the woods at Ashley Green instead

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## January 2025

Just when we thought the celebrations might stop after Christmas, the New Year starts with a month full of significant Church calendar events. What's more, [the Year of Jubilee](#) has begun! This special celebration year comes with an invitation from Pope Francis to place our hope in God's love for us and to share His love with others.

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

### **A Gift for Jesus**

The Celebration of the Word assembly for the first week of term celebrates the Epiphany of the Lord. This is when Jesus was revealed to the Wise Men after their long journey following the star.

Through this, children will reflect on how God the Father gave Jesus as a gift for us all. They will also consider what gifts they can offer Jesus, such as their time and attention.

After spotting clues in a painting of the Wise Men meeting Jesus, children will use their imaginations to join with these wise travellers on their journey to see the baby King for the first time.

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

- *Watch this guided meditation with your child/ren and discuss what imagining this great event inspires you to give or say to Jesus in prayer.*
- *Spend time drawing, painting or modelling your own artwork depicting the arrival of the Wise Men.*

<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**