



7th March 2024

Dear Parents,

We have had another busy and exciting week at our school. On Tuesday, our Year 5 Mini Vinnies group did a fantastic job hosting some of the elderly members of our parish for afternoon tea. It was heartwarming to see the children engaging in conversations, sharing stories, and creating a joyful atmosphere. Bringing the elderly and young together is one of the most amazing things we can do. The children can learn so much and I know mixing with children is so good for older people's mental health and general wellbeing.

This week saw the start of Lent. Father Roy led a beautiful service on Wednesday where we distributed the ashes. The children participated with reverence and respect, marking the beginning of Lent in a meaningful way. Lent is a time for prayer, almsgiving and fasting. Over the last few years, we have taken part in a Big Lent Walk for Cafod. Although we are still going to give money to Cafod, I thought this year we could do a sponsored read so keep an eye out for sponsor forms coming home.

Finally, yesterday the school was transformed into a world of imagination as the children dressed up as their favourite book characters for World Book Day. The creativity and effort put into the costumes were amazing! From classic characters to modern heroes, it was a delight to see the children so enthusiastic about reading. Thank you to all of the parents for helping make it such a great day because I know making and sourcing all of those costumes isn't easy.

Have a lovely weekend. God Bless

M. Holden

Sacrament of Reconciliation

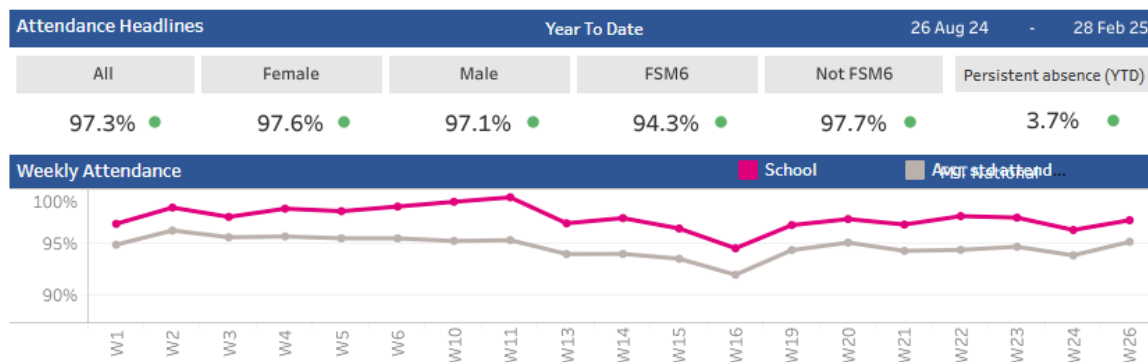
Sorry, I'm a bit late to this news. Congratulation to these children who all received their sacrament of Reconciliation before half term.



One more step along their faith journey

Attendance

Here is the current year to date attendance for each class:



It is great to see that all of our groups have excellent attendance. This was really helpful in our inspection last week. It is an indicator of how much the children enjoy being at school but also the biggest reason the children do so well at Our Lady's.

We currently have 8 children in school with attendance below 90% (Persistent Absentees) and out of those there are only 2 that I am not worried about achieving expected levels when they leave Our Lady's. That just goes to show that even at Our Lady's where the attainment is so high there is nothing we can do for children who don't attend regularly.

Parking and Dropping Off

Just a quick reminder to park sensibly in the local area. Please be aware of people's driveways so that they can get to and from their houses.

Also, I've been monitoring the car park a few times this week. There are a few groups of people using the car park:

- People, often elderly, with mobility issues who have permission from me.
- People with blue badges.
- Two people who have won the PTA raffle for the term.
- A very small group of selfish people.

Please keep our children safe from refraining to use the car park rather than walking the extra 50 metres.

If your child is in Key Stage 2 and you wish to drop them, I would suggest you drop them in Chiltern Rd between 8.35 and 8.50. At this time, there are plenty of people around. It is much safer to do that than drop them in a car park full of cars.

Thank you

Year 4 Conservation Trip - Chiltern Forest Rangers

Please see this lovely write-up about last weeks butterfly conservation trip in collaboration with Chiltern Forest Rangers.

[Westcott's Scrub Bash flutters to success | News | Westcott Venture Park - Westcott Venture Park](#)

Annie

I am delighted to share with you performance details for Annie the Musical, a production by The Panda Players, at the Elgiva Theatre. One of our Year 5's, Florence, will be on stage performing as Annie! Florence is rehearsing hard and is quite rightly very excited about the upcoming shows in March.

I have included a link below with full details of how to book tickets for anyone who would like to go along and support the show.

[Annie at The Elgiva](#)

It would be great in particular to support Florence who will be performing as Annie in the following performances:

Wednesday 12th March at 7.30pm

Friday 14th March at 7.30pm

Saturday 15th March at 2.30pm



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 Megan Francesca Thomas Roberto Zoe Zachary Arthur Ralph Niamh Caolan Eugenie Martha Peregrine Daisy Alex Nathan Mason	Keera Alyssa James Michael C Malwina Aoife Renske Michael F Joseph Mason Misha Victoria Hansini Julia Elise Sharvil Annie Klara Hannah Nikolay	Tamsin Sienna-Rose Evie Giovanni Donnie Dominik Elizabeth Grace Eleanor Jude Arthur Jacob Shanaya Hansika Thomas Florence Erin Hugo Emilio	Leo Mark Mia Ivor Ralph Spike Wanda Rebecca Lola Parth Finley H Charlie K Michael L Michael M Finn O Evelyn Dominik Robert Joseph Adam Curtis Zuzanna
Year 1				
Aariv Freddie Gaia				

Well done to our Millionaire readers



CAFOD Reading Challenge

Next week we will be launching a sponsored reading challenge. Please watch this space.



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

Gratitude Assembly Certificates



Last week's Gratitude Assembly Certificates:

Year 1	Iulia, Joseph
Year 2	Robin, Reuben, Marilyn, Romeo
Year 3	Ann, Zoe
Year 4	Michael, Amelie
Year 5	Hansika, Grace
Year 6	Behtin, Louie

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

A promotional poster for the Ramadan Soup Kitchen. The background is a warm, golden-yellow color with faint illustrations of hanging lanterns and watermelon slices. The title "Ramadan Soup Kitchen" is written in large, bold, dark blue letters. Below it, the text "Starting Saturday 8 March 2025" is 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 bowls, and a large illustration of a white bowl filled with orange soup and garnished with green herbs.

Ramadan Soup Kitchen

Starting Saturday 8 March 2025

Open to friends of all faiths and none!

This Ramadan, free hot meals are available for anyone in need.

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)

"He is not a believer whose stomach is filled while his neighbour goes hungry."

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.

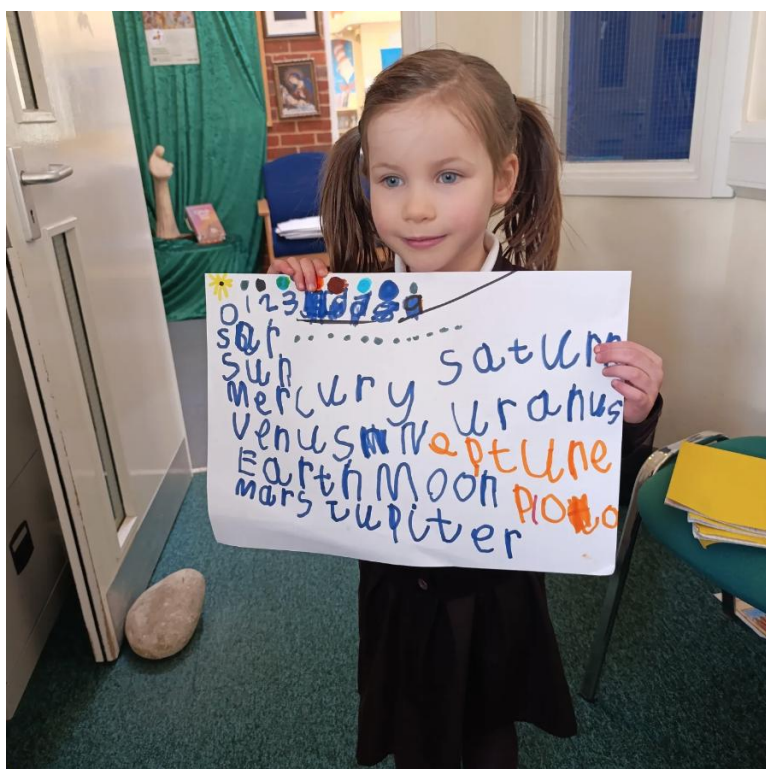
Every runner will donate £5 towards the cause for every run they complete.

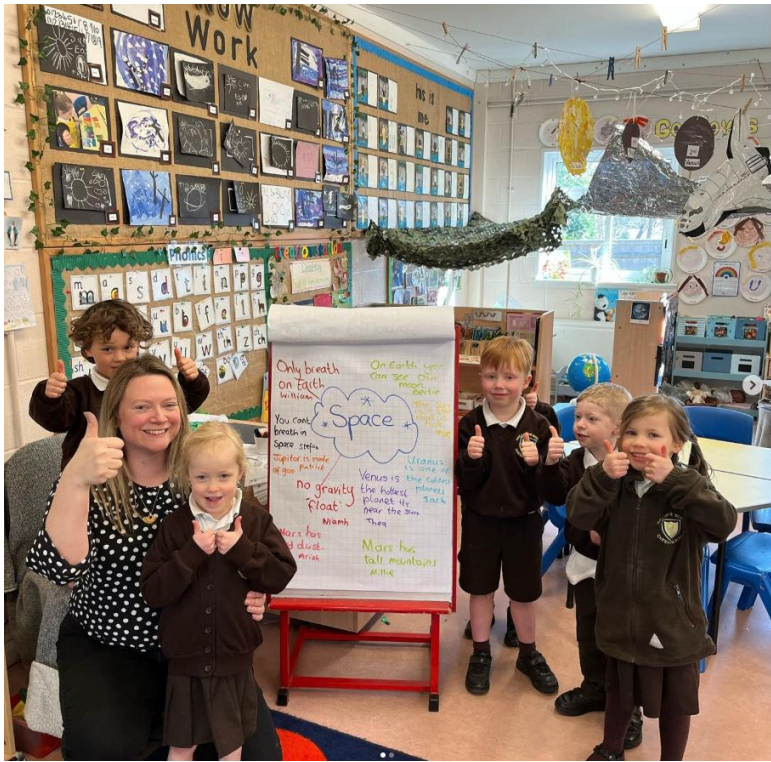
We meet up every afternoon in the park at around 16:15 and run an easy 5km. So come join us in the challenge and complete a run with us!


<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 Reception have thrown themselves into Space today for Mars day #OLSRception #OLSScience2 d


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Liked by maria_holds and 52 others2 days ago





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olscheshambois...

olscheshambois Year 1 sharing what they've been up to with Year 6 #OLSMarsDay #OLSScience #OLYear6 #OLYear12 d

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olscheshambois

The Minnie Vinnie's have had a great time hosting some of the elderly from our parish for Shrove Tuesday
#OlsMiniVinnies #OLSCatholicSocialTeaching

2 d

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26 likes

2 days ago







olscheshambois

olscheshambois World Book Day


22 h

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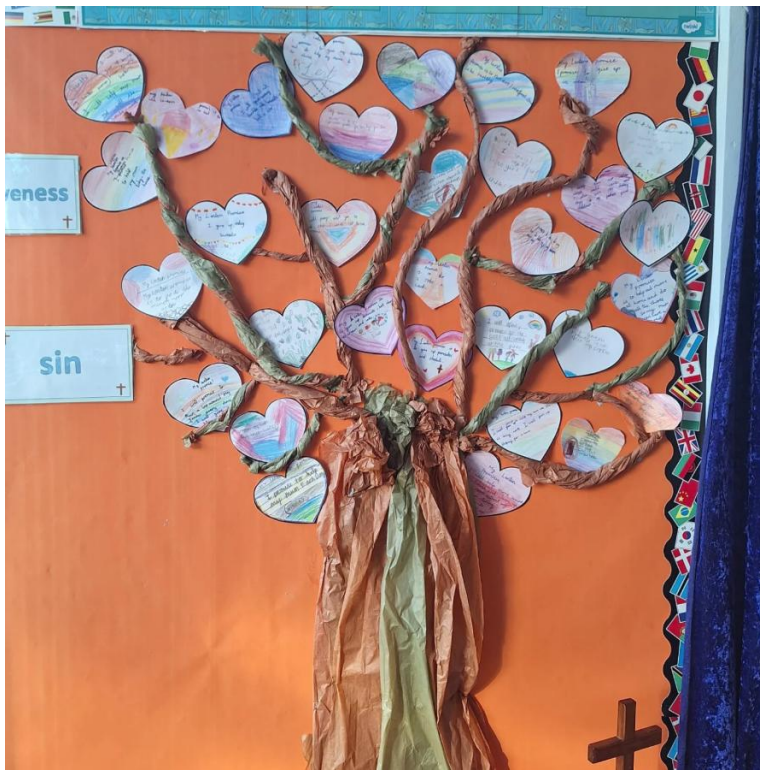



11 likes


22 hours ago

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olscheshambois Year 4's Lenten Promise tree
#OLSBUILDINGTHEKingdom




22 h

wastelly Ha ha the tree that just keeps on giving 🤔

21 h Reply


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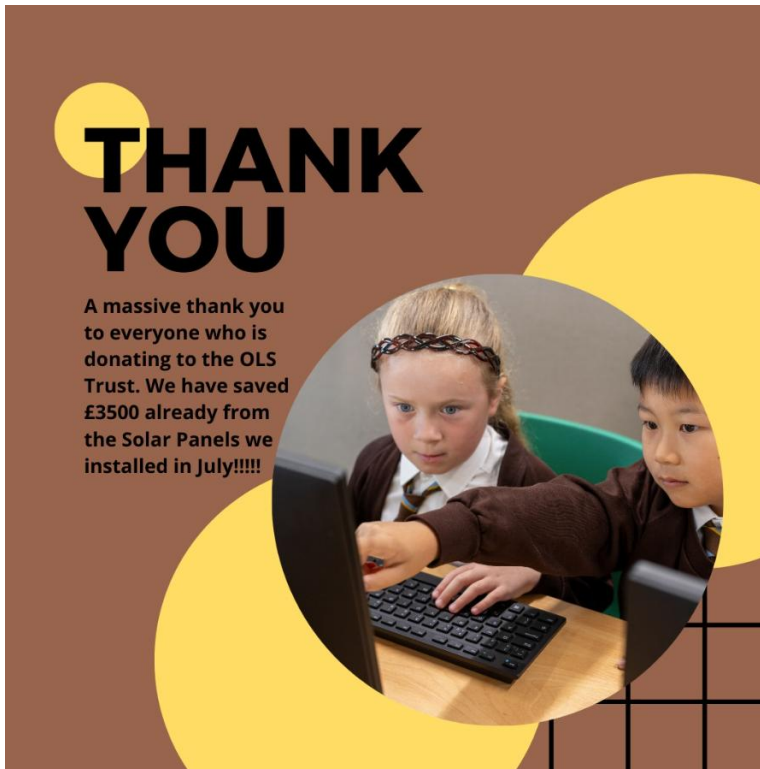
  

3 likes

22 hours ago

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olscheshambois A massive thank you to everyone who is donating to the trust. If you would like to donate there is more information on our website and a link here in our Bio!!!!

22 h

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olscheshambois...

olscheshambois A bit of colour chaos in science club this evening #OLSScience
22 h

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





2 likes

22 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**