Our Lady of Compassion Catholic School

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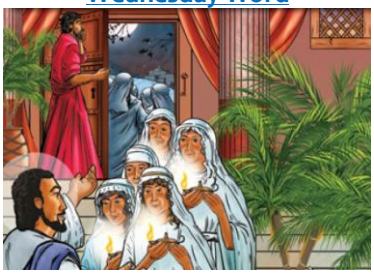
To Live As Jesus Taught Us.

School Newsletter – 5
Date: Friday 6th November 2026

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,
I hope you all enjoyed a restful half-term break and had the opportunity to spend quality time with family and friends. It has been wonderful to welcome everyone back to school this week and to see our children return with such enthusiasm, positivity and eagerness to learn. The new term is already shaping up to be a busy and exciting one, with many opportunities for learning, celebration and growth as we continue to live out our school mission, *"To Live as Jesus Taught Us."* As the days become shorter and winter approaches, we look forward to sharing many special experiences together. One important event this term will be Remembrance Day, when we will pause as a school community to honour and remember those who have given their lives in service to others and to pray for peace throughout our world. Through acts of remembrance, reflection and prayer, we will help our children understand the values of courage, sacrifice, gratitude and hope, while encouraging them to think about how they can be peacemakers in their own lives. Alongside our remembrance activities, we will begin our Advent journey, preparing our hearts for the coming of Jesus and taking part in the many celebrations that make this season so special. Advent offers us a precious opportunity to slow down, reflect on God's love and show kindness, generosity and compassion to those around us. We look forward to sharing liturgies, charitable activities, festive events and moments of joyful celebration as we journey towards Christmas together. Thank you, as always, for your continued support, encouragement and partnership with our school community. The strong relationships between home, school and parish help our children to flourish and ensure that our school remains a place where faith, learning and love are at the heart of all that we do. We pray for a happy, successful and faith-filled term ahead for all our children and families. God Bless. Mr N Emery (Headteacher)

Wednesday Word



Wisdom is a gift from God which helps us to see things more clearly and make the right choices in life. Loving our neighbour as ourselves is a powerful way to show that we are growing in wisdom. God loves us and sent Jesus to help us to grow in wisdom. Try and choose a way in which you will try to grow in God's wisdom in these coming weeks. Perhaps it is through: not rushing when making decisions; thinking before we speak; being open to correction; trying to consider what effect our words and actions might have on ourselves and others; reading the gospels together; going to church and listening carefully; praying to God for the gift of wisdom; listening to parents, carers, teachers and other truthful or wise people.

Children in Need

On Friday, 13th November (please note change of date from 20th November), children can wear non-uniform and come dressed in attire that has spots so that we can all look SPOTACULAR for the day. We are asking for a £1 donation from every child (or whatever they wish to donate) – donations will be raised in aid of the children's hospital in Birmingham. All donations are to be paid directly to ParentPay.

SUMMARY

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Mobile Phones



As a reminder, mobile phones should only be brought into school for children in Y5 and Y6 who walk home alone. Phones must be handed over to a member of staff at the school gate each morning.

Dates for 2026/27

Further dates will be added throughout the term



8.11.26 – Diwali
10.11.26 – World Science Day
11.11.26 – Remembrance Day
11.11.26 – Parents' Evening
12.11.26 – Parents' Evening
12.11.26 – One Life Retreat Day – Y6
13.11.26 – Children in Need
16.11.26 – Anti-bullying Week
16.11.26 – Road Safety Week
20.11.26 – World Children's Day
22.11.26 – Christ the King – Youth Mass
24.11.26 – Last Swimming Session for Y5
29.11.26 – Advent begins
30.11.26 – St. Andrew's Day
1.12.26 – KS2 Stay and Pray – 2.45pm
2.12.26 – FS2 Nativity – 9.20am
5.12.26 – Christmas Fayre at OLC
9.12.26 – FS1 Nativity – 9.20am
10.12.26 – Y4/Y5/Y6 Reconciliation
11.12.26 – Christmas Jumper Day
11.12.26 – FS1 Application Deadline for 27/28
11.12.26 – KS1 Carols – 9.30am
11.12.26 – LKS2 Carols – 10.30am
11.12.26 – UKS2 Carols – 2.30pm
16.12.26 – Christmas Dinner Day
17.12.26 – Party Day
17.12.26 – Whole School Theatre performance at School for children
18.12.26 – Toy Day
18.12.26 – Last Day of Term before Christmas Holidays – School finishes at 2pm

Contact Details

As a reminder, if any of your contact details change, such as telephone numbers, emails or home addresses please let the school office know as soon as possible so that we have the correct information on our system.

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-notices/

Winter Uniform



As a reminder, we now ask that children wear their winter uniform. The school uniform policy can be found by following this link: https://www.olc.solihull.sch.uk/page/?title=School+Uniform&pid=67

Nursery Admission 2026/27

If you are interested in places for 2026/27 for your child to begin with us in Nursery, please contact the school office.

Anti-Bullying Week: Break the Silence



Anti-Bullying Week will take place from 16-20th November, with this year's theme of **"Break the Silence"**. Throughout the week, we will encourage children to speak up, reach out and support one another, helping to create a school community where everyone feels safe, valued and heard. To launch the week, children are invited to wear **odd socks to school on Monday 16th November** alongside their school uniform. Odd Socks Day is a fun way to celebrate individuality and remind us that our differences make us unique and should always be respected. During the week, pupils will take part in a range of activities designed to explore the importance of kindness, inclusion and standing up against bullying. By breaking the silence, we can work together to ensure that our school remains a place where everyone is treated with dignity, respect and compassion.

Together, let us use our voices to make a positive difference and help ensure that bullying has no place in our school community.

Road Safety Week – 16.11.26

Thank you to all the parents/carers who ensure the safety of our children by parking responsibly when dropping their children off and collecting them from school, crossing the road safely and considering our neighbours. As always, it is important we work together with our neighbouring area. We therefore ask the following:

- Please park in the areas around the school that are safe to do so.
- When crossing the road, it is important to set the right example to our children by crossing with Jo, our crossing patrol warden. It is important that you do not walk behind, or cut across the railings at the front of school.
- Please respect our neighbours' driveways by not allowing children to go up and down their drive.
- As children enter or leave the school site, we ask that they do not ride their bikes or scooters on the school drive and that they walk along the pathway or drive.

Admission Consultation Reminder

Our Lady of Compassion is consulting on its admission arrangements for 2028-29 from 1st October 2026 to 12th November 2026. You can find a copy of the proposed admission arrangements on our website. If you have any comments or views, you can send them to Laura Grice, OLAAS Governance Lead at gricel@olaas.co.uk by 5pm on 12th November 2026.

Rescheduled Buddies Service



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

Online Safety #Wake Up Wednesday



Healthy Sandwich Boxes

A healthy, balanced lunch helps children stay focused, energised and ready to learn throughout the day. When preparing your child's sandwich box, we encourage families to include a variety of nutritious foods such as:

- A sandwich, wrap, roll or bagel with a healthy filling
- Fresh fruit or vegetable sticks (eg apples, grapes, carrots, cucumber or peppers)
- A healthy snack such as yogurt, cheese, rice cakes or plain crackers
- Water

Please avoid sweets, chocolate bars, fizzy drinks and high-sugar snacks. Thank you for supporting our commitment to healthy lifestyles and helping our children make positive food choices.

OPAL Small World and Spade Donations Needed!

Our OPAL play team is looking to enhance our small world play area and would be grateful for any donations of small world items you no longer need. We would welcome toy animals, cars, tractors, figures, dinosaurs, playsets, natural materials and any other small world resources that will inspire imaginative play. We also require more spades for the sandpit and would be grateful for any of these donations too. If you have anything to spare, please send it into school. Thank you for your continued support in helping us create exciting play opportunities for our children! Together, we are making play even more magical at OLC!

Parents' Evening

We look forward to our Parents' Evenings taking place next week, where you will have the opportunity to hear about your child's progress. If you have not yet booked your slot or are having trouble booking this, please contact the school office. Please note that there is no parking on site during either of these evenings.

Vision and Values

Each year our Vision and Values are reviewed. These can be found on our website following this link: https://www.olc.solihull.sch.uk/page/?title=Our+Vision+and+Values&pid=9

If as parents, you have any suggestions or thoughts to support and enhance these please feel free to email these to our school office at: office@olc.solihull.sch.uk

OLC Christmas Market – Save the Date



We are delighted to announce that the OLC Christmas Market will be taking place on Friday 27th November from 3.25pm to 5.00pm on the school playground. After collecting your children at the end of the school day, we warmly invite families to stay and enjoy a wander around the market. There will be a variety of festive stalls offering Christmas gifts, seasonal treats and plenty of opportunities to pick up some early Christmas presents. This is also a wonderful opportunity to support FOLC and the many stallholders who will help make this event possible. As always, your support plays a vital role in enriching experiences for our children and strengthening our school community. We hope you can join us for an enjoyable afternoon of festive shopping, community spirit and Christmas cheer as we begin the countdown to the Christmas season.

We look forward to seeing you there!