



# Our Lady of Compassion Catholic School

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@ourladycompass

School Newsletter – 3

Date: Friday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2023

To Live As Jesus Taught Us.

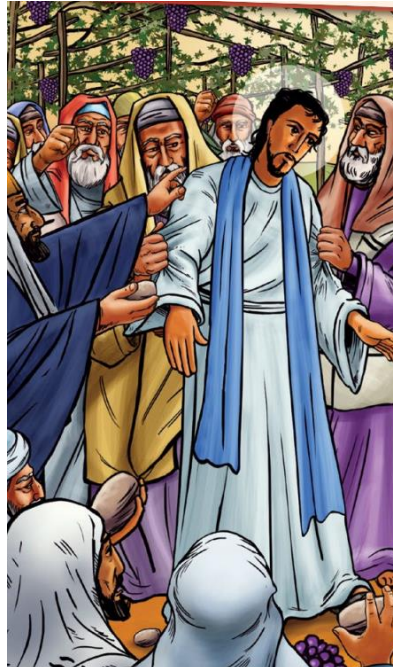
Dear Parents and Carers,



During Black History Month, the month of October, children will be taking part in activities and events to honour Black History. This week children across Foundation Stage 1 and 2, have been learning about Rosa Parks' courage to make a change. In FS2, the children discussed and talked about Rosa's bus journey and how she might have felt. We look forward to sharing further events that have taken place across the school.

Have a wonderful weekend,  
Mr N Emery (Headteacher)

## Wednesday Word



It's easy to get caught up in the daily busyness of life and forget what life's really all about. However, to assist us on our path through life, God sends messengers to help us remember what is most important. In this Sunday's Gospel, the servants represent God's messengers (the Prophets) and the tenants of the vineyard represent the leaders of Israel at that time. Jesus told this story because some of the leaders were not listening to God's messengers. In many ways we are like 'tenants' in this world. The messengers that God sends today remind us that God has a great plan for our lives. We are created for everlasting life and, for now, we are here to share, enjoy and develop what God gives to us in this life. Pope Francis reminds us, "May you always be messengers of peace and goodwill." Enjoy your week and help spread the message of God's love.

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## Congratulations Mrs Kirkland



On Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> September, we joined together with our OLAAS MAC schools at the annual Thanksgiving Mass. During this service we also celebrated the dedication and commitment of staff across the MAC. It was a pleasure to witness Mrs Kirkland being recognized for her 25 years of service. What a great accomplishment – thank you Mrs Kirkland for your continued support for our children at OLC.

## OLC Designated Safeguarding Leads

OLC is committed to safeguarding all our pupils - we take child protection and safeguarding very seriously. Our Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) is Mrs Vella. The deputy safeguarding leads are Mr Emery and Miss Moir. If you do have any safeguarding concerns, please do inform a DSL. During the holiday, please phone MASH on 0121 788 4300 if you have any concerns about a child.

## Hello Yellow Day

On Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> October, we are inviting children to wear a splash of yellow with their school uniform (this can be yellow socks, a yellow hair band, a yellow scarf...), in recognition of World Mental Health Day and the theme 'Hello Yellow Day', supporting Young Minds awareness. If you would like to make a donation to support this, please follow this link:

<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/supports/fundraising/helloyellow/?gclid=EAlaQobChMlvtizXJ->

## Nut Aware School

As a Nut Aware School we ask all parents to ensure that you are checking your child's lunch boxes and ensuring that no nut products are sent into school.

## Samaritan's Purse Operation



Once again this year, the school will be taking part in the Samaritan's Purse, Operation Christmas Child (Shoe Box Appeal). The Samaritan's Purse leaflet has been sent home with your child on Friday (7<sup>th</sup> October) and will give you an idea of the items to be put in the shoebox. Shoe Boxes will need to be returned to school the week commencing 7<sup>th</sup> November. Any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

## After School Sports Clubs



This term we have a variety of before and after school clubs at OLC, such as Theatre club/Multi-Sports and Dance. If you are interested in your child attending any of these clubs, please contact the school office.

## 48 Hour Rule

As a school we ask that children who have been unwell and have symptoms of sickness and diarrhoea do not attend school for 48 hours.

## Online Safety #Wake Up Wednesday

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

**What Parents & Carers Need to Know about YOUTUBE KIDS**

YouTube Kids is a child-friendly version of YouTube which offers a colourful and easy-to-navigate environment that's suitable for young children. This app is easily accessible and available for mobile devices, which can be downloaded without needing the YouTube app on the device. Despite YouTube Kids seeming like a very child-friendly platform, it has raised concerns over its advertising and inappropriate content seeping through the curation process.

**SETTING UP**

- Download the YouTube Kids app and connect your own YouTube channel.
- Input your child's name, age and birth month.
- Select the types of videos you want to include for your child based on their age and your own personal choice.
- If you decide to approve the content yourself, the app will present you with sample videos for you to accept and reject.
- Once you've made your choice, you're ready to use the app!

**Advice for Parents & Carers**

- REMOVE ADVERTISEMENTS**  
Like YouTube, adverts on YouTube Kids are also quite pervasive. If you decide you don't want your child being exposed to adverts, you can subscribe to YouTube Premium which will remove adverts on YouTube Kids. However, it's worth remembering that this doesn't block adverts that content creators decide to make as part of their content, and children are still able to access channels from branded fast food or toy companies.
- BE WARY OF UNSUITABLE CONTENT**  
YouTube Kids has a far lower chance of showing unsuitable material than YouTube, but there are still reports of malicious users deliberately uploading inappropriate content. It's important that your child feels able to talk to you if they were ever exposed to upsetting content in the future. It's also safest to report inappropriate videos: tap the three dots in the corner of the video and select 'Report'.
- DISABLE SEARCH OPTION**  
YouTube Kids offers you to disable the search feature, which you may find useful in preventing your child from unintentionally finding age-inappropriate content. Doing this will also give you more control over what your child is watching. It's also worth noting that setting an age limit will ensure that your child is only exposed to recommended videos that are deemed suitable for their age group.
- RESTRICT VIEWING TIME**  
The YouTube Kids app provides you with the option of setting up a timer to monitor and limit your child's daily usage, which automatically stops the video when it reaches the set time. It may be best to make use of this feature to prevent screen addiction - which can potentially lead to children staying up too late, affecting their mood and concentration the following day.
- MONITOR WATCH HISTORY**  
YouTube Kids has also made it possible for parents and carers to see what their children are watching on the app by clicking on the 'Recommended' icon on the top right of the home screen. It may also be worth having a look at what your child has recently watched by clicking on their history tab. The red bar on the video shows how much of the video has been watched.
- WATCH TOGETHER**  
It's important to make YouTube Kids a fun and positive experience for your child. This may require spending time finding channels and content that you and your child will enjoy watching from. Try introducing family sessions where you can share the most enjoyable videos that you and your child have recently watched. This can be a great way of giving you and your child many new things to talk about with each other.

**Meet Our Expert**  
Ciara Goodwin (a.k.a. Lunawolf) has worked as an editor and journalist in the gaming industry since 2010, providing websites with event coverage, reviews and gaming guides. She is the owner of Lunawolf Gaming and is currently working on various gaming-related projects including game development and writing non-fiction books.

**NOS National Online Safety**  
#WakeUpWednesday

## First Holy Communion Programme

As a reminder, the first session for the FHC programme will start on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> October at 9.30am at the Olton Friary Church. The children's Holy Communion books will be given out at this session. Children will need to take with them colouring pencils, a water bottle and a small healthy snack (no crisps).



We are looking forward to our Open Day in November where we will have the opportunity to meet prospective parents who are looking for a school place for their child for September 2024. We will be holding the Open Day on 7<sup>th</sup> November at 5pm which will be held in the school hall.

## Secondary Applications

The closing date for secondary school 2024 applications is 31st October. Solihull residents should apply on the online portal at [www.solihull.gov.uk/pp](http://www.solihull.gov.uk/pp) Applications received after the closing date will not be processed until after the offers are made 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.

## Dates for 2023/24



10.10.23 – World Mental Health Day  
13.10.23 – Flu Immunisations (FS2 to Y6)  
19.10.23 – Y6 Retreat with One Life Music  
20.10.23 – FS2/Y6 Buddies Service – 2.15pm – School Hall  
26.10.23 – School closes for October half-term  
26.10.23 – School Photographs  
27.10.23 – INSET Day – School Closed to pupils  
31.10.23 – Closing date for Secondary Applications  
1.11.23 – All Saints' Day – Holy Day of Obligation  
6.11.23 – School reopens for Autumn Term 2  
7.11.23 – FS1/FS2 Open Day – 5pm  
9.11.23 – Y6 Trip to St Chad's  
11.11.23 – Remembrance Day  
12.11.23 – Diwali  
13.11.23 – Anti-bullying Week  
15.11.23 – Parents' Evening  
16.11.23 – Parents' Evening  
16.11.23 – Drop Everything and Read Day  
17.11.23 – Children in Need  
20.11.23 – Road Safety Week  
20.11.23 – World Children's Day  
24.11.23 – World Science Day  
30.11.23 – St. Andrew's Day  
1.12.23 – FS2 Nativity – 9.20am  
2.12.23 – Christmas Fayre at OLC  
3.12.23 – Advent begins  
8.12.23 – FS1 Nativity – 9.20am  
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 closes for Christmas Holidays

## Nursery Admission 2023/24

If you are interested in places for 2023/24 for your child to begin with us in Nursery, please contact the school office.

## Month of the Holy Rosary



During the month of October, we devote our prayers to Mary through the Holy Rosary. Children in school have enjoyed learning and experiencing decades of the Rosary together. We would love to hear about how, as a family, you are taking time out of your busy day to say the Rosary together. If you would like to share any photographs of your time at home praying the Rosary, please send these through our office email or Twitter feed.

**Irish Dancing Lessons**

**ST Thomas More Parish Centre, Sheldon, Birmingham, B26 3HU**

- Wednesday after school until 5:00pm (term time only)
- Bring a snack and drink to have at the end of class!
- £7 per class

Boys & Girls Welcome

Teacher DBS Checked  
Call into Hall for details  
or phone Sharon TCRG  
on 07973537383

## Stay and Pray

During Advent this year we would like to invite parents to join us at our stay and pray sessions with your children. These will take place in each phase in our school hall and will be an opportunity for you to join your child and their friends in prayer. For a list of the dates please see below:  
FS (Reception): Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December @ 9.15am  
KS1 (Years 1 and 2): Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December @ 9.15am  
LKS2 (Years 3 and 4): Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December @ 9.15am  
UKS2 (Years 5 and 6): Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December @ 9.15am



## 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](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.

## Cross Country



Children in Year 5 have competed in the annual South Solihull Cross Country Event. Our wonderful children really gave their all, achieving an amazing 5<sup>th</sup> place in both the boys' and the girls' competitions. Well done Year 5!

## Football



Well done to our Y5 children who visited St Peter's school to take part in a 5-a-side football tournament with some of our MAC sister schools. The children as always gave a fantastic account of themselves and gave their all for the school!