

OUR LADY & ST PATRICK'S CATHOLIC NURSERY AND PRIMARY SCHOOL



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Living, Loving and Learning in God's Way



Newsletter: 15th September 2023

Executive Head Teacher: Mrs Cathy Blatchford

HEAD TEACHER UPDATE

Can you believe we have reached the end of our first full week already and what an incredibly busy time it has been. Our scaffolding is now down and our school is beginning to look a bit more normal. Our Friends have had their first meeting of the year and are already liaising with us regarding fundraising opportunities and next steps for our school.

I am delighted to tell you that I had been working on another project involving a grant application from Howmet Aerospace and have heard that we have been successful. This means we will be able to purchase some STEM equipment for our school including materials for an exciting Robotics project! We will keep you posted.

Our school library is now fully kitted out and I know many children have told their parents about the wide range of exciting books we have in there. Every child across the school now has a reading record and they are expected to bring these into school EVERY day to show that they have read EVERY day. Each child that has 5 entries a week will receive dojos from their class teacher.

We would like to wish a huge welcome to Mrs Lauren Mullane who has joined us from St Nicholas' School to teach Year 5. We are so happy to have her with us. She has settled quickly and is available to any parents who wish to speak to her. Here is a photo so you can say 'hello'.

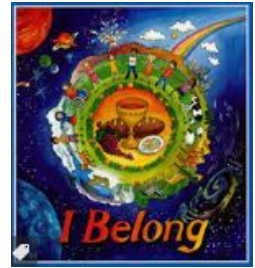


As usual please make a note of the key dates on page 8.

Have a lovely weekend

Mrs Cathy Blatchford
Executive Head Teacher

THE CATHOLIC LIFE OF OUR SCHOOL



Parents of children who are now in Year 3 and who would like to make their First Holy Communion, should register their interest with the Parish office. Information regarding the preparation sessions will be given in the Parish Newsletter. A meeting will be arranged for registration and a copy of the child's Baptismal Certificate will be required at this first meeting or soon afterwards if available.

First Holy Communion and First Reconciliation preparation for the children takes place each year in our Parish. First Reconciliation (First Confession) usually takes place during Lent and First Holy Communion in May or June but often around mid-June on or near Corpus Christi Sunday, both dates being set at the beginning of the programme and given out to parents and carers.

The Parish programme usually begins in January and is designed by Fr Mark with the catechists each year. We also use the pupil books 'I BELONG' as an extra resource for parents to use with their children at home. It is based on everyday experiences. As each chapter unfolds the children will explore a theme connected with the Mass. They then go on to think about the same theme in the Old and New Testaments and the Church.

We encourage active and reflective sessions for our young people allowing for a variety of approaches. There are a wide range of opportunities for the children to explore and grow in their faith, to learn to pray and reflect, to write and draw freely, to discuss and offer opinions and take part in cooking, art and drama activities, which they love!

There are regular sessions throughout the year led by Fr Mark Skelton and a group of catechists. There are parents meetings and Celebration Masses for the whole family. Children are encouraged to participate in these Masses, maybe bringing and talking about something they have made at the sessions, reading prayers or being part of the offertory Procession.

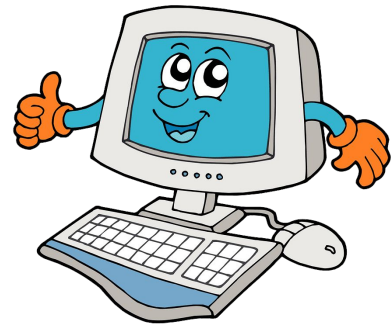
The children's sessions take place on Saturday mornings 10.30 to 12.30pm at All Saints Parish Church in Teignmouth. The Celebration Masses take place at the 10.30am Sunday Family Mass at OLSF Church in Teignmouth, the 6pm Vigil Mass at St Agatha's, Dawlish or the 9am Mass at St Ignatius in Shaldon.

It is essential that we are all fully committed to all that this most important year offers us, to grow in the love of Jesus present in the Sacraments and present in one another.

AUTUMN 1 TERM CLUBS:

So far this term, the following clubs will be running.

- Multi - Sports Wednesdays 3.15pm - 4.15pm (Year 5 and 6 only)
- Spanish with Dani Wednesdays 3.15pm - 4pm
- Drama Club Thursdays 3.15pm - 4.15pm
- Coding Club Fridays 3:15 - 4:15pm (This club is now full but please contact school office if your child would like to join and we will start a waiting list)
- Fencing with Premier Sport Fridays 3:15 - 4:30pm



EARLY YEARS

To celebrate Roald Dahl's birthday this week the children thoroughly enjoyed spending time learning about Roald Dahl. They have been learning about his characters from his books and role played their favourites in the 'Chocolate factory' inspired book corner.



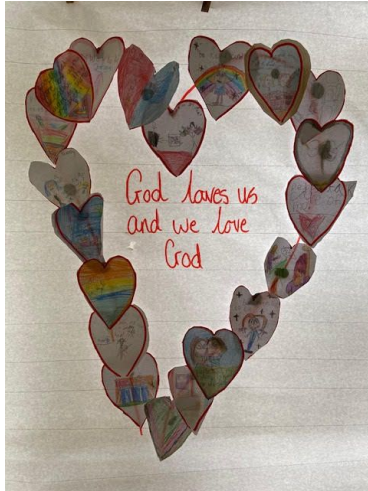
YEAR 1 & 2

Mars Class have had a busy but fantastic first week back. We have enjoyed learning new routines and making new friends. In RE we have been answering the BIG question: Why do we have a family and who is in my family? The children identified members of their families and recognised how our families love and care for us. We thoroughly enjoyed role playing these actions with our friends.



YEAR 3

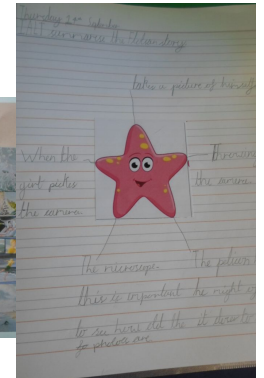
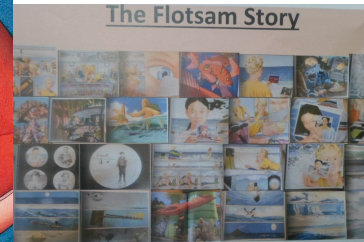
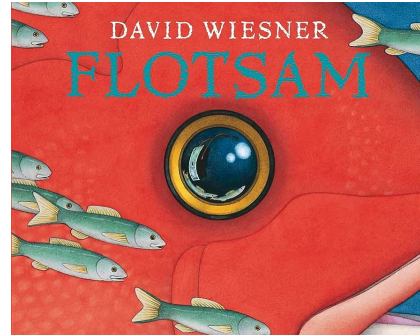
Year 3 have started this week brilliantly and I'm so thrilled to be their teacher. We've started our year 3 learning journey and have had lots of fun already along the way. Particularly in art this week. We are looking at painting and how paint can be used to show emotion. In PSHE we have been looking at how others care for us and we care for others linking that to the purpose of why God created us. To love and be loved.



YEAR 4

Class 4 have been immersing themselves in our writing text - Flotsam by David Wiesner. The children were engrossed by the different sea creatures in the book and had to try and summarise the most important parts of the story.

It was fantastic to hear the different summaries from the children on what they believed to be important and to be able to explain why.



YEAR 5

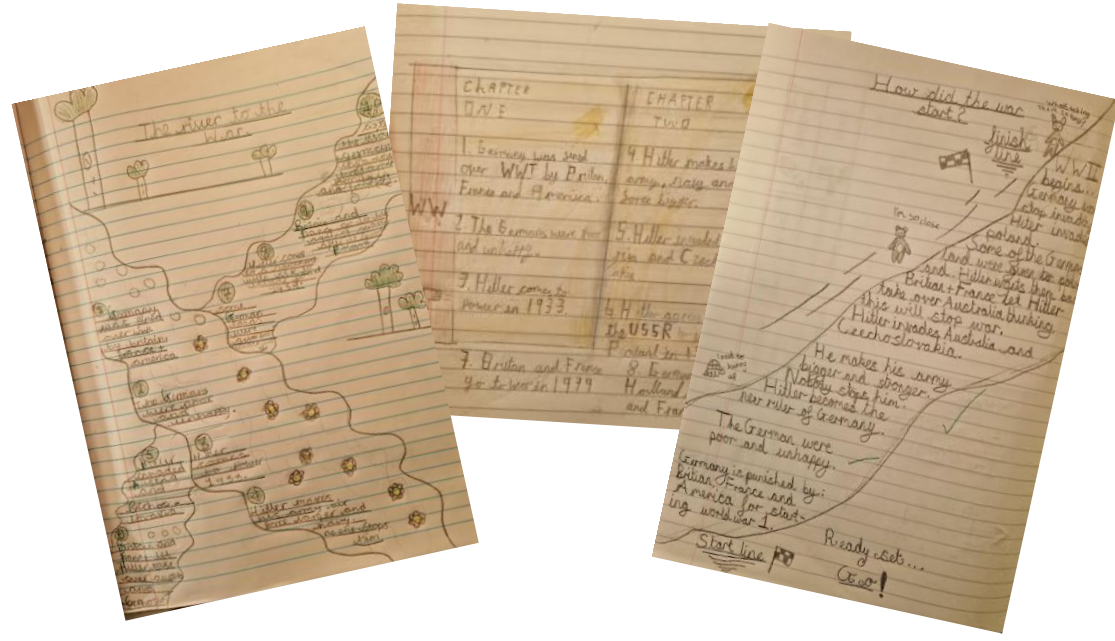
Year 5 have had a wonderful start to the school year and have got stuck in to enjoying exploring the desert island of 'Kensuke's Kingdom' in our English lessons. The children have also shown their maturity in our PSHE unit 'keeping safe' and were able to think of lots of possible risks and hazards in everyday life, and also how to mitigate these risks and keep themselves safe. Tag rugby has been great fun.



YEAR 6

Year 6 have had a great start to their final year of primary school. They have fully taken on all the responsibilities of year 6 with a mature attitude.

We have started our World War Two focus and the children are really enjoying finding out how the war started.



DISCIPLE OF THE WEEK

	4.9.23	11.9.23
	Respect	Love
Early Years	Poppy	Seb
Y1 & 2	Florence	Isla-Rose
Y3	Jake	Matilda
Y4	Molly	Darcie W
Y5	George	Ada
Y6	Archie	Willow



STAR OF THE WEEK

	4.9.23	11.9.23
Early Years	Florence	Rowan
Y1 & 2	Tyler	Arlo
Y3	Callum	Grisha
Y4	Oscar Sum	Hollie
Y5	Laila	Theo
Y6	Celia	Ivy





Well done to Saturn! Jupiter and Saturn also both achieved 100% last week!

6th September - 15th September	
Reception	95.04%
Year 1/2	96.67%
Year 3	98.16%
Year 4	99.07%
Year 5	97.22%
Year 6	97.55%

Days off school add up to lost learning

175 NON SCHOOL DAYS A YEAR 175 days to spend on family time, visits, holidays, shopping, household jobs and other appointments					
190 SCHOOL DAYS IN EACH YEAR 190 days for your child's education	10 days absence 180 Days of Education	19 days absence 171 Days of Education	29 days absence A term missed 161 Days of Education	38 days absence 152 Days of Education	47 days absence 143 Days of Education
100%	95%	90%	85%	80%	75%
Good Best chance of success. Gets your child off to a flying start		Worrying Less chance of success. Makes it harder to make progress		Serious Concern Not fair on your child. Court action!	

ANAPHYLAXIS AWARENESS

We have a number of children who have a nut allergy so we would like to take this opportunity to remind you we are a strictly no nut school. Please take care to read ingredient lists and allergy information on the food and snacks you are sending into school with children.

Anaphylaxis is a severe, potentially life-threatening allergic reaction that can develop rapidly. It is also known as anaphylactic shock.

Signs of anaphylaxis include:

- itchy skin or a raised, red skin rash
- swollen eyes, lips, hands and feet
- feeling lightheaded or faint
- swelling of the mouth, throat or tongue, which can cause breathing and swallowing difficulties
- wheezing
- abdominal pain, nausea and vomiting
- collapse and unconsciousness

Any children in school with known medical conditions or allergies have their own Health Care Plan drawn up alongside parents and other professionals. Which details the risks and what to do in an emergency. It is important to remember that anybody can go into anaphylaxis for more information visit:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/anaphylaxis/>



If you would like to discuss your child's health needs please make an appointment with Mrs O'Sullivan or Mrs Emmerton via the school office.

Always inform the school office of any changes to conditions or medication.

Diary Dates



19th September	6:15pm - 7:15pm Magic James. Magician Show (see flier in this newsletter for information)	18th Jan '24	Year 6 KS2 Explore the Orchestra Concert - Exeter 2024
20th September	9:30am – 10:30am Whole School Welcome Mass	12th February 2024	Half Term Holiday
29th September	3pm - 4pm EYFS Bake Sale	19th February 2024	INSET Day (Non-Pupil)
11th October	1:30pm Poetry slam in the school hall for Year 1-Year 6. We will have a small amount of space for any parents that want to join us, but please let the school office know if you would like to come as there will not be much room. Parents that themselves are happy to share a poem will be most warmly welcomed.	28th March 2024	Last day of Spring Term
23rd October	Half Term Holiday	15th April 2024	Summer Term Starts
30th October	INSET Day (Non-pupil)	29th April to 3rd May 2024	Y6 Residential
10th November	3pm - 4pm EYFS Bake Sale	6th May 2024	May Day bank holiday
12th December 2023	2pm EY & KS1 Nativity (Information will be sent home nearer the time)	27th May 2024	Half Term Holiday
15th December	Last day of Autumn Term	3rd June 2024	INSET Day (Non-Pupil)
3rd January 2024	Spring Term Starts	25th July 2024	Last day of Summer Term

Friends News!

We all hope that you had a fantastic summer!
We have lots of exciting events coming up so watch this space.

We are hoping to hold our postponed colour run before October half term and, weather permitting, we have some left over ice poles for Ice pop Fridays too.
There are some exciting plans for Christmas in the works including our usual Christmas gift shop and craft sessions.
We are also busy planning our Winter Wonderland Christmas market and Grotto.

After our AGM on Tuesday our trustees were voted in.
Chair - Faye Sendra
Co Chair - Yvonne Richards
Treasurer - Sarah Jackson
Secretary - Liz Wooding
Social secretary - Cath Merrick.

If you would like to know more about the friends or would like to help out at any of our events, please get in contact via our Facebook page or email us at friends@olsp.uk



JOIN US FOR A
CHRISTMAS
WREATH MAKING
WORKSHOP
£20 PER PERSON

DEC | 8 TH | 7PM
OUR LADY AND ST
PATRICK'S SCHOOL HALL.

BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL
AS SPACES ARE LIMITED

School Website Free App

Parents and Carers have access to a free app, linking you to our School Website. If you download the app, you will receive a notification every time information is added or updated on our website. This is a very useful tool that we are hoping as many Parents and Carers will make use of as possible. Please use the qr code below to access the download. Or search for “eSchools Lite” in the **App Store (Apple)** or **Google Play (Android)**



A Message from Mixed Families Together

We are a parent-led community group bringing together multiracial and ethnically diverse families across Devon. We organise family meet ups so our children can make new friends, see themselves reflected in others, see their heritages celebrated and parents can support each other navigating various things that arise such as racism.

Our next meet up is in September (details below) so please email us if you would like to find out more. We have about 80 families in our group and would love to reach more.

Our email is mixedfamiliesaltogether@gmail.com
Juliet & Michael Morrison / Mixed Families Together Team

A vibrant event poster for a Caribbean Carnival special. The background is dark blue with colorful confetti. A pink diagonal banner in the top left corner says 'FREE'. The text is in various colors: yellow, pink, and white. At the bottom, there is a pink wave graphic and a small logo of a masquerade mask.

MIXED FAMILIES TOGETHER

Caribbean Carnival special

FREE

DJ SOMATIC on the decks
Face painting
Fruit punch and light Caribbean refreshments

Real Steel band performance

Carnival themed arts & crafts
Bring and share lunch
'Have a go' on a steel pan

SAT, SEPTEMBER 23
11:30AM – 3:00PM

Exwick Parish Hall and gardens, Station Road, Exeter, EX42AB
Free parking on-site

More info: mixedfamiliesaltogether@gmail.com

"So please, oh please, we beg,
we pray, go throw your TV set
away, and in its place you can
install a lovely bookshelf on the
wall." - Roald Dahl

The Twits by Roald Dahl

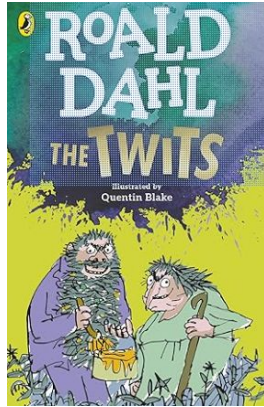
"To pay Mrs Twit back for the worms in his spaghetti, Mr Twit thought up a really clever, nasty trick . . ."

Mr Twit is a foul and smelly man who always has bits of cornflake and sardine in his beard.

Mrs Twit is scheming and sly and always thinking of the next horrible trick to play on her husband.

The Twits are so ghastly and evil that they even keep Muggle-Wump the monkey and his family captive in their garden.

But not for much longer! The monkeys are planning to trick the terrible Twits so that they can escape and put a stop to the frightful pair once and for all!



THIS NEWSLETTER WE RECOMMEND

The Enormous Crocodile by Roald Dahl

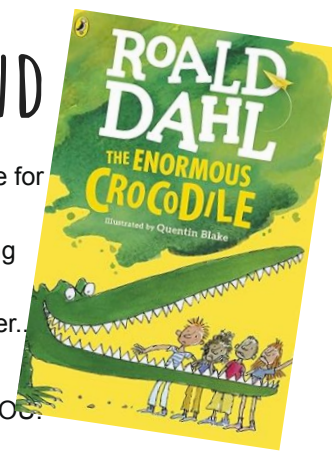
The Enormous Crocodile starting to feel a bit peckish... what should he have for his lunch?

This foul fiend - the greediest croc in the whole river - wants to eat something *juicy* and delicious.

His teeth sparkle like knives in the sun and he's getting hungrier and hungrier.

But what **can** the greedy grumpious brute guzzle up?

Oh no! Beware- He's looking for someone... someone who looks a lot like YOU.



Blue Peter Book Badge

CBBC are encouraging children to apply for a Blue Peter Book Badge which has been beautifully designed by one of the UK's most famous book illustrators Sir Quentin Blake. Both of this week's book recommendations were also illustrated by him and the badge can be seen in the image of Sir Quentin on the right. Please follow the link below to see how your child can apply for their's.



https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/findoutmore/blue-peter-apply-for-a-book-badge?fbclid=IwAR08tGGCzvaBHh8UjlUxvdBSICb2eVzJwE-hiww3ONkz_QX9gcD0LbhZReI



SAFEGUARDING

Safeguarding at OLSP is always a priority. Should you have any enquiries or concerns, please contact our Designated Senior Lead for Child Protection: Miss Wathen, or Deputies: Mrs Blatchford or Mrs Emmerton on 01626 773905 Our named governor for child protection is Mrs Lorraine Coulter

WELFARE

Our Family Support Worker is Rachel Ripley. Please let us know if you would like her to contact you for ANY support. Everyone needs a Rachel in their lives!

ATTENDANCE

Hi, my name is Steph, I'm the new Attendance and Welfare Officer here at OLSP. I will be monitoring attendance regularly to ensure that, where possible, every child is in school on time every day. If you have any concerns around your child's attendance, please leave a message with the office and I will contact you.



CPOMS and Operation encompass

At OLSP we use CPOMs as our system for recording information that we consider to be safeguarding information. As a parent you are entitled to see this information and may request to do so.

Further information about the programme can be found [here](#) -

<https://www.cpoms.co.uk/privacy-statement/>

Operation Encompass is the reporting to schools, prior to the start of the next school day, when a child or young person has exposed to, or involved in, any domestic incident.

Operation Encompass will ensure that a member of the school staff, known as a Key Adult, is trained to allow them to liaise with the police and to use the information that has been shared, in confidence, while ensuring that the school is able to make provision for possible difficulties experienced by children, or their families, who have been involved in, or exposed to, a domestic abuse incident.