



Our Lady of Compassion Catholic School

Kineton Green Road

Solihull

B92 7EG

Tel: 0121 706 9508

Email: office@olc.solihull.sch.uk

Website: <http://www.olc.solihull.sch.uk/>



To Live As Jesus Taught Us.

School Newsletter – 16

Date: Friday 2nd May 2025

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,
Welcome back to our final term of the school year where we continue our Eastertide journey. During this term we look forward to the many events and celebrations that will be taking place. We ask you all to keep our Year 3 children, who will be receiving the Sacrament of First Holy Communion, in your prayers over the coming weeks as they continue with their preparations. This week, we join Catholics around the world in mourning the death of Pope Francis, a beloved leader who guided the Church with compassion, humility, and hope. Pope Francis was a true example of Christ's love, always encouraging us to care for the poor, protect the environment, and build peace. We give thanks for his life and leadership, and we pray for the Church as we await the election of a new Pope.

May Pope Francis rest in the peace of Christ.

Mr N Emery (Headteacher)

Wednesday Word



“Dear young people, Jesus is counting on you to be his friends and witnesses to his infinite love.” Pope Francis
Peter had denied knowing Jesus three times before the crucifixion. But now Jesus gives Peter the chance to say he loves him three times - preparing Peter to lead the Church. From this point onwards, St Peter's life witnessed to the truth about Jesus. St Peter gave witness to what Jesus did and who Jesus really was. Because of his witness, many people came to know and follow Jesus. Through our words, actions and through the power of the Holy Spirit, we too can be God's witnesses, through living our lives the way Jesus shows us. Choose a special way to be Jesus' witnesses – sharing and showing God's love to everyone you meet in this coming week. Perhaps you can: be kind and loving in your simple everyday words and actions; be a peacemaker; pray and ask God to make you a good witness.

SUMMARY

- Wednesday Word
- Summer Fayre
- Nursery Admissions 2025/26
- FS2 2025/26
- Summer Lunch Menu
- Dates for 24/25
- Y6 SATs
- VE Day – 80th Anniversary
- Food Promotion
- Summer Term Uniform
- Blue Sky
- Change of Dates
- Water/Snacks
- Online Safety
- First Holy Communion
- Mary's Meals
- Queen of Peace

Summer Fayre

As we draw ever closer to this year's Summer Fayre we are in need of support with donations. On Friday 16th May, children will be able to wear non-uniform to school in exchange for a bottle donation and then on Friday 23rd May we would appreciate donations of chocolates and sweets. Please drop all donations to the FOLC who will be at the school gates collecting these from you. As always we thank you for your support towards these events and help to make these as successful as possible. If you are able to assist on the day of the summer fayre, please do let the FOLC know.

FS2 2025/26

Over the Easter holidays, parents who have applied for a place in FS2 (Reception) from September 2025 will have received their offer from the local authority; this was sent out on 16th April by email.

Nursery Admission 2025/26

If you are interested in places for 2025/26 for your child to begin with us in Nursery, please contact the school office.



Please follow this link to see the updated lunch menu for the Summer Term:
<https://www.olc.solihull.sch.uk/page/?title=Catering+at+OLC&pid=62>

Dates for 2024/25

Further dates will be added throughout the term

5.5.25 – May Bank Holiday – School Closed
8.5.25 – VE Day – 80th Anniversary
10.5.25 – Y3 First Holy Communion – Group 1 – 11am
11.5.25 – World Day of Vocations
12.5.25 – Y6 SATs test to begin
15.5.25 – Food Promotion – Out of this World
16.5.25 – Non-uniform Day in exchange for bottle donation for Summer Fayre
17.5.25 – Y3 First Holy Communion – Group 2 – 11am
18.5.25 – Going Forth Mass for Y3 @ Olton Friary – 9am
19.5.25 – Y5 to begin Bikeability
22.5.25 – KS1 May Procession
23.5.25 – Sweets and Chocolate donation for Summer Fayre
23.5.25 – School finishes at normal time for May Half-term
24.5.25 – 10th Year Anniversary of Laudato Si
2.6.25 – School reopens after Half-Term break
8.6.25 – Pentecost
9.6.25 – Feed a family of 4 (LKS2) 2.30pm
11.6.25 – Class Photographs
19.6.25 – Food Promotion – into the Deep Blue
20.6.25 – MAC Sports Day for Year 6 @ Tudor Grange
21.6.25 – Summer Fayre @ Olton Friary – 12pm – 3pm
26.6.25 – UKS2 Sports Day – 9.15am
26.6.25 – FS Sports Day – 10.30am
26.6.25 – LKS2 Sports Day – 1.15pm
26.6.25 – KS1 Sports Day – 2.15pm
27.6.25 – Whole School Mass @ Olton Friary – Sacred Heart
1.7.25 – Provisional Sports Day if required due to weather
2.7.25 – Year 6 Residential to Alton Castle
8.7.25 – Year 6 Production – 10am
17.7.25 – Year 6 Leaver's Awards – 10am
17.7.25 – Food Promotion Day – The Big Picnic
18.7.24 – Year 6 Leaver's Mass at Friary – 10.15am
18.7.24 – Year 6 Leaver's Celebrations – 12.45pm
18.7.25 – School finishes at 2pm for Summer Holidays

Year 6 KS2 SATs



Our Year 6 children have been preparing tremendously hard for their end of KS2 tests which will take place during the week of 12th May. In supporting our children through the week we ask that they arrive at school for 8am - they will be provided with toast and juice each day in school, after which they will take part in daily 'wake up, shake up' session. During the week the children can also bring a little mascot with them to school.

VE Day – 80th Anniversary

This year, on Thursday 8th May, the country has been asked to hold a 3-minute silence at 3pm for the 80th celebration of WW2 Victory in Europe Day. On 8th May the children can wear either red, white and blue (or 1940s style clothing) and children will get the opportunity to play a few 1940's old fashioned games during break time. During their lessons children will also be writing letters to WW2 war veterans and making flags as well as creating pictures of showing peace that can be shared with their class in the afternoon.

Summer Term Uniform



As we begin the Summer Term we have now changed to our Summer Uniform. This will be in place up until the October half-term in the next academic year. Children can also wear caps, and suncream should be applied before your child comes to school. To view our school uniform policy please follow this link:
<https://www.olc.solihull.sch.uk/school-uniform/>

Food Promotion Day – Out of this World

If your child would like a school dinner on the 15th May please book on Blue Runner. As part of the Promotion Day children will be able to sample the menu below:

FOOD FESTIVAL
OUT OF THIS WORLD

15th May
Theme Day Meat Option
Mini Planet Meatballs
with out of this World tomato sauce & pasta

Theme Day Vegetarian Option
Veggie Big Bang Bangers and Cosmic Mash
Vegetable Sausage with Mashed Potato

And

Rocket Lolly
Jacket Potato, Topped Pasta & Sandwiches also Available

All children who are on Free School Meals or eligible for Universal Free School Meals (FS2, Year 1 and Year 2) will already have these as the option for the day. However, we ask you to book their choices by Sunday 11th May.

BlueSky



We have recently changed our Social Media channel to the new platform: Bluesky. Please do follow us on this platform to see events and activities that take place in school. Our Bluesky feed is @olcolton.bsky.social. We have already been uploading many of the wonderful events that take place at OLC.

Change of Dates

Please note that there are two changes of dates on the calendar (dates) from the previous newsletter. The KS1 May procession will now be held on the 22nd May and not the 16th May and the Year 6 end of year production will now take place on Tuesday 8th July at 10am instead of Wednesday 9th July. Thank you for your continued support.

First Holy Communion



We ask you all to keep our Year 3 children in your prayers over the coming weeks as they prepare to receive the sacrament of First Holy Communion (FHC). The FHCs will take place on Saturday 10th May for Group 1 and Saturday 17th May for Group 2. We thank all who have helped to support and prepare our children for their special day.

Water/Snacks

As a reminder, children can bring to school a piece of fruit or a healthy snack with them to eat during playtime, rather than chocolate or crisps from their lunchbox. They are also encouraged to have water in their water bottle rather than squash or juice. We have noticed that some children are bringing in bottle that have a 'mist' spray attached to them. Although these may be exciting for the children to have, we ask that these are not brought into school to avoid any distractions to the children's learning. Please support us with these reminders.

Mary's Meals

During the month of May, we are encouraging children to pray for the work of Mary's Meals. This May, schools across the UK will join us in prayer for the work of Mary's Meals. Since their humble beginnings, Mary's Meals has been built on a foundation of prayer and many little acts of love from those who believe in their mission. Today they are feeding more than 2 million children each school day in 20 countries, with many more that are in need of their support. We ask that you join us by taking part in the 'Pray In May' campaign. Through prayer, we can connect and offer support to such great initiatives.

Online Safety #Wake Up Wednesday

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

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators SAFETY ON THE ROAD

Traffic-related incidents are a significant risk for young pedestrians and cyclists, so understanding road safety is crucial for children's wellbeing. While all road users share responsibility for keeping one another safe, this guide offers strategies for empowering young people to navigate the roads confidently and responsibly.

- 1 TAKE PRACTICE JOURNEYS**
Making 'practice' journeys with children is a great way to help them stay safe, thereby modelling responsible behaviours and having road safety conversations as they prepare to travel independently. Add hazard perception activities like spotting electric vehicles – which may have a green number plate – and point out how quiet they are. Children learn by watching others, remind them that their peers might not always be the best role model.
- 2 BE BRIGHT, BE SEEN**
Visibility is lower during darker winter days, and drivers need to take extra care to look out for pedestrians. Wearing bright and reflective clothing can help make children more visible to drivers near roads. In poor daylight conditions, encourage children to wear light, bright or fluorescent clothing. When it's dark, wear reflective clothing or materials such as a reflective armband or jacket.
- 3 EYES UP**
Encourage children to look up and keep their eyes on the road. Teach them to constantly watch for traffic use practices: double-checking the road before crossing – looking right, left and then right again.
- 4 LIMIT DISTRACTIONS**
Where possible, devices like phones should be kept away from children while out and about near roads. If they're carrying devices, these should be put away until they've reached their destination. Children must also avoid playing with toys or being distracted by friends. If a friend wants to show them something funny on their phone, there's no time for that once they're safely arrived.
- 5 SLOW DOWN**
Discuss the importance of waiting instead of crossing immediately. It can be tricky to judge the speed of traffic and spot obstacles that could cause a trip or a fall. For safety, children must stop and think before they get to the kerb and should always walk – not run – when crossing the road. They should avoid crossing until they're certain they have plenty of time. Even if traffic seems a long way off, it could still be approaching very quickly.
- 6 STOP BEFORE THE KERB**
Teach children to stop before reaching the kerb – not right at the edge of it, waiting before they get to the kerb allows them to see if anything's coming, whereas getting too close is dangerous. If there's no pavement, children should stand back from the road's edge but ensure they can still see approaching traffic.
- 7 CROSS SAFELY**
Children should always find a safe spot to cross the road, prioritising zebra crossings or pelican crossings, footbridges and subway. Find a place where they can see traffic coming from both directions. Avoid crossing near junctions, bends in the road, or obstacles that block their view, instead moving to somewhere they can see and be seen. Remind them to use their eyes and ears together when checking the road, as sometimes they can hear traffic before they can see it. Looking and listening while crossing helps them quickly spot traffic, including cyclists and motorcyclists driving between other vehicles.
- 8 PARKED VEHICLES**
Crossing between parked vehicles is very dangerous. Teach children to use extra caution if crossing in this way, and, ideally, avoid it altogether. They should use the outside edge of a vehicle as if it were the kerb, waiting and checking for traffic before moving. They should ensure vehicles aren't about to move, by looking for drivers in the vehicles and listening for engines running – but remember that electric vehicles may move off silently. They should always make sure there's a gap between any parked vehicles on the other side, so they can reach the pavement.
- 9 REVERSING VEHICLES**
Children must never cross behind a reversing vehicle – it's extremely dangerous. Remind them to look for white reversing lights and listen out for warning sounds. Can they hear the engine sound or a radio playing inside the vehicle?
- 10 WAIT FOR THE BUS TO LEAVE**
When getting off a bus, children must wait for it to leave before crossing so they can have a clear view of the road in both directions. This also allows them to see and be seen by other road users. Crossing near large vehicles is particularly dangerous and should be avoided.

St Peter's Ofsted

Prior to the Easter Holidays, our secondary feeder school, St Peter's was inspected by Ofsted. During the visit it was evident to see the wonderful work that is undertaken at St Peter's on a daily basis. This was reinforced across the report that was published this week. We do encourage you to read this report to witness their works. To access the report please follow this link: <https://www.st-peters.solihull.sch.uk/>

Queen of Peace

We continue to honour Mary during this month and look forward to our May Procession at 2pm on Thursday 22nd May which will be led by our Year 1 and 2 children. Parents are more than welcome to join us and weather permitting, the procession will take place out on the school playground. Just as Mary pondered all the early events surrounding Jesus in her heart, we are invited to contemplate what the Holy Spirit chose to inspire and share with us regarding Mary, not only as Christ's mother, but as our own. Mary, a woman created, a woman set apart. She stands as a model of chastity, of inner beauty, of humility and of purity; the golden vessel, chosen to carry the most important life the world will ever know. As our Mother, would she ever abandon us? God created her. He preserved her. He picked her. He descended upon her. He grew within her. Jesus listened to her, loved her, and honoured her above any other. Not because she wanted it but because she deserved it... because she is different. It was her 'yes' to God that set his brothers and sisters back on the right path. It was her 'yes', that forever changed the world. Just as our Blessed Mother reflects Jesus' light more radiantly and more fully than any other human in history, so we are called – as children of our Blessed Mother – as children of the light, to reflect and radiate the love and heart of Christ to all the world.

May Half Term

27th - 30th May 2025

Fun Fest Olton



HOLIDAY CLUB

AM

PM

Mon

CLOSED - BANK HOLIDAY

Tues

Sublime
Slime

Wacky
Races

Creative
Cooks

Scavenger
Hunt

Weds

Lego
Adventures

Sports Action

Superheros
& Princesses

The
Chase

Thurs

Playful
Painting

Bonkers
Bingo

Pottery

The Kube

Fri

Mission
Impossible

Spring
Gardens

Fun day Friday &
Water Fight