

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



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Living, Loving and Learning in God's Way



Newsletter: 16th May 2025

Head Teacher: Mrs Cathy Blatchford



HEAD TEACHER UPDATE

First and foremost, a massive congratulations to our Year 6 pupils, who have worked incredibly hard and shown real determination while sitting their KS2 SATs this week. We are so proud of the way they have approached the tests with focus, resilience, and a positive attitude.

We've reminded them, as always, that while these tests are important, they only measure a small part of who they are. Their kindness, creativity, curiosity, sense of humour, and many other qualities matter just as much — and we couldn't be prouder of them.

You will also see that all classes have shared news and images from our VE Day 80th anniversary celebrations. It was a fantastic day filled with learning, music, remembrance and fun. The children enjoyed stepping back in time and reflecting on this important moment in history — it was clear from their smiles just how much they enjoyed the experience!

A Polite Reminder

A quick reminder to all families that school gates close promptly at 8:45am each morning, and the school day finishes at 3:15pm. We kindly ask that pupils are dropped off and collected on time to support a smooth start and end to the school day for everyone.

Please also be aware that while the school day ends for children at 3:15pm, this is not the end of the working day for staff. Teachers often have meetings, after-school clubs, and training sessions to attend. Late collections can be frustrating and disruptive, so we really appreciate your efforts to be punctual and support our staff in managing their time effectively.

Thank you for your continued support and understanding

God Bless to you all
Cathy Blatchford

THE CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL

We Have a New Pope!

Something very special has happened – the Catholic Church has a new pope!

People all around the world waited and watched the chimney at the Vatican. Why? Because when the cardinals choose a new pope, white smoke comes out of the chimney to let everyone know! There was a lot of waiting and hoping... and then, finally – white smoke! That meant a new pope had been chosen!

His name is Pope **Leo XIV**, and he will help lead the Church, teach about Jesus, and encourage everyone to be loving and kind. Many people are already praying for him as he starts his very important job.

Let's say a prayer for Pope **Leo XIV** today!



May is Mary's Special Month

Did you know that May is a very special month for Catholics? It's called the **Month of Mary**! Mary is Jesus' mother, and we remember how much she loves God and all of us. During May, we do kind and loving things to show how much we love Mary too. Some people:

- 🌸 Put flowers near a statue or picture of Mary
- 🙏 Pray the Hail Mary or the Rosary
- 👑 Make a little crown of flowers for Mary

We do this because Mary said "yes" to God and helped bring Jesus into the world. She is a wonderful example of how to love and follow God. Let's try to be kind and helpful this May, just like Mary!

NURSERY

WE HAD A LOVELY TIME CELEBRATING V.E DAY, NURSERY HAD AN AMAZING STREET PARTY WHERE OUR PARENTS JOINED THEIR CHILDREN FOR LUNCH. WE LISTENED TO MUSIC AND ATE LOTS OF YUMMY FOOD! WE THEN JOINED THE REST OF THE SCHOOL ON THE FIELD TO CONTINUE OUR CELEBRATIONS.



REC & YEAR 1



We had a wonderful day celebrating VE Day. We made hats, flags and enjoyed a delicious picnic lunch on the field in the sunshine. The children said that they felt very grateful for their lives, after we discussed WW2.

The children are enjoying taking their learning outside now that the sun has made an appearance.



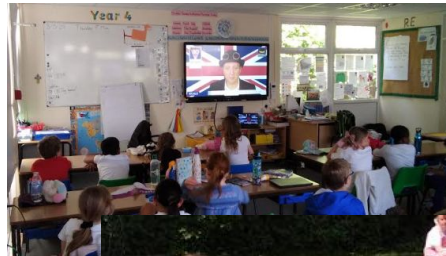
Year 1 & 2

Mars Class had a fantastic day commemorating VE Day. They learnt about VE Day and considered why it is important that we celebrate on it's anniversary. They also learnt about why we were allowed to wear red, white and blue. However, the highlight was definitely our whole school picnic on the field. The children loved sitting on their blankets whilst eating with their friends in the sunshine!



YEAR 3 & 4

Saturn class loved celebrating VE Day. They took part in a special history lesson from Mr Dilly which explained the events about how Great Britain and the allies were victorious in WW2. The children loved sitting with their friends whilst listening to traditional VE day music at lunchtime also.



YEAR 5



We had the opportunity to sing in Teignmouth, to the local people to celebrate VE Day 80th Anniversary. We sang 'Run, Rabbit, Run, Run' and it's 'A Long Way to Tipperary'. The children all sang beautifully! Well done class 5. We also had lunch on the field with the rest of the school.

YEAR 6



The children thoroughly enjoyed eating their lunch on the field.

In the afternoon of VE Day's 80th anniversary, we held a thoughtful debate on whether VE Day should still be commemorated. There was overwhelming agreement that it remains important—not only as a moment to honour history, but also, as some humorously noted, as a welcome break from regular work! *I would definitely say they enjoyed it.*

DISCIPLE OF THE WEEK

	09.05.25	16.05.25
Value	Love	Peace
Stars	Bobby	Sam
Moons	Emily	Noah
Mars	Nate	Evelyn
Saturn	Arthur	Josh
Neptune	Ethan	Grace
Supernova	Archie B	All of Year 6.



STAR OF THE WEEK

	09.05.25	16.05.25
Stars	Andriy	Issac
Moons	Gypsy-Leigh	Rune
Mars	Samuel	Steffan
Saturn	Vlad	Florence
Neptune	Oscar	Tara
Supernova	Laila	Theo W



Diary Dates



		11th June	Junior Speaks heats
20th May	3.15 - 4.15pm Fizz Pop Science Club in Y6 Classroom. Sign up here https://fizzpopscience.co.uk/afterschoolbooking/	16th June	9:30 - 11am Swimming Lessons at The Lido Years 3 - 6
21st May	Bake sale to raise money for Guinea pig hutch and run	20th June	4pm - 8pm School Barbecue
22nd May	9:30 - 11:30am Moons, Y1s and Y6 to Mass St Ignatius Shaldon Year 5 trip to Dawlish Warren	18th June	Junior Speaks finals
23rd May	Non-uniform for BBQ donations	19th June	1 - 3pm Y6 Forest school
26th May	Half Term Holiday	23rd June	9:30 - 11am Swimming Lessons at The Lido Years 3 -6
2nd June	INSET Day (No Pupils)	24th June	9am - 3:30pm Year 3/4 Exeter Museum & Library Trip
3rd June	June Caterpillar Garden Comp (Judging 1st week July)	25th June	10am Sports Day
5th June	Environment Day Daisy Artist visiting year 5	26th June	9am Reception and KS1 Class visit to Stover
6th June	National Donut Day	27th June	St Peter's and St Paul's Liturgy 3 - 3:45pm Ice Pop Friday
9th June	5 - 6pm Year 5/6 Open Water Swimming /Life Saving Event 9:30 - 11am Swimming Lessons at The Lido Years 3 -6	30th June	9:30 - 11am Swimming Lessons at The Lido Years 3 -6
10th June	10am - 1pm KS2 Athletics Competition	1st July	10am - 2pm KS2 Pilgrim Walk to Dawlish
12th June	10 - 11.30am Year 5 & 6 TriGolf Festival at TCS 1 - 3pm Y6 Forest School	2nd July	Y6 - Plymouth CAST leavers mass (Church of the Assumption, Torquay)
13th June	Jubilee of sport non-uniform day Fathers Day Gift shop 3 - 3:45pm Ice Pop Friday	3rd July	1 - 3pm Year 3/4 forest school

May Half
Term Fun!

PREMIER HOLIDAY CAMPS



INSPIRING
ACTIVITY



SCAN HERE FOR
MORE INFORMATION

or visit premier-education.com/holiday-camps



Based on over 20,000 reviews

YOUR NEAREST HOLIDAY CAMP...

Venue: Our Lady and St Patrick's RC Primary School TQ14 9DT

Dates: Tuesday 27th May - Friday 30th May

Times: 09:00 - 15:30

Price: £22.00

Ages: 5 - 12

Additional info: Summer Themed Sports, Games and Crafts!

PLEASE BRING

A packed lunch
Plenty of water
Suitable clothing
Loads of energy!

Our Holiday Camps are designed to help your kids get active, introduce them to new and exciting activities, and create a fun-filled experience they will remember forever.

A bucket load of fun activities, every school holiday. With great value sports, performing arts, and games to enjoy each half term, we have plenty for your children to get stuck into in the school break.

Book now for a school holiday full of fun!



TREAT YOUR FRIENDS
TO 20% OFF...AND GET
20% OFF TOO!

*T&Cs apply. Refer a Friend discount on new bookings only.



Based on over 20,000 reviews



Attendance is a routine for life

We are thrilled to tell you that, despite a recent wave of illnesses across the year groups, our School is still sitting well above the national average for attendance, which is currently 94.8%. Attendance here is 96.7%. This is incredible and we should all be very proud. Your commitment to showing up on time, everyday, ready to learn really does make a difference. Thank you to all of our families for supporting the children with this. This is definitely reflected in the childrens' confidence, achievements and overall attitude towards their school. Regular attendance helps build a strong foundation for academic success and sets the children up for a bright future.

Keep up the great work, and let's continue making each school day count!

Let's keep up the momentum and start the Summer term strong!

6th - 16th May 2025	
Moons	93%
Mars	98.15%
Saturn	96.35%
Neptune	96.27%
Supernova	96.32%

Well done to once again to Mars!

News from the Friends

Non uniform Day

Friday 23rd May

Please bring in a donation
for the BBQ tomobla...

this can be anything from a tin of beans,
toiletries, biscuits, sweets, toys

All items must be new, unused
and in date

Thank you for your support!



BISCUIT

National Donut Day!

Friday 6th June

the Friends of OLSP will be
selling a selection of Donuts
after school



We are pleased to announce that the Friends of OLSP have organised a clothes & shoe collection with Bag2School in order to raise funds for our lovely little school.

Bag2School is the UK's leading textile recycler and fundraiser working with schools and since its inception in 1999 it has now paid out over £48million.

Collection date
Thursday 12th June

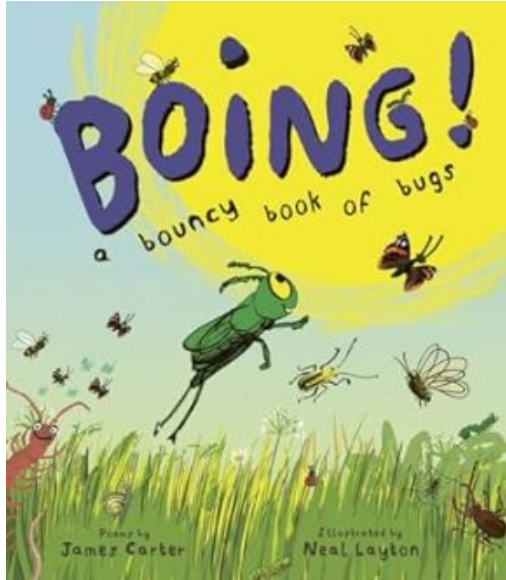
"So please, oh please, we beg, we pray, go throw your TV set away, and in its place you can install a lovely bookshelf on the wall."- Roald Dahl

THIS NEWSLETTER WE RECOMMEND

Boing by James Carter

Bestselling poet James Carter and illustrator Neal Layton love bugs and minibeasts and here they celebrate them all – from grasshoppers, ladybirds and dung beetles to moths, flies, wasps – and even bedbugs. Including the extraordinary tardigrades who can live in outer space.

With 24 poems, including shape poems, riddles, rhyming poems and free verse, plus amazing and informative facts about each bug or minibeast on every page, the world of insects is brought buzzing to life, matched by Neal Layton's bugtiful colour illustrations.



Reek by Alistair Chisholm

Climate catastrophe leaves the people of Earth fighting for oxygen in this gripping dystopian thriller. Sparrow lives in the world after the Reek. The atmosphere is toxically polluted, and Axel Brodie, the tech billionaire behind Zephyr Industries, is cashing in as the only supplier of clean air. Sparrow is struggling to help her family survive until her brilliant inventor friend, Miriam Fenn, comes up with a new form of technology that could break Zephyr's stranglehold on the air supply. But men like Brodie are hard to defeat, and he will do everything in his power to stop Miriam and Sparrow. Who will triumph in this battle to breathe? Particularly suitable for readers aged 9+





FAMILY PICNIC DAY

Grangehurst House
Buckfast Abbey
TQ11 0EE

SUNDAY 1ST JUNE 2025 | 12- 3PM

In celebration of the Jubilee of families, children
and grandparents

Bring a picnic and a blanket

Keep the kids entertained with our

Games | Face Painting | refreshments
available to purchase- cash only please



The Catholic Children's Society Plymouth. Charity number 282803

Annual Mass

Thursday, 5th June 2025

1.30PM

St John the Baptist Catholic Church,
Trevu Road, Camborne, TR14 7AE

Please join us in celebrating the work
carried out by our charity and to pray
for the families of the Diocese

Fr Jaraslaw will be accompanied by the children
of St John's Catholic School

All welcome

Refreshments available after Mass

Catholic Children's Society Plymouth. Charity Registration No 282803

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.