

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

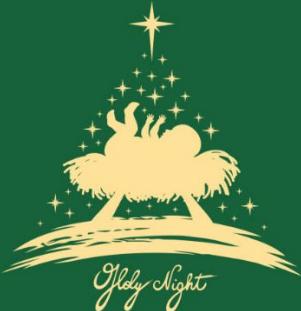


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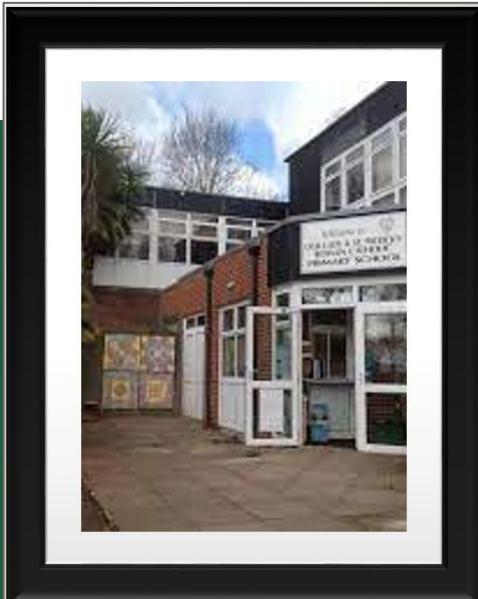
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*The Festive Olive Branch 12th December 2025*



*Living, Loving and Learning in God's Way*

Head Teacher: Mrs Cathy Blatchford





# HEAD TEACHER UPDATE AND HALF TERM HIGHLIGHTS

As always, it has been a wonderfully busy half term in school! The children thoroughly enjoyed the *Ninja Skipping* sessions, and our *Pyjamas for Children in Need* day brought plenty of smiles while supporting a fantastic cause.

School is now full of Christmas magic. KS1 and EYFS performed amazingly at their Nativity performances, while KS2 are preparing beautifully for their upcoming carol concert.

Our community work continues to shine this term. Year 6 have warmly welcomed members of the Ness Hub in Shaldon to join them for Christmas crafts, building lovely intergenerational connections and have been singing carols to Westlands Care Home. Meanwhile, Year 1 and Year 2 will be visiting local care homes to sing carols and bring joy to residents as we approach the festive season.

We are so proud of the children's enthusiasm, kindness, and hard work—what a brilliant way to end the term!

We look forward to seeing you all back at school on Monday 5th January. Please can we all work on this being a time to make sure children are wearing the correct uniform - especially KS2 wearing school ties.

God Bless to you all  
Cathy Blatchford



## POPPY APPEAL

Thank you very much for helping with our Appeal.

£107 - 63  
was collected by you.

Without your help, we would be unable to continue our vital welfare and benevolent work.

  
Yours sincerely  
A. Blatchford  
Local Honorary Organiser

District Total (if available) £ .....  
Registered Charity No. 219279

# THE CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL

Our Pupil Chaplains have had a wonderfully busy and meaningful half term, sharing their creativity and faith throughout our school community. To celebrate **All Saints' Day**, the chaplains designed and created their own saints, filling the church with colourful and thoughtful artwork that reminded us of the many inspiring role models we look up to.

In preparation for **Remembrance Sunday**, they produced beautiful artwork and contributed to our **Books of Remembrance**, honouring and praying for our loved ones who have passed away. Their care and reverence helped create a peaceful and reflective atmosphere for this important occasion.

Looking ahead to Christmas, the chaplains have also been making heartfelt **Christmas cards for the Stella Maris Appeal**, spreading kindness and hope to seafarers who will be far from home during the festive season.

Thanks to their dedication, the church has been lovingly decorated for each of these special moments. We are incredibly proud of their hard work, compassion, and commitment to serving our school and parish community.



# THE CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL CONTINUED.....



# SPRING 1 CLUBS:

These are the clubs that are running during the first half of the Spring term.

Please copy and paste the google form link below to sign your child up.

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfMxX1qFFL2FULmkudzCV5p7FleRFAnq\\_HSbJSa84ZybM5Oeq/viewform?usp=pp\\_url](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfMxX1qFFL2FULmkudzCV5p7FleRFAnq_HSbJSa84ZybM5Oeq/viewform?usp=pp_url)

- Spanish with Dani Wednesdays 3.15pm - 4pm
- Maths Sats Booster class with Mrs Blatchford and Mrs O'Sullivan Wednesdays 3.15pm - 4.15pm (Year 6 only)
- Musical Theatre with Mrs Brooks Thursdays 3:15 - 4:15pm. Max 15
- Girls Football with Mr Stamp Thursdays KS2 only 3:15pm - 4:15pm Max 20 - Own Shin Pads Essential!
- Running Club with Miss Wathen Thursdays KS2 only 3:15pm - 4:15pm Max 12
- Dodge ball with Premier Sport Fridays 3:15pm - 4:30pm

# NURSERY - WHAT HAS BEEN GOING ON IN AUTUMN 2?

This term has been a busy time with lots of celebrations including Remembrance day and Bonfire night, We also celebrated People who help us and had fun learning about all the important jobs they do to keep us safe. The most important part of Autumn 2 is the Nativity which we have been working hard on and the children had a lovely time performing to the school and their parents. As a special treat we organised a magician to come in and perform a show for the nursery and Reception they had a great time.



## Apply for a primary school place

Was your child born between 1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022?



Apply online at:  
[devon.cc/admissionsonline](https://devon.cc/admissionsonline)

or scan the QR code. Applications open from  
**15 November 2025** to the **15 January 2026**

If you can't access the school admissions website you can get more information by emailing [admissions@devon.gov.uk](mailto:admissions@devon.gov.uk) or call our Education Helpline on:

**0345 155 1019**



You must apply through the Admissions Team, even if you've already given details to a school. Applications made directly to schools or on their lists will not be accepted.

**Devon**  
County Council

# RECEPTION - WHAT HAS BEEN GOING ON IN AUTUMN 2?



Despite the cold and wintery weather, the children have enjoyed spending some time outside decorating our Christmas tree in the tuff tray. We have also been making snowmen using recycled materials and we are going to be making some Christmas cards in the last two weeks of term. We have also been making our own Christmas wreaths. The children are very excited about Christmas and we hope that you enjoyed the Nativity.

This term, we have been enjoying our story 'I'm going to eat the Ant'. The children are starting to write lists and cards - suggesting to the ant-eater what else he might like to eat apart from the tiny ants! We are also becoming very good at counting and we love practising counting the number of people in our class or when we go up the steps.

We wish you all a very merry Christmas and a wonderful New Year!

# RECEPTION STARS AND DISCIPLES FOR HALF TERM

AUT 2	Stars	Value	Disciples
24th October	Alfie	<b>Kindness</b>	Thaddeus
7th November	Akshay	<b>Temperance</b>	Zhiyu
14th November	Aindry	<b>Fortitude</b>	Emilia
21st November	Henry	<b>Charity</b>	Mia
28th November	Emerson	<b>Courage</b>	Mahira
5th December	Monty	<b>Hope</b>	Ricky
12th December	Akshay	<b>Peace</b>	Mia



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



We loved meeting the Skipping Ninja - our workshop was so much fun!



We went to TCS for an Aesthetics Festival. We got to meet lots of children from other primary schools and take part in ten different activities. These included gymnastics, jumping and yoga.



Making our lanterns for the lantern parade was a great opportunity to get creative. Thank you to our parent helpers for their support.



# YEAR 1 AND 2 STARS AND DISCIPLES FOR HALF TERM

AUTUMN 2	Stars	Value	Disciples
24th October	Nate	<b>Kindness</b>	Rowan
7th November	Emily	<b>Temperance</b>	Poppy
14th November	Max	<b>Fortitude</b>	Mae
21st November	All children that attended the Aesthetics festival.	<b>Charity</b>	Amelia
28th November	Viki	<b>Courage</b>	Evie
5th December	Ivy	<b>Hope</b>	Lumen
12th December	Beloved	<b>Peace</b>	Angel



# YEAR 3 - WHAT HAS BEEN GOING ON IN AUTUMN 2?



Year 3 were bright and festive jumpers in support for 'Save the Children'. They are all looking forward to Christmas.

The children have been learning about light in their science lessons this term. They have loved learning about shadows with how they can change in size and experiment with this when using a torch.



Saturn class had a great during their Skipping Ninja workshop. They were all such great skippers.

The children loved designing and making their lanterns for the lantern parade. There was some great creativity on show. Thank you to the parent helpers for their support also!



# YEAR 3 STARS AND DISCIPLES FOR HALF TERM

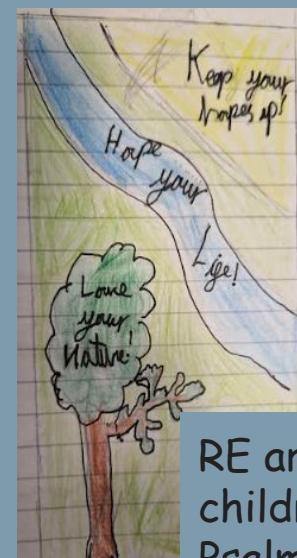
AUTUMN 1	Stars	Value	Disciples
24th October	Scarlett	<b>Kindness</b>	Ronnie
7th November	Steffan	<b>Temperance</b>	Patrick
14th November	Jayden	<b>Fortitude</b>	Oliver
21st November	Sarah-Anne	<b>Charity</b>	Evelyn
28th November	Ellie	<b>Courage</b>	Scarlett
5th December	Samuel	<b>Hope</b>	Tyler
12th December	Isla	<b>Peace</b>	Nela



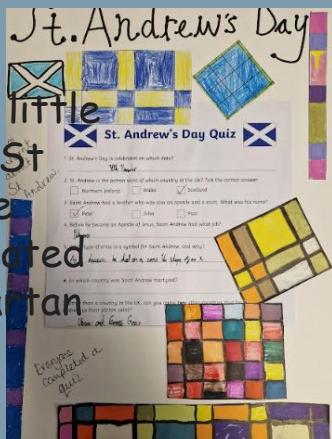
# YEAR 4 AND 5 - WHAT HAS BEEN GOING ON IN AUTUMN 2?



We enjoyed our visit from Fr Albert to explain what faith means in RE.



We learnt a little more about St Andrew. The children created their own tartan



We had a great time exploring and learning how to separate materials in science.

RE art was based on Psalm 23. The children enjoyed recreating the Psalm using drawing.

# YEAR 4 AND 5 STARS AND DISCIPLES FOR HALF TERM

AUTUMN 1	Stars	Value	Disciples
24th October	Grisha	Kindness	Raffy
7th November	Arlo G	Temperance	Paddy
14th November	Sophie	Fortitude	Estrella
21st November	Raffy	Charity	Arlo P
28th November	Paddy	Courage	Grisha
5th December	Ryan	Hope	Daisy
12th December	Vlad	Peace	Isla Rose



# YEAR 6 - WHAT HAS BEEN GOING ON IN AUTUMN 2?



## Spelling SATs Cup Competition

Our Lady & St Patrick's Nursery & Primary School  
gave 7006 correct answers.

## 1st Place

Date: November 13, 2025



Year 6 were very proud to have achieved first place in a national spelling competition. The class worked hard together to get to the top of the leaderboard. A special mention to Oscar F for getting 1111 spellings correct and coming 3rd overall!



2025

## Spelling SATs Cup

Oscar Farleigh

gave 1111 correct answers

## 3rd Place

Date: November 13, 2025



We thoroughly enjoyed our afternoon making lanterns for the Teignmouth parade.



We enjoyed a visit from Sophie at SWW who talked to us about plastics in our ocean and what happens after we flush the loo!

# YEAR 6 STARS AND DISCIPLES FOR HALF TERM

AUTUMN 1	Stars	Value	Disciples
24th October	Darcey	Kindness	Joey
7th November	Grace	Temperance	Ossie
14th November	Teddy	Fortitude	Iris
21st November	Oscar Sendra	Charity	Olivia
28th November	Beloved	Courage	Lyra
5th December	Ethan	Hope	Stephanie
12th December	Ivie-Beau	Peace	Marylou



# YEAR 5/6 REPRESENTING OLSP



Earlier in the term, a selection of Year 5+6 pupils represented OLSP at a regional football tournament at TCS. They finished in a fantastic 3rd place and did OLSP proud displaying great determination and team effort. They all should be extremely proud of themselves with how they have represented the school.



# Diary Dates



		1st April 2026	Dojo Afternoon
Mon 26 Jan - Fri 30 Jan 2026	Year 6 Residential - Grenville House	2nd April 2026	Stations of the cross in the hall
27th January 2026	Viking Workshop Day Y4/5	23rd April 2026	St George's Day
6th February 2026	NSPCC number day	19th June 2026	4pm - 6pm School BBQ - times TBC
9th February	Children's Mental Health Week	24th June 2026	Sports Day
10th February	Safer Internet Day	29th June 2026	9:45am - 10:45am St Peter and St Paul's mass - whole school
27th February 2026	St David's day - Wear Yellow	1st July 2026	Sports day - Back up day
2nd March - 5th March 2026	Parents evening	6th July 2026	Year 6 Dress rehearsal
5th March 2026	World Book Day	7th July 2026	2pm - 3pm Y6 performance to parents 5:30pm - 6:30pm Y6 performance to parents
9th March 2026	Science week	Mon 13 July 2026	Y6 enterprise week
10th March 2026	Y4/5 Waste Management Trip Exeter	15th July 2026	Dojo Afternoon
17th March 2026	St Patrick's Day 9:45am - 10:45am St Patrick's Day mass	20th July 2026	2pm - 3:30pm Y6 enterprise selling event Ice-cream with the HT for 100% and (99% attendance)
20th March 2026	Red nose day	21st July 2026	9am - 10am Leavers mass - whole school to attend Ice-cream with the HT for 100% and (99% attendance) Dojo Afternoon
25th March 2026	2:30pm - 3pm Colour Run - TBC led by school chaplains to raise funds	22nd July 2026	9am - 10am Year 6 Leavers assembly Last day of the year
30th March 2026	Hot chocolate with the HT for nominated pupils	Mon 28th Sept - Fri 2nd Oct 2026	Year 6 Residential - Barton Hall

# News from the Friends



**CHRISTMAS RAFFLE**

1st Prize  
**£50 CASH**

Plus various other seasonal prizes

**£1 a ticket**

The draw will take place on Wednesday 17th December at 3pm outside the School Office





**FRIENDS OF OLSP**

# CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

AMAZING PRIZES TO BE WON!

**1st Prize: £50 Cash**

- Farm Foods voucher
- Usborne Book Bundle donated by Books for Curious Cubs
- Film Vouchers x2 donated by Pavilions Teignmouth
- 2 Hampers donated by O'Brien's Painting & Decorating
- 1 Hour Private Pool Hire donated by Little Seals Swim Sc
- Cream Cakes x4 donated by The Wee Shop Bakery
- £15 Voucher donated by Brunch Cafe & Bistro

and many more prizes including games, bottles, children's goody bags, toiletry gift sets, chocolates!

Get your tickets now and support our school!

Wishing everyone a joyful festive season!





# MERRY ChRiStMaS

The Friends of OLSP wish everyone a very happy Christmas!

Thank you to everyone who has supported our events this term, we truly appreciate it.

Wishing you all a joyful and restful festive season!

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](http://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](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/>

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.

HOT ROCK PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS

