

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



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Living, Loving and Learning in God's Way



Newsletter: 2nd May 2025

Head Teacher: Mrs Cathy Blatchford



HEAD TEACHER UPDATE

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you all had a restful and enjoyable Easter break. We have begun the summer term and I'd like to extend a very warm welcome back to all our families.

Firstly, we are saying a fond farewell to **Sarah Jackson**, who is moving on to a full-time position at another school within our Trust. Sarah has been a valued and dedicated member of our staff team, and we know she will be greatly missed by colleagues, children, and parents alike. We thank her sincerely for all her hard work and commitment, and we wish her every success in her new role. Her last day with us will be next Tuesday and we wish her the very best of luck.

With the arrival of warmer weather, children are now welcome to wear the **summer uniform**. Please refer to the **school website** for full details of our uniform policy to ensure all children are dressed appropriately for the term ahead.

This week, all children had the fantastic opportunity to take part in an **interactive assembly** led by our **local lifeguards**, who spoke about how to stay safe on our beaches and in the sea. It was a fun and engaging session, and we are confident the children gained important knowledge about water safety—particularly valuable in our coastal community.

Looking ahead to next week, on **Thursday** we will be commemorating **VE Day** in school. Children are invited to come dressed in **red, white and blue**, and we are hoping for good weather so that we can enjoy a **picnic lunch together outside** as part of the celebration.

We look forward to a busy and enjoyable term ahead, full of learning, creativity, and sunshine!

God Bless to you all
Cathy Blatchford

THE CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL

On our first day back after Easter, the children took some time to pray for Pope Francis.

As the leader of Catholics all around the world. He showed us how to be kind, how to care for others, and how to love like Jesus did. He reminded us to look after people who are poor, lonely, or hurting, and he always spoke about peace and love.

At our school, we've been especially inspired by his message in *Laudato Si'*, where he asked everyone to take care of our common home — the Earth. He taught us that looking after the planet is part of our faith, and that we all have a role to play in protecting God's creation. Whether we're recycling, saving energy, or showing respect for nature, we're following Pope Francis' example.

As we pray for Pope Francis, we also give thanks for all the good he did. Let's keep him in our hearts and remember his message: that even the smallest acts of love can change the world.



Please pray...

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon him.
May he rest in peace. Amen.

SUMMER 1 CLUBS:

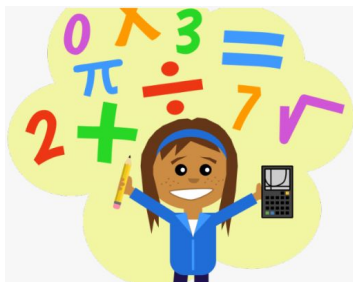


These are the clubs that are running during the first half of the Summer term.

Please copy and paste the google form link below to sign your child up.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdFMQUqtAhwOko37eG9gQGcFWetvX8JCpiEyiJDRmA-hPqJfg/viewform?usp=pp_url

- Football Club Tuesdays 3.15 - 4.45pm (Years 4, 5 and 6 only. Waiting List)
- Fizz Pop Science Club in Y6 Classroom Tuesdays 3:15pm - 4:15pm (Chargeable club. More info to follow. Click here to book [FizzPop Sign-Up Cloud.png](#))
- Spanish with Dani Wednesdays 3.15 - 4pm
- Maths Sats Booster class with Mrs Blatchford and Mrs O'Sullivan Wednesdays 3.15pm - 4.15pm (Year 6 only)
- Dartmoor 3 Ball with Miss Humphrey, Wednesdays 3.15 - 4:15pm - maximum 20 - KS2
- Girls Football with Mr Stamp (KS2 pupils only. Max. 25) 3:15pm-4:30pm
- Drama club with Miss Wathen Thursdays 3:15pm - 4pm (KS2 pupils only)
- Striking & Fielding (Cricket/Rounders/DM3Ball etc) with Premier Sport Fridays 3:15 - 4:30pm



NURSERY

NURSERY HAVE BEEN BUSY LEARNING ABOUT THE LIFE CYCLE OF A BUTTERFLY, WE HAVE BEEN READING AND RETELLING THE STORY THE VERY HUNGRY CATERPILLAR BY ERIC CARLE. THE CHILDREN HAVE ENJOYED THE ACTIVITIES AND HAVE SHOWN EXCITEMENT ABOUT LEARNING MORE ABOUT MINIBEASTS. WE ALSO HAD A VISIT FROM THE LIFE GUARDS ABOUT SEA SAFETY.



REC & YEAR 1

The children have been very busy. In Art we have been learning about collage and the children had the opportunity to learn about the work of Megan Coyle. They then made their own collages based on the piece 'Purple Cow Paradise'. We have also planted our sunflower seeds and we are making sure we water them and that they have lots of sunlight. The first shoots are appearing! We are also planting our own beans. Over the coming weeks we will be seeing how they grow and change.





Year 1 & 2

This week in PE, the children in Mars class have been learning how to hold, send and receive a ball. The children enjoyed working in small groups and especially enjoyed the point scoring game at the end.



YEAR 3 & 4

Saturn class took part in a 'Meet the Lifeguard' workshop alongside the rest of the KS2 cohort at OLSP. The children learnt about the important roles of a lifeguard and the specific training they complete each day. The children also got the chance to think about the different equipment they have to wear as well as what the different flags are when exploring the beach.



YEAR 5

The children enjoyed a collaborative approach to reflecting on pieces of Art themed around Jesus and his disciples.

The children answered questions to get them thinking about what they are seeing and feeling.



YEAR 6



The Y6s had an incredible week just before the Easter break making memories for life whilst on residential. Each and every child was an absolute superstar, and a credit to the school. Well done to them all. (More photos on the next page).



DISCIPLE OF THE WEEK

| | 22.04.25 | 28.04.25 |
|--------------|-------------|------------|
| Value | Compassion | Temperance |
| Stars | Billy | Percy |
| Moons | Chloe | Lumen |
| Mars | Tyler | Max |
| Saturn | Max S | Callum |
| Neptune | Kaya | Ossie |
| Supernova | Whole class | Sebastian |

STAR OF THE WEEK

| | 22.04.25 | 28.04.25 |
|--------------|----------|-----------|
| Stars | Chloe | Thaddeus |
| Moons | Elliot | Wilma |
| Mars | Hattie | Oliver |
| Saturn | Emilia | Isla-Rose |
| Neptune | Olivia | Oscar |
| Supernova | Theo W | George |



Diary Dates

| | | | |
|------------------|---|------------------|--|
| | | 12th June | 10 - 11.30am Year 5 & 6 TriGolf Festival at TCS |
| 5th May | May Day Bank Holiday | 13th June | Jubilee of sport non-uniform day |
| 6th May | 3.15 - 4.15pm Fizz Pop Science Club in Y6 Classroom. Sign up here https://fizzpopsience.co.uk/afterschoolbooking/ | 11th June | Junior Speaks heats |
| 8th May | 80th Anniversary for VE Day (All to wear Red, White and Blue). Send in a picnic blanket for lunchtime. 9.30am - 12noon Year 3/4 Striking & Fielding Festival at TCS 9am - 12pm Year 5 out - Teignmouth Town for singing | 20th June | 4pm - 8pm School Barbecue |
| 12th May | Y6 SATS week | 18th June | Junior Speaks finals |
| 13th May | 3.15 - 4.15pm Fizz Pop Science Club in Y6 Classroom. Sign up here https://fizzpopsience.co.uk/afterschoolbooking/ | 24th June | 9am - 3:30pm Year 3/4 Exeter Museum & Library Trip |
| 16th May | Year 5 sleepover in hall Friday night - pick up 9am Saturday | 25th June | 10am Sports Day |
| 20th May | 3.15 - 4.15pm Fizz Pop Science Club in Y6 Classroom. Sign up here https://fizzpopsience.co.uk/afterschoolbooking/ | 26th June | 9am Reception and KS1 Class visit to Stover |
| 22nd May | 9:30 - 11:30am Moons, Y1s and Y6 to Mass St Ignatius Shaldon | 27th June | St Peter's and St Paul's Liturgy |
| 26th May | Half Term Holiday | 2nd July | Y6 - Plymouth CAST leavers mass (Church of the Assumption, Torquay) |
| 2nd June | INSET Day (No Pupils) | 8th July | Moving up day TCS Induction Day |
| 5th June | Environment Day | 9th July | Presentation evening for Y6 Civic Award |
| 9th June | 5 - 6pm Year 5/6 Open Water Swimming /Life Saving Event | 15th July | Year 6 performance to parents |
| 10th June | 10am - 1pm KS2 Athletics Competition | 21st July | 3:15 - 4pm Enterprise Selling Event Y5 and 6 |

Attendance

We have started our final term of this academic year. Last term we were pleased to share with you that attendance across our school was still sitting well above the national average. This is purely down to your commitment to showing up on time, everyday, ready to learn.

We ask our families to continue that great job in supporting the children with this, as it reflects massively in confidence, achievements and their overall attitude towards their school.

Let's lift our school well above the national average this term and finish this academic year on a real attendance positive.

| 22nd April - 2nd May 2025 | |
|---------------------------|--------|
| Moons | 92.33% |
| Mars | 98.22% |
| Saturn | 99.43% |
| Neptune | 96.48% |
| Supernova | 91.67% |

Well done to Mars for achieving 100% last week and to Saturn for winning overall for the fortnight!

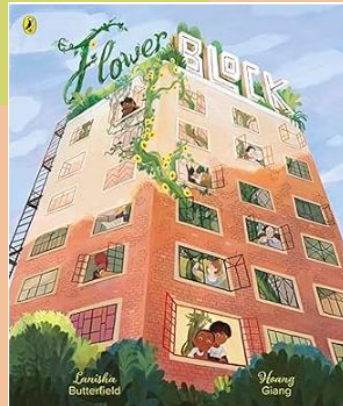
News from the Friends



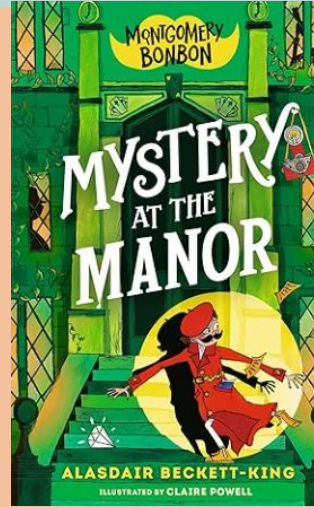
"So please, oh please, we beg, we pray, go throw your TV set away, and in its place you can install a lovely bookshelf on the wall."- Roald Dahl

Flower Block by Lanisha Butterfield

When Jeremiah plants a packet of sunflower seeds, the very last thing he expects is for the vines and leaves to grow overnight and burst through the ceiling of his apartment! As Jeremiah and his brother chase the magical plant up through the floors of their tower block home, they discover an array of curious neighbours who join in the adventure. But what could be waiting for them at the top of the building? And will Jeremiah find his voice to help the neighbours discover the true magic hidden within these sunflower seeds? A glorious celebration of the power of nature to bring communities together.



THIS NEWSLETTER WE RECOMMEND



Mystery at the Manor by Montgomery Bonbon

Bonnie Montgomery (as her case-cracking alter-ego Montgomery Bonbon) has been invited to Adderstone Manor by Fergus Croke, whose prized diamond has gone missing. Croke is a retired master thief who suspects one of his four protégés of the dirty deed – but when everyone is a crook, how does even the great Bonbon know where to begin?

The plot thickens faster than a good roux when the *only* unsuspecting member of the household, Croke's loyal butler, is found dead in the grounds – and it's not long before Bonbon uncovers hidden identities, motives a-many, and a rather surprising hedge maze full of monkeys. Can Bonbon, Dana and Grampa Banks uncover the missing gem and catch the thief and killer – and are they one and the same?

We are proud to share that our school is a partner with Bedz4Kidz, a wonderful charity dedicated to ensuring every child has a comfortable place to sleep. Have you ever paused to think about where or how your child sleeps each night? If you feel your family could benefit from support with bed frames, mattresses, or bedding items, please don't hesitate to contact Rachel Ripley our Family Support Worker in confidence. We will make the referral on your behalf.



Drum Lessons
Now offered
at school.

For more info contact Ben at:
devondrumschool@gmail.com
Tel:
07966-488481



CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION

This school is proud to be a

Music Mark School

In recognition of a commitment to
providing a high-quality music education
for all children and young people

2024 - 2025

Bridget Whyte
CEO of Music Mark

The UK Association for Music Education - Music Mark | www.musicmark.org.uk



Supported by:



Find out more:



THIS IS NOT
A REHEARSAL 

Music Mark's campaign
on sustainability in
music education

Guitar Lessons

Individual and group
lessons now being
offered in school
with Mr Hopkins

To sign up or
for more
information
contact Mr
Hopkins on
07979 148929
or
[shopkins2112@
gmail.com](mailto:shopkins2112@gmail.com)



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)**



Free behaviour support resources for schools and families

Have you heard of **My Family Coach**? It's an incredible free platform for schools and families for help and support with all areas of behaviour, school and family life.

The platform includes **over 50 hours of free support content** from the experienced team here at Team Teach. There's **articles, podcasts, videos, ebooks and quarterly online parent classes** that you and the families you support can attend and watch on-demand as well.

The resources and support cover a huge variety of topics and we're always adding more: Relationships, Communication, Mental wellbeing, Friendships, Bullying, Calming down, School life, Healthy living, At risk behaviour, Screen time.

And for this time of year, families might find articles on **understanding behaviour, managing changes to routines, how to enjoy a family Christmas, using family support for childcare in the holidays, supporting your child through the holidays** or **why self care isn't selfish** helpful.

It's all available 24/7 and completely free! To access the platform as a parent or a school, simply visit the **My Family Coach website** and create an account.

Are you missing out?

More money for your school!



Nutritious meal every day!



Access to free holiday clubs!



More teachers, trips, and activities!



Check your eligibility today for Free School Meals

https://oneonline.devon.gov.uk/CCSCitizenPortal_LIVE



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 Attendance and Welfare Officer here at OLSP. I monitor 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/) -

<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.