



# Our Lady of Compassion Catholic School

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@ourladycompass

School Newsletter – 7

Date: Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2024

To Live As Jesus Taught Us.

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

**“A voice cries in the wilderness:  
prepare a way for the Lord, make His  
paths.”** Mark 1:1-8

How can we prepare a way for the Lord this Advent, in our hearts and in our communities? How can we help sow signs of hope which reflect the kingdom of God? These are just a few of the questions we can ask ourselves as we prepare for the coming of our Lord during Advent. In school, we have been asking the children this week to prepare for Advent by ‘standing tall’ - a way of showing courage and determination in how they live out their faith through the actions we show to one another. Around the school, preparations have continued through the visual signs of Christmas trees and nativity scenes, giving us focal points to focus our prayers and thoughts. All of what we do at school and home will remind us that this is a season of joy, hope, love and peace.

**God who is with us, we pray our sisters and brothers may find a place of shelter and peace. Help us to share generously, and so prepare a way for your kingdom of justice and mercy. Amen.**

Have a great weekend,  
Mr N Emery (Headteacher)

### Swimming

Class 6C's last swimming lesson will be the 10<sup>th</sup> December. Class 5/6D will begin their swimming sessions after the Christmas break on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January. Please ensure that the Microsoft Form that has been sent out regarding these sessions has been completed.

### Wednesday Word



In this Sunday's Gospel, we hear about John the Baptist calling people to prepare themselves for Christ's arrival. John alerted the people of the need to change some of their ways and to the fact that Jesus was coming. This Gospel can serve to remind us about the importance of preparing ourselves as Christmas approaches: to repent (to look into our hearts and see if there are any ways that we could make a change for the better), and to be busy doing the things that Jesus told us to do, loving God and loving one another through our words and through our deeds. In these ways we prepare our hearts to be filled with a joy that lasts long after the Christmas festivities have passed.

### Start and End of Day Arrangements

As reminder please see the link below with regards to the children's drop off and collection times. It is important that children are punctual each day to ensure their day begins in the right way.

<https://www.olc.solihull.sch.uk/page/?title=Start+and+End+of+Day+Arrangements&pid=64>

### Catering Update



We are currently continuing with the trial of our new till system, BlueRunner. The children are now ordering their lunch in the classroom. Our next step will be for parents to start booking their children's meals on this system – we hope to update you with this in the coming week. In preparation, please use the following link to register with BlueRunner:

<https://olaas.myschoolmealorders.com/login>

### SUMMARY

- Wednesday Word
- Our Advent Journey
- Nursery Admissions
- Swimming
- Catering Update
- Dates for 24/25
- Christmas Carols
- Elf on the Shelf
- Weather
- Stay and Pray
- Christmas Carols
- Christmas Party Day
- New School Website
- Online Safety
- Christmas Jumper/Clothes Day
- Polar Express
- Christmas Raffle
- Christmas Fayre
- Toy Day
- The Panto Comes to OLC
- FS2 Applications 2025/2026

### Dates for 2024/25

- 11.12.24 – FS1 Nativity – 9.20am
- 10.12.24 – Last Swimming Session for Class 6C
- 13.12.24 – Christmas Jumper Day
- 13.12.24 – KS1 Carols – 9.30am
- 13.12.24 – LKS2 Carols – 10.30am
- 13.12.24 – UKS2 Carols – 2.30pm
- 17.12.24 – Whole School Stay and Pray Service – 2.30pm
- 18.12.24 – Christmas Dinner Day
- 19.12.24 – Party Day
- 19.12.23 – Whole School Theatre performance at School for children
- 20.12.24 – Toy Day
- 20.12.24 – Last Day of Term before Christmas Holidays

### Stay and Pray

As we continue our journey through the season of Advent we look forward to our Stay and Pray session taking place on 17<sup>th</sup> December at 2.30pm. The Advent Stay and Pray session this year will be a whole school event, whereas in Lent we will have Phase Stay and Pray Sessions. Therefore, due to limited space in the school hall with all the children in attendance, please let the school office know if you wish to attend this session on the 17<sup>th</sup> December as we only have limited numbers that can attend. The sessions is a great opportunity for parents to join their children for 20 to 30 minutes and experience the wonder of prayer together.

### Christmas Jumper/Clothes Day



On Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December, we will be holding our annual Christmas Jumper / Clothes Day where children can come in to school wearing a Christmas Jumper or Christmas Clothes. We will be asking for a £2 contribution towards emotional literacy resources which continue to support all the children across the school. Children will also be able to wear their Christmas Jumper / Clothes with their outdoor learning kit on Christmas Dinner Day on the 18<sup>th</sup> December.

### Christmas Carols

We look forward to welcoming our families and friends to our Christmas Carols on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December - these will take place in the School Hall. For times and dates of the performances, please see the dates section of the newsletter.

### Weather

With the ever changing forecast please be aware that we will inform parents of a school closure due to weather via the new school app, email and a notification will also appear on our website. Please do ensure that you have downloaded the new App.

### Christmas Party Day

On Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December children can come to school in non-uniform for the Christmas Party Day. We are also looking forward to welcoming a very special guest to OLC during this day as he takes some time out from his Christmas workshop.

### New School Website

Our new school website has now been launched. The website comes with several of the similar communications tools that we currently use, however the School App has changed to a new App called **School News**. Please ensure you have downloaded this. For further information please follow this link: <https://www.olc.solihull.sch.uk/page/?title=Mobile+App&pid=83>

### Elf on the Shelf



It is that time of year again, when our good old friend, the 'Elf on the Shelf' makes his/her appearance in our homes. We would like you to take a picture of your elf helping your child at home, whether this is with school work, playing games or even helping to tidy up. It would be great if you could then Tweet us @ourladycompass or email us at office@olc.solihull.sch.uk so we can see the wonderful things your elf gets up to.

### Online Safety #Wake Up Wednesday

For further information, please visit the National Online Safety website.



You need to be in it, to win it! Tickets are still available! Any completed tickets to be handed in to the red box on the gate daily.

OLTON PRIARY Friends of OLC

# Christmas Fayre

Come to See Me!  
Ho! Ho! Ho!  
SANTA'S GROTTO

ENTRANCE  
**£1**  
ADULTS

RAFFLE  
BOTTLE TOMBOLA  
GAMES  
CAKES  
TOYS  
CHRISTMAS CRAFTS  
FOOD  
ELF TRAIL

COME AND JOIN US AT OUR ANNUAL CHRISTMAS FAYRE. EVERYONE WELCOME!  
**SATURDAY 7TH DECEMBER**  
**12PM - 3PM AT OLC SCHOOL**

Olton Priary Registered Charity No.124216. OLC Registered Charity No.103914

# Christmas RAFFLE

PRIZES INCLUDE:

- Beautiful holiday home in Ireland (Kerry) for a week.
- Cash prizes
- Large Ninja air fryer
- £50 resorts world voucher
- £100 hairdresser voucher
- 2 x £20 Stonegate pub voucher
- £25 Turk Nazz voucher
- £25 gift for Let's Get Ready to Party
- £25 voucher for David Lloyd
- Tropic hamper
- Luxury hamper

### Toy Day

On Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December we will have our annual Toy Day where children are invited to bring in a toy that they would like to play with, with their friends. Please remind your children that they are not bring anything valuable or electrical to play with.

### FS2 (Reception) Applications 2025/26

The application process for Reception placements for next year is now open. To apply for a place, please contact your Local Authority. Please note that the closing date for admissions is 15<sup>th</sup> January 2025.

### The Panto comes to OLC

We look forward to welcoming the Panto to OLC on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December. This is our little Christmas treat for all of the children to experience and enjoy after all of their hard work during the Autumn Term.

OLTON FRIARY  
PRESENT  
THE POLAR EXPRESS

# ALL ABOARD THE POLAR EXPRESS

Hot Chocolate Movie  
Cookie Santa

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December & Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December at 6pm

For all who TRULY BELIEVE  
Tickets £5  
THE POLAR EXPRESS

Call Jenny or Steve on 0121 705 1737