



Our Lady of Compassion Catholic School

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@ourladycompass

School Newsletter – 7

Date: Friday 8th December 2023

To Live As Jesus Taught Us.

Dear Parents and Carers,



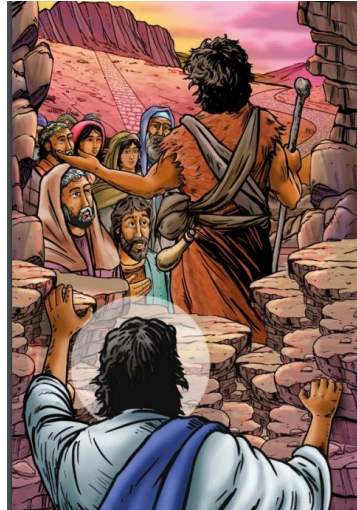
We would like to thank everyone who has donated towards the Christmas Fayre in the lead up to the day – your generosity and kindness is always greatly appreciated. Thank you also to all that busily helped behind the scenes to prepare and set up the Fayre – we are so thankful for all of your efforts. Thank you to the following businesses: Kowabunga Caravans, Fun Accomodation Ltd, Shaking Hand, Touchwood, The Farm, The Stonegate, Edwards Bathrooms and Plumbing, Nandos, Asda and Tesco for your donations towards prizes and raffles, and to our entertainers, the Children's Choir from the Friary and the fabulous dancers from Pop Fusion. Finally, to the Parish Volunteers, the FOLC and staff whom without all of your help this would not have been possible. The support towards the Fayre certainly paid off as the Fayre made over £5700 which will be shared between the Olton Friary and School. The joy of Christmas was certainly there for everyone to see and feel. Now on to planning the Summer Fayre!!!!

Have a wonderful weekend
Mr N Emery (Headteacher)

Christmas Carols

We look forward to welcoming our families and friends to our Christmas Carols on Friday 15th December - these will take place in the School Hall. For times and dates of the services, please see the key dates section of the newsletter below.

Wednesday Word



Advent is the season of hope, culminating in the celebration of the birth of Jesus, which brings us the good news that we are loved unconditionally by God. This Sunday's Gospel is also filled with hope. John the Baptist points away from himself towards Jesus. John makes it clear that it is Jesus that the people should follow: the hope of the world. This season of hope is a great opportunity to be spiritually refreshed, to get rid of everything negative in life and make it altogether positive: to look forward knowing that God is with us. Let's use this special time to make a fresh start and to be filled with hope.

Friary Events

Below you will find a set of exciting events that are taking place at the Olton Friary over the coming months; if you would like any further information about these, please feel free to contact Mrs Hornsey or the Friary:

- 16th December Parish - Carol concert. Children welcome to join children's choir they sing at 9am Mass on a Sunday.
- Christmas Day - 9am Mass if your child would like a part in the Nativity, please let the catechist know at 9.00 am Mass.

SUMMARY

- Wednesday Word
- Christmas Party Day
- Christmas Carols
- Friary Events
- Stay and Pray
- Online Safety
- Weather
- Toy Day
- Christmas Jumper Day
- Swimming
- UKS2 Football (Boys)
- Age Concern UK Appeal
- Key Dates
- Christmas Card Winners
- UKS2 Football (Girls)
- Elf on the Shelf
- Pop Fusion
- FS2 Admissions 24/25
- The Panto Comes to OLC
- The Giving Machine

Christmas Party Day

On Thursday 21st 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 of from his busy Christmas workshop.

Stay and Pray



Thank you for joining us across this week at our 'Stay and Pray' sessions. It was wonderful to come together with our families and highlight the importance of prayer in our everyday lives. We were so pleased to see so many parents able to attend and make time during their busy day to pray with us and participate in the children's experiences. We look forward to our next set of 'Stay and Pray' sessions taking place during Lent.



Swimming

Class 6B's last swimming lesson will be the 13th December. Class 5/6C will begin their swimming sessions after the Christmas break on Tuesday 9th January. Please ensure the Microsoft Form that has been sent out is completed for these sessions.

UKS2 Football



Well done to the UKS2 boy's football team who competed on Monday evening. The team showed both great spirit and determination against George Fentham School and eventually prevailed as 4-3 winners. Thank you to Mr Brennan for supporting the team.

Online Safety #Wake Up Wednesday

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

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about TIKTOK

TIKTOK is a free social media platform that lets users create, share and watch short videos ranging anywhere from 15 seconds to 30 minutes in duration. The app gained notoriety for its viral dance trends and celebrity cameos and can be a creative, fun platform for teens to enjoy. However, it is also a dangerous place to be for children under 13. In fact, a 2022 Ofcom report found TIKTOK to be the most-used social media platform for posting content, particularly among young people aged 12 to 17.

AGE RESTRICTION 13+

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

- AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT:** While TIKTOK's "Following" feed only shows videos from users you've followed, it does not control what is uploaded by those who are not followed. Children under 13 can be exposed to inappropriate content, such as sexual or violent content, hate speech, and self-harm. TIKTOK will therefore be automatically set to "Restricted Mode" for children under 13. However, it is still possible for children to see inappropriate content, for example if they are recommended a video by a friend or if they are recommended a video by a friend of a friend.
- DANGEROUS CHALLENGES:** Due to TIKTOK's algorithm, popular challenges can spread quickly. Some challenges can be dangerous, such as those that involve drinking alcohol, using drugs, or performing stunts. TIKTOK has taken steps to remove these challenges, but it is still possible for children to see them.
- CONTACT WITH STRANGERS:** TIKTOK allows users to connect with people they don't know. This can be dangerous, as children can be contacted by strangers who may attempt to groom them or arrange to meet in person. TIKTOK has taken steps to reduce this risk, but it is still possible for children to be contacted by strangers.
- ENABLE FAMILY PAIRING:** Family Pairing allows parents to link their accounts with their child's account for extra control over their child's account. This includes the ability to restrict the types of content that can be seen, to limit the amount of time spent on the app, and to require a password to download apps. Family Pairing can also be used to restrict the types of people that can be contacted on the app.
- DISCUSS THE DANGERS:** If your child wants to use TIKTOK and you're happy for them to do so, it's important to have a conversation about the potential risks. Discuss the types of content that can be seen, the potential for contact with strangers, and the importance of not sharing personal information. Encourage your child to report any inappropriate content to TIKTOK.
- MEET OUR EXPERT:** Daily Poppy is an experienced technology journalist with a track record of more than 10 years in the industry. Previously the editor of Tech Radar, she reports on the latest in consumer technology. She is also a frequent speaker at industry events.

ADVICE FOR PARENTS & CARERS

- MAKE ACCOUNTS PRIVATE:** Although under-13s will have their TIKTOK accounts set to private by default, it is still possible for children to have the ability to manually set their child's account to public. Parents should ensure that their child's account is set to private and that they are able to restrict the types of content that can be seen.
- LIMIT IN-APP SPENDING:** If your child is using an iPhone or Android device, you can use the Family Sharing settings to restrict in-app purchases. You should also ensure that you are able to restrict the types of content that can be seen.
- READ THE SIGNS:** If you're concerned that your child might be spending too much time on TIKTOK, or that they are being contacted by strangers, it's important to look for signs of distress. These include changes in behavior, such as withdrawal from family and friends, and a decline in school performance.

National Online Safety

#WakeUpWednesday

@nationalonline_safety | @national_online_safety

Weather

With the ever changing forecast please be aware that we will inform parents of any potential school closure via our school app. Please do ensure you have this downloaded.

Toy Day

On Friday 22nd December, we will have our annual Toy Day where children are invited to bring in a toy that they would like to share in play with their friends. Please remind your children that they are not to bring anything valuable or electrical to play with.

Christmas Jumper/Clothes Day

Christmas JUMPER DAY



On Friday 15th December, we will be holding our annual Christmas Jumper / Clothes Day where children can come in non-uniform, wearing a Christmas Jumper or Christmas Clothes. We will be asking for a £2 contribution towards some further resources for our Zones of Regulation, an initiative that was implemented last year to support children's emotional well-being. Children will also be able to wear their Christmas Jumper / Clothes with their outdoor learning kit on Christmas Dinner Day on the 20th December.



Make an older person smile this Christmas



Age UK Solihull are in need of gifts to give to older people in Solihull who might not otherwise receive one this festive period.

We are collecting donations of **selection boxes, biscuits and chocolates** for Age UK Solihull to give to older Solihull residents.

Any donations will be gratefully received.



Thank you!



Thank you so much for all the gift donations - we collected a fantastic amount of 76 items! These gifts will make a real difference to the older and vulnerable people at this difficult time of year.

Dates for 2023/24

13.12.23 – Last Swimming Session for Class 6B
15.12.23 – Christmas Jumper Day
15.12.23 – KS1 Carols – 9.30am
15.12.23 – LKS2 Carols – 10.30am
15.12.23 – UKS2 Carols – 2.30pm
20.12.23 – Christmas Dinner Day
21.12.23 – Party Day
21.12.23 – Whole School Theatre performance at School
22.12.23 – Toy Day
22.12.23 – School open for last day of term

Christmas Card Winners



Well done to Toby in class 4F for his Christmas card design (see above) which was chosen by the Olton Friary as their Christmas card this year, and Esme's in class 3KC (see below) which has been chosen by the school. Thank you to everyone who entered the competition - the standard of the designs this year was very high.



UKS2 Football



Our girls' football team had a great start to the season! They played two matches, narrowly losing the first game with a score of 2-1 to Our Lady of the Wayside. They then excelled in their second game on Monday evening at Old Silhillians, winning 6-0 against St Augustine's. Well done girls!

Elf on the Shelf



It is that time of year again, when our good old friend, the 'Elf on the Shelf' makes their 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.

£7
pay as you go!

POP FUSION

COMMERCIAL DANCE CLASSES FOR ALL AGES AND ABILITIES

Available weekly!

For more information contact Amy
07969430329

Location: Langley School Dance Studio
Kineton Green Road
Solihull
B92 7ER

FS2 (Reception) Applications 2024/25

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 15th January 2024.

The Panto comes to OLC

We look forward to welcoming the Panto at OLC on Thursday 21st 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.



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.