



Our Lady of Compassion Catholic School

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@ourladycompass

School Newsletter – 4

Date: Friday 18th October 2024

To Live As Jesus Taught Us.

Dear Parents and Carers,



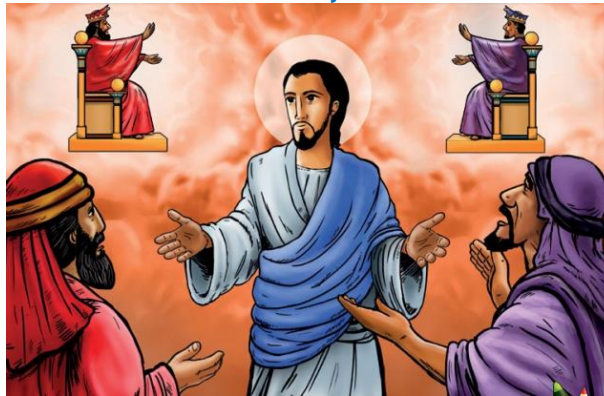
On behalf of all the staff I would like to express our sincere thanks to everyone for the support, sympathy and concern we received throughout this week. The emails, letters and flowers have helped ease our sadness here in school and for that we are all most grateful.

Our hearts go out to Mrs Donnelly's husband, Pat and her family. I know that despite their pain and sorrow they will be greatly comforted by the love and genuine compassion shown by the whole school and the local community.

What we have experienced as a school is extremely rare. I have no doubt that the experience has drawn us closer and has created new bonds but it will also leave a lasting heartache. I know we will ensure that it enables us all, children and adults to be more sensitive and compassionate human beings. Above all else, perhaps through this tragedy we can better recognise our own and each other's humanity. With our sincere thanks for your ongoing support and understanding.

Mr N Emery (Headteacher)

Wednesday Word



In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus teaches the disciples how to be truly great. Being kind, self-giving, thoughtful and helpful are great qualities. It's not always easy to live our lives in this way but it is the way that God want us to live, to become the best that we can be. God is great and He made us to be great too. Through spending lots of his time serving others Jesus shows us the way to true greatness. Perhaps you can: look for new ways to serve someone at home or at school; offer help at mealtimes, preparing the food and clearing up afterwards; avoid being bossy; resist pushing in and let others go first instead; give your time or money where needed.

Nursery Admission 2024/25

If you are interested in places for 2024/25 for your child to begin with us in Nursery, please contact the school office.

Secondary Applications

The closing date for secondary school 2025 applications is 31st October. Solihull residents should apply on the online portal at www.solihull.gov.uk/pp Applications received after the closing date will not be processed until after the offers are sent out in March. Applying late will affect the offer you can expect to receive. For residents outside of the borough, please contact your home authority to submit an application.

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School Photographs



On Wednesday 23rd October, we will be having individual photographs taken for each child in school. All children are to wear their school uniform on the day; any classes that would usually have PE are to bring their PE kit to change into before their PE lesson.

Dates for 2024/25

23.10.24 – School Photographs
24.10.24 – Y6 Trip to St Chad's
24.10.24 – Last day of half-term
25.10.24 – School Closed to pupils for INSET Day
31.10.24 – Diwali
31.10.24 – Closing date for Secondary Applications
1.11.24 – All Saints' Day – Holy Day of Obligation
4.11.24 – School reopens for Autumn Term 2
5.11.24 – FS1/FS2 Open Day – 5pm
10.11.24 – World Science Day
11.11.24 – Remembrance Day
11.11.24 – Anti-bullying Week
13.11.24 – Parents' Evening
14.11.24 – Parents' Evening
15.11.24 – Children in Need
18.11.24 – Road Safety Week
20.11.24 – World Children's Day
22.11.24 – Drop Everything and Read Day
30.11.24 – St. Andrew's Day
1.12.24 – Advent begins
4.12.24 – FS2 Nativity – 9.20am
7.12.24 – Christmas Fayre at OLC
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

ParentPay

As we come to end of a half-term we ask that any arrears on your ParentPay account are addressed so that your accounts do not fall into deficit. However, if for some reason you are unable to settle your deficit, please do inform us so that we can support you.

Olton Friary Link

To hear all about the wonderful events that take place at the Olton Friary please follow the link below that will lead you to their notice page on their website:
<https://www.oltonfriary.org.uk/weekly-notice/>

FS2 & Year 6 Buddies Service



Our Year 6 and FS2 children today received a blessing, as they started their journey as buddies, during a wonderful service which took place in our school hall. The Year 6 children pledged their friendship with their buddies – they will ensure that they enrich the learning experience of their FS2 buddy by being an excellent role model. Thank you to Fr Austin for blessing our children.

Pupil Voice

Following on from their elections, our school representatives are now all in place. To view our pupil voice please follow this link:

<https://www.olc.solihull.sch.uk/topic/children>

Children from each group will be meeting with Mr Brennan next week to discuss how OLC can become an even better place for our children.

Winter Uniform



After the October half-term break, we ask that children wear their winter uniform. The school uniform policy can be found by following this link:

<https://www.olc.solihull.sch.uk/school-uniform/>

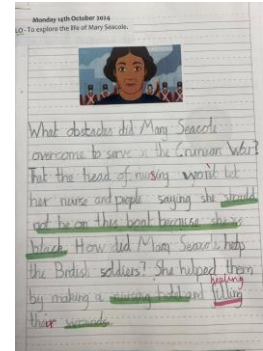
Journey in Faith

The Journey in Faith programme has started at the Olton Friary which is a journey for those interested in the Catholic Faith. People can attend from any background or experience. This takes place on Monday nights at the Friary at 7.30pm.

Black History Month



During Black History Month throughout October, children are taking part in activities and events to honour Black History. This week children in UKS2 and LKS2 learnt about Katherine Johnson and Mary Seacole.



Cost of Living



Lk 16:19-31 Jesus said to the Pharisees:

"There was a rich man who dressed in purple garments and fine linen and dined sumptuously each day. And lying at his door was a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores who would gladly have eaten his fill of the scraps that fell from the rich man's table..." In this bible reading we are asked to think about the inequalities of life. Some families are struggling with the cost of living increases - it is now more than ever that we should look in our cupboards to see what we can spare. If you are struggling at this moment and you would like a food parcel or support with uniform, or you know someone who would appreciate support, please speak in confidence to Mr Emery or Mrs Vella.