



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 – 3

Date: Friday 3rd October 2025

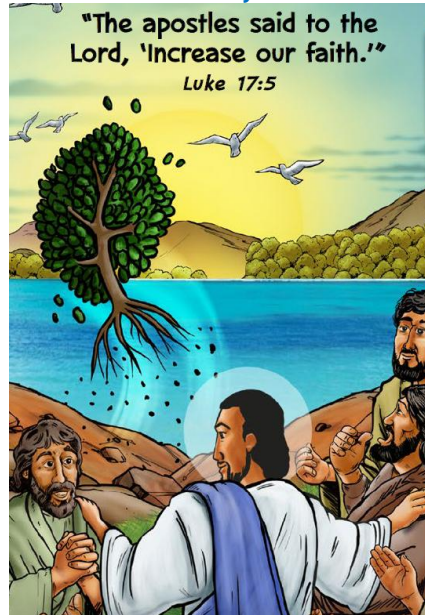
Dear Parents, Carers and Children,
As we come to the end of the Season of Creation, we are reminded of the beauty and responsibility we share in caring for our common home. Over the past few weeks, our school community has taken time to reflect on the wonders of the natural world and the small but meaningful ways we can protect it. It has been heartening to see pupils engage so thoughtfully with this season of prayer, action, and awareness.



At the same time, I want to take a moment to celebrate our Year 6 children who have stepped into their new roles as prefects with maturity, kindness, and a real sense of leadership. Whether supporting younger pupils, helping with assemblies, or setting a positive example around school, they have made a fantastic start. We are incredibly proud of them and look forward to seeing how they continue to grow in their responsibilities.

Mr N Emery (Headteacher)

Wednesday Word



It is said that faith can 'move mountains'. In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus reminds us of the power and the responsibility that comes with having faith in God. Faith and love go hand in hand. Helping our children to grow in faith, to know and love God, is one of the greatest gifts we can give them. Putting our faith in Jesus helps us to know God as our loving Father, and this changes how we see the world - it can free us from anxiety, give us confidence and inner strength, and help us keep growing in our love for one another.

School Uniform

We are seeing an increasing number of children come to school on PE days wearing leggings/joggers/shorts that are not in keeping with our uniform. Please ensure that children only wear **non-branded blue leggings/joggers/skorts/shorts** – that is, they should not be wearing leggings/joggers/shorts/skorts of different colours, with logos, or football shorts. Please help us by ensuring that the children come to school wearing the correct uniform.

SUMMARY

- Wednesday Word
- School Uniform
- Nursery Admissions 2025/26
- Dates for 25/26
- Food Promotion Day
- Black History Month
- Rosary
- Well done Eilish and Oisin
- Online Safety
- Hello Yellow Day
- Samaritans Operation Purse
- Open Day
- 48 hour rule
- Secondary Applications
- Buddies
- Coffee Morning
- Little Way Week
- OLC Designated Safeguarding Leads
- Olton Friary Link
- Flower Festival
- Fundraising for Acorns
- Youth Group at Olton Friary

Nursery Admission

2025/26



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

Dates for 2025/26

Further dates will be added throughout the term

17.10.25 – Year 6 Trip to St. Chad’s
17.10.25 – FOLC Disco at OLC
20.10.25 – Diwali
23.10.25 – Last day of half-term for pupils
24.10.25 – School Closed to pupils for INSET Day
31.10.25 – Closing date for Secondary Applications
1.11.25 – All Saints’ Day – Holy Day of Obligation
3.11.25 – School reopens for Autumn Term 2
4.11.25 – FS1/FS2 Open Day – 5pm
10.11.25 – World Science Day
10.11.25 – Anti-bullying Week
11.11.25 – Remembrance Day
12.11.25 – Parents’ Evening
13.11.25 – Parents’ Evening
14.11.25 – Children in Need
17.11.25 – Road Safety Week
17.11.25 – Flu Immunisations (FS2 to Y6)
19.11.25 – Drop Everything and Read Day
20.11.25 – World Children’s Day
20.11.25 – OLAAS MAC celebration Day
20.11.25 – One Life Retreat Day – Y6
21.11.25 – End of Jubilee Year
23.11.25 – Christ the King – Youth Mass
30.11.25 – St. Andrew’s Day
30.11.25 – Advent begins
3.12.25 – FS2 Nativity – 9.20am
6.12.25 – Christmas Fayre at OLC
9.12.25 – Last Swimming Session for Class 6D
10.12.25 – FS1 Nativity – 9.20am
11.12.25 – Y4/Y5/Y6 Reconciliation
12.12.25 – Christmas Jumper Day
12.12.25 – FS1 Application Deadline for 26/27
12.12.25 – KS1 Carols – 9.30am
12.12.25 – LKS2 Carols – 10.30am
12.12.25 – UKS2 Carols – 2.30pm
16.12.25 – Stay and Pray Whole School – 2.30pm
17.12.25 – Christmas Dinner Day
18.12.25 – Party Day
18.12.25 – Whole School Theatre performance at School for children
19.12.25 – Toy Day
19.12.25 – Last Day of Term before Christmas Holidays – School finishes at 2pm

Food Promotion Day

If your child would like a school dinner on the 5th November, please book on ParentPay. As part of the Promotion Day children will be able to sample the menu below:



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

Black History Month

This October, we come together to celebrate Black History Month - a time to honour the rich heritage, achievements, and contributions of Black individuals throughout history and today. It is also a moment to reflect on the ongoing journey toward equality and justice, and to amplify voices that have shaped our world in powerful ways. Throughout the month, we will be sharing stories, resources, and activities that encourage learning, reflection, and celebration. Let us use this opportunity to inspire curiosity, foster understanding, and continue building a school community where every voice is valued. Below are a few examples of the work that our children in FS and KS1 have completed - we look forward to sharing work from LKS2 and UKS2 in the coming weeks.



Holy Rosary



October is traditionally dedicated to the Holy Rosary, a beautiful and meditative form of prayer in the Catholic tradition. Through the Rosary, we reflect on key moments in the life of Jesus and Mary, known as the Mysteries, while repeating familiar prayers that bring peace and focus to our hearts. The Rosary invites us to pause, pray, and grow closer to God through contemplation and gratitude. Whether prayed individually or as a community, it offers a powerful way to deepen our faith and find comfort in God’s presence. As a school, we are encouraged to take time this month to explore the Rosary, learn its meaning, and perhaps even pray a decade together - a small but meaningful step in nurturing our spiritual lives.

Well done Eilish and Oisín



Oisín and Eilish did amazingly at the regional qualifiers in Swadlincote - the plucky underdog OLC team. Eilish was the only Year 3 and managed to be faster than some in Secondary School! There were 5 qualifiers held around the country and OLC’s result was compared against all the other teams in their age group which found they were the 10th fastest in England and so qualify for the final held in Norwich on 11th October. If any pupils are interested in learning more about skiing, please contact the school office so that we can pass on your details.

Online Safety #Wake Up Wednesday

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

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about EA SPORTS FC 26 PEGI 3

Our guide looks at the risks surrounding EA Sports FC 26 and our top tips to minimise them. This marks the third year since EA left the PFA licence, and the game is mostly unchanged from last year. While Kick-Off remains a great first game for young boys and girls, the game's focus on long-term ambitions as a manager or player, Ultimate Team remains the main draw for many players - and if it can get out of hand in terms of how much money players can invest.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

AN ANNUAL RELEASE SCHEDULE
As with the last two EA Sports FC games, EA Sports FC 26 will be released in September. The franchise will not enter a year with multiple releases and releases. This means that many dedicated players will have to wait for the next annual release.

VOICE CHAT
Voice chat can be enabled across all platforms, meaning young players can speak to anyone they play with or against. While it can be helpful for some children, it can also be used to speak to their friends while they play. This can be a risk for children who are not used to speaking to strangers, and it can be used to spread inappropriate language or behaviour.

IN-GAME PURCHASES THROUGH ULTIMATE TEAM
Ultimate Team is the big draw for EA Sports FC, with players spending real money to purchase players and other items. This can be a risk for children who are not used to spending real money, and it can be used to purchase items that are not needed for the game.

PREPARE FOR ANOTHER GAME IN A YEAR
The annual release schedule aligns with the return of the school year, and it can be a risk for children who are not used to preparing for a new year of school, or for children who are not used to preparing for a new year of school, or for children who are not used to preparing for a new year of school.

LIMIT SPENDING
If you've noticed a child suddenly spending real money in EA Sports FC, it's important to talk to them about it. This can be a risk for children who are not used to spending real money, and it can be used to purchase items that are not needed for the game.

MEET OUR EXPERT
Molly Coleman is an experienced business writer and has been working in the gaming and technology sector for over 10 years. She has written for a variety of publications, including The Guardian, The Telegraph, and The Daily Mail.

SCAMMERS IN ULTIMATE TEAM
Ultimate Team is managed by EA itself, but it has been targeted by scammers looking to steal players out of money and in-game items. Some scammers use social media to contact other players and offer them deals that seem too good to be true. It's important to be cautious and not to give out personal information, particularly your email address or phone number.

POTENTIAL FOR ADDICTION
While EA Sports FC is primarily a sports game, it has a social and community element that can be addictive. The game's focus on long-term goals and the ability to trade players can make it a real challenge to get away from the game, which may lead to addiction and impulsive spending of money.

WAKE UP WEDNESDAY The National College

Hello Yellow Day

On Friday 10th 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=EA1a1QobChM1vtizleXJ-g1Vjd_tCh1OQwfDEAAAYASAAEgK03PD_BwE&gclidsrc=aw.ds

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 website can be accessed following this link:

<https://samaritanpurse.org/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/> - this 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 10th November. Any questions, please do not hesitate to 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. This is to ensure that we limit the spread of the illness to our children and staff – thank you for your support with this.



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 2026. We will be holding the Open Day on 4th November at 5pm - this will be held in the school hall.

Secondary Applications



The closing date for secondary school 2026 applications is 31st October. Solihull residents should apply on the online portal at 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.

Buddies



We are pleased to announce that our Buddies Service will take place on Friday 10th October in the School Hall at 2.15 pm. During this wonderful occasion, children in Year 6 and FS2 will receive a blessing to celebrate the start of their buddy journey. We hope that you are able to join us.

Cross-Country

Well done to our Cross-country teams who competed over the last few weeks. They represented the school fantastically and managed to place in both events.



Connected Hearts – Coffee Morning

**Connected Hearts:
Parenting on an Autism Journey**

Join Us for a Coffee Morning

Event Details
Wednesday 15th October,
9am - 10.30am at Our
Lady of Compassion School

Meet Other Parents
Connect with other parents
on the autism journey and
share your experiences in a
supportive environment.

Special Guest
Jaime Mulrooney, ASD
Specialist Teacher, will
guide the discussion and
provide valuable insights.



Everyone is welcome to attend!

Little Way Week



This week celebrated our annual 'Little Way Week'. This is a week devoted to St Therese of Lisieux who helps us to see how we can make a change by doing the little things in our everyday lives well. Throughout the week we encouraged the children to follow St Therese by doing the little things well (being kind, polite, doing their best) across the week.

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.

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/>

Olton Friary Flower Festival

**OLTON FRIARY
FLOWER FESTIVAL**



**Suggested donation
£5**

Friday 10th – Sunday 12th
October

Friday 10 th October	Saturday 11 th October	Sunday 12 th October
Join us for a special mass to open our Flower Festival, with Bishop David Evans at 6pm	11am-7pm Tea, Coffee & Cake available	12pm-5pm Tea, Coffee & Cake available

Fundraising for Acorns

Mary Doherty (a previous Governor at OLC) is fundraising for Acorns. Mary is trekking the Sahara Desert in October and helping build a community project. She has raised over £6000 so far and is aiming to reach the target of £7000! If anyone would like to support this great cause, the link to her Just Giving page is below:
https://www.justgiving.com/page/mary-doherty-1?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=WA

Youth Group at Olton Friary

Our children are blessed with the opportunity of attending a Youth Group at the Friary which takes place every Friday evening from 6.30pm – 8.30pm. This is very popular and a great opportunity for young people to participate in exciting activities, meet other young people and make new friends.