



Our Lady's Catholic Primary School

Weekly Newsletter

"A place of learning – A community of Christ"

Faith . Hope . Love

5th January 2024

Dear Parents,

I hope you have had a lovely Christmas with your friends and families. We seem to have started back very early this year but, after not really wanting to get out of bed on Wednesday, once we were here it was really nice to be together again. I know Christmas will have been busy but the children seem refreshed and raring to go.

You will all be getting an attendance report for your children today. This is something that will be coming to you half termly from now on as I know it can sometimes be hard to keep on track. The report will give you the percentage for the children's attendance for the year and their whole school (career) attendance. As the children move forward through the school, the whole school attendance will give you a really good indication of whether your child is in school enough to fulfil their potential. Attendance is one of the five foundations your children need to be successful. A bit more about that later in the newsletter,

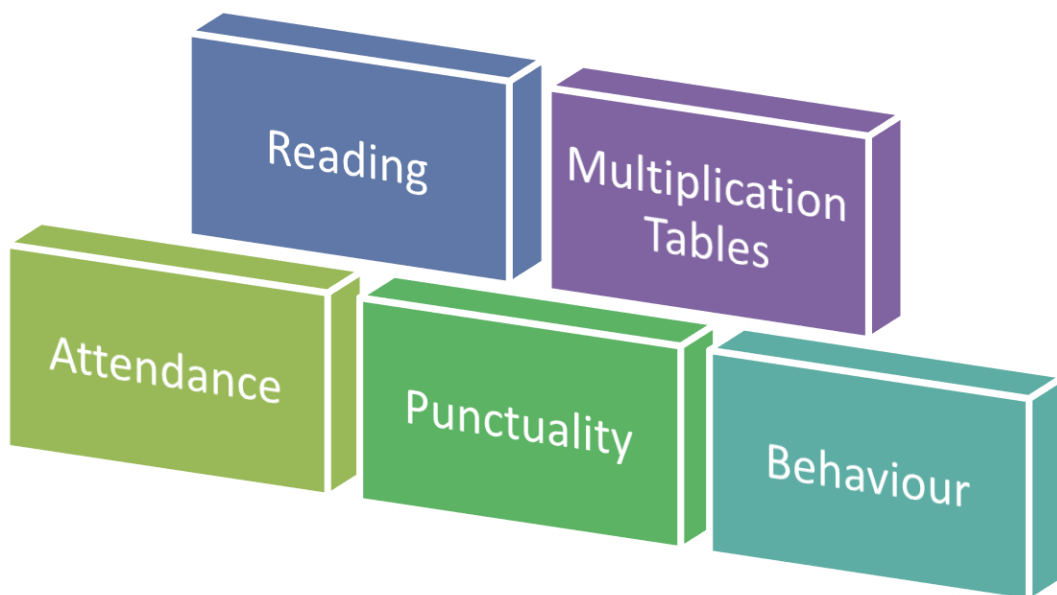
I hope you have a lovely weekend and enjoy The Epiphany on Sunday. Apologies, there is a lot of information in the rest of this newsletter.

God bless,

M. Holden

The Foundation Stones to Succeed

As parents we are always trying to give our children as many opportunities as possible in the hope that they will be “successful” in life. Unfortunately, we haven’t always defined what we mean by being successful. And what I think is successful, might be completely different to what you think is successful. There is one thing that most people will agree with, that we have to give our children foundations which will make them employable – the skills and habits that are desirable in the workforce. As parents, all we can do is model the importance of the habits and help our children practise their skills every day. These are the 5 foundations we need to reinforce:



These are things you will hear the teachers talking about a lot and we are very lucky at Our Lady’s that the vast majority of our children have a good grounding in these foundations. That is thanks to the example their parents set as primary educators. So, on behalf of all the staff, I would like to say thank you.

Curriculum

Over the last two terms, we haven’t been sending out curriculum leaflets. This was a conscious decision because they take the staff time and I wasn’t sure parents would notice. Nobody mentioned them so I am sure they weren’t missed a lot. However, it is important that you know what the children are learning and that we help you support the children at home. Over the holidays, I have updated the curriculum part of the website so that it has the most accurate and up-to-date information. The only part that needs updating is the literacy as we have taken on a new scheme and are currently working on a version that will be easy for parents to follow. All the medium-term plans are here:

[Curriculum Foundations - Our Lady's Catholic Primary School \(olschesham.co.uk\)](http://olschesham.co.uk)

If you look at the menu on the left-hand side, you can select the different year groups. As well as this, I'm also going to include a weekly curriculum update on the newsletter which is aimed at the whole school. It will hopefully give you ways of supporting your children at home. It will let you know if there are specific foci in school at the time, so we can be working together.

Over the next few weeks, we will be working on time. This is a slight adjustment to the maths long term plan but is because our autumn tests showed us that this is an area our children should be doing better at. It would be really helpful if you worked with your child to make sure they can read a traditional clock. The following is a game on the internet that might help: [Telling the Time - Mathsframe](#)

Thank you

Parking

Yesterday, I received the following email from a local resident:

The new term has started extremely badly for parking in the North end of Clifton Road This evening at the end of school cars were parked on both sides of the road, with the cars on one side parked half on the pavement and half on the road. Both sides were very close to the junction with Amersham Road.

Any car turning into Clifton Road approaching from Chesham turns into a blind junction If a car is trying to exit Clifton Road, it has to be on the right hand side of the road forcing the approaching car to stop suddenly half way into the junction.

As I am sure you will appreciate this is an extremely dangerous situation

I and other residents of Clifton Road are very worried that this inconsiderate parking by your parents will lead to a severe accident that could of course potentially involve one of the children from the school

I would be grateful if you could draw this issue to the attention of the parents and ensure safety of children, parents and local residents is safeguarded

This is my reply:

As long as you don't mind I will put your message in the newsletter. Obviously, I won't include your name or details. I think I know one of the parents in question as another parent has pointed this out. I will address them individually.

I am sorry for the inconvenience. I have worked in multiple schools and also lived near a school. This is an eternal problem which is driven by the selfish habits of a few people. Unfortunately, our community just mirrors the rest of society. A few people spoil it for everyone.

**Sorry
Mark Holdsworth**

This is quite embarrassing for me as I am apologising for something I have very little control over and something I would never dream of doing myself. I know the reputation of

the school is very important to most parents but even if it isn't, please ensure you are modelling how to be a responsible citizen to your child by parking considerately.

Thank you

Term Dates

I know many of you will be thinking about next Christmas, especially if you have family who live abroad. Next Year's term dates are now on the website. Please make sure you look at them before booking any holiday. Unfortunately, for the first time ever this year I have had to make referrals to the local authority who have issued fines.

[Term Dates - Our Lady's Catholic Primary School \(olschesham.co.uk\)](http://olschesham.co.uk)

Ten-Ten PSRE

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

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

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

Thank you

Knights of Harmony

At the end of last term, as part of a project Year 6 did with Chesham Bois Manor Care Home, we were treated to a performance by the Knights of Harmony. They were absolutely brilliant so I would just like to promote their open night next week. It is only for adults I'm afraid but, if you can get a babysitter I would definitely recommend it. Please see the flyer overleaf.

**KNIGHTS OF
HARMONY**
Sharing The Joy Of Singing

MALE A CAPPELLA SINGERS

INVITE YOU TO OUR

OPEN NIGHT

WHITE HILL CENTRE CHESHAM HP5 1AG

THURSDAY 11TH JANUARY

8:00PM – 10:30PM

COME AND LISTEN TO US SING AT OUR OPEN REHEARSAL

ALL ADULTS ARE WELCOME

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT

KNIGHTSOFHARMONY.ORG.UK

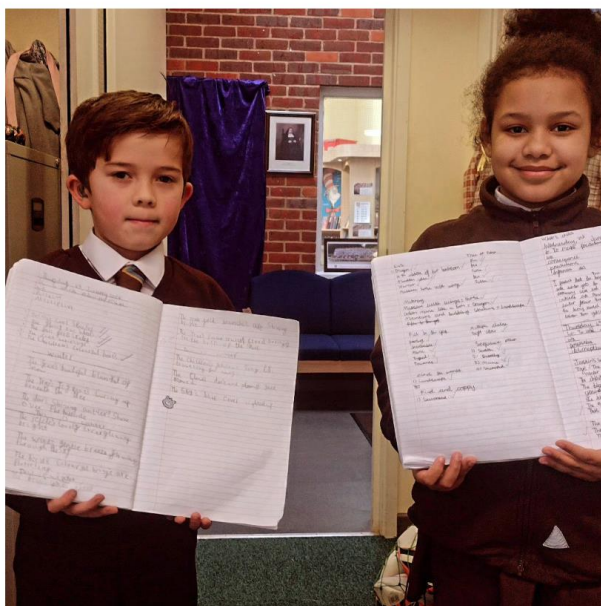
CONTACT CHAS ON 07762 089818





REGISTERED CHARITY 1134927

@OLScheshambois

Here is a quick snapshot of our learning this week:






**olscheshambois** · 2 h · Follow


This tem year 4 are using the book - Winter's Child - to inspire their writing #OLSliteracy


[View Insights](#)[Boost Post](#)


6 likes


No comments yet.
Start the conversation.



6


0








**olscheshambois** · 3 h · Follow


Year 6 Geography - Using Ordnance Survey maps #OLSYear6 #OLSGeography


[View Insights](#)[Boost Post](#)


6 likes


No comments yet.
Start the conversation.



6




0

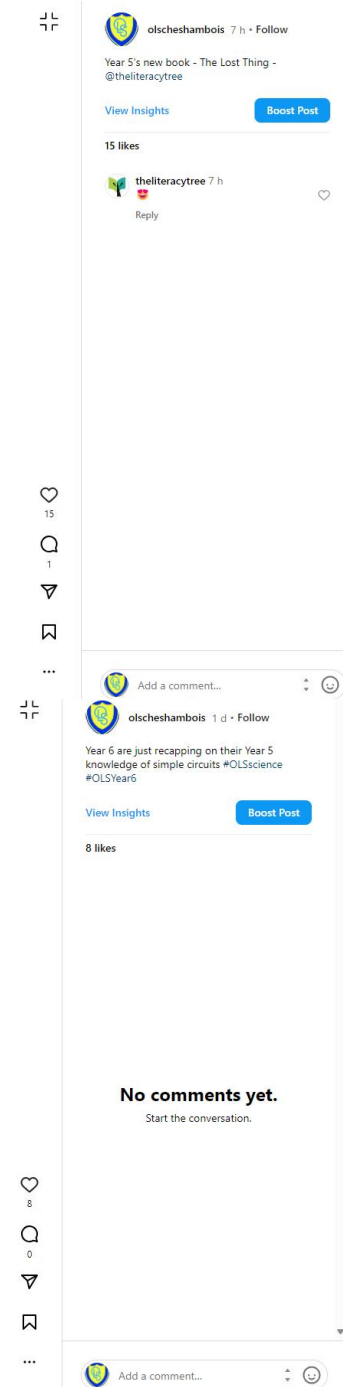
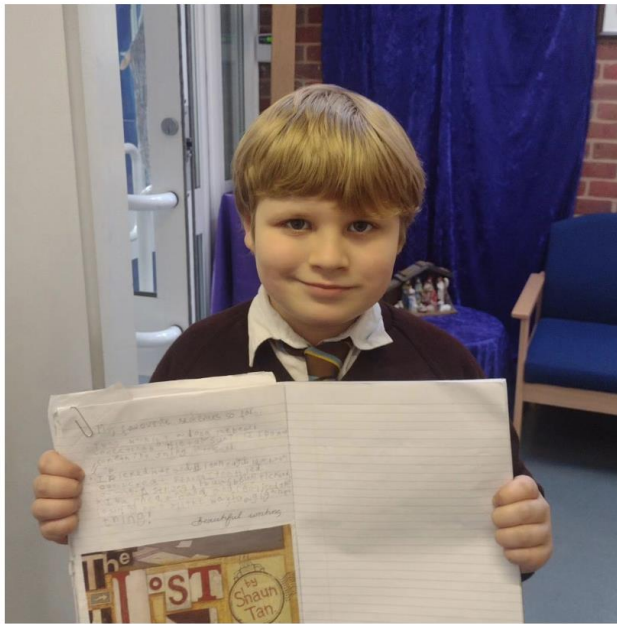






[Add a comment...](#)





January 2024

The new year has arrived and some of you may have already taken your Christmas tree and decorations, but it's not yet time to put away all signs of Christmas. Some families like to leave the crib on display until the wise men have visited and delivered their gifts to Jesus, the newborn King.

The 6th of January is the Feast of the Epiphany and is celebrated in many churches on the Sunday of that week. We have created a special assembly that may be used in

schools, and which explores the Epiphany through children's experience of giving gifts.

This is a perfect opportunity to reflect on what we can give to Jesus as we start afresh in 2024 with the reminder that Jesus is the most perfect gift of love from God to all of us!

This newsletter shares some of the content children will experience in school throughout January and suggests ways for you to engage with them about it. We hope and pray that the new year brings peace and blessings for you and your family.

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

Accelerated Reader

Year 3 Reads!



In this school year, students have read...

343 Books

942,228 Words

for **10** minutes/day!
(individual student average)

RENAISSANCE

Accelerated Reader®

Year 4 Reads!



In this school year, students have read...

272 Books

3,424,812 Words

for **20** minutes/day!
(individual student average)

RENAISSANCE

Accelerated Reader®

Year 5 Reads!



In this school year, students have read...

253 Books

2,573,098 Words

for **12** minutes/day!
(individual student average)

RENAISSANCE

Accelerated Reader®

Year 6 Reads!



In this school year, students have read...

447 Books

8,896,625 Words

for **28** minutes/day!
(individual student average)

RENAISSANCE

Accelerated Reader®