



Our Lady's Catholic Primary School

Weekly Newsletter

"A place of learning – A community of Christ"

7th January 2022


Dear Parents,

Happy New Year!!!! I hope you had a lovely and restful Christmas or that you are getting a rest now the children are back in school. We seem to be in a very different place to this time last year. Thankfully the government are adamant that schools will stay open, with ministers acknowledging this week that closing schools was probably a mistake that we need to learn from. I think the value of every single day of education has never been so clear.

However, although I can't see a return to remote learning, that doesn't mean that we are in for an easy ride this term. There is quite a high chance that we will have significant staff absence due to the requirement to isolate. I would therefore ask families to continue to be vigilant and test your children if they are feeling under the weather. The less instances of the virus we have in the building the more likely it is that we can maintain the staffing and continue to provide your children the education they truly deserve. If they don't feel 100% but test negative then they are still fine to come to school. We all have days where we don't feel 100% and I think we have moved past the point in the pandemic where we need to keep children off school just in case.

This week was the first time in a long while that the Epiphany Holy Day of Obligation remained on the 6th January itself. In recent years the Bishops have moved it to the nearest Sunday. This did give us the opportunity to start the term with Mass. As I said to the children, we will be the only school in Chesham and Amersham celebrating Mass today and it is the time when I am most proud as a Headteacher. The children were absolutely fantastic. They read clearly, sang beautifully and behaved impeccably.

God bless,

M. Hold 

Attendance

Please check your children's bags today for a letter about the number of school days they've missed during their school career. We know that sometimes it can be hard to keep track of how many days it is altogether. The vast majority of children have amazing attendance at Our Lady's but the last few years have highlighted the importance of every single day. Remember every day missed is a day of education that is gone forever. You cannot get it back.

I must apologise for putting the incorrect date on the letter. It was only noticed after I'd already printed the letters and it didn't seem worth printing over 200 letters again, either financially or environmentally.

Reception Admissions 2022 - 2023

A quick reminder that admissions for Reception 2022 are open but close shortly on 15th January 2022. Please remember that you need to fill in a supplementary form for school as well as applying online in the normal way through Buckinghamshire Council. Supplementary Forms are available in the school office, and in the local parishes.

@OLScheshambois

It has been great to be back at school this week. Here is a quick snapshot





olscheshambois

olscheshambois #OLScbuildingthekingdom
2 h

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10 likes
2 HOURS AGO

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St Columba's Youth Mass

Everybody is invited to attend the first YOUTH MASS of the year 2022 at St Columba's church in Chesham on Sunday 9th January at 6pm

Safeguarding

This is a leaflet from the NSPCC that I wish I had had when my children were a little younger:



[How to cope with tantrums | NSPCC](#)

Good News Certificates

The last good news certificates of Advent Term went to the following children:

Year 1	Annie, Keera
Year 2	Hugo, Tamsin
Year 3	Archie, Beatrice
Year 4	Alasdair, Franek, Eliza, Edward, Hannah, Matilda, Nathan
Year 5	Louis, Jack, Julek, Amelia
Year 6	Finn, Amelka, Sorcha

Well done everyone.



Accelerated Reader

Watch this space. The children are all doing their Star Reading Tests this week so will have new targets to work towards.

	Words Read
Year 6	7,589,180 words
Year 5	5,704,822 words
Year 4	4,670,344 words
Year 3	1,318,072 words

Millionaire Readers

Kaitlyn (Year 6)