



Our Lady's Catholic Primary School

Weekly Newsletter

"A place of learning – A community of Christ"

Faith . Hope . Love

21st June 2024

Dear Parents,

Congratulations to all of the children who received their First holy Communion last Saturday. It was a beautiful celebration and the children were fantastic. It is such an important part of their faith journey and I would like to thank all the parents who have supported all of our children in their preparation this year.

The highlight in school this week is, without a shadow of doubt, Year 5's retreat to Wintershall to see The Life of Christ. The Life of Christ is a Passion play like no other, placing you in the middle of an immersive theatre experience. We were blessed with nice weather which wasn't too hot and I know the staff and children really enjoyed themselves. This is a trip we are going on every year now and I know the staff are queuing up to go on it.

Have a lovely weekend,
God Bless

M. Howarth



Children Walking Home

As the nights get longer and the children get older many are starting to walk home on their own. I think this is great for them! However, please remember to let us know what is happening particularly if your plans change. We don't want to be keeping children that you are expecting to walk home but we also need to make sure we don't let children go who shouldn't be walking. Thank you

Curriculum – Religious education - Islam

We have been learning about Islam over the last week. It is a really important part of our curriculum and particularly in the new Religious Education Curriculum which is set by the Bishops of England and Wales. We teach the children that Christianity, Judaism and Islam are Abrahamic religions which is why there are a lot of similarities as well as things we can learn off each other.

If you want to know a bit more about what they are learning the BBC have a great section aimed at Key Stage 3 which gives some good background information:

[Facts about Islam – KS3 Religious Studies – BBC Bitesize – BBC Bitesize](#)

Prayer and Liturgy



Congratulations to these wonderful children who received their First Holy Communion last weekend.

News From The Parishes

ST COLUMBA'S (Chesham):

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

Priests: Fr Dave & Fr Giacomo

Mass times: on SUNDAYS only

@ 9am (traditional choir)

@ 6pm (Youth Band)

YOUTH CLUB this Saturday 22nd June 6-8pm.

YOUTH MASS this Sunday 23rd June a 6pm (please arrive by 5.45pm to practise various tasks).

This is also a THANKSGIVING mass for all the children who received their First Holy

Communion and are welcome to wear their FHC outfit at mass, if they wish to.

For further information please contact Federica (federica@olschesham.com)

NOTE: Registrations for the First Holy Communion programme 2024/2025 are now open.

Please email the parish office: parish.stcolumba@northamptondiocese.org

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

St Aidan's Church

Priest: Father Roy

Mass times:

Every SATURDAY @ 6.15 pm

Every SUNDAY @ 11 am

@ 9 am (Polish Mass)

Our Lady's Church

Priest: Father Roy

Mass times:

Every SATURDAY @ 5 pm

Every SUNDAY @ 9 am (including children's liturgy, including during the holidays)

OLOPS toddler group is every Friday of term time, 9:15-10:30. All parents/carers with children aged from birth to school age are welcome. We have playtime, singing and a snack, and if you have an older child at OLS, you are welcome to come as soon as you have dropped them off at school. We request a voluntary donation of £1-£2.

"If your child will be in Year 3 or above in September and you would like them to make their First Communion at Our Lady's or St Aidan's Church next year, please register their name with Debbie Rogers, the parish secretary, as soon as possible via email (parish.ourladycbstaidanlc@northamptondiocese.org) or phone (01494 763518). The programme will begin at the end of September, and the children will make their First Communion in May 2025."

56

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

GROUP CHATS

On messaging apps, social media and online games, group chats are among the most popular ways that young people engage with their peers online. Involving three or more individuals, these groups allow users to send messages, images and videos to everyone in one place. While they can be great for connecting with others, there are several risks posed by these tools.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

BULLYING

Teens are often trying to find their place in their social group. Unfortunately, group chats can sometimes lend themselves to unkind comments being shared freely, putting people down to make their peers laugh – often creating a vicious circle that encourages others to join in. Being bullied so publicly – in front of friends and acquaintances – can also amplify the hurt, embarrassment and anxiety that the victim feels.

EXCLUSION AND ISOLATION

This common issue with group chats can happen in several ways: for instance, starting a new group, but deliberately excluding a certain child. Likewise, the chat may take place on an app which one person doesn't have access to, meaning they can't be involved. A child can also feel isolated when a group chat is used to discuss events that exclude them – for example, sharing photos from a day out that they didn't attend.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some discussions in group chats may include inappropriate words, swearing and unsuitable images or videos. These could be viewed by a child if they are part of that group, whether they actively engage in it or not. Some apps have features that cause messages to disappear after they're viewed, so children may be unable to report something they've seen, as it can only be viewed once or for a short time.

SHARING GROUP CONTENT

Group chats can feel more private and protected, allowing children to share inside jokes and video calls with a smaller group of friends. It's important to remember that while the chat's content is private between those in the group, individual users can easily share material with others outside of the group, or screenshot what's been posted. The risk of something a child intended as private becoming public is higher if there are strangers in the chat.

UNKNOWN MEMBERS

Within larger group chats, it's more likely for children to communicate with people they don't know. These strangers may be friends of the host, but not necessarily friendly towards everyone present. It's wise for young people to avoid sharing personal details and remember that they have no control over what others do with the material they send into the chat.

NOTIFICATIONS AND FOMO

A drawback of large group chats is the sheer number of notifications they tend to generate. Every time someone sends a message, each member's device will be 'pinged' with an alert. This could result in hundreds of notifications a day. This is often highly distracting, and young people's fear of missing out (FOMO) can cause increased screen time as they try to keep up with the conversation.

74

Advice for Parents & Carers

CONSIDER OTHERS' FEELINGS

Group chats can become an arena for young people to compete for social status. This could cause them to do or say things on impulse which could upset others. Help children consider how people might feel if they behave in this way. If the child does upset someone, encourage them to reach out, show empathy and apologise for their mistake.

GIVE SUPPORT, NOT JUDGEMENT

Group chats are an excellent way for children to connect and feel like they belong. However, remind them that they can confide in you if they feel bullied or excluded, instead of responding to the person who's upset them. Validate their feelings and empower them by discussing how they'd like to handle the situation. You can also encourage children to speak up if they witness others being picked on.

BLOCK, REPORT AND LEAVE

If a child is in a chat where inappropriate content is being shared, advise them to block whoever sent the material, report that person to the host app or platform and exit the group. If any of this content could put a minor at risk, contact the police. Emphasise that it's OK for children to simply leave any group chat that makes them feel uncomfortable.

PRACTISE SAFE SHARING

In any online communication, it's vital for young people to be aware of what they're sharing and who might potentially see it. Ensure children understand the importance of not revealing identifiable details like their address, their school, or photos that they wouldn't like to be seen widely. Remind them that once something is shared in a group, they can't be certain where it might end up and how it might be used.

AVOID INVITING STRANGERS

Sadly, many individuals online hide their identity to gain a child's trust and serve their own ends – for example, to gather information on them, to exchange inappropriate content or to coax them into doing things they aren't comfortable with. Ensure the child understands why they shouldn't add people they don't know to a group chat – and why they should never accept a group chat invitation from a stranger.

SILENCE NOTIFICATIONS

Having a device bombarded with notifications from a group chat can be an irritating distraction – especially if it's happening late in the evening. Explain to children that they can still be part of the group chat while disabling notifications – and that it would be healthier for them to do so, avoiding a situation where they could feel pressured to respond.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and setting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

@wake_up_weds

/www.thenationalcollege

@wake.up.wednesday

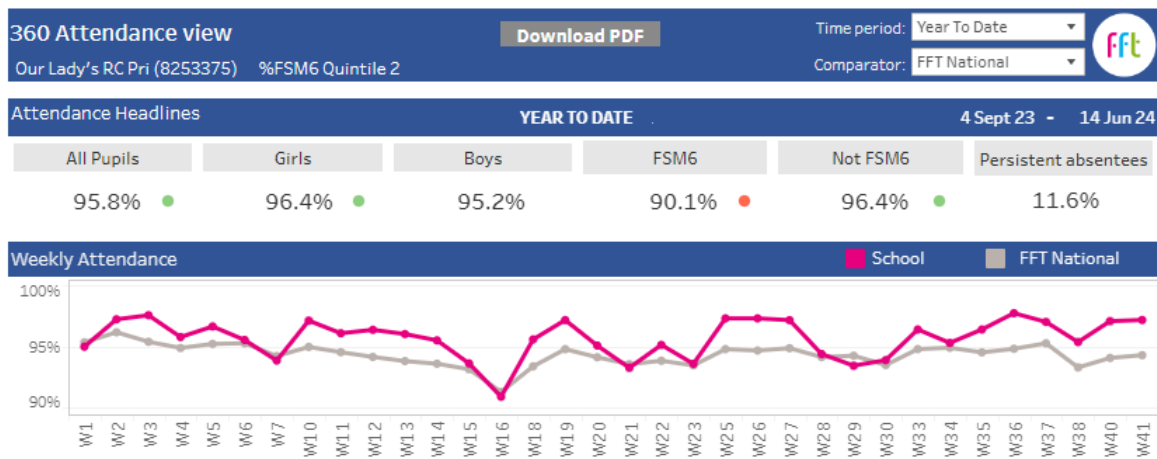
@wake.up.weds

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Release date: 27.04.2022 Last reviewed: 30.05.2024

Attendance

**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**

Well done everyone. Since the start of the summer term our attendance has been back to the sort of level we expect. Every week has been at least 2% above the national average with many weeks at 3%. There has been a lot of noise in the press about the “contract” between schools and parents being broken. That is clearly not the case at Our Lady’s. Thank you,



Gratitude Assembly Certificates

Last week's Gratitude Assembly certificates were awarded to:

Year 1	Noelia, Antonio
Year 2	Alex, Peregrine
Year 3	Keera, Michael
Year 4	Jaeda, Lorcan
Year 5	Wanda, Finlay
Year 6	Ethan, Igor

#OLScheshambois

Here is a quick snapshot of our learning this week:



olscheshambois

...



olscheshambois Year 2 really enjoyed their tennis festival
#OLSSport
8 h

[View Insights](#)

[Boost Post](#)



13 likes
8 hours ago

Add a comment...

[Post](#)



olscheshambois

Giulio Cercato • Beautiful

...



olscheshambois Year 5 had a fabulous time following the life of Christ at Wintershall yesterday #OLSRetreats #OLSRE #OLSBUILDINGTHEKINGDOM #OLSYEAR5
1 d



estheribbs Amazing!! We've been to their nativity performance which was fantastic. So immersive. Hope Year 5 enjoyed themselves!



1 d Reply

[View Insights](#)

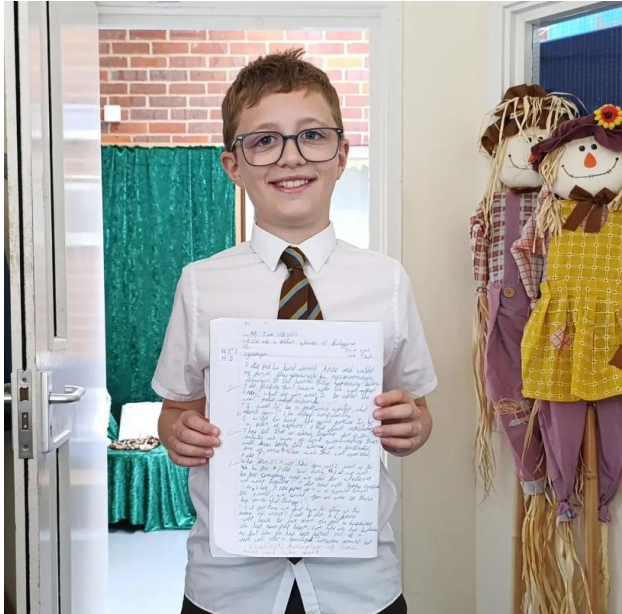
[Boost reel](#)



19 likes
1 day ago

Add a comment...

[Post](#)



olscheshambois

...



olscheshambois This young man has written some excellent dialogue inspired by Ann Frank @theliteracytree #OLSLiteracy #OLSYear5
1 d

[View Insights](#)

[Boost Post](#)



18 likes
1 day ago



Add a comment...

[Post](#)



olscheshambois

...

No comments yet.

Start the conversation.

[View Insights](#)

[Boost Post](#)



12 likes
2 days ago



Add a comment...

[Post](#)



olscheshambois

...



olscheshambois Yr4 working with artist Elaine and Amersham Museum #OLSArt
2 d

[View Insights](#)

[Boost Post](#)



12 likes
2 days ago



Add a comment...

[Post](#)

June 2024

You may or may not know that June is the month of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. This focus on a popular image representing Jesus with His heart pierced, reminds Catholics of the incredible love of God shown through His Son, Jesus.

June's resources, in a similar way, point children to the heart of who Jesus is, and His power, presence, and love.

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

Corpus Christi

June begins with the Feast of Corpus Christi meaning 'The Body of Christ'. This celebrates the real presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. (Catholics believe that the bread and wine used for Holy Communion at Mass become the Body and Blood of Jesus).

Children will spend time in prayer remembering the Last Supper and reflect on what this means for them today. You might wish to use the following video to inspire a reflective time of prayer at home.

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

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

- *Use journalling or drawing to reflect on the video. You might like to use prompts to help, such as, 'what do you want to thank Jesus for?'*
- *Talk about special meals you enjoy sharing with your family including the time and preparations. Then discuss how you might put the same preparation and care into spending time with Jesus.*

Family of Followers

The Gospel for the week beginning 10th June reminds children how those who follow Jesus are united as family in their faith. Through Jesus' words about God's family, made up of those who follow God's will, children will reflect on how they can be loving brothers and sisters to everyone and be inspired by the example of the saints who also loved God and followed His will.

Throughout the Year of Prayer, our prayer resources highlight different styles of prayer through real people's experiences and reflections.

This video, from Fr Lee, speaks about praying with the Saints.

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

With your child, you might like to...

Discuss Fr Lee's questions to encourage them to try praying with the Saints:

- *Ask God, who could be your spiritual brother or sister?*
- *Which saint in Heaven could pray for you?*

- *Explore the stories of some different saints and how they showed their love for God and His family through their words or actions. You might like to start with some of the saints whose feast days fall during the week of the 10th June like [Saint Barnabas](#) or [Saint Anthony of Padua](#).*

Peace in the Storms

Jesus' power and presence is amazing! He is the one who can calm the wind and waves with His voice! Children will reflect on this great truth in prayer, by bringing their own intentions to Jesus about the 'storms' or difficulties that they or others face.

Children will invite the Holy Spirit to help them to trust Jesus and know His peace in every situation.

You might like to use this short prayer to conclude your personal or family prayer time.

**Holy Spirit,
When things are good or when things are difficult,
remind me that Jesus is always there.
Help me to trust in Him.
Amen**

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
Sofia	Amelie	Tamsin	Archie	Pierce
Arthur	Alyssa	Sienna-Rose	Charlie K	
Rory	James	Donnie	Michael	Shuan
Josephine	Szymon	Elizabeth	Finn	Ellie
Francesca	Malwina	Simeon	Dominik	Eliza
Olivia	Renske	Grace	Robert	Kome
Alex	Mason	Andrew	Hannah	Matylda
	Misha	Eleanor	Curtis	Hannah
	Hansini	Jude		Franek
	Xavier	Arthur		
	Sharvil	Lorcan		
	Klara	Aliza		
		Hansika		
		Florence		
		Erin		
		Olive		

Millionaire Readers

Shaun – Year 6
Cat Cat – Year 3
Jude – Year 4
Tamsin – Year 4
Jacob – Year 4
Curtis - Year 5

Double Millionaire

Sherlyn – Year 6
Arthur – Year 4
Matilda – Year 6
Dominik – Year 5

Triple Millionaire Readers

Harry – Year 6