

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



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Living, Loving and Learning in God's Way



Newsletter: 6th March 2023

Executive Head Teacher: Mrs Cathy Blatchford



HEAD TEACHER UPDATE

OLSP continues to be a busy hive of activities. We were thrilled to have 35 children entering our Junior Speaks competition. This has been whittled down to 15 finalists. There were some tricky decisions for our panel from the Rotary Club and we are very grateful for their support. A massive well done to all those who have taken part.

World Book Day was super fun. Thank you to all our parents, carers, family and friends that came in to share a book with the children. It was a lovely experience for the children and we hope they enjoyed it as much as we did.

Our Fishkeeper Fry group have been doing a great job looking after our fish tank and the school have agreed that we want to maintain the tank. They visited Maidenhead Aquatics with myself and Mrs Newton Brown on Friday to choose some more fish.

Last Friday the Friends held the first 'Break the rules' day at OLSP. The children were very creative with the rules that they were allowed to break! We had lots of colourful hair and nails, interesting tattoos and many soft toys that joined us for the day. The children respected the rules that they could break while still being ready, respectful and safe. It was a successful and fun day for our school community and we were able to raise some money. Thank you for your support

Parents' evenings are all finished, however as usual if you do have any questions or concerns about your child, the door is always open. Just let the teacher or the office know and an appointment can be made.

God Bless to you all

Mrs Cathy Blatchford

THE CATHOLIC LIFE OF OUR SCHOOL

Have you ever noticed how we like to characterise different months and seasons? For example, January is painted as the longest, bluest month of the year – so much so that ‘Blue Monday’ is a term coined to refer to the third Monday in January. Other months and seasons similarly characterised include February – romance and playfulness due to Valentine’s Day and being the shortest, quirkiest month; and October – pumpkin-spice and all things nice!

But these characterisations don’t leave much room for nuance. Even the bluest Januarys will have some light, and the most playful of Februarys will have harder moments. And for most people, October doesn’t consist of endless pumpkin-spice lattes!

This year, the month of March is taken up wholly with the Liturgical Season of Lent. In the Church, Lent is represented by the colour purple, worn by priests and seen on the altar. Purple, like the season of Lent, symbolises a time of prayer, penance and preparation for Jesus’ death on the cross and Resurrection at Easter. It offers a chance for us to reflect on our relationship with God and make a fresh start as the Church focuses on the three pillars of Lent, almsgiving, fasting and prayer – or as children in school will know them, GIVE, ACT, PRAY

Lent



SPRING 2 CLUBS:

Open library from 3:15-4pm with Mrs Newton Browne Mondays

Footlights Dance Academy - Monday evenings

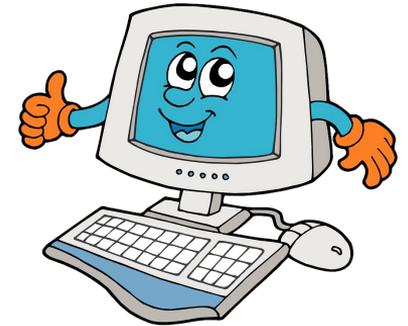
Spanish with Dani 3:15-4:00pm from Wednesday 4th January (£7)

Dodgeball with Mr Selley (Premier Sports) Thursdays, 3:30-4:30pm

Year 5 & 6 Football club with Mr Mason, Wednesdays 3:15-4:15pm

Computing Club with Mr Meehan, Friday 3:15-4:15pm

SATs Maths booster sessions 8:00 am-8:30am on a Thursday- Miss Wathen (Miss Wathen will be contacting individual parents regarding this)



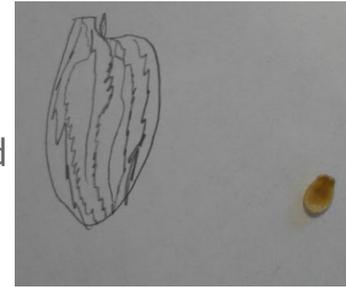
EARLY YEARS



Children loved having their parents in for world book day. They enjoyed reading books and some activities. Don't worry if you missed it we will be opening up our classroom again soon!

YEAR 1 & 2

In Science, we have been learning about how seeds grow into plants. This week we explored seeds in different types of fruits. We enjoyed using the magnifying glasses to look at the seeds closely and help us to draw them scientifically.



YEAR 3

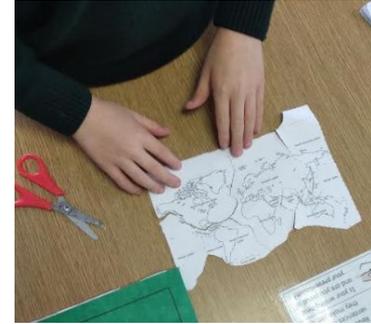
This week in year 3 we have been getting really messy. We have been bread tasting and making and this week we practiced many skills of the breadmaking process including combining flour and water to make dough and then kneading it. It was a messy afternoon but the children loved it.



YEAR 4

In Class 4, the children have been learning about earthquakes in Geography this week and understanding the different tectonic plates. Pupils have been learning about how earthquakes are caused and how the tectonic plates move within the Earth's crust.

The children did have a go at trying to piece the earth back together when separating the Earth by its tectonic plates. They gave this a good go. This is harder than it looks!



YEAR 5

Year 5 and I have been getting to know each other over the past two weeks. We have started a new topics in Geography (Climates across the world), Science (Earth and Space) and DT (Mechanical Structures). Some students are trying to raise money for the victims of the Turkey/Syrian earthquakes through a sponsored swim and run plus a toy and book sale next week. Many students also took part in the Junior Speaks competition with 5 making it through to the final. Well done! Please register with a new DoJo account to monitor and celebrate Year 5 success.

YEAR 6

Year 6 have had a busy couple of weeks since being back after half term. World Book Day in class 6 is always good fun and I love the effort the children put into their costumes. Well done Class 6.



DISCIPLE OF THE WEEK

	24.2.23	3.3.23
	Hope	Respect
Early Years	Scarlett	Patrick
Y1 & 2	Ollie	Daisy
Y3	Kamran	Oscar F
Y4	Kody	Sebastian
Y5	Gracie	Rosie
Y6	Alex	Maddison

STAR OF THE WEEK

	24.2.23	3.3.23
Early Years	Max	Oliver
Y1 & 2	Robert	Izzy
Y3	Ava	Grace
Y4	Theo W	Laila
Y5	Leo	Marnie
Y6	Adam	Katie





All Devon schools have been asked to sign up to a charter whereby we all aim to get our children into school at least 97% of the time. Well done Years 1, 2 4 and 6 that have managed it the last two weeks.

21st Feb-3rd March 2023	
Reception	95.24
Year 1/2	97.29
Year 3	95.83
Year 4	96.88
Year 5	95.63
Year 6	97.92

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	19 days absence	29 days absence A term missed	38 days absence	47 days absence
	180 Days of Education	171 Days of Education	161 Days of Education	152 Days of Education	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!	



Diary Dates

These are the dates we have so far. We will keep you informed if more events need to be added in.

7th March	Junior Speaks final	31st March	Last Day of Spring term (return 17th April)
9th March	Year 4 - Mass, Saint Ignatius of Loyola. Shaldon	27th April	Y3/4 trip to Paignton Zoo
14th March	Mother's Day Gift Shop	5th May pm	Coronation celebrations
17th March	Red Nose Day for Comic Relief St Patrick's Disco	9-12th May	Y6 SATS week
21 March	Bag2School	15-19th May	Y6 residential to Simonsbath
24th March	Year 4 - Taiko drumming workshop experience (Teignmouth Community School)	26th June	Early Years trip to Paignton Zoo
28th March	Dawlish Water Rotary Quiz - Y6	27th June	Y5/6 trip to Paignton Zoo

PROUD AT OLSP

Our GIFT Team (Louis, Poppy, Abi-Pat, Madi, Lilly and Olive) were perfect ambassadors for the school, helping out at a Lenten lunch. They served soup, teas and coffees to visitors to the Methodist church hall and were commended for their outstanding manners, conversation and all round hard work.



**St. Patrick's
DISCO**

MUSIC, FACEPAINTING & TUCK

17th March, Friday

KS1 Disco 4:30- 5:30
KS2 Disco 5:30- 6:30
Tickets £1.50

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Last day for tickets 14th March

Made with PosterMyWall.com

Get your tickets to the St Patrick's Day Disco.

A fun filled evening to celebrate St Patrick's Day. We will split the disco into Key stage 1 and Key Stage 2. If you have children in both key stages then you are welcome to bring them to either disco.

There will be Music and dancing, face paints and tuck.

https://www.pta-events.co.uk/friendsfolsp/index.cfm?event=event&eventId=59994#_ZAB_AnP2UK

Friday 10th March the Friends will be holding a Krispy Kreme Doughnut Sale. Please pre order yours in the office before Tuesday to make sure we have ordered enough to go round.

We have to order them at least 3 days in advance.

TUESDAY 14TH
MARCH.

*Super Woman Gift Shop for
Mother's Day*

£2.50 Per Gift
For all the Mums, Step mums,
Grans, Great Grans, Carers etc.

DOUGHNUT SALE

£1 each

ORIGINAL GLAZED

FRIDAY 10TH MARCH THE FRIENDS WILL BE HOLDING A KRISPY KREME DOUGHNUT SALE. PRE ORDER YOURS IN THE OFFICE NOW!

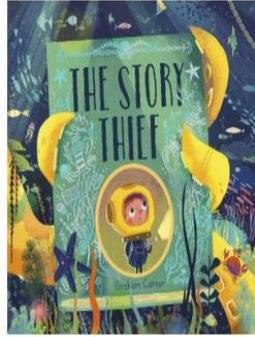
Join us for our Superwoman gift shop for Mother's Day. Tickets are £2.50 per gift and the children can come and choose their own gift for that special someone in their life.

The last day for ticket sales is Friday 10th March.

https://www.pta-events.co.uk/friendsfolsp/index.cfm?event=event&eventId=59992#_ZAB_LXbP2UK

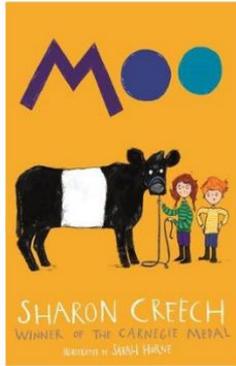
"So please, oh please,
we beg, we pray, go
throw your TV set
away, and in its place
you can install a
lovely bookshelf on
the wall." - Roald Dahl

THIS NEWSLETTER WE RECOMMEND



The Story Thief – Graham Carter

Olive is a shy girl who prefers reading about adventures to having them herself. But when a mysterious figure steals all of the books in town, Olive decides to set out straight into an adventure of her own. The thief, meanwhile, doesn't quite know what to do with the stories he's stolen. Olive must track down the thief and teach him the joys of reading - and sharing - stories.



Moo – Sharon Creech

When their mum and dad decide to move their family to the country, Reena and Luke aren't quite sure what to expect. They've spent their whole life in the bustling city, so the thought of cool, calm Maine feels akin to moving to another planet.

To help them to adjust to life in the country, the children find themselves assisting their new elderly neighbour, Mrs Falala. At first working with this eccentric old woman and her random collection of animals feels like a punishment – particularly with the stubborn and surly Zora the cow, who seems to like nothing better than winding Reena up. However as the children begin

to learn about the responsibility called for when caring for animals, they begin to understand that respecting differences can achieve wonderful things.





SAFEGUARDING

Safeguarding at OLSP is always a priority. Should you have any enquiries or concerns, please contact our Designated Senior Lead for Child Protection: Mrs O'Sullivan, 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

Justine Williams is our attendance officer. She will liaise with any families who have a child with below 95% attendance to offer support. Please remember if attendance is below 95% your child will be noted as persistently absent.

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.