



Our Lady of Compassion Catholic School

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To Live As Jesus Taught Us.

School Newsletter – 13

Date: Friday 13th March 2026

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,
It has been another joyful week in school, filled with moments that truly celebrate the strength and spirit of our community. World Book Day was a wonderful highlight. The excitement across the school was palpable as children arrived dressed in pyjamas ready to step into stories old and new. One of the most heart-warming parts of the day was seeing our older pupils reading with the younger children. Their care, patience, and enthusiasm created special moments that beautifully captured the power of reading - and the power of role-modelling - within our school family. As we continue our journey through Lent, this coming week brings us to the Third Sunday of Lent. Lent encourages us to look inward, but also to walk together in hope and kindness, supporting one another along the way. It has been lovely to see these values lived out daily in our classrooms, corridors, and playgrounds.

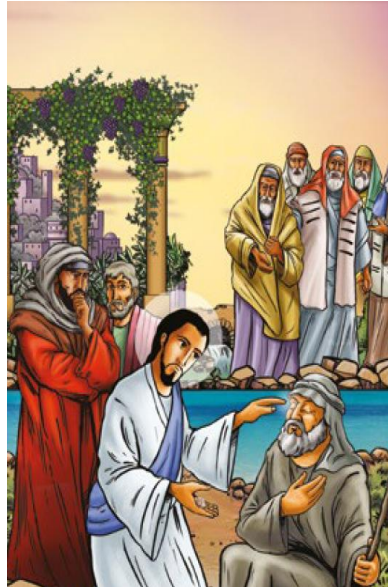
We also look forward this weekend to celebrating Mothering Sunday - a day to give thanks for mothers, carers, and all those who nurture, guide, and lift us up. We hold all these special people in our thoughts and prayers, and we hope the day brings moments of gratitude, peace, and joy.

Wishing you all a restful weekend.
Mr N Emery (Headteacher)

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.

Wednesday Word



In this Sunday's Gospel, we read about how Jesus brought healing and light into the life of the man who was born blind. The man could then see the world around him, but the most important thing he saw was who Jesus really was – the Son of God. Difficulties, worries and sickness can sometimes be part of our lives. Yet, when we believe in Jesus and we pray and look carefully, we can often learn something about the world and ourselves, and about how Jesus is always there for us. Jesus is the light of the world. Believing in him brings light to our lives; it changes how we see the world and it can bring healing to us too. Come and see!

Term Dates 2026/2027

For our term dates for the next academic year, please follow this link:

https://www.olc.solihull.sch.uk/_site/data/files/users/ke-y-info/9C5687954F169340E5E5BB49C6DC7B66.pdf

You will also see the INSET dates for the next academic year and any other dates of when the school is closed.

SUMMARY

- Wednesday Word
- Stay and Pray Lent
- Nursery Admissions 2025/26
- Dates for 25/26
- Women's History Month
- Parents' Evenings
- OPAL
- Olton Friary Link
- St. Patrick's Day
- End of Term Finish Time
- Online Safety
- Easter Bonnet and Stations of the Cross
- Food Promotion Day
- Easter Disco
- Easter Raffle

Stay and Pray – Lent

During Lent this year we would like to invite parents to join us at our stay and pray sessions with our children. These will take place 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): Tuesday 17th March at 2.30pm

KS1 (Years 1 and 2): Wednesday 18th March at 2.30pm

LKS2 (Years 3 and 4): Friday 20th March at 2.30pm

UKS2 (Years 5 and 6): Thursday 19th March at 2.30pm

Dates for 2025/26

Further dates will be added throughout the term

- 15.3.26 – Mothering Sunday
- 17.3.26 – St. Patrick's Day
- 17.3.26 – FS Stay and Pray – 2.30pm
- 18.3.26 – KS1 Stay and Pray – 2.30pm
- 19.3.26 – UKS2 Stay and Pray – 2.30pm
- 20.3.26 – LKS2 Stay and Pray – 2.30pm
- 20.3.26 – International Day of Happiness
- 20.3.26 – FOLC Disco
- 26.3.26 – FS1 and FS2 Easter Bonnet Parade – 9.30am
- 26.3.26 – KS1 (Y1 and Y2) Easter Bonnet Parade – 10.30am
- 27.3.26 – LKS2 (Y3 and Y4) to lead Stations of the Cross – 9.30am
- 27.3.26 – Last day of term – 2pm finish for Easter Holidays

Supporting Our New OPAL Initiatives

As shared in our previous newsletters, we are now moving into the next stage of collecting resources for our OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning) programme, with the aim of having everything ready for the children to enjoy after the Easter holidays. A huge thank you to everyone who has already sent in loose parts - costumes, pots and pans, small household items and more. Your contributions are already helping us build imaginative and enriching play opportunities for our children. We are incredibly grateful for your generosity. Please keep the loose parts coming in before the Easter break. As a reminder, the full 'Loose Parts List' can be found at the end of this newsletter. We are also excited to confirm that our Community Build Day will take place on **Wednesday 8th April**. This will be a fantastic opportunity for parents, carers, and anyone with a trade or with handy skills to come in and help craft and create resources for our playground. If you are able to offer your time and/or skills, please email the school office so that we can gauge numbers and ensure the day is both productive and worthwhile.

Parents' Evening

A big thank you to all the parents who attended our Spring Term Parents' Evenings on Wednesday and Thursday this week, and to the FOLC helping hands for providing refreshments and supporting the Book Fair. If you were unable to attend your scheduled meeting on either of these days, please contact the school office to arrange an alternative time to meet with your child's class teacher. It is important that every parent has the opportunity to hear about their child's academic progress and the next steps to support their learning moving forward.

Let us pray...

A Prayer for Lent



Dear Jesus,
Thank You for loving us so much.
During Lent, help us to slow down and listen to You with open hearts.

Help us to be kind, patient and forgiving, just like You are with us every day.
Show us how to make good choices, how to help others, and how to grow closer to You.

Walk with us on our Lenten journey and fill our hearts with faith, hope, and love.



Amen.

Online Safety #Wake Up Wednesday
For further information, please visit the National Online Safety website.

Easter Bonnet Parades and Stations of the Cross Events



As we move closer to Easter, we are looking forward to our FS (Nursery and Reception) and KS1 (Years 1 and 2) children taking part in the annual Easter Bonnet Parade. It is time for parents and children to get creative and start designing those wonderful bonnets, ready to showcase them to parents on 26th March. Meanwhile, our Year 3 and Year 4 children are busy rehearsing for their retelling of the Stations of the Cross. They will perform this special reflection for parents on the final day of term, 27th March, in the School Hall.

End of Term Finish Time

We would like to remind all parents that on the last day of the term the school will close at 2pm. This will also include the provision for Footsteps which will not operate on Friday 27th March and therefore all children will finish at 2pm.

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/>

St Patrick's Day



For St Patrick's Day, on Tuesday 17th March, children will be able to come to school with a **splash of green** added to their school uniform.

What are LOOSE PARTS?

Loose parts are items that can be used to facilitate different kinds of play, or any material that a child can manipulate for playful purposes.

Natural Loose Parts



Upcycled Loose Parts



Food Promotion Day

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

Easter Lunch

Wednesday 15th April

Roast Chicken, Stuffing, Yorkshire Pudding
or
Roasted Vegetable & Cheese Puff Pastry Wreath.
Served with skin on Roasties, Vegetables and Gravy.

Chocolate Cracknel.

Topped Pasta, Filled Jacket Potatoes & Sandwiches also available



Aspens

All children who are on 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 the Sunday before each promotion day.

Easter Holiday Fun – Fun Fest Olton
We are excited to announce that **Easter bookings are now open** for Fun Fest Olton! Spaces are filling fast, so make sure you secure your child's place today.

HAF Bookings – Fun Fest Olton Only

- **Opens:** Monday 9th March
- **Eligibility:** Children must attend a Solihull school or live in the Solihull borough
- **Spaces:** Limited to 28 children over 2 weeks
- **Sessions:** Each child can book 4 sessions, 8.00am – 1.00pm

Important: Before booking your HAF sessions, please email us at: solihulloffice@funfestholidayclub.co.uk so we can provide full instructions and secure your child's spot. Don not miss out on a fun-filled Easter with games, crafts, and activities – book now! <https://url.uk.m.mimecastprotect.com/s/jh dqCVvNRtXEw3KFGfpSEqrqD?domain=funfestolton.co.uk>

Please note Our Lady of Compassion children will get priority. Therefore any problems booking a space please do email Emma.

Easter Raffle



Easter Disco

