19th September 2025

Dear Parents,

Well, the year is well underway and the summer seems a long way away. Firstly, this week I'd like to say a massive thank you to Laura Kriesel and the rest of the PTA who organised the Reception barbecue last Sunday. It was a lovely occasion and a fabulous way for the families to get to know each other. The bonus was that the rain stayed off just long enough.

Also, this week, we had our elections for the OLS Parliament. On Monday, five incredibly brave Year 6 children stood up in front of the whole school and delivered excellent speeches about why the school should vote for them. Then every child voted for their preferred candidates. Well done to all of them, as without a range of candidates, it wouldn't be a democracy. I think the children may well learn another valuable lesson about politics in that all of the candidates have probably over-promised and there is a good chance they may well under-deliver. I'm not sure all of the ideas are going to get through the House of Lords (Well me!) Congratulations to our new Primary Minister: **Evie Bailey** and Deputy Primary Minister: **Donnie Baugh**.

Finally, I want to say a big thank you to all of the parents who managed to get to the Meet the Teachers Evening on Tuesday. There was a great turnout! Your children are so lucky to have such supportive parents. I hope you found the evening helpful and thank you for your patience as we begin to introduce a new homework policy.

Have a lovely weekend,

God bless,

Mr Holdsworth

## **Parliament Pandemonium!**

Written by Erin Taylor and Emilio Williams
Picture by Tamsin Adams

What a hectic week it has been at Our Lady's school; starting with primary minister votes all the way to cabinet ministers.

So, you are probably wondering, "Who are the new Primary and Deputy? Well, here are your questions answered. Our new primary minister is Evie Bailey! The deputy will be Donnie Baugh!



It was a very tight vote - if it were up to us, everyone who ran for primary minister would get the role. "I feel really grateful for this opportunity. Thank you to everyone who voted for me. I am really excited for this year and good luck to the year 5s next year; and thanks again for the love spread around this school. All of you are amazing and I'll make this year the best," said Evie Bailey.

Donnie quoted, "I feel happy and very excited to lead the school. I am very lucky to have the opportunity to lead this wonderful school. We have a great year ahead of us."

Each class has nominated their new committee members. Good luck to the newly elected parliament!

Our new house captains are...

Matthew: Florence!

Luke: Rory!
Mark: Emilio!
John: Bianca!

More from them next week!

# **Football Match Report - vs Thomas Harding**

Our boys' football team put on a spirited performance in their recent match against Thomas Harding, played on a very large pitch that tested their stamina and teamwork.

We got off to a fantastic start, with Liam scoring a brilliant goal to put us 1–0 up in the first half. Not long after, Nathan made a superb penalty save, keeping our lead intact going into half-time.

The second half proved more challenging, and we conceded three quick goals. However, the team showed great resilience and determination, never letting their heads drop. With just two minutes to go, Rory found the back of the net after a saved shot from Jude, bringing the score to 3–2.

Although the result didn't go our way, the boys played with heart and represented the school with pride. They are improving with every game, and we couldn't be prouder of their effort and sportsmanship.

**Man of the Match: Nathan** – for his outstanding penalty save and solid performance throughout

### **Homework**

Thank you for your patience! The homework is ready to go and will start next week. Your children will have a folder to bring the work to and from school and the key stage 2 children will have a homework diary. Please sign it so that we know it is a true reflection of the work they have done.

## **Maths Questionnaire**

We are looking to find ways of supporting parents to help their children with maths at home. We would be grateful if you would fill in this short questionnaire so that we can gauge the interest from families:

https://forms.office.com/e/PLtUdbRqrH

# **Accelerated Reader**

Now that we have moved into a new year, the children should be back into the swing of things. We have now opened up the accelerated quizzes so they can be done at home as well as in school. There is a link on the front of the website, which is where the children can log in. There is also a website that you can access called AR Bookfinder so that you can check that your child is reading a suitable book. The useful websites are:

Renaissance Learning Login

Accelerated Reader Bookfinder UK & Ireland - Welcome

# **Gratitude Assembly Certificates**



Last week's Gratitude Assembly certificates were awarded to:

Year 1	Una, Ben
Year 2	Theresa, Filip
Year 3	Robyn, Maksim
Year 4	Zac, Olivia
Year 5	Aoife, Chloe
Year 6	Erica, Jaeda

# **Equipment - KS2**

This is just a reminder of the equipment that children need to have in school every day, as a minimum. It is really important that they come to school with the right resources so they are ready to learn. We do have a shop in school in case you can't get the equipment elsewhere.

- School handwriting pen
- Pencil
- Rubber
- Pencil sharpener
- 30 cm ruler
- Colouring pencils
- Small pair of scissors
- Glue stick
- Pencil case

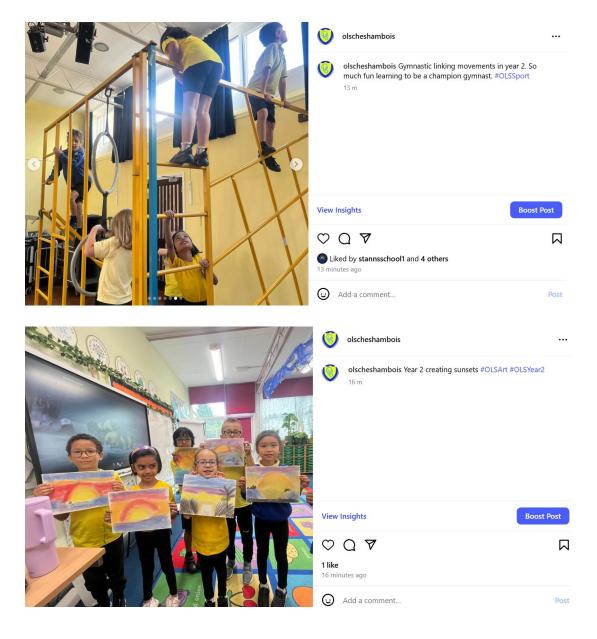
The colouring pencils are particularly important, as they really help the children ensure their work looks great.

## **Breaktime Snack**

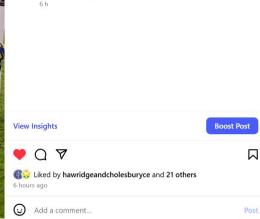
Just a reminder that children are allowed fresh fruit at breaktime but they shouldn't have anything in packets. I don't want to be a school that bans crisps etc because I don't believe I want to become the food police. But these things should be part of their lunch meal and not a snack.

Thank you

# **#OLSlearning**











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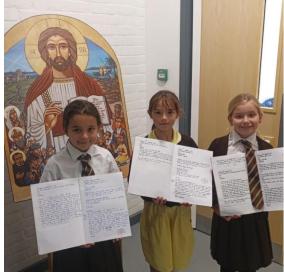
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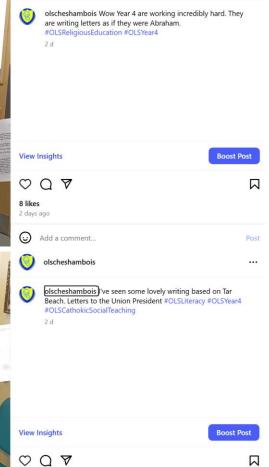




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## **News From The Parishes**

### **Youth Masses**

### ST COLUMBA'S (Chesham):

Parish Priest: Fr Eustace Durugbo

email: freustace.durugbo@northamptondiocese.org

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

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

### First Holy Communion 2025/2026

Registration is now open for the First Holy Communion classes which begin in September and run through to May next year. Please register your interest and obtain a form by emailing either <a href="mailto:parish.stcolumba@northamptondiocese.org">parish.ihm@northamptondiocese.org</a>

### **IHM – Great Missenden**

Parish Priest: Fr Eustace Durugbo

email: freustace.durugbo@northamptondiocese.org

Sunday Mass @ 11 am (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

For those of you with younger children, OLOPS Toddler Group runs in the guildroom at the back of Our Lady's Church on Fridays in term time for children aged 0-4 and their parent or carer. We have lots of toys to play with and always finish with a snack and singing. The official timing is 9:15 to 10:30, but you are welcome to come earlier if you're at a loose end after dropping your older child off at school. The first session for this term is on Friday, 12 September.