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@ourladycompass

School Newsletter – 13

Date: Friday 8th March 2024

To Live As Jesus Taught Us.

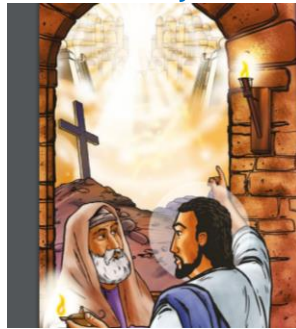
Dear Parents and Carers,

Last week OLC was visited by an inspection team for the Catholic Schools Inspectorate (CSI). These inspections take place around every 5 years and focus upon the Catholic Life and Mission, RE and Collective Worship that takes place in Catholic Schools. Thank you for all the support and well wishes that we received during the week. At present we are unable to share the exact gradings that we received as these are provisional and are subject to Quality Assurance. However, I can share that we are pleased with the outcome and we look forward to receiving the report and sharing it with you all. Hopefully, this will be with us within 15 days of the inspection. We now await our next inspection at some point time this year by Ofsted, which also takes place roughly every 5 years.

We hope you have a wonderful weekend, celebrating Mother's Day and fingers crossed for warmer weather.

Mr N Emery
(Headteacher)

Wednesday Word



In this Sunday's Gospel, we read about the 'light' that has come into the world. Pope Francis reminds us, "Jesus is the light who brightens the darkness." Letting Jesus' light shine in our lives provides a secure foundation for our lives and for the lives of our children too. This Gospel also reminds us that God loves us so much that he gave his only Son for us. Jesus' great act of love, of self-giving, on the cross, has paved the way for us to share in the true richness of God's love in this life, and also in the life to come.

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St David's Day



Across OLC last week, we celebrated St David's Day as we added a splash of yellow to our uniform. Thank you to Father Austin for sharing many wonderful stories about St David and in particular, for teaching the children a familiar song to remember St David by. We also used St David's words: 'Be joyful, keep the faith, and do the little things you have heard and seen me do', throughout the day in supporting our own mission: To Live as Jesus Taught us.

Easter Bonnet Parades and Stations of the Cross Events



As we draw closer to Easter, we look forward to our FS's (Nursery and Reception) and KS1's (Years 1 and 2) Easter Bonnet parade – so it is that time of year for parents and children to get creative and make those bonnets in time for their showcase to parents on the 21st March.

Our Year 3 and 4 children are busily rehearsing in preparation for the retelling of the Stations of the Cross that they will perform to parents on our final day of the term (22nd March) in the School Hall.

Dates for 2023/24



10.3.24 – Mothering Sunday
13.3.24 – Parents' Evening
14.3.24 – Parents' Evening
17.3.24 – St. Patrick's Day
20.3.24 – International Day of Happiness
21.3.24 – FS1 and FS2 Easter Bonnet Parade – 9.30am
21.3.24 – KS1 (Y1 and Y2) Easter Bonnet Parade – 10.30am
22.3.24 – LKS2 (Y3 and Y4) to lead Stations of the Cross – 2pm
22.3.24 – Last day of term
24.3.24 – Palm Sunday
29.3.24 – Good Friday
31.3.24 – Easter Sunday
8.4.24 – School reopens to all pupils
16.4.24 – National offer day for FS2 (2024-25)
16.4.24 – Swimming begins for Class 5H
22.4.24 – Earth Day
23.4.24 – St. George's Day
24.4.24 – One Life Music Retreat for Year 3 @ OLC
4.5.24 – First Holy Communion – Group 1 @ 11am
6.5.24 – May Bank Holiday – School Closed
7.5.24 – Y5 Bikeability Week
11.5.24 – First Holy Communion – Group 2 @ 11am
13.5.24 – Y6 SATs week
17.5.24 – May Procession
19.5.24 – Pentecost
20.5.24 – Y6 Residential @ Alton Castle
24.5.24 – Last day of Half-Term
3.6.24 – School reopens to all pupils after half-term break
5.6.24 – World Environment Day
12.6.24 – Class Photographs
16.6.24 – Father's Day
20.6.24 – World Refugee 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
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
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

Gospel Virtues and Values



During this term we are growing to be faith-filled in our beliefs and hopeful for the future and in doing so, we grow by passing on the living and faith-filled tradition of Jesus Christ; by having persevering faith in the pupils, and by encouraging them in turn, to have faith and hope in others.

Mother's Day



Thank you to FS1 and FS2 for leading a wonderful assembly for their mothers on Friday. We thank God for the gift of our mothers - I hope that over the weekend the children shower you with love. We also remember those in our school community who find mother's day difficult and mourn the loss of loved ones.

Parents' Evening Information

On Wednesday 13th and Thursday 14th March, we will be holding our Parents' Evening Meetings for this term. As you are aware, these sessions will be held in person and will take place in the school hall – with entrance being through the playground and the hall foyer door.

The meeting will be an opportunity to get to know how your child is getting on in school and will mainly focus on the following areas:

- Your child's relationships with their peers; their well-being.
- Your child's engagement with learning.
- Your child's progress from their starting point across different subject areas.
- Concrete ways in which you can best help your child with their learning journey.

The booking system for arranging a time has already been sent out by email; however, if you have had any issues booking a time slot, please contact the school office. We ask that during the day you please keep to the time that you have booked and the allocated 10 minutes to support us in ensuring that the meeting does not overrun since this will impact on other parents waiting for their appointment; we thank you for your understanding and support with this.

As a reminder, there will be no after school clubs taking place on Wednesday 13th and Thursday 14th March, due to parents evening.



FOLC News The Giving Machine

The FOLC are excited to announce a wonderful fundraising opportunity in continuing to raise money for several projects across the school. To get involved all it requires you to do is to set up a Giver account on The Giving Machine and click on the retailer link you want to shop at. The purchases you make then generate a donation which will show on your account summary once processed by The Giving Machine. For further information, please visit:

https://www.thegivingmachine.co.uk/causes/our-lady-of-compassion-rc-primary-school-friends-of-olc/?ct=t%28EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_school_newsletter_2021_04_29%29

These free donations to school, work by online shops who pay millions in sales commissions to other websites that direct shoppers to them (eg search engines and voucher code websites). At The Giving Machine they turn these commissions into donations for schools and charitable causes, at no extra cost to you.

Stay and Pray – Lent



Last week we were blessed to see so many parents joining their children for the Stay and Pray sessions in school. It was great for us to share a with you all a snippet of what happens in OLC each day. Thank you to all for your evaluations. We look forward to our next Stay and Pray sessions that will take place in December for Advent.

World Book Day



What a special day we had yesterday, celebrating our love of reading during World Book Day! The children had the opportunity to take part in different activities including The Masked Reader – where the children watched video clips and tried to guess the member of staff reading the book – and shared reading. Great joy throughout the day!

St Patrick's Day



For St Patrick's Day, on Friday 17th March, children will be able to come to school in non-uniform and wear the colour green.

Athletics Success



It was great to hear this week about Matthew's and Ava's success whilst representing Team Birmingham at the Sports Hall Athletics League Competition. The Birmingham team won the whole competition for the boys and girls, and Ava won her events in Javelin and the Obstacle Relay. We are sure you agree they look very proud of their medals and we are very proud of them both. Well done Matthew and Ava.

Father Hudson's Assembly



Thank you to Mark Hateley for visiting us on Wednesday to share with us all the wonderful work that Father Hudson's Care do. Following on from this, we will be joining schools all across our Diocese to raise money for Father Hudson's Care by having a non-uniform day on Friday 22nd March in exchange for a £1 donation that can be paid on ParentPay.

Good Shepherd Appeal 2024



Father Hudson's Care will be launching the 2024 Good Shepherd Appeal. As the principal social care agency of the Catholic Archdiocese of Birmingham, they provide a range of services for people who are disadvantaged, marginalised or experiencing need. They work with people from all walks of life, offering friendship, care and support. To help prepare for the Appeal, we will be sending out Good Shepherd Appeal collection envelopes and ask you to fill these with any spare coins throughout the Lenten period and to send these back to school by Friday 12th April.

Online Safety #Wake Up Wednesday

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

Top Tips for Supporting Children Who Are EXPERIENCING BULLYING

In a DfE survey, 36% of parents said that their child had been bullied in the past year, while 29% of secondary school headteachers reported bullying among students. Public Health England states that young people who maintain positive communication with their family were less likely to experience bullying – so it's important that parents, carers and educators know how to talk to children about bullying.

- WATCH FOR BEHAVIOURAL CHANGES**
Children who are experiencing bullying may become quiet, withdrawn, or nervous; however they may also act on the pain and anger that they're feeling. A child's extreme behaviour that's different from their usual behaviour may be a sign of bullying. If you notice any changes in your child's behaviour, it's important to be alert to such changes and talk to your child about them if they occur.
- THINK THINGS THROUGH**
Before acting, use yourself if this is the right time and place to discuss concerns about bullying. Encourage your child to tell you about any bullying they're experiencing. Encourage your child to tell you about any bullying they're experiencing. Encourage your child to tell you about any bullying they're experiencing.
- BE OPEN AND UNDERSTANDING**
Try to maintain an open and understanding attitude. Encourage your child to tell you about any bullying they're experiencing. Encourage your child to tell you about any bullying they're experiencing.
- LET THEM SPEAK FREELY**
Use open questions and encourage your child to talk about their feelings. Encourage your child to tell you about any bullying they're experiencing. Encourage your child to tell you about any bullying they're experiencing.
- CALL A TIME OUT**
A conversation about bullying could take time from your child's schoolwork. It's important to find a time when your child has a suitable moment to calm down. Take deep breaths, step back and think about your own feelings. This can reassure them, while also helping you both feel that you have control over the situation and the emotions that you're feeling.
- STAY INFORMED**
Make sure you know your child's school's definition of bullying and report concerns for bullying. This information should be in their school's policy, which can be found on the school's website. It can also be found in the school's handbook or on the school's website.
- PREP YOUR CHILD FOR THE RESPONSE**
Schools' responses to bullying vary depending on whether they're reporting 'disagreement' or 'bullying'. Encourage your child to talk to you about any bullying they're experiencing. Encourage your child to tell you about any bullying they're experiencing.
- SUMMARISE YOUR CHILD'S EXPERIENCE**
When you contact the school, make sure you've precisely described what your child experienced and how they're feeling. Encourage your child to tell you about any bullying they're experiencing. Encourage your child to tell you about any bullying they're experiencing.
- LIAISE WITH THE SCHOOL**
Any school has a duty to ensure that the person who is currently their sole and included. It's important for children to learn their own role. The school's policy on bullying should be clear. Encourage your child to tell you about any bullying they're experiencing. Encourage your child to tell you about any bullying they're experiencing.
- CHECK IN FREQUENTLY**
Once the issue has been resolved and the school has received the report, you may still feel anxious and might find it difficult to talk to your child about the bullying. Encourage your child to tell you about any bullying they're experiencing. Encourage your child to tell you about any bullying they're experiencing.

Meet Our Expert
Rob Bailey is the Director of Anti-Bullying Quality Mark (ABQM), which challenges and supports schools to develop a culture where all children have the opportunity to prevent bullying, including working with parents and carers. Rob has been in England and Wales for many years and is a former teacher.

#WakeUpWednesday **The National College**

Twitter: @nationalonlinesafety Facebook: /NationalOnlineSafety Instagram: @nationalonlinesafety TikTok: @national_online_safety

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-notices/>

Catholic Social Teaching



Throughout this term we are focusing upon the Catholic Social Teaching principle of the option of the poor, where we are putting others first. This is certainly evident during Lent as we continue our almsgiving of raising funds for Father Hudson and Cafod's Palestine/Gaza Appeal.

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.

Tickets on Sale now for

EASTER Raffle

Join us on
Friday 22nd March
 for **Book Sale & Sweetie Sale**
 School Hall, 3.25pm

Raffle Winners will be announced at 3.30pm

Tickets on sale at www.pta-events.com/fole




FS1 - Green
 FS2 - Blue
 Year 1 - Yellow
 Year 2 - Orange
 Year 3 - Purple
 Year 4 - Pink
 Year 5 - White
 Year 6 - Red

RAINBOW HAMPERS

We need your help

This year for our Easter Raffle we would like to invite the children to help. We are asking each year group to help create our prize hampers. These will be rainbow hampers. Each year group is assigned a colour, and we are asking for donations of any items in that colour to add to our hamper. Please see pictures for examples, all donations welcome, sweets, bottles, chocolates, toiletries, toys, teddys... anything really as long as it's the right colour.

Football Success



Super success for the boys' and girls' teams in their recent fixtures – the girls team beat Valley School 3-0 and the boys team beat Hockley Heath School 2-1, Meriden School 5-0, and St Margaret's School 3-2! What an achievement!

Special thanks to Mr Dubberley for all his support with these matches over the last week – we are very grateful for all the help.

Women's History Month

It has been amazing to see the wonderful learning that FS have been engaged in, learning about Olympic gold medallist, Dame Denise Lewis.

We have been learning about Olympic gold medallist Dame Denise Lewis. We competed in some heptathlon events.



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