



4<sup>th</sup> July 2025

Dear Parents,

This week has been very hot but it hasn't stopped us filling the days with lots of exciting learning. The diary just seems to be crammed with all sorts of different activities at this time of the year.

Last Saturday, a group of children led St Aidan's Parish Youth Mass for the Feast day of St Peter and St Paul. The children sang beautifully, read really clearly as well as bringing up the offertory gifts. The parishioners really appreciate the joy the children bring to the celebration.

We had two days of Forest Schools and Butterfly Trips on Monday and Tuesday. This is a wonderful opportunity for the children to explore nature, learn about different species of butterflies, and engage in hands-on activities that promote stewardship.

On Thursday, we had a special mass to celebrate the First Holy Communion of the Year 3 children. This is a significant milestone in their spiritual journey, and it was lovely to see so many parents able to join us. The children looked absolutely beautiful.

Yesterday also saw the finals of the Chiltern Cricket League. Our school team has shown tremendous sportsmanship throughout the season and, really importantly, have made real improvement.

God Bless

## **First Holy Communion 2025/2026**

Registration is now open for the First Holy Communion classes which begin in September and run through to May next year. Please register your interest and to obtain a form by emailing

either [parish.stcolumba@northamptondiocese.org](mailto:parish.stcolumba@northamptondiocese.org) or [parish.ihm@northamptondiocese.org](mailto:parish.ihm@northamptondiocese.org) by 23 July.

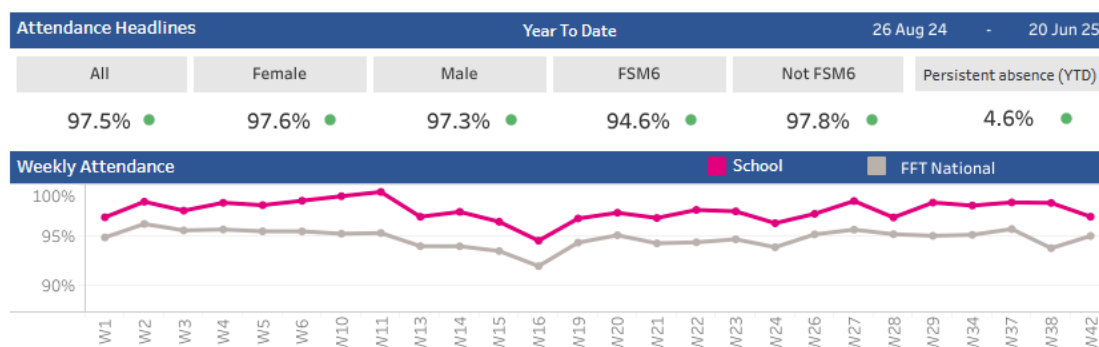


### **CAFOD – Cancel the Debt Petition**

The world's poorest nations are suffering most. CAFOD, with its Caritas partners, is gathering signatures for a global church petition to urge world leaders to take action. Please sign the petition: [cafod.org.uk/campaign/the-new-debt-crisis](https://cafod.org.uk/campaign/the-new-debt-crisis)

Thank you.

# Attendance



Our attendance is still well above the national average for all the groups. However, our persistent absence is still a bit too high. It basically means that nine children have had more than four weeks off school this year. It is really important to remember that every day matters and school isn't free; somebody is paying for it. Yes, there will be occasions where children are too ill to be in school, but they also don't have to be 100% well to be here.

Finally, just to let you know that at the moment, Year 1 and Year 3 have the best attendance in school and are in the running for an ice-cream, but it is a close-run thing.

## Gratitude Assembly Certificates



Last week's Gratitude Assembly Certificates:

Year 1	Betty, Theresa
Year 2	Noelia, Varun
Year 3	Josie, Nathan
Year 4	Adam, Renske
Year 5	Elizabeth, Hugo
Year 6	Archie, Charlie F

## **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 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Theresa Mayra Joseph P Betty Gaia	Jessica Reuben Alexander Grace Maksim Rory Ayla Noelia	Sofia Arthur Rory Ruby Josephine Ann Juno Elena Francesca Thomas Allison Roberto Arthur Niamh Olivia Caolan Eugenie Martha Peregrine Jan Alex Nathan Mason	Alvin Alyssa James Michael C Szymon Malwina Aoife Renske Adam Michael F Joseph Cuthbert Mason Misha Victoria Hansini Cat Cat Elise Xavier Catherine Klara Hannah Maja	Tamsin Evie Donnie Elizabeth Grace Eleanor Jude Arthur Jacob Karo Jaeda Shanaya Aliza Thomas Hansika Erin Olive Hugo Emilio	Behtin Mark Ivor Wanda Rebecca Charlie F Parth Charlie K Michael L Michael M Dominik Joseph Curtis

## **News From The Parishes**

### **Youth Masses**

#### **ST COLUMBA'S (Chesham):**

*Parish Priest: Fr Eustace Durugbo*

*email: [freustace.durugbo@northamptondiocese.org](mailto:freustace.durugbo@northamptondiocese.org)*

Sunday Masses @ 9am (traditional choir) & 6pm (Youth Band/ Choir)

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

Youth Mass at St Columba's on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> July at 6pm

#### **IHM – Great Missenden**

*Parish Priest: Fr Eustace Durugbo*

*email: [freustace.durugbo@northamptondiocese.org](mailto:freustace.durugbo@northamptondiocese.org)*

Sunday Mass @ 11am (with children's liturgy), followed by refreshments in the hall.

Polish Mass @ 12.15pm (2nd & 4th Sunday of the month)

Youth Mass at IHM on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> July at 11am followed by refreshments in the hall.

#### **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

Children are the future of our Church and are always welcome at Mass, but parents often worry about small children getting restless and disturbing other members of the congregation. As well as children's liturgy at the 9:00 Sunday Mass, Our Lady's Church now has a speaker set up in the guildroom. This allows you to continue to follow the Mass if your toddler needs a break from sitting still.



# #OLScheshambois

Here is a quick snapshot of our learning this week:



 olscheshambois



olscheshambois Year 4 and 6 competition in an inter house basketball tournament to celebrate the end of their PE topic with Coach Jenna! #OLSSport

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 olscheshambois



olscheshambois Creating structures in Forest School, using our story book - Iggy Peck Architect as inspiration! #OLSSchool #OLSSchools

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olscheshambois
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olscheshambois I've just seen some amazing writing in Year 1. These children have really built up their writing stamina this year #OLSLiteracy #OLSYear1

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olscheshambois
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olscheshambois Year 6 and Reception had a lovely time this afternoon hunting butterflies. Thank you Ranger Paul @chilternrangers #OLSYear6 #OLSReception #OLSScience

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**olscheshambois** ...

**olscheshambois** Reception have released their butterflies 🦋 what a great way to learn about the butterflies lifecycle !  
#OLSSReception #OLSScience #OLSSStewardship  
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## June 2025

In June we see the end of Eastertide and the beginning of a month full of joyful feast days in the Church. Dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, June presents us all with the opportunity to reflect on the amazing love and mercy of Jesus Christ, displayed through His death and Resurrection.

This month children will learn about God's presence, in them and the world around them, taking time to think about how they can share faith and love with others.

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.

## PENTECOST PARTY

The assembly for the week beginning 9th June marks the Church's birthday with the feast of **Pentecost**. Through a party game and the Scripture reading, children will discover that the arrival of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost is cause for celebration!

In the Gospel, Jesus promised that His disciples would receive the Holy Spirit and Pentecost is the day His promise came true. In a time of prayer, children will also have the opportunity to be filled with the Holy Spirit and reflect on our calling to be the dwelling place of God's presence.

You might like to hear more about the Holy Spirit and the events of Pentecost by watching our video 'Who is the Holy Spirit?' with your children on the **Parent Portal**.

*With your child/ren, you may also like to ...*

- *Invite the presence of the Holy Spirit to be with you in your family prayer time by praying, 'Come, Holy Spirit.'*
- *Talk about some of the fruits of the Spirit from Galatians 5:22-23 , and discuss how you might grow in these gifts through your thoughts, words and actions.*

**5 + 2 = 5000?!**

The Gospel for the 4th week of June accounts the miracle of Jesus feeding the 5000. Children will understand that Jesus provides just what we need, both physically *and* spiritually.

Seeing parallels between Jesus' actions in this miracle and the breaking of bread at Mass, children will explore the **Solemnity of The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ** (Corpus Christi) which invites us all to celebrate Jesus' real presence in the Eucharist.

Children will also learn that when we offer our prayers and our talents to Jesus, He multiplies our efforts and fills us with His love.

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

- *Bake some bread together and remember Jesus' words from the Last Supper (Luke 22:14-20) as you share it.*
- *Pray together the prayer that children will be praying over the week in their Daily Classroom Prayers.*

**Jesus,  
I adore you.  
I love you.  
I thank you.  
I ask you.  
I respect you.  
Fill me with the  
food of your love.  
Amen**

- **THE WORK OF GOD'S FINGERS**

The prayers for the week of the 16th of June reflect on Psalm 8 and invite children to praise God for His gift of Creation which He made for us to live in and enjoy. Everything we see, touch, smell and hear in the natural world is the work of God's fingers!

In their prayers, children will take time to notice the wonders of nature that surround us and offer their thanks to God for them.

As a family, you might like to bring your own praise prayers to God and conclude with the prayer below.

**O LORD, our Lord,  
how majestic is your name through all the Earth!  
When I see the work of your fingers,  
I give you praise!**

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