

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



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Living, Loving and Learning in God's Way



Newsletter: 20th June 2025

Head Teacher: Mrs Cathy Blatchford



HEAD TEACHER UPDATE

What a busy and exciting time it's been at School!

Today marks our much-anticipated School BBQ — a wonderful event that not only brings our community together, but also serves as a vital fundraiser for the school. We are incredibly grateful to our *Friends of the School*, and especially to Lucy and Cara, for their months of tireless preparation. Their homes have been bursting at the seams with BBQ supplies, decorations, and raffle prizes — and their hard work is deeply appreciated. We can't wait to see many of you there later today for an afternoon of fun, food, and fundraising!

Meanwhile, the children have been taking part in a fantastic range of activities over recent weeks. From *Tri-Golf* and *athletics festivals*, to the *KS1 football tournament*, *Forest School adventures*, and *swimming sessions*, it's been a whirlwind of learning and physical activity — and the children have approached each opportunity with great enthusiasm and energy.

A special congratulations goes to all our brilliant participants in Junior Speaks. We were absolutely wowed by the quality, confidence, and creativity of the presentations. Topics ranged from the thought-provoking "*Pros and Cons of AI*" to the very relatable "*Pros and Cons of Having Siblings!*". It's safe to say our young speakers impressed us all with their insight and poise. A big congratulations to Grace, winner of Year 5/6 and Mary Lou as runner-up. Also to Raffy winner of Year 3/4 and Max as the runner-up.

As we approach the end of term and so much more to come, we are so proud of how much the children have embraced every opportunity. Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

God Bless

Cathy Blatchford

THE CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL

Celebrating the Feast of St Peter and St Paul

We are getting ready to celebrate the special feast day of **St Peter and St Paul**, which takes place every year on **29th June**. This important day honours two of Jesus' closest followers, who helped build the early Church.

St Peter was one of Jesus' twelve apostles and is often called the first Pope. Jesus chose him to be the "rock" on which the Church would be built. He is usually shown holding keys, which represent the keys to Heaven.

St Paul wasn't one of the original twelve apostles, but he had a powerful meeting with Jesus that changed his life. He travelled far and wide to spread the Good News and wrote many letters in the Bible.

We remember St Peter and St Paul not only for their bravery and faith, but also for their love for Jesus and their hard work in sharing His message. To mark this special feast, each class will take part in a class liturgy, where we will pray together, reflect on the lives of these two great saints, and think about how we can follow their example in our own lives.

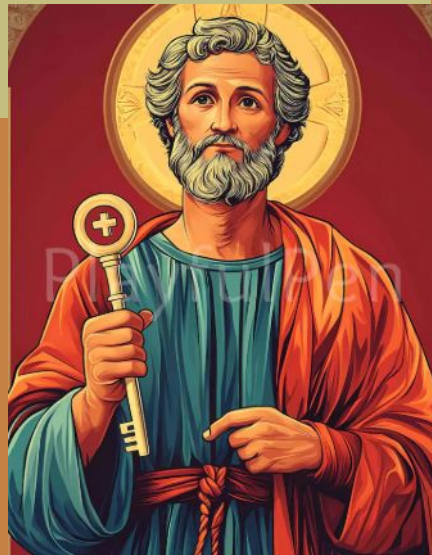
Let's keep St Peter and St Paul in our prayers as we thank God for their courage, faith, and love.

Dear God,

Thank You for St Peter and St Paul,
who followed Jesus with all their hearts.
Help us to be brave like them,
to share Your love with others,
and to stand strong in our faith.

May we listen to Your call,
and always try to do what is right.
St Peter and St Paul,
pray for us.

Amen.



SUMMER 2 CLUBS:

These are the clubs that are running during the second 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/1FAIpQLScSGvTiQdyTMFRc03qn58i6QUa3d6A3z2P5nUU0TgzQQFq1aQ/viewform?usp=pp_url

- Spanish with Dani Wednesdays 3.15 - 4pm
- Drawing Club Thursday with Mrs Blatchford KS2 only (max. 12)
- Athletics with Premier Sport Fridays 3:15 - 4:30pm
- Girls Football with Mr Stamp (KS2 pupils only. Max. 25) 3:15pm-4:30pm



NURSERY

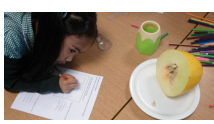
Nursery have been having a wonderful time exploring under the sea and pirates we have enjoyed dressing up as Pirates and learning about different sea creatures. We have also spent lots of time enjoying the sunshine outside.



REC & YEAR 1

This term we are focusing on Design and Technology following on from our last term's focus which was Art. We have explored the difference between healthy and unhealthy food and discussed what a balanced diet might contain. We then completed surveys of class favourites - with the children choosing their preferred fruit. We have now tasted different fruits and completed a taste test - what words can we use to describe what we have seen, touched, smelt and tasted. We are hoping to create our own fruit salad soon after we learn about the different ways of chopping and peeling our fruit.





Year 1 & 2

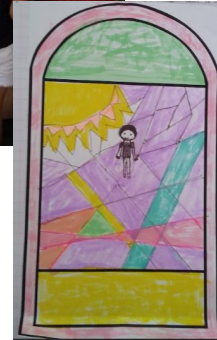
This week in science, the children have been learning about and exploring seeds.

We examined different fruits using magnifying glasses. We found lots of different seeds in the fruit. Did you know that a tomato is a fruit because it has seeds inside?



YEAR 3 & 4

This week, Saturn Class explored the story of Saul's conversion to Paul, when he encountered Jesus on the road to Damascus. To show their understanding, the children created beautiful 'stained glass' window designs. They all worked really hard and the results were fantastic!



YEAR 5

The children attended a Tri Golf Festival. We braved the rain and enjoyed the golfing activities at TCS.



Also, many of the children in class 5 took part in 'Junior Speaks'. I would like to congratulate Grace on winning out of the Y5 and 6 children, who took part! Great achievement!



It was a lovely reminder of what beautiful grounds we have at OLSP with so much to offer.



YEAR 6

Year 6 have been incredibly busy with activities including swimming, Tri Golf and forest school.



DISCIPLE OF THE WEEK

	09.06.25	16.06.25
Value	Fortitude	Humility
Stars	Leah	Zayne
Moons	Chloe	Klara
Mars	Hattie	Seb
Saturn	Sophie	Jake
Neptune	Caitlyn	Grace
Supernova	Kody	George



STAR OF THE WEEK

	09.06.25	16.06.25
Stars	Henry	Bobby
Moons	Lumen	Rowen
Mars	Ellie	Arthur
Saturn	Nathel	Isla-Rose
Neptune	Hollie	Molly
Supernova	Paris	Elsa



Diary Dates

		8th July	Moving up day TCS Induction Day
23rd June	9:30 - 11am Swimming Lessons at The Lido Years 3 -6	9th July	Presentation evening for Y6 Civic Award 10am - 3pm Back up - Sports Day
24th June	9am - 3:30pm Year 3/4 Exeter Museum & Library Trip	10th July	1 - 3pm Year 5 Forest School
25th June	Sports Day	11th July	3 - 3:45pm Ice Pop Friday
26th June	9am Reception and KS1 Class visit to Stover	14th July	9:30 - 11am Swimming Lessons at The Lido Years 3 -6 1:30 - 2:30pm Y6 dress rehearsal to school?
27th June	St Peter's and St Paul's Liturgy 3 - 3:45pm Ice Pop Friday	15th July	5- 6pm Y6 performance Charlie and the Chocolate factory
30th June	9:30 - 11am Swimming Lessons at The Lido Years 3 -6	17th July	1:15 - 2:15pm Music concert
1st July	10am - 2pm KS2 Pilgrim Walk to Dawlish	18th July	9:15 - 9:45am Year 6 v staff football match
2nd July	Y6 - Plymouth CAST leavers mass (Church of the Assumption, Torquay)	21st July	3:15 - 4pm Enterprise Selling Event Y5 and 6
3rd July	1 - 3pm Year 3/4 forest school 1:30pm - 2:45pm Tempest Class photos	22nd July	9am Leavers' Mass 2 - 3pm Year 6 water fight on the school field 1 - 2pm Ice-cream and games for 99% and 100%ers (attendance)
4th July	3 - 3:45pm Ice Pop Friday School's Out Disco (Time TBC)	23rd July	Last Day of Summer Term
7th July	9:30 - 11am Swimming Lessons at The Lido Years 3 -6	22nd November	5 - 7pm Christmas light switch on and lantern parade



Every Day Counts – Let's Stay Healthy and Keep Learning!

We know that every school day is a chance to learn, grow, and have fun! Good attendance helps children build routines, stay connected with friends, and make the most of their learning. We understand that sometimes illness can't be avoided, and it's important for children to rest at home when they're truly unwell. But when they're feeling well enough, being in school is the best place for them to be.

Not sure if your child should stay home? The NHS has a helpful guide:

👉 [Is my child too ill for school?](#)

To support good attendance and clear communication, please remember:

If your child is absent for **five or more consecutive days**, it is school policy to request **medical evidence**, such as a note from a doctor or a copy of a prescription. This helps us keep accurate records and support your child's return to school.

A few tips to help keep everyone healthy and ready to learn:

- Encourage regular handwashing
- Make sure your child gets plenty of sleep
- Pack healthy snacks and a water bottle
- Remind children to cover coughs and sneezes

Thank you for working with us to support strong attendance and a healthy school environment!

9th - 20th June 2025

Moons	90.75%
Mars	98.27%
Saturn	99.29%
Neptune	99.17%
Supernova	98.75%

Well done to Saturn!

News from the Friends

SPORTS DAY

THE FRIENDS OF OLSP WILL BE SERVING
REFRESHMENTS AT SPORTS DAY!

WEDNESDAY 25TH JUNE



The Friends of OLSP

ICE POP FRIDAY'S

June
13th & 27th

July
4th & 11th



Schools Out Disco

Friday 4th July

KS1 5-6

KS2 6.15-7.15

£3 per child
to include entry, unlimited squash
and a disco wristband

Tickets available via PTA Events

Optional extras from 50p
Face Painting
Glow in the dark tattoos
Tuck shop



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.