

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



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*Living, Loving and Learning in God's Way*



**Newsletter: 17th January 2025**

Head Teacher: Mrs Cathy Blatchford

# HEAD TEACHER UPDATE

Happy New Year to all of our families. It is amazing how fast the last two weeks have gone. I hope you had a good break - if you can remember that far back!

The school has continued to be industrious with lots of learning going on. We have been very lucky to have had lots of decent weather to make the most of our outside grounds. We have welcomed Mrs Mullane and Mrs Brooks to our Reception/Year 1 class and the children have loved meeting their new teachers.

Over the last couple of weeks we have had 'Louis Braille Day' and 'Save your energy week' (as in electricity!). I hope your child/ren have been able to tell you lots about it.

Clubs continue to run, making sure we have a wide range of opportunities for the children and I would like to say a big thank you to Mr Dyson who has done a fantastic job setting up the football club.

Our Friends continue to be constantly looking to support us and we were thrilled to receive a big box of books requested by the children to add to our library. They have produced an events calendar for the rest of this term, so please do make sure you have seen it.

Have a fabulous weekend.

God bless to you all

Mrs Cathy Blatchford,  
Head Teacher

# GOVERNORS MESSAGE

We are now half-way into January and the beginning of our Spring term so we are looking forward to another busy and fulfilling academic year.

Having said goodbye to valued members of staff at the end of July we welcomed new members of staff to our school in September and are sure that they have been supported by their colleagues as they settled in.

Fr Mark's new parish have welcomed him with open arms and I am glad to say that he is enjoying exploring the new area. Fr Albert has been up to school on several occasions already and I hope that when he returns from visiting family in Australia he will be refreshed and am sure you will see him at school regularly. He will be joining the Governing Body on his return so we are looking forward to having him on board. We have been very lucky to have the support of the parish priest in the past and know that he is very keen to continue with this.

The Governing board are not here to run the school but to support the work of the Senior Leadership team by acting as a 'critical friend'. We make regular visits to monitor activities so that we can see first hand how things are going and this obviously helps us understand the challenges that the staff face and also the opportunities that may arise as well. The staff are always very welcoming so we thank them for that.

Diary dates are always printed on the school newsletter so please do make a note of all the upcoming events and hopefully we shall see some of you over the coming months. The Governors are looking forward to what 2025 will bring to the school and hope that it will be a good one for all parents and staff.

Lorraine Coulter

Chair of Governors

# THE CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL



As we bid a close to our Christmas season with the joyous celebrations of the Epiphany and the Baptism of our Lord. Please can we turn our prayerful attention to the victims of the ongoing, horrific wildfires in California.

## Every day is Christmas

For Catholics, every day is, in the most basic sense, Christmas. That's because every day, the Word becomes flesh in the sacraments, particularly the Eucharist; and through the sacraments, the people of God become of the Body of Christ in the world. Just as Mary's "yes" made her an instrument of God's incarnation in the world, by our "yes," we too birth the Son of God into the world.

## Please pray for California

At this time of great suffering, we entrust all victims of the wildfires to You.

Comfort them, fill them with Your grace, and provide for their needs.

We entrust all who have died to Your merciful Heart.

Give wisdom and prudence to those managing this disaster.

Give courage and resolve to those on the front lines.

Keep them safe and successful in their efforts. Command the winds and the flames to obey You, Lord, as You once calmed the stormy seas.

Pour the water of Your grace upon these destructive fires.

Stay them with Your powerful hand.



# NURSERY

In Nursery we have been looking at Winter, exploring how water freezes, What we need to wear and What animals do in winter.

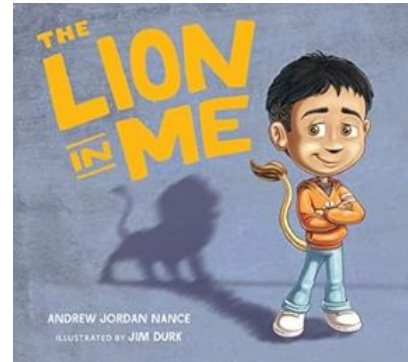
They had great fun working out how to get the Artic animals out of there icy homes using different things they could find around the nursery.



# REC & YEAR 1

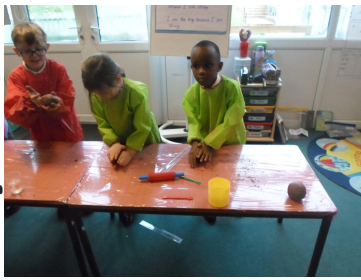
It has been lovely to meet the children and to get to know their unique personalities. They have been very busy exploring the book 'supertato' in reception. They have made superhero puppets and masks. The children have also been designing superhero capes and have been thinking about what a superhero might say.

In year 1, the children have been exploring the story 'the lion in me'. They have been making animal masks and have thought about how lions are different to other animals in the story. We have also been learning about our numbers to 20 and comparing different quantities using the words greater than, less than and fewer.



# Year 1 & 2

This week, the children have been exploring clay in their art lessons. They learnt how to make different shapes, cut the clay and mark and indent it using tools. They were then set the challenge to make their own castle.



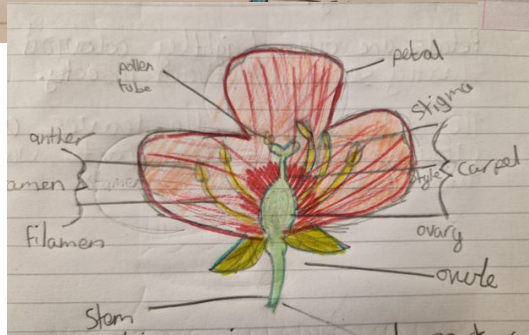
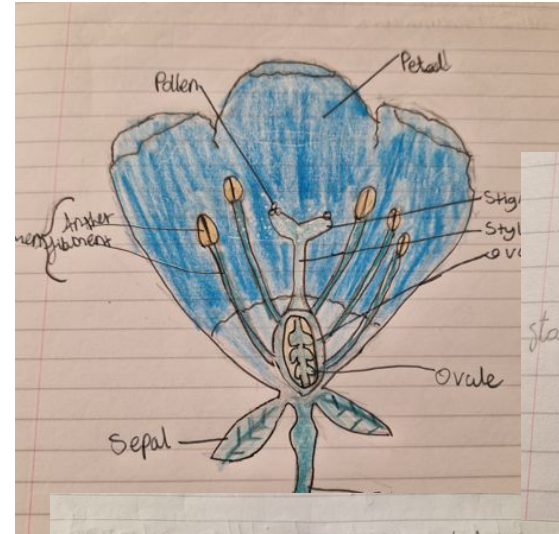
# YEAR 3 & 4

In English this week, Saturn class ventured outside to explore OLSP's surroundings. The children gathered notes about a tree of their choice and had to think carefully about what vocabulary they could use for their tree. The children will eventually use their information they collected to create their own tree guide next week.



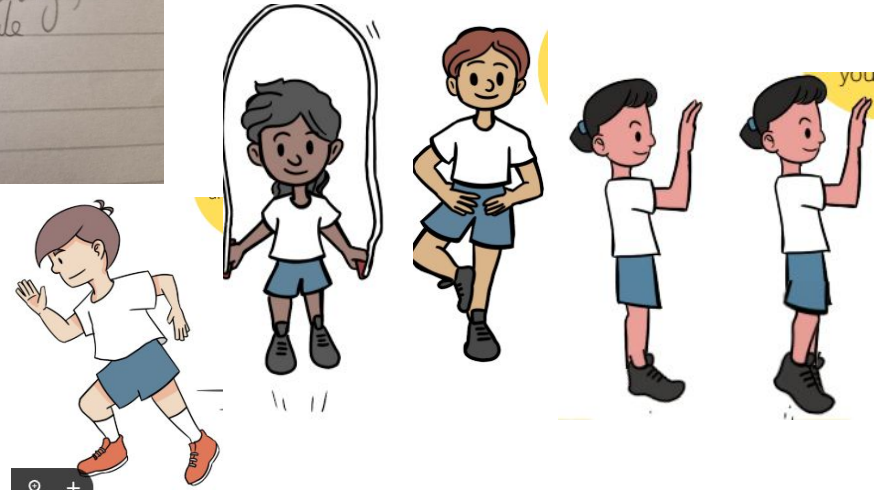
# YEAR 5

The class started their new unit on living things in science. The children enjoyed drawing, labelling parts of a flower and learning the new vocabulary.



# YEAR 6

Year 6 love being outdoors and have spent time this week exploring how they can improve their speed, balance, strength, coordination, agility and stamina. They certainly gave it a good go.





# DISCIPLE OF THE WEEK

	06.01.25	13.01.25
<b>Value</b>	<b>Peace</b>	<b>Compassion</b>
Stars	Zayne	Tabitha
Moons	Noah	Beloved
Mars	Poppy	Evelyn
Saturn	Vlad	Muno
Neptune	Praise	Stephanie
Supernova	Billie Jo	Zach

# STAR OF THE WEEK

	06.01.25	13.01.25
Stars	Zander	Percy
Moons	Ivy	Mae
Mars	Steffan	Sarah-Anne
Saturn	Emilia	Dorothy
Neptune	Oscar	Grace
Supernova	George	Archie A





## Absence on the first or last day of Term

We have updated our school attendance policy as there have been changes to Government legislation, there is a copy on our school website.

*"I would like to remind parents that if a child is absent for 5 days or more, medical evidence should be provided on the 5<sup>th</sup> day for the absence to be authorised. Going forward, we are no longer authorising any absence on the last day of a half term or the first day back from a school holiday without medical evidence.*

*Evidence can be in the form of:*

- *A copy of or a prescription relating to the illness*
- *An appointment card*
- *Sight of any medication that has been prescribed*
- *Photo evidence"*

If you have any questions, please contact me by leaving a message with the school office.

Thanks

Steph

Attendance and Welfare Officer

6th - 17th January	
Moons	93.73%
Mars	99.37%
Saturn	95.61%
Neptune	96.84%
Supernova	96.38%

Well done to Mars! !

# Diary Dates



		<b>14th March</b>	St Patrick's Disco
<b>21st January</b>	Bag2school collection	<b>17th March</b>	<b>10 - 11am</b> KS2 to Mass for St Patrick's Day
<b>22nd January</b>	Year 3/4 Cake Sale	<b>20th March</b>	<b>9:30-11:30am</b> Y1/2 Mass. St Ignatius, Shaldon
<b>28th January</b>	3:15pm - 5:15pm KS2 Girls Football Tournament at TCS	<b>25th March</b>	<b>4:30 - 5:30pm</b> Rotary Quiz
<b>30th January</b>	<b>9:30 - 11:30am</b> Y3/4 mass - St Ignatius, Shaldon Year 6 Teignmouth Museum Trip <b>3.30pm</b> Year 5 bake sale to raise money for a Viking workshop	<b>28th March</b>	<b>9am - 3pm</b> National Skipping Day Mothers' day gift shop
<b>3rd February</b>	Children's Mental Health Week	<b>31st March</b>	Y6 residential to Barton Hall
<b>3rd February</b>	<b>2:40pm - 3pm</b> Children's Mental Health week assembly	<b>8th May</b>	<b>10- 11am</b> Year 3/4 Striking & Fielding Festival at TCS
<b>7th February</b>	NSPCC Numbers Day (TBC)	<b>22nd May</b>	<b>9:30 - 11:30am</b> Moons, Y1s and Y6 to Mass St Ignatius Shaldon
<b>11th February</b>	Safer Internet Day	<b>4th April</b>	Friends' "Break the rules" day End of Spring Term
<b>14th February</b>	Non uniform "Wear what you love" and Heart shaped biscuit sale	<b>22nd April</b>	Beginning of Summer Term
<b>17th February</b>	Half Term Holiday	<b>5th May</b>	May Day Bank Holiday
<b>24th February</b>	INSET Day (No Pupils)	<b>26th May</b>	Half Term Holiday
<b>5th March</b>	<b>2:30 - 3:30pm</b> Ash Wednesday liturgy	<b>2nd June</b>	INSET Day (No Pupils)
<b>6th March</b>	World Book Day	<b>12th June</b>	<b>10 - 11am</b> Year 5 & 6 TriGolf Festival at TCS
<b>10th March</b>	Start of British Science Week	<b>27th June</b>	<b>2 - 3pm</b> St Peter & St Paul's liturgy
<b>13th March</b>	<b>10am</b> Year 5 and 6 Table Tennis Festival at TCS		

# News from the Friends

## Upcoming Events

<b>JAN 21</b> Bag 2 School Collection	<b>JAN 22</b> Cake Sale- Year 3/4	<b>FEB 14</b> Non uniform- Wear what you love ❤️ Valentine Doughnuts to pre order
<b>MAR 5</b> Cake Sale - Year 1/2	<b>MAR 14</b> St.Patricks Day Disco	<b>MAR 28</b> Mothers Day Gift Shop
<b>MAR 29</b> Easter Event- pm	<b>APR 4</b> Break the rules	Further details to follow on all events



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**  
**Tuesday 21st January 2025**

Bags have now been sent home. If you require any extra bags or don't receive one please pop by the office (or you can use any bag).



Friends of OLSP  
**CAKE SALE**  
Wednesday 22nd January  
3:15pm

**We are asking for cake donations from class 3/4 please.**

Please remember we are a nut free school.

\*The Friends of OLSP are delighted to have  
donated new books to the school library, made  
possible by the funds raised during the Autumn Term.  
Happy reading everyone!





**Cake Sale**  
**£73.66**



**Krispy  
Kreme  
Doughnuts**  
**£60.00**



**Glow Disco**  
**£213.63**

**Pre-loved  
Uniform Sales**  
**£18.10**

**Asda  
Cashpot**  
**£116.81**



**Santa's Elves  
Workshop**  
**£270.31**



**AUTUMN TERM  
TOTAL RAISED**  
**£1469.86**



**Christmas  
Gift Shop**  
**£228.92**



**Wreath  
Workshop**  
**£21.55**

**Nativity  
Refreshments**  
**£22.70**

**Christmas  
Cards**  
**£89.32**

**Pantomime**  
**£215.00**



**Break the  
Rules Xmas**  
**£139.86**



FEBRUARY  
HALF-TERM



# PREMIER HOLIDAY CAMPS



INSPIRING  
ACTIVITY



SCAN HERE FOR  
MORE INFORMATION

or visit [premier-education.com/holiday-camps](https://premier-education.com/holiday-camps)



Based on over 20,000 reviews

## YOUR NEAREST MULTI-ACTIVITY CAMP

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

**Dates:** Monday 17th - Friday 21st February 2025

**Times:** 09:00 - 15:30

**Price:** From £20.02

**Ages:** From 5-12

**Additional info:** 'February Frosted Fun' - Sports, Games and Crafts.

### PLEASE BRING

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

Mix it up this half-term with our multi-activity holiday camps!

These camps are a perfect blend of activities for all ages, combining different sports with a variety of team games.

Every day is different, with a mix of fun activities that children may not have tried before – from roller skating to fencing, lacrosse to cheer.

**Book now** for a half-term full of fun!

### CAMPS ARE BETTER WITH FRIENDS!



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

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



Based on over 20,000 reviews

South West School's Premiere



St. Cuthbert Mayne School  
Presents



# Disney FROZEN

THE WEST END MUSICAL

Music and Lyrics by

Kristen Anderson-Lopez & Robert Lopez

Book by

Jennifer Lee

Originally directed on Broadway by

Michael Grandage

Based on the Disney film written by Jennifer Lee and directed  
by Chris Buck & Jennifer Lee

Originally produced on Broadway by Disney Theatrical  
Productions

This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Music Theatre  
International(MTI) All authorised performance materials are also supplied by  
MTI

[www.mtishows.co.uk](http://www.mtishows.co.uk)



21st May -24th May @7pm

Matinee @ 2pm 24th May

**£10 adults and £6 students**

<https://www.st-cuthbertmayne.co.uk/school-performances/>

<https://www.mtishows.co.uk/news/winners-of-the-united-kingdom-of-frozen-announced>

St Cuthbert Mayne have won a National Competition to produce the South West School's premiere of Disney's Frozen - The West End edition.

They are the only school south of Bristol to be able to perform Frozen this Academic year. There were only 11 different regional winners. This is a huge opportunity for their students and will create memories that they will never ever forget, and they really want to share it with as many people as possible.

The school would love to invite you to our performances. There will be a matinee on the 24<sup>th</sup> May starting at 2pm for younger audience members. Tickets go on general release sale on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January at 9am.

The link for tickets is below

[www.ticketsource.co.uk/stcuthbertmayneschool](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/stcuthbertmayneschool) and are priced at £10 adults and £6 children.

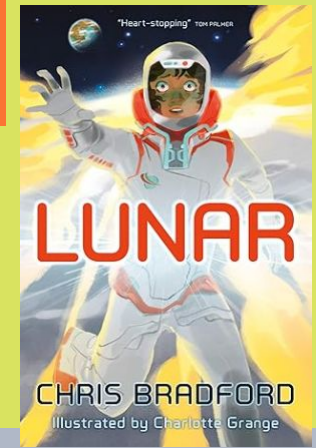


"So please, oh please, we beg, we pray, go throw your TV set away, and in its place you can install a lovely bookshelf on the wall."- Roald Dahl

# THIS NEWSLETTER WE RECOMMEND

## Princess Minna The Wicked Wood by Kirsty Applebaum

Princess Minna lives in Castle Tall-Towers with the King and Queen, Raymond the Wizard and her best dragon friend, Lorenzo. There are often mix-ups and mishaps in the kingdom and Princess Minna loves to sort them out! She can tame unicorns, kiss frogs and fight dragons (apart from Lorenzo) and she is very good at fixing things before it's time for bed. In *The Wicked Wood*, the King and Queen have DISAPPEARED! The townsfolk saw them and Lorenzo the dragon disappearing into the Wicked Wood and they haven't come back... One by one, Minna's friends set off to find them. But they don't come back either! So Minna takes a deep breath and heads into the middle of the Wicked Wood, where she finds everyone eating the gingerbread walls of the house of the Wicked Witch! Quick - everyone must get home before nightfall! But how can they fly home when Lorenzo has eaten so much gingerbread that he can't get off the ground...



## Lunar by Chris Bradford

Stranded and alone on the moon, Luna is running out of time. Bestselling author Chris Bradford crafts *The Martian* for younger readers in this gripping outer-space survival story. Luna loves living on the moon. She enjoys helping her father – a Moon Miner – on his search for precious minerals and rocks. But when a devastating meteor strike destroys their base, Luna is left stranded alone on the moon. With no shelter and few supplies, she must find a way to survive. The problem is – any hope of rescue is at least 3 days and 400,000 kilometres away ... and her oxygen is fast running out!

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

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "B Whyte".

Bridget Whyte  
CEO of Music Mark

The UK Association for Music Education - Music Mark | [www.musicmark.org.uk](http://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](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/>

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.