

OUR LADY & ST PATRICK'S CATHOLIC NURSERY AND PRIMARY SCHOOL



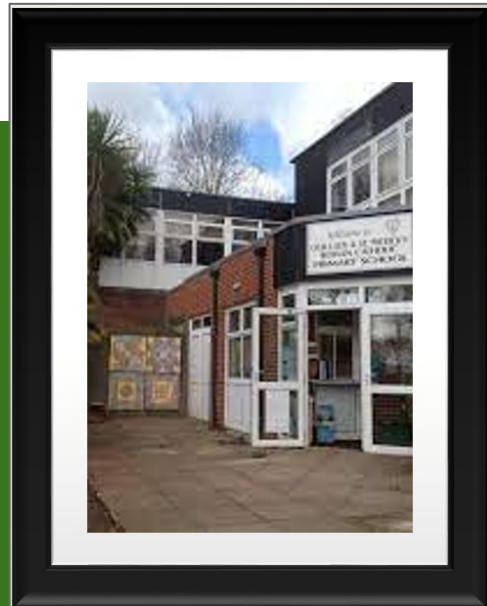
Fourth Avenue, Teignmouth TQ14 9DT
Tel: 01626 773905
e-mail: office@olsp.uk

The Olive Branch 24th October 2025



Living, Loving and Learning in God's Way

Head Teacher: Mrs Cathy Blatchford



HEAD TEACHER UPDATE AND HALF TERM HIGHLIGHTS

As we reach the end of our first half term, there is so much to celebrate across our OLSP community.

One of the standout moments this half term was our Poetry Slam, where children across the school performed both as classes and individually. We were so impressed by their confidence, expression, and creativity — it was wonderful to see so many pupils sharing their own work with pride.

Our Welcome Mass was a truly beautiful celebration of faith and community. The commissioning of our new Pupil Chaplains was a moving moment, and the singing was so powerful it made the hairs stand up on our arms.

A big thank you also goes to Miss Humphrey, who led the democratic election of our OLSP Pupil Leadership Team. The children took the process seriously, and we are confident our new leaders will represent their peers brilliantly.

It was also lovely to see so many parents and carers at our Parents' Evening. We really value the partnership between home and school — it makes such a difference to the children. Please remember, our doors are always open; if you have any questions or concerns, do get in touch with your child's teacher.

Thank you to everyone who joined us for our Ground Force Day a couple of Saturdays ago. It was wonderful to see so many staff, families, and friends working together to improve our school grounds — and the bacon rolls and freshly baked cakes from our Friends were very much appreciated!

Finally, please remember that after half term ALL KS2 children need to be wearing winter uniform, which includes a **school tie**.

Wishing all our families a restful and happy half-term break.

God Bless to you all
Cathy Blatchford



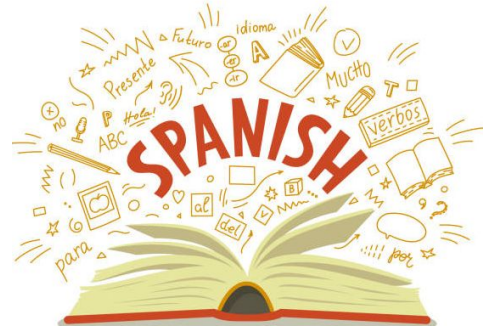
THE CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL

Our Pupil Chaplains have been busy helping younger pupils prepare for the Feast of All Saints by learning about the saints, creating pictures, and sharing prayers of thanks. They have also begun working on our special Book of Remembrance for Remembrance Day, where pupils can write the names of loved ones they wish to remember and pray for. We are so proud of their thoughtful and caring work in leading our school community. It's been lovely to see our older pupils leading with kindness and faith!



https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdjXrzW-ZlgXQHn0moqM9RgDSyz6ovHA-6eXhcn69DX0GpySw/viewform?usp=pp_url

-



NURSERY - WHAT HAS BEEN GOING ON IN AUTUMN 1?

We have had a great start to the term in nursery we have been making new friends and settling into nursery routines.



RECEPTION - WHAT HAS BEEN GOING ON IN AUTUMN 1?



All of the children have settled into school life so well. They are showing good learning attitudes and kindness towards each other. We have performed our first poem in the poetry slam in front of the whole school. We have been doing some PE lessons and they particularly enjoy doing the PE games such as 'Stuck in the Mud'. Another favourite subject is 'Knowledge and Understanding of the world' where we have learnt all about animals, including humans. Well done to all of the children and families for a great start in reception!

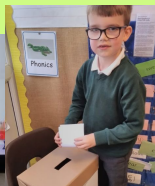
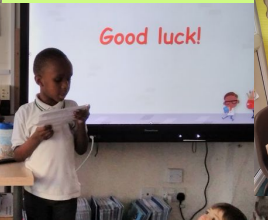
RECEPTION STARS AND DISCIPLES FOR HALF TERM

AUTUMN 1	Stars 	Value	Disciples 
12th September	Bobby	Love	Ricky
19th September	Henry	Peace	Andriy
26th September	Audrey	Tolerance	Billy
3rd October	Arthur	Justice	Alfie
10th October	Emilia	Compassion	Mia
17th October	Emerson	Faith	Chloe



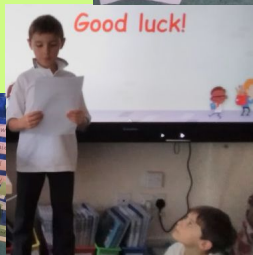
YEAR 1 AND 2 - WHAT HAS BEEN GOING ON IN AUTUMN 1?

We have had a super first half-term in Mars class. The children have settled in well and are coming together well as a team.



In Art, we have been learning to use clay as a medium. We have been making leaf sculptures by making imprints with real leaves!

We thoroughly enjoyed the 'Pupil Leadership Team' election. It was wonderful to read such lovely nominations and watch the children share their manifestos. Congratulations to Hughie and Florence on becoming our class representatives.



YEAR 1 AND 2 STARS AND DISCIPLES FOR HALF TERM

AUTUMN 1	Stars 	Value	Disciples 
12th September	Great	Love	Florence
19th September	Jesum	Peace	Polly
26th September	Rune	Tolerance	Hughie
3rd October	Henry	Justice	Seb
10th October	Wilma	Compassion	Kaleb
17th October	Amelia	Faith	Elliott



YEAR 3 - WHAT HAS BEEN GOING ON IN AUTUMN 1?

Class 3 have thoroughly enjoyed school so far this year. We have been up to lots of things so far and have way more to come.

The children also took part in their Poetry Slam performance. Our poem was all about smiles.



Lastly, in PSHE the children have been looking at different feelings and how we can express them as well as how we can manage them.



Class 3 welcomed Mr Baxter into school and participated in lots of different playground game ideas which they could use on the playground. The children thoroughly enjoyed this!



YEAR 3 STARS AND DISCIPLES FOR HALF TERM

AUTUMN 1	Stars 	Value	Disciples 
12th September	Nela	Love	Samuel
19th September	Alby	Peace	Hattie
26th September	Arthur	Tolerance	Isla
3rd October	Evelyn	Justice	Noah
10th October	Tyler	Compassion	Ellie
17th October	Issac	Faith	Theo



In PSHE we have spent time thinking about what we aspire to be when we grow up.

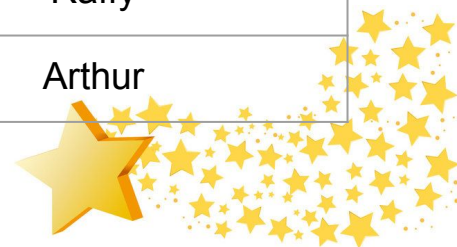


Plus a huge focus on writing and presentation of writing. We are publishing our Diaries about Annie Edson Taylor.

Building a barrel,
Days passed by, I woke up knowing I want to
go down Niagara falls for Money. Because the
Charm school gauled! I had to get money
before end up in a poor house which no one
wants, I stayed

YEAR 4 AND 5 STARS AND DISCIPLES FOR HALF TERM

AUTUMN 1	Stars 	Value	Disciples 
12th September	Hal	Love	Albie
19th September	Daisy	Peace	Paddy
26th September	Florence	Tolerance	Jake
3rd October	Arthur	Justice	Estrella
10th October	Vlad	Compassion	Raffy
17th October	Arlo P	Faith	Arthur



YEAR 6 - WHAT HAS BEEN GOING ON IN AUTUMN 1?

We have had a fabulous half term. The children have quickly adjusted to what it means to be a Year 6 pupil at OLSP and we are very proud of them.

We are loving trialling Sparx to track the books we are reading!

The children were great at TCS multi sports festival.



In art we have been exploring techniques for making Greek pottery.

YEAR 6 STARS AND DISCIPLES FOR HALF TERM

AUTUMN 1	Stars 	Value	Disciples 
12th September	Flynn	Love	Indya
19th September	Oscar F	Peace	Ava
26th September	Jayden	Tolerance	Hollie
3rd October	Praise	Justice	Jasmine
10th October	Molly	Compassion	Zach
17th October	Caitlyn	Faith	Hrishwin



Diary Dates

		10th December	2pm - 3pm KS1 and EY nativity to parents Friends Christmas gift shop
5th November	1pm - 2pm Oral Health workshop - Year 2	11th December	Christmas jumper day
10th November	Odd Socks Day	12th December	5pm - 6pm Christmas disco - times TBC
14th November	Children in Need day	15th December	Mars class singing at the care home Hot chocolate with the Head Teacher for nominated pupils
22nd November	5 - 7pm Christmas light switch on and lantern parade	16th December	Rudolph Run
28th November	6pm - 8pm Christmas wreath making. Time TBC	17th December	Dojo Afternoon
8th December	KS1 and EY nativity dress rehearsal	18th December	2:15pm - 3:15pm KS2 Carol service
9th December	9:30am - 10:30am KS1 and EY nativity to parents time TBC	19th December	Friends non uniform and Christmas treats

News from the Friends

Sleeping Beauty



FRIDAY 12TH DECEMBER – 7PM
PRINCESS THEATRE, TORQUAY
£15 PER TICKET
BOOKINGS VIA PTA EVENTS

WE DECLARE A PENNY WAR!

4TH-14TH NOVEMBER



**EACH CLASS IS A TEAM
AND CLASSES COMPETE
AGAINST EACH OTHER
FOR THE MOST POINTS!**

POSITIVE POINTS

Bring in copper pennies or £ coins for
your own class jar to earn points for
your class

1p = +1 point
2p = +2 points
£1 = +100 points
£2 = +200 points



NEGATIVE POINTS

Bring in silver coins to put in
other class jars to sabotage them
and make them lose points

5p = -5 point
10p = -10 points
20p = -20 points
50p = -50 points



**THE CLASS WITH THE
MOST POINTS
WINS A PRIZE!**

A festive background featuring a green holly wreath with red berries and a large red bow at the top. A lit candle is on the left, and red Christmas baubles are scattered around.

CHRISTMAS WREATH WORKSHOP

Friday 28th November
6-8 pm
OLSP School Hall

£20 per person to include light refreshments

Childcare an issue? Don't worry we have it covered...
bring up to 2 children who will be entertained
with festive activities

WE WILL BE SERVING
REFRESHMENTS

AT THE
KS1 AND EY NATIVITY

TUESDAY 9TH DECEMBER
WEDNESDAY 10TH DECEMBER



**CHRISTMAS
GIFT SHOP**

WEDNESDAY 10TH DECEMBER

Gifts for everyone available
and lovingly picked by the children

£3.00 per gift



Please order via PTA Events



* **FRIDAY
19TH
DECEMBER** *



**NON-UNIFORM
DAY**

**AFTER SCHOOL
FESTIVE TREATS**



Drum Lessons
Now offered
at school.

For more info contact Ben at:
devondrumschool@gmail.com
Tel:
07966-488481



CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION

This school is proud to be a

Music Mark School

In recognition of a commitment to
providing a high-quality music education
for all children and young people

2024 - 2025

Bridget Whyte
CEO of Music Mark

The UK Association for Music Education - Music Mark | www.musicmark.org.uk



Supported by:



Find out more:



THIS IS NOT
A REHEARSAL 

Music Mark's campaign
on sustainability in
music education

Guitar Lessons

Individual and group
lessons now being
offered in school
with Mr Hopkins

To sign up or
for more
information
contact Mr
Hopkins on
07979 148929
or
[shopkins2112@
gmail.com](mailto:shopkins2112@gmail.com)



School Website Free App

Parents and Carers have access to a free app, linking you to our School Website. If you download the app, you will receive a notification every time information is added or updated on our website. This is a very useful tool that we are hoping as many Parents and Carers will make use of as possible. Please use the qr code below to access the download. Or search for “eSchools Lite” in the **App Store**

(**Apple**) or **Google Play (Android)**



Free behaviour support resources for schools and families

Have you heard of **My Family Coach**? It's an incredible free platform for schools and families for help and support with all areas of behaviour, school and family life.

The platform includes **over 50 hours of free support content** from the experienced team here at Team Teach. There's **articles, podcasts, videos, ebooks and quarterly online parent classes** that you and the families you support can attend and watch on-demand as well.

The resources and support cover a huge variety of topics and we're always adding more: Relationships, Communication, Mental wellbeing, Friendships, Bullying, Calming down, School life, Healthy living, At risk behaviour, Screen time.

And for this time of year, families might find articles on **understanding behaviour, managing changes to routines, how to enjoy a family Christmas, using family support for childcare in the holidays, supporting your child through the holidays** or **why self care isn't selfish** helpful.

It's all available 24/7 and completely free! To access the platform as a parent or a school, simply visit the **My Family Coach website** and create an account.

Are you missing out?

More money for your school!



Nutritious meal every day!



Access to free holiday clubs!



More teachers, trips, and activities!



Check your eligibility today for Free School Meals

https://oneonline.devon.gov.uk/CCSCitizenPortal_LIVE



SAFEGUARDING

Safeguarding at OLSP is always a priority. Should you have any enquiries or concerns, please contact our Designated Senior Lead for Child Protection: Miss Wathen, or Deputies: Mrs Blatchford or Mrs Emmerton on 01626 773905 Our named governor for child protection is Mrs Lorraine Coulter

WELFARE

Our Family Support Worker is Rachel Ripley. Please let us know if you would like her to contact you for ANY support. Everyone needs a Rachel in their lives!



ATTENDANCE

Hi, my name is Steph, I'm the Attendance and Welfare Officer here at OLSP. I monitor attendance regularly to ensure that, where possible, every child is in school on time every day. If you have any concerns around your child's attendance, please leave a message with the office and I will contact you.



CPOMS and Operation encompass

At OLSP we use CPOMs as our system for recording information that we consider to be safeguarding information. As a parent you are entitled to see this information and may request to do so.

Further information about the programme can be found [here](https://www.cpoms.co.uk/privacy-statement/) -

<https://www.cpoms.co.uk/privacy-statement/>

Operation Encompass is the reporting to schools, prior to the start of the next school day, when a child or young person has exposed to, or involved in, any domestic incident.

Operation Encompass will ensure that a member of the school staff, known as a Key Adult, is trained to allow them to liaise with the police and to use the information that has been shared, in confidence, while ensuring that the school is able to make provision for possible difficulties experienced by children, or their families, who have been involved in, or exposed to, a domestic abuse incident.



Upper 3 (Year 7) Taster Day

Friday 14th November 2025

For September 2026 entry



THE MAYNARD
SCHOOL
EXETER

Sign up via [maynard.co.uk](https://www.maynard.co.uk)

COMMUNITY

TEIGNMOUTH SOCCER CENTRE

WHERE?

ALIVE SPORTS CENTRE HALL

WHEN?

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS

18:30 - 19:30PM

STARTS 5TH NOVEMBER

WHO?

AGES 7-11 YEARS OLD

[CLICK HERE TO BOOK YOUR PLACE](#)



#SAINTSSW

SAINTS SOUTHWEST

COMMUNITY

TEIGNMOUTH MINI SAINTS

WHERE?

ALIVE SPORTS CENTRE HALL

WHEN?

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS

17:30 - 18:30PM

STARTS 5TH NOVEMBER

WHO?

AGES 4-6 YEARS OLD

[CLICK HERE TO BOOK YOUR PLACE](#)



#SAINTSSW

SAINTS SOUTHWEST

