



# Our Lady's Catholic Primary School

## Weekly Newsletter

*"A place of learning – A community of Christ"*

**Faith . Hope . Love**

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7<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Dear Parents,

I hope you had a lovely summer holiday, the children seem to have come back refreshed and eager to learn. It has been lovely to hear about the fantastic experiences you have given them over the summer as well as their hopes and dreams for this year.

We are also really fortunate to welcome new families, children and staff. As the community grows and changes, we have new opportunities and relationships to build on. A new beginning and new year is always an exciting time.

This week has been an induction week, which gives the teachers a chance to set up their routines. It has been lovely walking around school. There is a lovely calm and purposeful atmosphere which is a really good sign for the year ahead.

Finally, today we had our start of year Mass. Please remember that parents are always invited to Mass and I hope to see many of you at future Masses. It is really important to remind ourselves why you send your children to this school and that we are a **"Community of Christ"**

The rest of this email is going to have a lot of information in it. Sorry to bombard you at the start of the year but, hopefully, it will help you make sure your children are prepared for school so that we can maximise their learning time.

Have a lovely weekend,

God bless,

M. Holden

## **Parents in the School Building**

Please can I ask parents not to come into the main school building in the morning. I know it can be hard as the children move into Year 1 but it is really important that we build up the children's independence. If you need to pass on any messages to the teacher then please come in a little early and, ideally, come through the office. Once the day starts, the teachers have 30 children to manage and they are unlikely to be taking in what you need to tell them.

Thank you for your support

## **Accelerated Reader And The Start Of The Day**

As I am sure you are aware, the curriculum is very full and we are regularly revisiting what we are doing. This year, we have added some extra sessions such as handwriting and built in more consistency into collective worship. This however means that we have had to move our Key Stage 2 Accelerated Reader time from **9.00 to 9.30** to **8.45 -9.15**. Although your child isn't officially late until 9.00, it is better to be early so that they can maximise their learning time in school. If they are getting in at 9.00 every day then it is an extra hour of reading they need to do at home. Our recommendation as a minimum amount of reading a week in Key Stage 2 is:

	In School (8.45 – 9.15: 4 days a week)	At Home	Total
Year 3	2 hours	1 hour	3 hours
Year 4	2 hours	2 hours	4 hours
Year 5	2 hours	3 hours	5 hours
Year 6	2 hours	3 hours	5 hours

The earlier they are in school, the more reading they are getting done here and the less they will need to do at home.

## **Equipment – KS2**

This is just a reminder of the equipment the children need to have in school every day as a minimum. It is really important that they are in school with the right resources so they are ready to learn. We do have a shop in school if you can't get the equipment elsewhere.

- School handwriting pen
- Pencil
- Rubber
- Pencil sharpener
- 30 cm ruler
- Colouring pencils
- Small pair of scissors
- Glue stick
- Pencil case

The colouring pencils are particularly important as they really help the children make sure their work looks great.

## **PE Days**

We have made the decision this year that the children can come into schools on PE days in their PE kits. They do need to be wearing the correct kit – a school PE shirt, school PE fleece, black shorts or jogging bottoms etc. It is important that they still look smart. This will hopefully maximise PE time in school and help to minimise lost property.

The classes PE days are as follows:

	Session 1	Session 2
Year 1	Monday	Wednesday
Year 2	Tuesday	Thursday
Year 3	Wednesday	Friday
Year 4	Monday	Friday
Year 5	Tuesday	Wednesday
Year 6	Tuesday	Thursday

Please note that Reception will still get changed for PE in school.

## **Clubs**

Miss Mansfield will be sending a separate message out about clubs. They will start from the 18<sup>th</sup> September, I just wanted to say a big thank you to all of our staff who run many of the clubs so they are free of charge to you. It is a really important part of our wider curriculum and I know that lots of parents in other school don't have this luxury.

## **School Second Hand Uniform**

Mrs Fenwick has very kindly sorted out the PTA Second Hand Uniform Shop over the summer and is opening it every Friday morning from 8am to 9am. This is a great initiative as it is not only environmentally friendly but could save parents some money. There is plenty of uniform there so please take time to have a browse,

Thank you so much Mrs Fenwick

## **Violin**

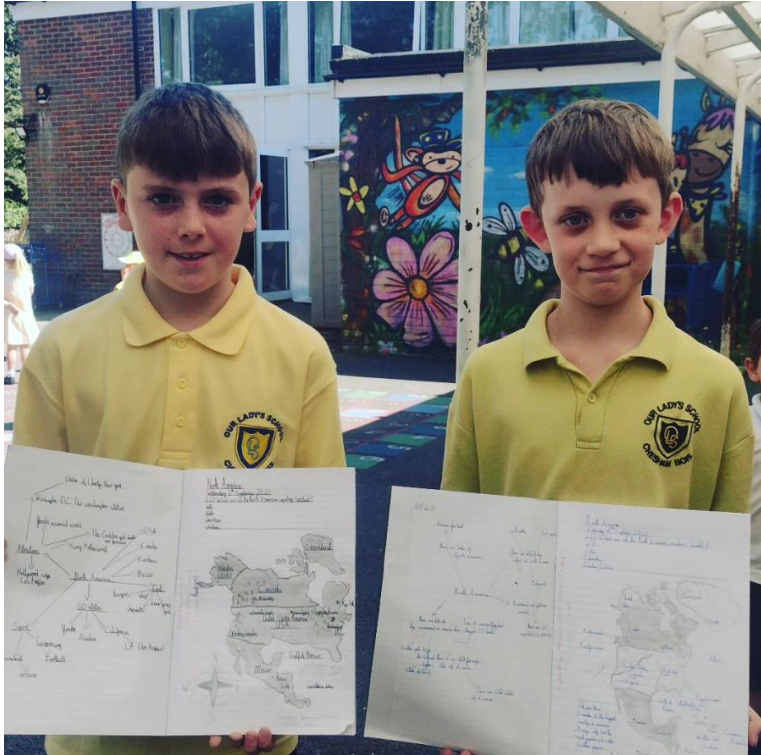
School violin lessons start back next Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> September. Mrs Miller has space for new beginners. Information and application forms can be found on the website:  
[www.bucksmusic.org](http://www.bucksmusic.org)

Thanks  
Linda Miller

## **@OLSCshambois**

Here is a quick snapshot of our learning this week:





olscheshambois
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olscheshambois Year 6 are learning all about North America in geography #OLSGeography #OLSYear6
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olscheshambois
...

olscheshambois Year 4 have been writing some lovely prayers saying thank you. The secret to true happiness - Gratitude. Well done #OLSYear4 #OLSRE
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olscheshambois



**olscheshambois** We had a lovely, very hot, School Mass this afternoon to celebrate the start of the school year  
#OISbuildingthekingdom

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19 MINUTES AGO



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