



28th March 2024

Dear Parents,

Well, I hope by now you have all had the opportunity to read our Ofsted report. Once again, I would like to thank you all for the support you give the school and for the numerous congratulatory messages I have had since. I'd also like to thank the staff for all their hard work but most importantly I'd like to thank the children who always try their absolute best and give anything a go.

There has been a lot going on this week. The classes are all taking part in the Stations of the Cross either in school or in church and Year 3 attended the parish Mass on Tuesday. Also, Year 2 and Year 5 have both had dress up days as part of their history. Year 2 had a Victorian day and Year 5 had an Anglo-Saxon day. On top of that, Year 4 visited the Amersham Museum yesterday. They had a great time learning about what it was like to live during the Second World War.

Also, yesterday the girls football team took part in the Chiltern League finals day. It has been a tough season, but we have load of potential. There aren't many teams with Year 4s in them. We have definitely got better as the season has gone on and the best thing is the children have always looked like they are having so much fun. Well done everyone.

Have a lovely weekend. God Bless

M. Holden

Clubs

Just a reminder that the clubs finished this week and will resume again on Monday 28th April. A massive thank you to all of the staff for running one of the clubs. It is such an important part of our offer.

Year 3 Easter Egg Raffle

It is that time of year again. As usual, Year 3's Lenten fundraising event is to run the Easter egg raffle. Raffle tickets will be on sale at the gate at the end of each day (Monday - Thursday) next week. Raffle tickets are £1 a strip – PLEASE REMEMBER WE ONLY ACCEPT CASH FOR THIS RAFFLE.

Many thanks for your continued support,
Mrs Gardner and Year 3 Pupils



Doodlemaths

Just to let the Key Stage 1 parents know that our subscription for Doodlemaths comes to an end at the end of March. It is quite expensive and Numbots and Timestables Rockstars are not only better for the children's fluency but also a lot more reasonable. You can carry on using Doodlemaths at the moment, but we will send out the information again about Numbots to you in the next few weeks. Once the children complete Numbots, they can move onto Timetable Rockstars. If you really liked Doodlemaths, there are options for parents to purchase it themselves. Unfortunately, the current usage in school didn't justify the £750 a year for the school.

Gareth Southgate - The Richard Dimbleby Lecture

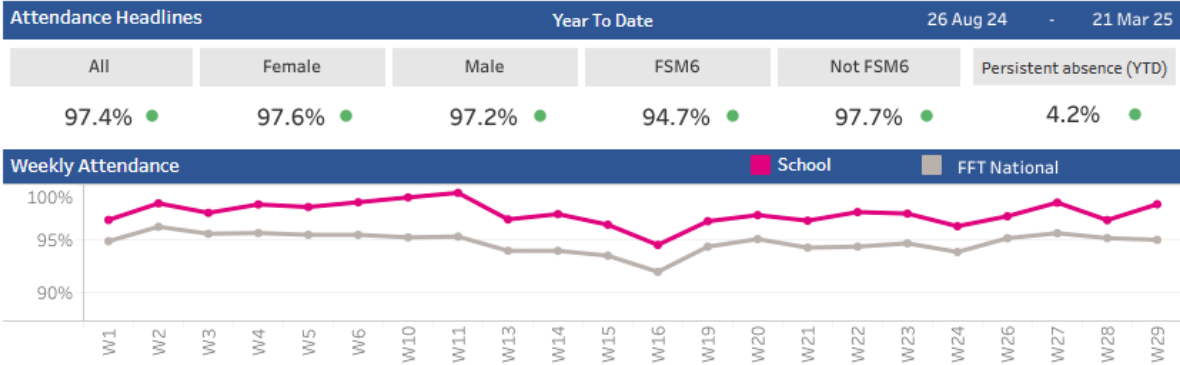
Over the last few weeks there have been two television programs which are really worth watching if you have teenage children, or as many of us have, children who haven't quite reached there yet. I would highly recommend the Richard Dimbleby Lecture with Gareth Southgate particularly if you have boys as I do. Gareth reflects on some of the challenges for boys in this new world of social media.

There is also the Netflix series Adolescence. This series has sparked a public conversation about the challenges facing young boys and men today, particularly in relation to toxic masculinity, misogyny, incel culture, and online radicalisation. Although this might not be relevant to your children now, it may do in the future and earlier this week I shared some resources for parents. I hope you find them useful.

RockSteady Concert

Well done to all of the children who took part in the Rocksteady Concert on Tuesday. It was absolutely brilliant and now we have had it for a few years it is great to see the children improving. A massive thank you to Alessandro who clearly makes it a lot of fun for the children.

Attendance



It is great to see continued really strong attendance. Last week’s attendance was 98.2% and we had one day this week when only one child was absent. Well done everyone.

CAFOD Reading Challenge

I hope your children are doing lots of reading, getting plenty of sponsorship and keeping a record of what they are reading and how many words in each book.

If anyone would like to donate electronically, we have a JustGiving page where relatives can leave messages etc for the children. Feel free to share it. Thank you

[Fundraising for The Catholic Agency for Overseas Development \(CAFOD\)](#)



Name	Amount per number of words	Up to a maximum of	Money collected
Harry Potter	5p/100 words	£20	✓

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
Jessica Reuben Alexander Rex Romeo Grace Maksim Oliver Rory Charlie Ayla Sofia Noelia Antonio	Sofia Arthur Rory Amelia Ruby Josephine Ann Juno Elena Francesca Thomas Allison Roberto Zoe Zachary Arthur Ralph Niamh Olivia Caolan Eugenie Martha Peregrine Daisy Alex Nathan Mason	Keera Alyssa James Michael C Malwina Aoife Renske Michael F Joseph Mason Misha Victoria Hansini Cat Cat Julia Elise Xavier Sharvil Annie Klara Hannah Nikolay Maja	Tamsin Sienna-Rose Evie Giovanni Donnie Dominik Elizabeth Grace Liam Eleanor Jude Arthur Jacob Shanaya Aliza Thomas Florence Erin Hugo Emilio	Leo Mark Mia Ivor Ralph Spike Wanda Rebecca Charlie F Lola Parth Finley H Charlie K Michael L Michael M Finn O Evelyn Dominik Robert Joseph Adam Curtis Zuzanna
Year 1				
Aariv Theresa Manny Freddie Joseph P Gaia				

Gratitude Assembly Certificates



Last week's Gratitude Assembly Certificates:

Year 1	Beatrice, Maisie
Year 2	Charlie, Maksim
Year 3	Daisy, Eugenie
Year 4	Hanna, Szymon
Year 5	A-J, Erica
Year 6	Charlie, Isabella

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)

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

As part of our commitment to the Jubilee Year 'Pilgrims of Hope' we are supporting Youth Masses across the parishes. It would be great to get as many children to the following Masses as possible.

St Columba's: on Sunday 23rd March at 6pm

St Aidan's: on Saturday 29th March at 6.15pm

IHM: on Sunday 30th March at 11am.

A poster for the Ramadan Soup Kitchen. The background is a warm yellow with faint illustrations of lanterns and watermelon slices. The title 'Ramadan Soup Kitchen' is in large, bold, dark blue letters. Below it, 'Starting Saturday 8 March 2025' is written in a smaller, bold, dark blue font. A dark blue rectangular box contains the text 'Open to friends of all faiths and none!' in white. Below this, the text 'This Ramadan, free hot meals are available for anyone in need.' is in bold dark blue. A paragraph of smaller text follows: 'If you use the foodbank or are in need for any reason please contact us on the details below to reserve your meal. If you can't reserve then just turn up & collect. If you can't collect we will deliver. (Chesham only)'. At the bottom left, a quote in bold dark blue reads: '“He is not a believer whose stomach is filled while his neighbour goes hungry.”'. On the right side, there is a circular inset photo showing hands serving soup into a bowl, and a large illustration of a white bowl filled with orange soup and garnished with green herbs.

I am really pleased to be promoting the Ramadan Soup Kitchen. I know Mr Qasam – Aliza and Ayla's dad – is involved in this and is running through Ramadan to raise money for a great initiative. Ramadan Runners are running while fasting between dawn and dusk to raise money for the Ramadan Soup Kitchen so that they can help those in need. Every £5 you donate pays for a nutritious meal for one person. 100% of your donations goes directly to Mosque Ramadan soup Kitchen Fund.

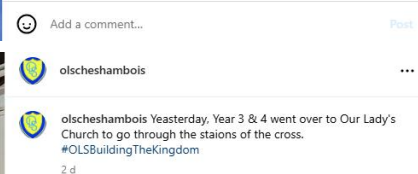
Every runner will donate £5 towards the cause for every run they complete.

We meet up every afternoon in the park at around 16:15 and run an easy 5km. So come join us in the challenge and complete a run with us!

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/ramadan-runners-fundraising-for-the-ramadan-soup-kitchen>

#OLScheshambois

Here is a quick snapshot of our learning this week:





olscheshambois



olscheshambois Year 3 joined the Our Lady's parish this morning for Mass #OLSBUILDINGTHEKINGDOM

2 d

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Boost Post



Liked by hawridgeandcholesburyce and 24 others

2 days ago

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Post

olscheshambois



olscheshambois Year Two had great fun being Victorian children today! #OLSHISTORY

2 d

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Liked by hawridgeandcholesburyce and 32 others

2 days ago

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olscheshambois

olscheshambois Year 1 - Exploring different plants and thinking about the different parts of a plant #OLSScience

1 d

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Liked by hawridgeandcholesburyce and 18 others

1 day ago

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Post



olscheshambois


olscheshambois Hard luck to the school football team who lost 1-0 to a very good Holtspur team in the cup semi-final. Left everything out there in front of a big crowd. Special mention to Ralph in goal who made save after save #OLSport

1 d

nicolabrown30 Well done boys, you made us all very proud!

1 d

Reply




stuckers30 Absolutely brilliant game, so unlucky at the end! Was a pleasure to watch them today 🙌🙌

1 d

Reply


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Liked by maria_holds and 30 others

1 day ago

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olscheshambois
Original audio

...



olscheshambois Thank you to Alessandro and @rocksteadymusicschool for a great Easter concert this morning #OLSMusic

1 d

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[Boost reel](#)



👍👍 Liked by maria_holds and 26 others
1 day ago



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olscheshambois

...



olscheshambois Year Two learning how to measure capacity in Maths! #OLSMaths #OLSYear2

21 h

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👍👍 Liked by hawridgeandcholesburyce and 16 others
21 hours ago




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**olscheshambois**

...




olscheshambois A great end of the season with 2 draws and 2 clean sheets. But most importantly lots of happy girls #OLSsport

14 h



hawridgeandcholesburyce What a great afternoon! Hopefully this is the start or the continuation for lots of the girls, of a love of playing football 🏴󠁧󠁢󠁥󠁮󠁧󠁿

12 h Reply









teresawatson7 🌟🌟🌟🌟🌟🌟🌟🌟

12 h Reply


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 Liked by hawridgeandcholesburyce and 21 others

14 hours ago



Add a comment...

Post



March 2025

March marks the beginning of Lent, a time in the Church that focuses on prayer, fasting and almsgiving (charitable giving). This year also brings the added invitation to explore and grow our friendship with God through the celebrations of the [Year of Jubilee](#).

The season brings an exciting opportunity to slow down, put the most important things first and experience the joy that God offers each one of us.

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

JUBILEE JOY: FREEDOM

Our Lent series of Celebration of the Word Assemblies begins by exploring the Year of Jubilee theme of slavery and freedom. Inspired by Jesus' temptation in the desert, children will explore how we can all be 'slaves' to things that distract or stop us from following in God's way. Children learn about the true freedom that God offers all people and that when we put God first, we can experience the freedom that only God can give.

With your child/ren, you might like to...

- *Read the account of Jesus' 40 days in the desert together ([Luke 4:1-13](#)), and notice how Jesus found the strength to say 'no' to temptation.*
- *Discuss the habits, thoughts or temptations that you would like to be freed from and how you might support one another in achieving this.*
- *Research the Jubilee themes shared in March: forgiveness, managing debt, care for creation and restoration of the family.*
- *Listen to our prayer reflection song for the Year of Jubilee - 'Song of Hope' by One Life Music that has been made available in the [Parent Portal](#). You might like to talk about how experiencing freedom, hope and joy helps you to grow your friendship with God before you listen.*

MORE TO THE STORY

Jesus knows that we need help to understand God's way, so He taught using parables. During the week beginning the 3rd of March, in the Celebration of the Word Assembly, children will discover how Jesus' stories give us clues on how to live holy lives and love others like God loves.

You might like to take this opportunity with your child/ren to ...

- *Play a game of charades, acting out different fairytale stories and then talk about the moral or lesson that the story teaches.*
- *Use the Prayer for Peace in your family prayer time to invite God to help you love others, even when it is difficult.*

**Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:
where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy.
Amen**

JESUS, SHINE YOUR LIGHT

The prayers for the week beginning the 17th March use religious artwork to reflect on aspects of Jesus' nature. Inspired by the Transfiguration, where some of the disciples witnessed Jesus' face shining, children will consider how artists have expressed Jesus' divine, Godly nature through their work, to help others know Him.

Through exploration of the images, children ask Jesus - the King, our teacher and friend - to shine His light and enlighten our minds so we can understand more about Him.

You might like to use this prayer as you pray together:

**Jesus,
you are with me as I pray.
Shine your light on me today.
Amen**