



# Our Lady of Compassion Catholic School

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@ourladycompass

School Newsletter – 19

Date: Friday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2024

To Live As Jesus Taught Us.

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to our final term of the school year. We hope you all had an enjoyable half-term break, whether you managed to get away for a few days or catch-up with friends and family that you may not have seen for a while. At OLC, we are looking forward to the many events and activities that will be taking place over this term and to welcoming you to as many of these events as possible. Please keep an eye on the diary section (Key Dates) of the newsletter so that you are up to date with dates of events so we can see you hopefully at as many of these as possible. Let us all make sure that this last term of the school year will certainly be a memorable one.

Have a great weekend.

Mr N Emery (Headteacher)

## Wednesday Word



**“When Jesus chose and called the Apostles, He did not think of them as separate from one another, each one on his own, but together, because they were to stay with Him, united, like a single family.”**

**Pope Francis**

What did Jesus say we must do to be part of his family? In the Gospel we hear Jesus saying how our openness and obedience to God is a sign that we belong to his family.

**“All God’s children, of every people and language, are invited and called to be part of this great family, as brothers and sisters and sons and daughters of the one Father in heaven.” Pope Francis**

Jesus taught us that we are all children of God and we should live as brothers and sisters to each other. We show that we are part of Jesus’ family by listening to his teaching and trying our best to follow it – by obeying God’s will for our lives. Jesus was filled with love because of his closeness and obedience to God. Our families are filled with love too when we stay close to God.

## SUMMARY

- Wednesday Word
- D-Day 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary
- FS Inductions
- Request for Leave forms
- Key Dates
- Footsteps
- Sacred Heart Mass
- Sports Day
- Y5 and Y6 Anti-Bullying Assembly
- Whole School Photographs
- Suncream/Hats
- Y5 and Y6 Family Education
- Online Safety
- Holidays in Term Time
- Summer Fayre
- Olton Friary Link
- OLC 50<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary

## D-Day 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

The D-Day landings of 6<sup>th</sup> June 1944 was the largest seaborne invasion in history. Along with the airborne operations, it marked the beginning of the liberation of France and western Europe. On Thursday, the children participated in activities, remembering D-Day and the Battle of Normandy.



## FS Inductions

Information on our FS1 (2024-25) inductions have been emailed out. If you have not received this information, please contact the school office. FS2 info to follow.

## Request for Leave

Please ensure that an absence form is filled in and returned to the office when there is a leave request for your child. These forms can be collected in person from the office – you can request for the form to be emailed to you. A response letter will be sent to you from school following this.

### Dates for 2023/24

12.6.24 – Class Photographs  
13.6.24 – Year 5 Commitment Mass at Olton Friary – 1.30pm  
15.6.24 – Summer Fayre at Olton Friary  
16.6.24 – Father's Day  
18.6.24 – Year 5 Family Education Session  
19.6.24 – FS2 Trip to Parkridge Centre  
20.6.24 – KS1 Trip to Avoncroft  
20.6.24 – World Refugee Day  
22.6.24 – Don't Face it Alone Day  
27.6.24 – UKS2 Sports Day – 9.15am  
27.6.24 – FS Sports Day – 10.30am  
27.6.24 – LKS2 Sports Day – 1.15pm  
27.6.24 – KS1 Sports Day – 2.15pm  
28.6.24 – FOLC Quiz Night in School Hall  
2.7.24 – Y6 Family Education Session  
3.7.24 – Y6 Transition Day to St. Peter's  
4.7.24 – Provisional Sports Day if required due to weather  
9.7.24 – Last day of Swimming for Class 5H  
10.7.24 – Year 6 Production – 10am  
17.7.24 – Y5 Trip to Twycross Zoo  
18.7.24 – Year 6 Leaver's Awards – 10am  
19.7.24 – Year 6 Leaver's Mass at Friary – 10.15am  
19.7.24 – Year 6 Leaver's Celebrations – 1.30pm  
19.7.24 – Last Day of School Year

### Sports Days

Please see the Key Dates section of the newsletter for the dates when we will be hosting our Sports Days. We are looking forward to welcoming parents and friends to these events. It would be great to see all parents attending to support your children – and you may even want to wear trainers yourselves in case you get the chance to take part in the parents race.

### Suncream/Hats



As we look forward to the summer months ahead, we ask that suncream is applied to your child(ren) before they arrive at school. Please also ensure they are sent in with a sun hat and a water bottle.

### Footsteps



## Footsteps

If you would like your child/children to attend Footsteps Before and After School Club next academic year (from September 2024) you will need to submit a request for a place on a Footsteps Microsoft Booking Form (for each child). You should receive the form by email by the end of Friday 24<sup>th</sup> of May. The form must be submitted by June 7<sup>th</sup> 2024 for your request to be considered according to Footsteps' admission criteria. Further information for 2024/2025 can be seen in the Footsteps Information Booklet on the Footsteps page of the school website. If you do not receive the email, please check your junk mail. If the school office do not have your latest email address, please email the office with your up to date contact details.

### Y5 and Y6 Anti-Bullying Assembly



On Thursday, it was wonderful to welcome a group of students from St Peter's who are flying the flag for the Princess Diana Anti-Bullying Award, to talk to our Year 5 and 6 children. They shared that Princess Diana believed that young people can REALLY change the world and she believed that young people from any background can be inspiring role models to others! This was clearly evident through their presentation.

### Sacred Heart Mass at Olton Friary

Thank you to all involved in our annual Mass celebrating the Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus. This is a joyous time for us all as through our devotions to the Sacred Heart we can be drawn ever closer to Jesus and experience his love and mercy more profoundly.



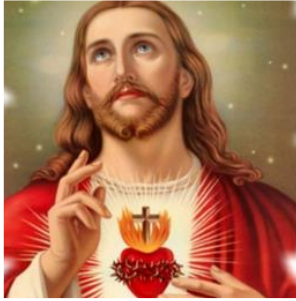
### Whole Class Photographs

On Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> June, we will be having photographs taken for each class. 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. We are also asking that ties are not worn on the day to ensure that we can have consistency for the photographs.

### Y5 and Y6 Family Education

During this half-term, our Year 5 and 6 children will be participating in their Family Education lessons (please see Key Dates). If you would like to find out more about what we cover during these RSE lessons, you can access this through the following link on our website: <https://www.olc.solihull.sch.uk/rse/>

## Sacred Heart of Jesus



The devotion to the Sacred Heart is one of the most widely practised and well-known Roman Catholic devotions, taking Jesus Christ's physical heart as the representation of his divine love for humanity. There are two things that must always be found together in the devotion to the Sacred Heart: Christ's Heart of flesh and Christ's love for us. True devotion to the Sacred Heart means devotion to the Divine Heart of Christ. His Heart represents and recalls His love for us. In honouring the Heart of Christ, we are reminded of the Person of Jesus in the fullness of His love. This love of Christ for us was the moving force of all He did and suffered for us -- in Nazareth, on the Cross, in giving Himself in the Blessed Sacrament, in His teaching and healing, in His praying and working. When we speak of the Sacred Heart, we mean Jesus showing us His Heart and His Love for us.

## Online Safety #Wake Up Wednesday

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

**What Parents & Educators Need to Know about SCHOOL AVOIDANCE**

Emotionally Based School Avoidance (EBSA) is a term used to refer to reduced attendance or non-attendance at school by a child or young person. It's often linked to emotional, mental health or wellbeing issues. The rate of children who miss school more than 10% of the time in England has more than doubled since before the pandemic: rising from 10.9% in 2018-19, to 22.3% in 2022-23.

**UNDERSTANDING SCHOOL AVOIDANCE**

School avoidance is sometimes underpinned by several factors other than one single cause. This could include something going on for the child or young person with the family or at school. A child may have strong responsibilities at home, or pressure to do well in school. Children, bullying and friendship difficulties at school, difficulties with the homework and/or with attending from primary school to secondary school.

**REASONS FOR ABSENCE**

You may notice patterns in regular absence or absence regularly occurring that may mean your child or young person (particularly young children) is being bullied or is being bullied. In some evidence to suggest there are some regular patterns in the absence, such as changes in the environment, changes of routine and safety issues.

**PATTERNS OF ABSENCE**

There may be an increase in a child or young person's complaints about physical symptoms, particularly on return days for the evening before school. These could include symptoms of a burning or itchy, redness, or stinging the face or other areas where they have been in contact. Always check with the GP first to rule out medical causes or illness.

**COMPLAINTS ABOUT PHYSICAL SYMPTOMS**

Children often complain about physical symptoms, particularly on return days for the evening before school. These could include symptoms of a burning or itchy, redness, or stinging the face or other areas where they have been in contact. Always check with the GP first to rule out medical causes or illness.

**ADVICE FOR PARENTS & EDUCATORS**

**WORK TOGETHER**

If there's a concern about a child's absence and emotional wellbeing, it's important that there's a clear communication and a coordinated approach between the child's parents and the school, so you can take a child-centred approach together towards a period of support or testing period. This involves a mix of support from both home and school, creating better outcomes for the child.

**MANAGING OVERWHELMING FEELINGS**

While there may be times you feel frustrated or angry, try to stay calm, acknowledge the child's anxiety, listen and encourage a dialogue between you and the child. Try to take the discussion and overwhelming feelings. These could include: making a plan for the future, taking a break from the situation, seeking support from others, increasing their circle of support.

**FOLLOW REGULAR ROUTINES**

Children often struggle from the start of a new term. This could be a morning routine, such as getting up and having breakfast through to getting ready for school. These could include: having a consistent morning routine which is calm and limited time on screens can also give children much needed predictability and familiarity. Schools can help create a homework routine for the child's school day, if required.

**REDUCE STIMULATING ACTIVITIES AT HOME**

For children with anxiety, reduce their access to stimulating activities (such as evening television, gaming) and spending time with friends) during school hours, where possible. This reduces the potential for the child being reminded of their anxiety at home, which could be interpreted as a positive aspect of supporting school.

**Meet Our Expert**

With 20 years' experience as a teacher, trainer, consultant and interim executive director, Helen has extensive experience in a range of educational settings, including primary, secondary and tertiary education. She has worked in a variety of roles, including as a subject leader, head of school, and as a senior leader in a range of schools. She is currently a senior advisor for the National Online Safety website.

#WakeUpWednesday The National College

## Holidays in Term Time

From September 2024, every school in England will be required to share their daily attendance registers across the education sector as part of the next stage of the government's drive to reduce pupil absence: 'The sharing of daily school registers will form a new world-leading attendance data set that will help schools spot and support children displaying worrying trends of persistent absence or those in danger of becoming missing in education' (DFE 29 Feb 2024). Parent fines for unauthorised absences will be brought under a national framework to help tackle inconsistencies in their use. Guidelines state that from this time a fine to parents can be considered if a child misses five days or ten sessions (half days) of school for unauthorised absence. The threshold can be met with 'any combination of unauthorised absence', for example, four sessions in term time plus six instances of arriving late. Guidelines state that the period of ten weeks can also span 'different terms or school years. Alongside this, costs for fines will go up from £60 to £80 if paid within 21 days and from £120 to £160 if paid in 28 days. These fines are paid directly to the local authority and not to schools.

## Summer Fayre

**£1 EACH**

**UNDER 12'S FREE**

**BOUNCY CASTLE**

**PENALTY SHOOT-OUT**

**2024 SUMMER FAYRE**

**15th June 12pm - 3pm**

Olton Friary gardens

**BOTTLE TOMBOOLA**

**GRAND RAFFLE**

**TEDDY TOMBOOLA**

**BBQ FOOD**

**FANCY GOODS**

**GARDEN GAMES**

**SOFT DRINKS, TEAS, COFFEES AND ALCOHOL AVAILABLE.**

**LOTS OF GAMES FOR ALL THE FAMILY.**

**CAKE STALL**

**CHOCOLATE TOMBOOLA**

Friends of OLC Olton Friary

\*GARDEN GAMES KINDLY SUPPLIED BY NEWLJA EVENTS (07487 247 750)

## 50th Anniversary

Our 50th anniversary plans are gathering pace. Make sure you save the date below:

**Save the Date**

**OUR LADY OF COMPASSION IS 50**

**FRIDAY 13 SEPTEMBER**

**3.30 PM TIL 6 PM**

**CALLING ALL PAST & PRESENT, PUPILS, PARENTS, TEACHERS AND FRIENDS**

## 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-notice/>