



# Our Lady of Compassion Catholic School

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@ourladycompass

School Newsletter – 22

Date: Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2024

To Live As Jesus Taught Us.

Dear Parents and Carers,

Every moment which we live of our school life is cherished as these are the times that make a difference for the children at OLC. Every small act such as a reminder of the right choice, remembering to do homework, setting out the uniform ready for the next day or the help given when a child may slip or fall are moments that help our children to grow into the wonderful young people they are. Each of these acts from parents, teachers, support staff, friends and family, however small they may be, are moments carried out with love and compassion which shape and mould our children. So this is my moment to thank each and every one of you for your support and for your part in making the 2023-24 academic year such a success for all of our children. It is now time to have a well-earned rest, to enjoy time with family and friends, to recharge the batteries and look forward to what 2024-25 has in store for us all. Thank you for all that you do for our children. Have a wonderful summer break.

Mr N Emery  
(Headteacher)

## Wednesday Word



In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus' friends, the apostles, returned after working hard. Hard work, and sometimes stress, can often be part of our lives so we all need a holiday at some time - to rest and refresh ourselves. Jesus knows that work is essential but, in this Sunday's Gospel, he reminds us how important it is to take time out too. **"Holidays offer a time to rest and to restore the spirit, especially through a more quiet reading of the gospels"** Pope Francis. Holiday time is a time to rest, and it also presents a great opportunity for us to explore and refresh our faith. The more we get to know Jesus, the more at peace and relaxed we become. Our homes are 'holy places' and simply spending some quiet time at home with God throughout the holidays can help us to become happy, holy and truly rested. The word holiday comes from Holy-day.

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## Parent Pay

As we are at the end of term, we would ask everyone to check the balance on their ParentPay account and clear any outstanding amounts so that all accounts are not in arrears for the start of the new academic year.

You might also find it useful to set up balance alerts on your ParentPay account. This can be done by going into communication / message alerts on your account. However, please note there is a charge of 6p for any text alerts. Email alerts are free of charge.

## Sacramental Dates

We are pleased to share that the Sacramental Dates for 24/25 are as follows:

- \* Year 6 Confirmation – Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2025 at 7pm
- \* Year 3 First Holy Communion – Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> May 2025 at 10am

## End of Year Reports

The end of year reports were emailed out on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> July. Alongside the reports, you will have received a cover letter. We ask that all parents respond to the online form that can be accessed through a link on the cover page to confirm receipt of the report. If, however you have not received the report by email, please contact the school office.

## Thank You



Thank you to all the staff for their hard work this year. We thank God for each and every one of them. We hope they have a well-earned rest.

A BIG thank you to you all from all of our staff for your kind gifts. As always we would never expect any gifts, but greatly appreciate your kind sentiments.

### Dates for 2024/25

#### Further dates will be added throughout the term

1.9.24 – Season of Creation begins  
2.9.24 – INSET day – School closed to pupils  
3.9.24 – INSET day – School closed to pupils  
4.9.24 – School reopens to pupils for new academic year  
6.9.24 – Our Lady's Birthday  
9.9.24 – Non-uniform day in exchange for bottle donation towards 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary  
9.9.24 – After School Clubs begin  
13.9.24 – FOLC Fun Day – 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
13.9.24 – School closes at 2pm for pupils – Footsteps also closed after school  
15.9.24 – OLC 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Mass at Olton Friary – 9am  
16.9.24 – Donations of Harvest Gifts  
17.9.24 – Swimming begins for Class 6C (Miss Chick's Class)  
17.9.24 – Guitar lessons begin for Class 4B (Mr Brennan's Class)  
17.9.24 – FS Working Together Meeting – 4pm  
17.9.24 – KS1 Working Together Meeting – 5.15pm  
18.9.24 – National Fitness Day  
19.9.24 – UKS2 Working Together Meeting – 4pm  
19.9.24 – LKS2 Working Together Meeting – 5.15pm  
26.9.24 – OLAAS MAC celebration Day  
27.9.24 – Day of Thanksgiving for Harvest  
30.9.24 – Little Way Week  
1.10.24 – Black History Month begins  
1.10.24 – Month of the Holy Rosary begins  
4.10.24 – Season of Creation ends  
9.10.23 – Flu Immunisations (FS2 to Y6)  
9.10.24 – Feast Day of St John Henry Newman  
10.10.24 – World Mental Health Day – children to wear splash of yellow with school uniform  
10.10.24 – Y6 Retreat with One Life Music  
12.10.24 – Feast Day of St Wilfrid  
13.10.24 – Feast Day of St Edward  
18.10.24 – FS2 and Y6 Buddies Service – 2.15pm  
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  
**Stay and Prays**

### Dates for 2024/25 Continued

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  
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

### 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary



OLC's big birthday celebration will be here before we know it, and you've guessed it, yet again, we are looking for help to make this a wonderful event. Please can you let the FOLC know if you are able to help on 13<sup>th</sup> September anytime from 12pm till 8pm. We would appreciate any help during that time and also between 8.30am until 11.30am on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> September. It looks to be a wonderful event, with live music, BBQ, lots of wonderful stalls, a selection of inflatables, and lots of garden games. You can bring a blanket/garden chairs and enjoy the celebrations. **In addition, to this the school will also close early at 2pm on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> September and there will be no Footsteps provision on this day.**

### Sports Clubs



We are looking forward to our Sports Clubs getting up and running after the Summer Holidays once again. If you would like to book onto any of these please follow this link to our website: <https://www.olc.solihull.sch.uk/school-clubs/>

### 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.

### Olton Friary Link

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



### FunFest Holiday Club @ OLC now offers HAF sessions

Children who attend a Solihull school and are eligible for a place will have received an email and a code that can be used to check eligibility. Children who are eligible but attend school outside of Solihull can also access a place using the code provided from their local council (Coventry and Warwickshire) or school (Birmingham). We will be offering just a morning session 8am – 1pm.

All children who are attending a HAF session must have a code in order for the place to be funded by the Council.

Further information on how to book via the FunFest website will be shared soon however FunFest will take bookings via email with the code to begin with.



## Online Safety #Wake Up Wednesday

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

**What Parents & Educators Need to Know about PALWORLD**

**MATURE CONTENT** (18+)  
Parents should be aware that PALWORLD is a mature game. It contains violence, blood, and some strong language. It is not suitable for children under 18.

**ONLINE PLAY**  
PALWORLD is an online game. It allows players to interact with each other. Parents should be aware of the risks of online play, such as cyberbullying and inappropriate contact.

**VIOLENCE**  
PALWORLD contains violence. Players can use weapons to attack other players. There is also some blood and gore.

**SUGGESTIVE WRITING**  
PALWORLD contains suggestive writing. There are some references to sex and drugs.

**Advice for Parents & Educators**

**WATCH GAMEPLAY**  
Parents should watch their children play PALWORLD. This will help them understand the game and its risks.

**LEND A HAND**  
Parents should help their children set up PALWORLD. This will help them understand the game and its risks.

**SET CONTENT LIMITS**  
Parents should set content limits for their children. This will help them understand the game and its risks.

**PLAY TOGETHER**  
Parents should encourage their children to play PALWORLD with friends. This will help them understand the game and its risks.

**PLACE BOUNDARIES**  
Parents should set boundaries for their children. This will help them understand the game and its risks.

**Meet Our Expert**  
The National College's Online Safety Expert, Mrs. Sarah Jones, provides advice on how to keep children safe online.

## OLAAS Summer Newsletter



To access the MAC Newsletter please scan the QR code above

## Father Austin Visit to FS2



Thank you to Father Austin for visiting FS2 the last week and spending some time with our children, praying and talking about their faith. We are so privileged to have Father Biju and Father Austin to support our children's spirituality.

## Well done Oisín!



Well done to Oisín who represented OLC at the British Schools Snow Sport Championship. He did amazing in the event and came a very respectable 18<sup>th</sup> in the under 10's groups! We hope to see you in the Winter Olympics in the future Oisín!

## Gaelic Football Tournament



Last week the girls and boys from Year 5 competed at Páirc na hÉireann in the Catholic Schools Gaelic Competition. The team competed marvellously winning 2 of their games. We were so proud of the way they conducted themselves throughout and we thank Miss Dowling and Miss Cottrell for their support in preparing the team so well.

## Catering

On Wednesday you will have received an email about the change of the catering provider across OLAAS schools in September. Please do familiarise yourself with the information that has been shared. We also ask that the allergen forms are completed and returned to the school before the 2<sup>nd</sup> September.

## Year 6 End of Year Production



What a treat! Thank you to our Year 6 children who performed their end of year production: Going for Gold. They certainly made a great impression and left the audience in awe!



**Father Hudson's Care**

Not every family gets to go on holiday.

**Summer KINDNESS CHALLENGE**

Some families need a little extra help.

Could you help a family in need by collecting much needed items?

At Father Hudson's we know so many families who need a little help, children are missing out on basic hygiene items and things many of us take for granted.

What could you donate?

- Facial Wash
- Deodorant
- Shampoo etc
- Shower Gels
- Sanitary items
- Basic underwear, such as socks and pants
- Nightwear (New only, any sizes between 6-16)
- School stationary
- Back to school items
- PE Kit basics

## FootieBugs



Thank you to FootieBugs who offered a free sports session to some of the children in Years 1 and 2. The children thoroughly enjoyed the activities and embraced their time with the coach. If you are interested in your child taking part in the FootieBugs activities as one of our after school sport clubs, please follow the link in the Sports Club section of this newsletter for further information.