

Our Lady's Catholic Primary School

A Place of Learning -
A Community of Christ

Faith
Hope
Love

27th February 2026

Dear Parents,

I hope you had a lovely half term and managed to get a good rest. We have returned to the season of Lent - the season of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. This week, Federica has been accompanying the classes to Our Lady's Church to follow the Stations of the Cross: a chance to pray in a different way and to reflect on what Jesus did for us. The children have also been telling me what they are giving up for Lent, and we are hoping to do some fundraising for Hearing Dogs UK, the charity for whom Mr Weatherill is running the marathon.

Next week, we will continue our Lenten journey with a visit from Rise Theatre. *Treasure Within* is a treasure-hunt theatre adventure for whole primary schools, exploring the seven principles of Catholic Social Teaching and how these inspiring treasures can be applied to every child. If you want a sneak preview, there is a trailer here: [Treasure Within Trailer - RISE Theatre](#)

I look forward to seeing most of you at Parents Evening.

Have a great weekend,
God bless,
Mr Holdsworth



Chiltern League - Girls Football

Yesterday, I had the pleasure of watching the first girls' football match of the season against Chartridge. It was brilliant! All of the girls played absolutely amazingly, but most importantly, they had great fun. It was a very competitive game, but we started on top, and Jaeda scored an absolute *WORLDIE* from just inside the halfway line. After that, we didn't have too many chances, but an outstanding goalkeeping effort from our player of the match, Renske, kept us in the game. Renske made at least five incredible saves.

Unfortunately, in the second half, some great pressure from Chartridge resulted in what was really a deserved equaliser. The girl who scored holds their school record for the most goals scored, which shows just how well she plays. All in all, 1–1 was a fair result, but as Mr Weatherill always says: "Football was the winner."



Numberbots and Timestable Rockstars

We have been having a really big push on Numberbots and Times Tables Rock Stars over the past half term. At Parents' Evening, you will receive a "heatmap" which shows which number facts or times tables your child knows. At the moment, the children probably haven't used Numberbots enough to give us a completely accurate picture, but at least you will be able to see how helpful the information will be once they get going.

As a school, we are aiming for all children to complete the Numberbots heatmaps by the end of Year 2, and the Times Tables Rock Stars heatmap by the end of Year 6.

Please encourage your child to use the app regularly and persevere. This is really important. If your child is going to get a Grade 5 in their GCSE maths, they will need to hit these milestones. Unfortunately, we have a silly education system where if you don't get a 5 in both Maths and English, it closes doors. You could be Vincent van Gogh, but if you don't get a 5 in Maths you can't do A-level Art. Although it seems a long way off, let's make sure our children have the basics to give them the best chance.

Car Park

This week, we have had a near miss in the car park where a parent nearly reversed into a child. Please only use the car park if you have got permission. As I said before half term, it is really frustrating because there are some families with siblings with significant special needs or disabilities themselves who really need to park in there.

I don't understand why some people feel they are busier than everyone else, so they need to park in the car park. Please be more considerate.

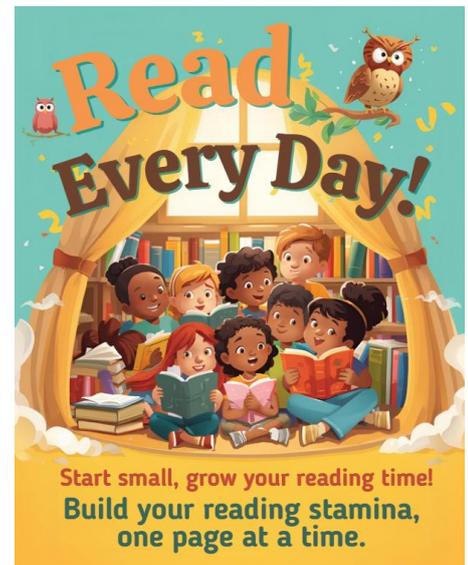
Thank you
Mr Holdsworth

Fit for Reading

Not their physical fitness, but their reading fitness. How long can they read without interruption?

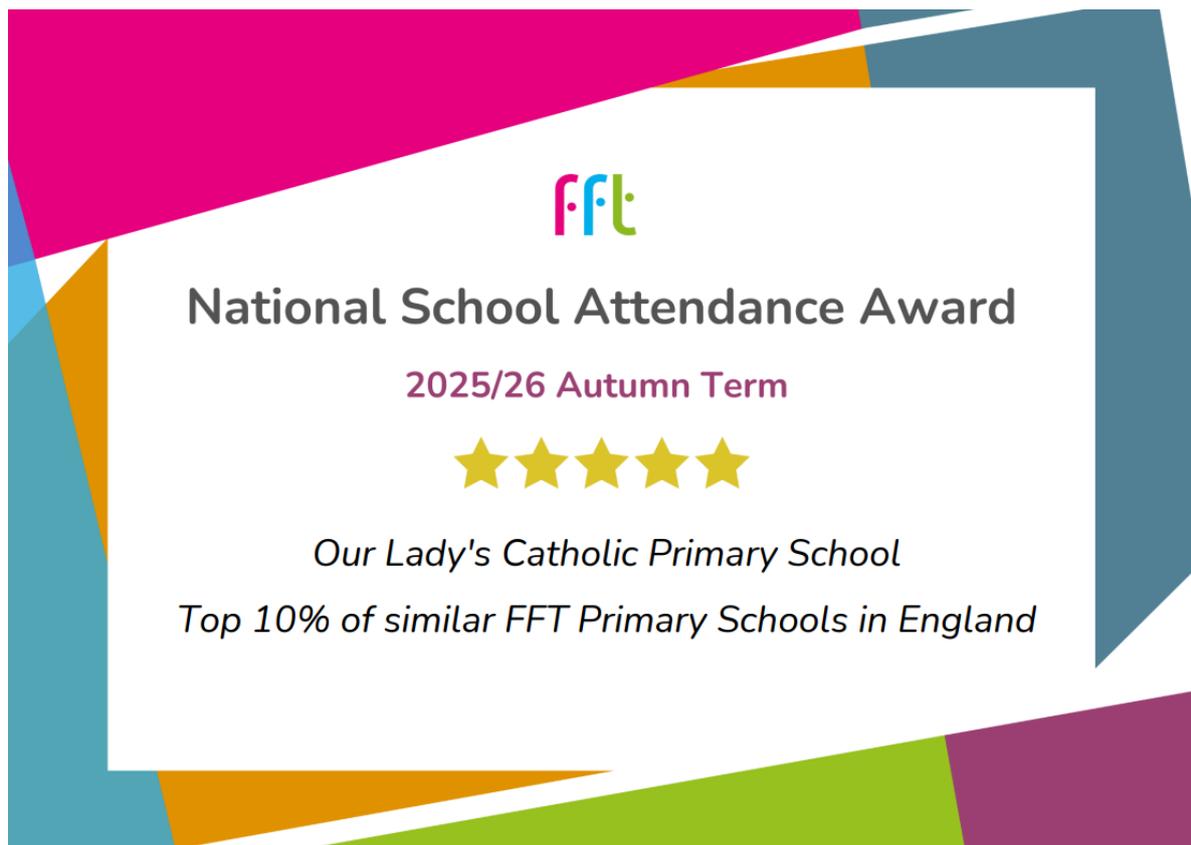
When I sit in a classroom, I don't even need to listen to the children read to make a judgement about their reading. I can simply watch them reading independently. Children who don't read at home often find it very difficult to sit and read for more than a couple of minutes at a time.

Parents can make a real difference with this. Help your child develop good habits. Start small and build up gradually. If they aren't reading regularly, you can't expect them to read for half an hour in one go. Begin with five minutes a day and slowly increase the time. It's just like training for a marathon or doing Couch to 5K.



Attendance

A massive well done to everyone as we were awarded an FFT certificate for being in the top 10% not only nationally but for similar high achieving schools.



We do still have about 11 children whose attendance isn't above 90%. I can't reiterate the importance for their future. An adult whose attendance at work is below 90% makes them considerably less employable. These are habits which stay with them forever.

This table which St Joan of Arc share with parents really shows that 90% is actually quite a low bar.

ATTENDANCE	NUMBER OF STUDENTS ACHIEVING 5 GCSES WITH GRADES 9-4
93-94%	54.9%
92-93%	40.65%
90-92%	33%
	90% attendance over 2 years = 1/2 a term of missed education

Accelerated Reader

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

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Rose	Aariv	Jessica	Harish	Keera	Tamsin
Ambrose	Theresa	Reuben	Sofia	Alvin	Sienna-Rose
	Mayra	Joseph	Evie	Alyssa	Evie
	Filip	Layla	Rory	Michael C	Giovanni
	Margot	Tiernan	Amelia	Malwina	Donnie
	William	Rex	Ruby	Renske	Dominik
	Freddie	Pola	Josephine	Adam	Elizabeth
	Zac	Maksim	Juno	Joseph	Rory
	Joseph P	Rory	Elena	Cuthbert	Simeon
	Bettie	Sofia	Francesca	Mason	Elizabeth
	Gaia	Noelia	Thomas	Misha	Liam
	Julian	Varun	Allison	Victoria	Eleanor
		Robyn	Roberto	Hansini	Jude
		Robin	Zachary	Cat Cat	Arthur
		Tosia	Arthur	Elise	Jacob
			Ralph	Xavier	Erica
			Niamh	Antra	Karo
			Olivia	Sharvil	Jaeda
			Caolan	Annie	Nathan
			Eugenie	Catherine	Shanaya
			Martha	Klara	Aliza
			Genevieve	Hanna	Thomas
			Daisy	Nikolay	Bianca
			Alex	Minchun	Hansika
			Nathan		Erin
			Mason		Olive
					Hugo
					Emilio



The following children have been awarded a Numbots certificate in the last week.

Rust	Iron	Tin	Brass	Copper	Steel	Chrome
		Thomas	Margot	Alexander	Manny	Manny
		Daphne		Margot	Benjamin	
				Lucia		
				Luke		
				Harper		
Glass	Tungsten	Aluminium	Kevlar			
Manny	Manny					



These children have gone green in Times Table RockStars which means they know all of their times table facts. New children this week in bold:

Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Sofia	Joseph	Elizabeth
Arthur	Alysa	Eleanor
Rory	James	Arthur
Ruby	Szymon	Jaeda
Josephine	Malwina	Karo
Ann	Adam	Aliza
Francesca	Michael F	Emilio
Thomas	Hansini	Divine
Zoe	Cat Cat	Florence
Niamh	Klara	Jude
Olivia	Hanna	Hugo
Jan	Misha	
Nathan	Sharvil	
Allison	Alise	
Mason	Antra	
Artie	Minchun	
Genevieve		
Harrish		
Peregrine		
Daisy		

Gratitude Assembly Certificates



Last week's Gratitude Assembly certificates were awarded to:

Year 1	Alessandro, John William
Year 2	Betty, Tom
Year 3	Anastasia, Leon, Siva, Tosia
Year 4	Evie, Gigi
Year 5	Whole class
Year 6	Arthur, Hansika

#OLS Learning



olscheshambois



olscheshambois Great to see so many girls wanting to play football for school #OLSsport #chilternleague

6 h

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Boost reel

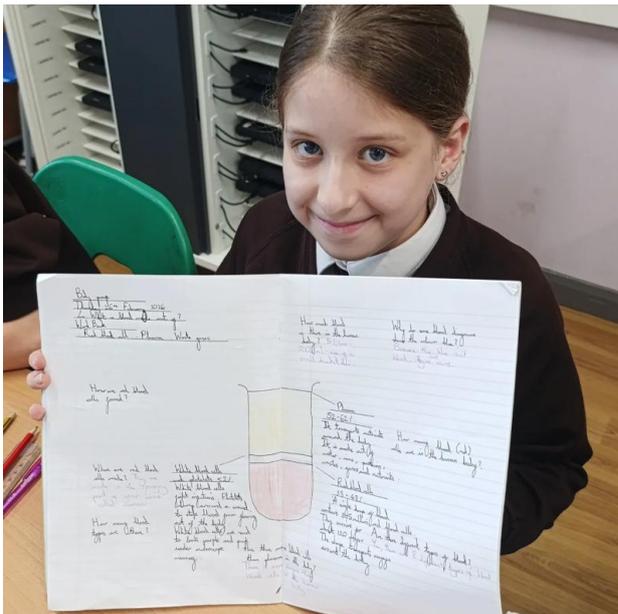


Liked by stpeterscatholicprimarymarlow and 17 others
6 hours ago



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olscheshambois What is blood made of? #OLSYear6 #OLSScience

12 h

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5 likes
12 hours ago



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olscheshambois Year 6 are making their own blood using Cheerios, marshmallows, orange juice and shreddies. They won't forget that #OLYear6 #OLSScience

12 h



1 comment from Facebook

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18 likes

12 hours ago



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olscheshambois Reception are having great fun in the sunshine taking orders in the cafe! #OLSReception

1 d

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Liked by hawridgeandcholesburyce and 35 others

1 day ago



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olscheshambois Yr4 have written their Lenten promises #OLYear4 #OLSRE

2 d

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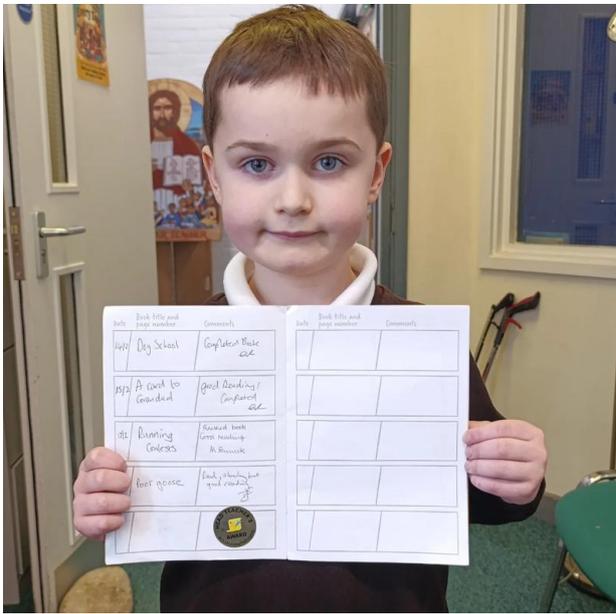
Liked by hawridgeandcholesburyce and 22 others

2 days ago



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olscheshambois ...

olscheshambois I am so pleased to see all the reading this young man has done over the holidays. Reading is for every day. And well done mum and dad for completing his reading record #OLSReading
3 d

clarekerr123 Well done Peter.
3 d Reply

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22 likes
3 days ago

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Chitty Chitty Bang Bang

I am delighted to share performance details for Chitty Chitty Bang Bang, a production by The Panda Players, at the Elgiva Theatre. One of our Year 6's, Florence, will be on stage performing as Jemima Potts. Florence is rehearsing hard and is very much looking forward to the upcoming shows in March. I have included a link below with full details on how to book tickets for anyone who would like to go along and support the show.

<https://elgiva.com/chitty-chitty-bang-bang/>

Panda Players
presents

CHITTY CHITTY BANG BANG

at
The Elgiva, Chesham HP5 1HR

18th to 21st March 2026

tickets from
elgiva.com or **01494 582900**

NODA

Music and Lyrics by
Richard M. Sherman and Robert B. Sherman
Music by Special Arrangement with Sony/ATV Publishing
Adapted for the Stage by **Jeremy Sams**
Based on the MGM Motion Picture
Licensed Script Adapted by **Ray Roderick**

JaR **Thumby Performance**

This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Music Theatre International. All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. www.mtishows.co.uk

News From The Parishes

ST COLUMBA'S (Chesham):

Parish Priest: Fr Mirek Misiura

email: FrMirek.misiura@northamptondiocese.org

Sunday Masses @ 9 am (children's liturgy) & 6 pm (Youth Band/ Choir)

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

The next Youth Mass at St Columba's: Sunday 8th March at 6pm

Youth Club – Saturday 7th March 5pm – 7pm

Everybody welcome to join the choir/band!

If anyone wishes to read please let Federica know at school.

IHM – Great Missenden

Parish Priest: Fr Mirek Misiura

email: FrMirek.misiura@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

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)

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.

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