



Our Lady's Catholic Primary School

Weekly Newsletter

"A place of learning – A community of Christ"

Faith . Hope . Love

2nd February 2024

Dear Parents,


It was lovely to have a visit from Joe Richardson yesterday the CEO of the trust. I am sure you won't be surprised that he was delighted with what he saw. This term's focus was Behaviour, Attendance and Religious Education. He spent time talking to the children, watching their behaviour around school and popping into some RE lessons. He was really impressed with the children's behaviour and their attitudes to learning. It is interesting because this is the only experience of school that most of our children have and they truly don't realise how well behaved they are. A big thank you to all of you because this sort of behaviour is a partnership and we are just cultivating values which have started at home.

I also spent time talking to Mr Richardson about attendance and talking through any children whose attendance is below 90%. I was totally honest with him that, although our attendance is above the national average, it isn't quite as high this year as I would usually expect. He knows that really "bugs me" but can see what we are doing where children's attendance isn't where it should be. As a headteacher, there are many things I can implement around letters and fines etc. but none of it makes a difference apart from working with parents to understand the consequences of your child missing school. Unfortunately, the damage often isn't seen until Year 10 and 11 when it is too late. Just remember every time your child isn't in school you are sending them a message about the importance of school or a message about how well you need to be, to go to work (no-one is 100% all of the time). Please, please, please remember this is the most important thing you do for your children.

Finally, Mr Richardson spent some time looking at Religious Education in school. Schools in England are in a transition at the moment because the Bishops have introduced a new curriculum which we need to start using by 2025. Some schools are waiting to see if a publisher produces some resources but it won't be any surprise to you that we want to be a trailblazer so have already started it in some year groups. I just want to say a massive thank you to Mrs Gardner, Mrs Cid-Fuentes and Mrs Simpson who have all taken it on with their classes and in particular Mrs Gardner who is also planning for Year 6. This is a lot of extra work but I know they are really enjoying it and learning quite a lot themselves. Every time I go into a lesson I'm learning something new.

I hope you have a lovely weekend and I look forward to seeing lots of you at Cross Country tomorrow.

God bless,

M. Hold 

Curriculum

This week, I want to advocate cooking with your child to help them with your learning. This article gives lots of ideas around things you can do specifically but I think if you are cooking with your child you don't have to try too hard:

[How to teach the curriculum through cooking - BBC Food](#)



St Columba's Youth Mass

YOUTH MASS at ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH THIS SUNDAY 4th FEB at 6pm. Those with specific tasks: please arrive by 5.45pm.

Mini Vinnies Request

Dear Parent/Guardian

We would be very grateful if you could donate any of the items listed below for Father Dave to take on his forthcoming trip to Venezuela where he will visit Priest Communities who work with vulnerable people.

The deadline is Friday 9th February. Please don't drop off too many items as Father Dave can only bring one suitcase. If every family could contribute 1 item we could fill his suitcase.

Please can parents drop of any donations to the school office.

We need :

Strepsils

Paracetamol

Lemsip

Toothpaste

Colouring pencils for children

Thank you

Mini Vinnies

Good News Certificates



Last week's Gratitude Assembly certificates were awarded to:

	Good News
Year 1	Harvey, Robyn
Year 2	Evie, Senuk
Year 3	Mikhail, Cat Cat,
Year 4	Jacob, Florence
Year 5	Lola, Rio
Year 6	Grace, Nathan

Ten-Ten PSRE

You should have received a letter about PSRE. All of the resources can be found on the Ten-Ten website:

[Life to the Full Plus - Ten Ten Resources](#)

The username and password are as follows:

Username: our-ladys-hp6

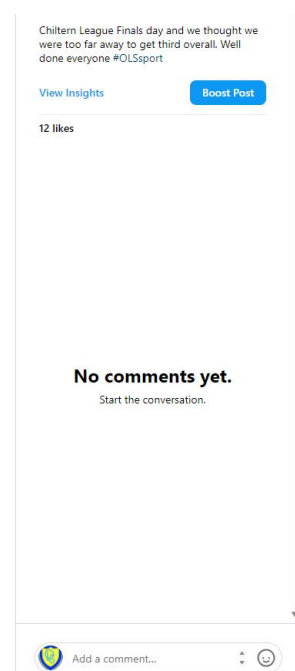
Password: queen-peace

If you have any questions, then please feel free to ask your teacher or arrange to see Mr Holdsworth.

Thank you

#OLScheshambois

Here is a quick snapshot of our learning this week:





olscheshambols 1 d · Follow

Year 6 had a great time at a Basketball Festival today #OLSsport #OLSYear6

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17 likes

No comments yet.

Start the conversation.



17



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Add a comment...



olscheshambols 1 d · Follow

Today Year 2 were debating the positive 'for' and negative 'against' of the Industrial Revolution in a Victorian... more

[View Insights](#)

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18 likes

No comments yet.

Start the conversation.



18

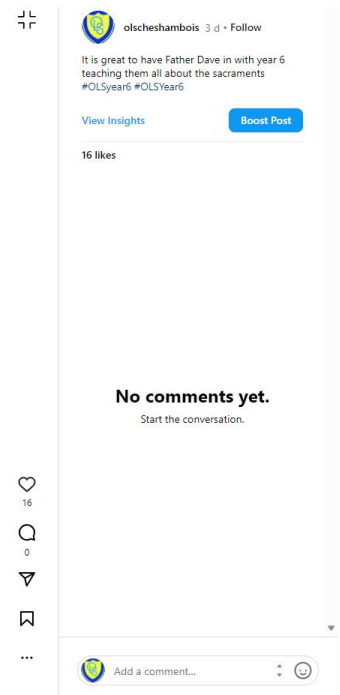
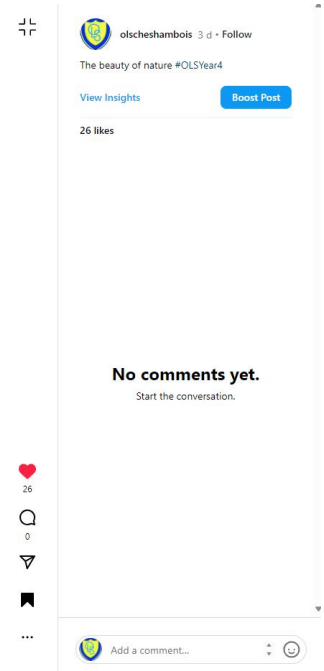


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Add a comment...





February 2024

As we move into February, Spring is in the air and there are just a couple of weeks to catch our breath before Lent begins. We're well and truly into the new year!

If you have the feeling that you're constantly trying to juggle the needs of your family and having to prioritise an ever-increasing list of must-dos, take comfort in the Gospel for the week commencing 4th February – Jesus knew what it was like to be busy and He took time away to reset.

But despite His busyness, Jesus prioritised prayer – it's always possible to find time for the things we value. As this is a special Year of Prayer (a time of preparation for the Jubilee Year in 2025 - more on that later in the year!), perhaps this is an opportunity to try to prioritise prayer time in your family life.

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

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

Accelerated Reader

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

Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Amelie	Dominik	Rio	Pierce
Aoife	Elizabeth	Ralph	Nathan
Renske	Simeon	Spike	Shaun
Mason	Jude	Wanda	Marieke
Misha	Karo	Charlie K	Matilda
Xavier	Jaeda	Michael L	Grace
	Nathan	Michael M	Jordan
	Florence	Dominik	Stella
	Erin	Curtis	Sabrina
		Zuzzana	Hannah

Millionaire Readers

Arthur – Year 4

Matilda – Year 6

Double Millionaire Readers

Harry – Year 6