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.

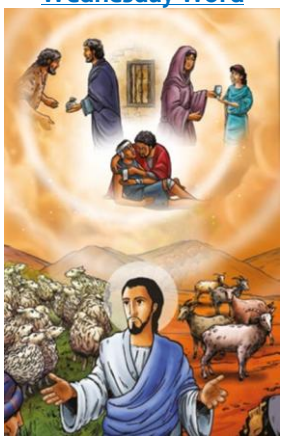
School Newsletter – 6
Date: Friday 20th November 2026

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,
As another busy and rewarding fortnight comes to a close, I would like to thank you for your continued support and partnership. There is always so much happening at OLC, and it is a privilege to see our children embracing every opportunity. This week, we marked Anti-Bullying Week, spending time reflecting on the importance of respect, compassion and inclusion. It has been wonderful to see our children discussing how they can make a positive difference to others through simple acts of kindness and by ensuring everyone feels valued and included. We have also taken part in Road Safety Week, helping children understand how to stay safe when travelling to and from school. Thank you to families for reinforcing these important messages at home and for helping us keep all members of our community safe. This Sunday, we celebrate the Feast of Christ the King, reminding us that Jesus leads not through power, but through love, service and humility. It is a beautiful opportunity for us to reflect on how we can follow His example in our everyday lives at home, at school and within our community. Looking ahead, we are preparing to enter the season of Advent, a special time of hope, prayer and anticipation as we prepare our hearts for the birth of Jesus at Christmas. Advent is always a wonderful time in school. As we begin this special season, I invite you to pray together as a family:

Loving God,
As we prepare for the coming of Jesus, fill our hearts with hope, peace, joy and love. Help us to slow down amidst the busyness of this season and remember the true meaning of Christmas. Teach us to be kind to those around us, to care for those in need, and to share Your light wherever we go. May our families, our school and our parish community grow closer to You as we journey through Advent together. We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

God bless, Mr N Emery (Headteacher)

Wednesday Word



This Sunday is the last in the Church's year. It is the day we celebrate the feast of Christ the King. In the Gospel, Jesus (using the language and imagery of his time) describes what will happen when he comes again at the end of time. Like a shepherd who calls his sheep to follow him, Jesus invites people to be with him forever. Jesus emphasises that we should love our neighbour: that is, we should look after our neighbour in need. The Gospel reminds us that every act of kindness done to someone else is also done to Jesus, and it will be rewarded accordingly.

Swimming

Please note that the final swimming session for Year 5 will take place on 24th November. Following the Christmas break, Year 3 will begin their 10-week swimming programme, starting 12th January. To help us gather the necessary information, a Microsoft Form will be sent to Year 3 parents before the end of this term. Please complete the form as soon as possible once received.

SUMMARY

- *Wednesday Word*
- *Swimming*
- *Maths Calculations Policy*
- *Dates for 26/27*
- *St Andrew's Day*
- *Nursery Admissions 26/27*
- *Christmas Dinner Day*
- *KS2 Stay and Pray*
- *Drop Everything and Read Day*
- *Footsteps Update*
- *FS1/FS2 Nativities*
- *Olton Friary Link*
- *Online Safety*
- *Parents Evenings*
- *OPAL Play at Lunchtimes*
- *Christmas Market*
- *Small World Donations for OPAL Play*
- *My Happy Mind*
- *Christmas Fayre*
- *Reverse Advent Calendar*
- *Solihull Sports Expectations*

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.

Maths Calculations Policy

To support you in helping your child with their maths calculations, please find our policies by using this link: https://www.olc.solihull.sch.uk/page/?title=Maths+at+OLC&pid=47

Dates for 2026/27

Further dates will be added throughout the term



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

St Andrew's Day

On 30th November, children will be able to wear a splash of blue and/or white with their school uniform for St Andrew's Day. This could be a ribbon, a scarf, socks or an item of clothing added to your child's uniform for the day to celebrate St. Andrew's Day.

Attendance



Christmas Dinner

If your child would like a school dinner on 16th December, please book on ParentPay. As part of the Promotion Day children will be able to sample the menus below:



All children who are entitled to 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 9th December before each promotion day.

FS1/FS2 Nativities and KS2 Stay and Pray

We are excited to announce that our Nativity and Stay and Pray celebrations are just around the corner! This is always a special time for our school community as we come together to share the joy of Christmas. To ensure everyone can enjoy the performances safely and comfortably, parents will need tickets to attend. In the coming week, links to MS Forms will be sent out to parents for each event – please complete is you would like to attend. You will then be able to collect your tickets from the school office from wb 30th November for the KS2 Stay and Pray on 1st December, FS2 Nativity on 2nd December and FS1 Nativity on 9th December. There is plenty of space in the school hall for everyone to attend but we ask to ensure that anyone attending has a ticket. Thank you for your support - we cannot wait to celebrate with you!

Drop Everything and Read (DEAR) Day



DEAR is implemented to support our love of reading. At a designated time during the day, the whole school puts down their pens, pencils, paintbrushes and balls and pick up their reading books to enjoy a period of individual reading. This took place on Thursday last week, with pupils and staff across the school sharing in the experience and celebrating the joy of reading together.

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/

Footsteps

Footsteps Update

To comply with the 'School Food Standards' document and also to promote healthy eating, Footsteps has updated the after-school snack menu to offer a wider range of fresh fruit and vegetables instead of the previous menu we had on offer. At breakfast, there will be a choice of toast or a crumpet with a vegetable-based spread and a choice of reduced-sugar jam or lemon curd. Children staying after 4.30pm are encouraged to bring a tea box with them or a snack. As always, please ensure that there are no nut products or products containing nuts in the food you send with your children to school. Thank you, Ms Moir

Olton Friary Carol Service Invitation

Children who would like to sing at the Carol Service at 6.00pm on Saturday 13th December at the Friary are warmly invited to join the choir. Rehearsals will take place for approximately 30 minutes immediately after the 9.00am Sunday Mass at the Friary over the coming weeks. All children are welcome to take part, and we would love to have as many voices as possible join us.

Online Safety #Wake Up Wednesday



My Happy Mind

We have introduced a programme to all year groups at school called myHappymind. myHappymind is all based around helping children to understand how their brain works and to support them in developing positive skills and habits to be their very best selves! myHappymind is delivered in schools by class teachers through a series of interactive lessons and then the children apply these learnings throughout the day. To further embed this learning, myHappymind has developed a Parent App. These resources can be accessed online on your computer, or through an app on your phone. The Parent App will support you as a parent in understanding what your child is learning, activities for you to do together at home and a Kids Zone featuring myHappymind Games plus much more! Details on how to access this app and resources will be sent to all parents in the next couple of weeks – please watch out for the email so that you can make use of this free content to support your child in getting the best out of the curriculum.

Reminder - 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

It was great to see so many parents at our Autumn Term parents' evening meetings last week, to celebrate the progress and successes of the children across the school. We know that the children particularly enjoyed finding the 'proud parent' stickers once again and the recognition it provides from you all. Thank you to all who supported the Book Fair which will help us provide more books for the children at OLC. We also hope you enjoyed sampling some of the food from Aspens, our catering provider and getting to sample the food the children have. **If, however, for any reason you were unable to attend your appointment, please contact the school office to arrange a time to meet with the class teacher in order to support your child's learning.**

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!

Christmas Fayre



Our much-loved Christmas Fayre is just around the corner, and we would be so grateful for your support with donations to help make it a festive success! Here is how you can get involved:

Friday 27th November – Bottles

Donations of bottles for the bottle stall in exchange for an own clothes' day – a well-deserved treat for helping out!

Friday 4th December – Cakes

Homemade or shop-bought – all cakes are welcome and will help make our Fayre deliciously festive.

Thank you for your continued generosity and support. We can't wait to celebrate with you!

Reverse Advent Calendar



Thank you to all who have already sent in donations towards the Father Hudson's Caritas Reverse Advent Calendar. This year, we would like to ask for donations of non-perishable food items, including dried foods (such as pasta and rice), sauces, tinned foods, biscuits, crisps and any suitable Christmas food items (please see attached list). If you are able to support this cause, please send your donations to the school by 7th December. All your kind support and generosity is appreciated.

Solihull Sports Expectations



Solihull Sports Expectations

As we enter another busy period of festivals, competitions, the Solihull Schools Sports Partnership would like to remind everyone that school sport is about much more than winning. While competition is an important part of sport, our priority is ensuring that every child enjoys a positive experience, develops confidence, learns new skills and feels proud to represent their school. We ask all pupils, parents, spectators and staff to support events in a positive and respectful manner, celebrating effort, teamwork and sportsmanship alongside success. Thank you for helping us create an enjoyable and inclusive sporting environment for all children.