



Our Lady's Catholic Primary School

Weekly Newsletter

"A place of learning – A community of Christ"

Faith . Hope . Love

29th September 2023

Dear Parents,

It has been a really busy week. Last Saturday, we had the first round of the schools' cross country. It was a beautiful day and I am really grateful to Gayhurst School for hosting the event. The most pleasing thing for me was that about 25% of Key Stage 2 took part. Running is such a great thing to get into as it is an easy way to stay healthy as an adult. I hope that out of last week we have some lifelong runners. A special mention goes to Elodie Clews and Jacob Harris who both got medals for coming in the top 10 as well as Zoe O'Shea who was the first girl in the KS1 dash which they run for siblings and then sneaked into the Year 3 race and came 12th. I look forward to following her progress over the next few years. The next event is on the 11th November and I'd love to get even more children running.

On Wednesday, we had a visit from Chris Donovan representing the Poor Servants of the Mother of God. He provided some training for all of the teachers and new staff on Frances Taylor (Mother Magdalene) and the charism of the PSMG. He is always very complimentary of what we are doing as a school and I know that Mother Magdalene would be really pleased with the way we are taking on her vision. There are a decreasing number of sisters in the PSMG in England so it is really important that we take this work forward. There is a prayer that we are being asked to say for the Beatification of Mother Magdalene which I am sharing with you.

Today, we are having our OLS Parliament elections. Fifteen children have stood as candidates and given speeches to the whole school. They are so brave to put themselves forward and although we can only have one Primary Minister, I'm sure that we will find a role for all of them. I look forward to letting you know the results next week.

Have a lovely weekend,
God bless,

M. Howarth

Prayer for the beatification of Mother Magdalen

Heavenly Father you gave to Mother Magdalen Taylor a profound insight into the Mystery of the Incarnation and a great love and compassion for people. While on earth she never failed to respond to those in need, so I ask through her intercessions that ... and I pray that one day she will be beatified through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

Venerable Mother Magdalen, pray for us.



Nut Free School

Please can I remind parents that we are a nut-free school. People are really good about this but sometimes forget that things like Pesto and Hummus often contain pine nuts or sesame seed. If you are providing, for example, homemade hummus which is nut free then please can you label the container. Unfortunately, we have to move children as a precaution if we don't know.

Thank you

Car Park

Can I please remind parents that you shouldn't be parking in the car park unless you are using the breakfast or after-school club or unless they have a parking permit. It is an extremely busy car park and we are finding that people who really need to use it, the elderly, people with disabled children, the staff can't get in the car park because of a few very selfish people.

One parent was approached last week and their answer was they were parked there because "they valued their time." I'm not sure why they were so special that their time was more valuable than anyone else's but maybe a Christian community is the wrong place for them.

Maybe the answer is to start keeping in children whose parents are parking in the car park at breaktime but that would be a real shame because your children aren't the selfish ones.

Thank you to the majority of parents who park considerately and in the right places all the time.

Ten-Ten Resources

September 2023

Welcome back to a new school year! We hope that this first newsletter finds you well-rested after the summer break. The beginning of a new school year is exciting and busy, and a time ripe for new resolutions. Children may have mixed feelings as they settle into new routines at school, and you'll be easing back into school-time routines as a family too.

This newsletter gives a glimpse of some of the Collective Worship resources that children will experience during September and suggests ways to support your family prayer times.

Education Sunday

Education Sunday is a special day dedicated to celebrating Catholic schools. It's one of the oldest *Days of Special Prayer* in the Church calendar and this year is the 175th anniversary!

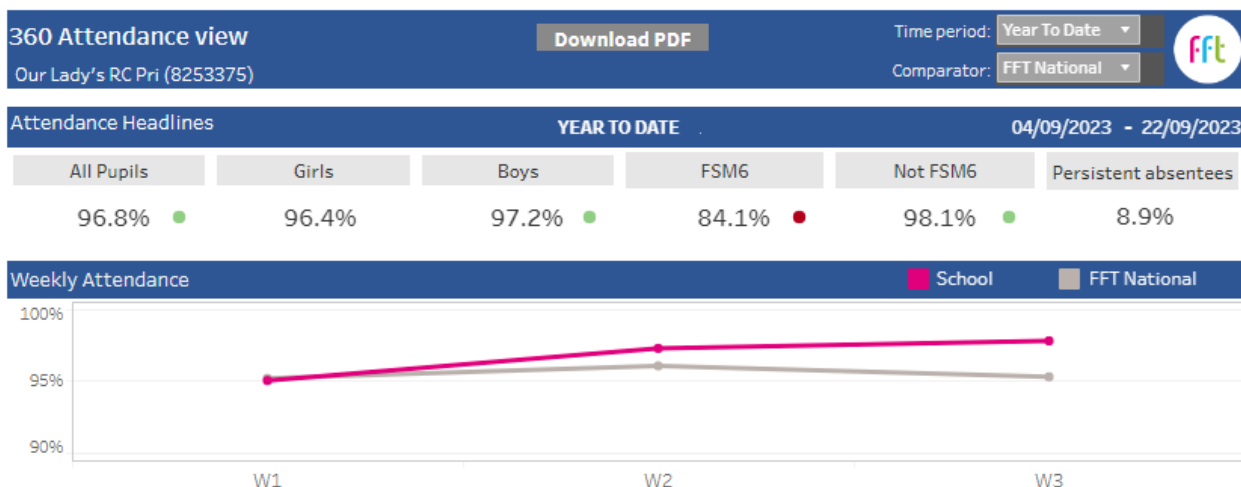
Catholic schools are communities of faith, working in partnership with families and the local parish to nurture children in their learning and faith.

To celebrate this special year, children will receive a special message of encouragement from Bishop Marcus Stock – Chair of the Department of Education and Formation, for the Catholic Bishops' Conference in England and Wales.

<https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/prayers-for-home/parent-newsletter/>

Through the Ten Ten Resources [Online Parent Portal](#) for Collective Worship, you can access the Daily Classroom Prayers that children will be praying each day in school. Perhaps you could pray the prayers at home as a family too! Ask your child's school about the login details if you don't already have them.

Attendance and Punctuality



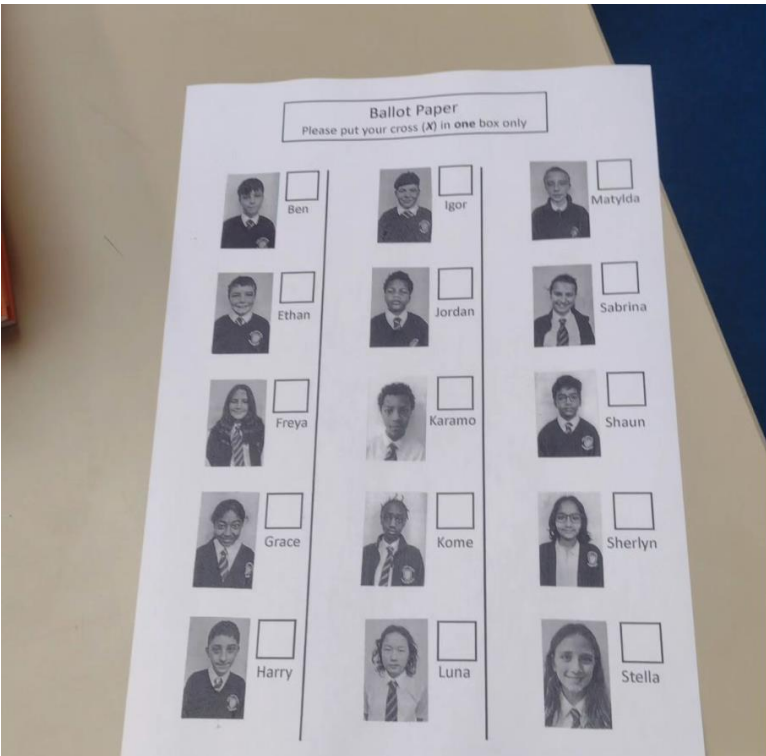
As you can see from the graph above that, although our attendance is very good, already the attendance of less well-off families (FSM6) has fallen behind everyone else. We are working really hard at closing the gap in attainment for these children but there is nothing we can do if they aren't in school.

Also, please can I remind parents that punctuality is something you need to model to your children as it is a skill which makes your child more employable.

Thank you

@OLScheshambois

Here is a quick snapshot of our learning this week:




olscheshambois

olscheshambois Today these very brave children are standing as candidates for the school Primary Minister #OLSParliament

1 h

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2 likes
1 HOUR AGO

 Add a comment...



olscheshambois

olscheshambois A great game of football this evening against Brushwood. Unfortunately we lost 4 - 2 but played some great football nonetheless #OLSSport

15 h

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11 likes
15 HOURS AGO

Add a comment...



olscheshambois

olscheshambois #OLSBUILDINGTHEKINGDOM

1 d

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12 likes
1 DAY AGO

Add a comment...




olscheshambois
...


olscheshambois Back to 1974, year 5 enact their scripted news reports from New York City. #OLSliteracy #OLYear5
1 d

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20 likes
1 DAY AGO


Add a comment...
Post





olscheshambois
...


olscheshambois Hunting deer, making fire, drawing animals, making shelters. Enjoying life in the Stone Age #OLShistory #OLYear3
1 d

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8 likes
1 DAY AGO


Add a comment...
Post



olscheshambois
 ...

olscheshambois The finished labelled mouthed #OLScience #OLSyear4
 1 d

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9 likes
 1 DAY AGO

Add a comment...
 Post



olscheshambois
 ...

olscheshambois Year 4 are learning all about teeth using marshmallows. #OLSyear4 #OLScience #OLSmakinglearningfun
 1 d

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18 likes
 1 DAY AGO

Add a comment...
 Post



olscheshambois

...

olscheshambois Year 2 forest schools #OLsforestschool
@chilternrangers
2 d

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17 likes
2 DAYS AGO

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olscheshambois

...

olscheshambois And then some book work back in the
classroom #OLSScience
2 d

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9 likes
2 DAYS AGO

Add a comment...

[Post](#)



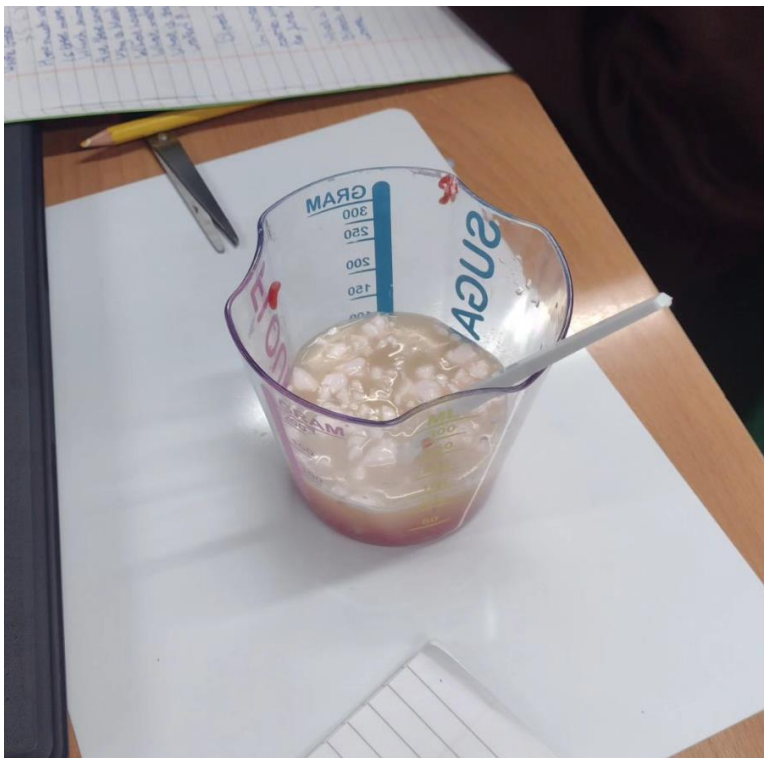
olscheshambois
...

olscheshambois Seed dispersal and tree identification at forest school with Year 3 #OLSforestschool #OLSScience @chilternrangers
2 d

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24 likes
2 DAYS AGO

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olscheshambois
...

olscheshambois Year 6 are making blood out of sweets. I think they want me to try some 🍬 #OLSScience
2 d

teresawatson7 Yuk 🤔
2 d Reply

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7 likes
2 DAYS AGO

Add a comment...
Post

Good News Certificates



Last week's Gratitude Assembly certificates were awarded to:

Year 1	Pola, Rex
Year 2	Evie, Senuk
Year 3	Aoife, Maja, Seraphina
Year 4	Eleanor, Simeon
Year 5	Elodie, Liam
Year 6	Matilda, Harry

Accelerated Reader

Year 6 Reads!



In September 2023, students have read...

77 Books
2,972,638 Words
for **44** minutes/day!
(individual student average)

RENAISSANCE
Accelerated Reader®

Year 5 Reads!



In September 2023, students have read...

82 Books
968,044 Words
for **21** minutes/day!
(individual student average)

RENAISSANCE
Accelerated Reader®

Year 4 Reads!



In September 2023, students have read...

36 Books
236,977 Words
for **11** minutes/day!
(individual student average)

RENAISSANCE
Accelerated Reader®

Year 3 Reads!



In September 2023, students have read...

71 Books
223,785 Words
for **12** minutes/day!
(individual student average)

RENAISSANCE
Accelerated Reader®

Meeting Targets and above 85% in Quizzes

Year 3

Logan
Aoife
Renske
Misha
Hansini
Steve
Annie

Year 4

Sienna-Rose
Aliza

Year 5

Mia
Archie
Rio
Ralph
Wanda
Elodie
Finley H
Charlie
Michael L
Michael M
Robert
Zuzanna

Year 6

Sherlyn
Karamo
Igor
Ellie
Jordan
James
Ethan
Franek