Our Lady & St John's Newsletter

Website: www.ourladyandstjohns.org.uk
Email: admin@stjohnrc.hounslow.sch.uk

Volume 9 Issue 2

27th February 2026

Dear Parents,

As we journey into the second week of Lent, our children have been reflecting thoughtfully on why this season is so special for us as Catholics. In lessons and Celebration of the Word they have been discussing the three pillars of Lent: prayer, fasting and almsgiving and how these help us grow closer to God and to one another. I have been so impressed with their Lenten promises this week. Whether choosing to give up small comforts, dedicate extra time to prayer, or find meaningful ways to help others, they are embracing this season with maturity and compassion, truly living out our Gospel values.

We were also delighted to welcome education leaders from Hounslow Council this week. They spent time visiting lessons, speaking to staff and pupils, and seeing our school in action. They were thoroughly impressed by the behaviour, confidence and enthusiasm of our children, as well as the high quality of teaching and learning taking place across the school. It was a wonderful opportunity to showcase what makes our OLSJ's so special.

A huge well done to our Year 5 and Year 6 pupils who represented the school so brilliantly at the netball tournament. Finishing in third place was a fantastic achievement. We were incredibly proud of their performance (and some might say we were just a little unlucky not to take first place!).

Yesterday, I had the privilege of meeting our new Archbishop Richard Moth, who celebrated Mass at Ealing Abbey. It was a beautiful celebration of faith, and he asked that we keep him in our prayers as he starts his service to lead the Diocese of Westminster.

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend, **Mrs Kelliher**

Stars of the Week
23rd February 2026

Rec : Thomas & Ethan
Yr1: Miles & Tom
Yr2: Vespyr & Amelia
Yr3: Eli & David
Yr4 Yana & Alexa
Yr5: Amelia M & Amelia D
Yr6: Shalom & Luis





We are a PEANUT & NUT FREE SCHOOL

Due to severe allergies of some pupils and staff, please ensure no nut or peanut products are brought into school.

Safeguarding

The wellbeing of our children is of paramount importance to all staff. Should any parent have a concern regarding a child's wellbeing, please inform the school's designated safeguarding officer Mrs Kelliher or in her absence the deputy safeguarding officer Mrs Sheehan.

In cases where school staff have concerns, they have a statutory duty to discuss the issue with their line manager Mrs Kelliher to seek further advice.

Congratulations to the children in St Andrew's who received the most house points over the last week.

The children in St. Andrew's will receive 15 minutes of extra play in Key stage 1.

House point winners for this week

Con

HOUSES	Score
St Patrick	151
St Andrew	181
St George	139
St David	123
St John	128
Overall Winner	St Andrew's

Punctuality & Attendance

POSITION	YEAR	%	Lates
1st	4	98.4	0
2nd	1	98.3	0
3rd	5	98	0
4th	2	95	0
5th	Rec	92.6	2
6th	6	91.4	2
7th	3	91	0
8th	Nur	88.4	4



Congratulations to Year 4 on their 100% attendance!



Poetry by Heart competition

This week in assembly, we were pleased to be able to announce the winners from each class for the Poetry by Heart competition. There had been much deliberation amongst the staff but we could only choose one from each year.

The winners will now be entered into the Poetry by Heart contest where they might be given the chance to perform at Shakespeare's Globe Theatre in London.

A big congratulations to all who learnt their poems - you did a wonderful job.





Pen Licence

Congratulations to Ethan on



Pilgrim of Hope certificate

Congratulations to JC who was awarded the OLSJ Pilgrim of Hope certificate for his recognition of being a true witness of Hope within our School Community.

This was for his contribution to the Yr1 playground.

Important Dates
February & March

Monday 2nd March

- Scholastic Book fair all week

Thursday 5th March

- World Book day

Friday 6th March

- Author visit celebrating World Book day—Justin Coe

Tuesday 10th March

2:45 Y1 Celebration assembly

Wednesday 11th March

9:00am Play & learn together Nursery & Reception

Thursday 13th March

- CAFOD Big Lenten Walk

Tuesday 17th March

2:45 Y3 Celebration assembly

Wednesday 18th March

9:00am Play & learn together Nursery & Reception

- Y6 Road safety theatre

Thursday 19th March

- Y3&4 Multi skills festival

Friday 20th March

- Red Nose Day
- PTA Easter Disco

Monday 23rd March

6:00 GB meeting

- Y6 Ancient Greeks workshop

Tuesday 24th March

9:00 Y4&5 Lenten service

Wednesday 25th March

8:50 Achievement assembly

Thursday 26th March

9:00 End of term mass

Friday 27th March

1:00 End of term



Congratulations to our Superstar swimmers this week:
Pharez, Arnisa, Giogio & Eliyka





Stay & Read

A huge thank you to all the parents, grandparents that were able to stay for 'Stay & Read' this week. The children said they **'loved sharing this time with you**;

Stay & Read will continue each **Tuesday** from 8:30-8:45am. If you are able to come in and read with your child you would be most welcome.



Library Club

Library club began this week. Lots of children made the most of this and spent their allocated slot reading in the library with their friends. A huge thank you to the teachers for running this extra curricular club. We look forward to seeing many more children attending next week. Please see the attached poster for timings





OLSJ's Big Lent Walk 2026

Earlier this week, Miriam from Cafod, visited our school and told us how Cafod brings people together to answer God's call for a better world. We can all create it, through our energy, our gifts, our voices and our prayers.



With that in mind, this Lent, on Friday 13th March, the whole school will be putting Catholic Social Teaching into action and living out our Jubilee Pledge, by walking in solidarity with those in need. EYFS and KS1 will be walking in the playground, whilst KS2 will be walking a little further, to Boston Manor Park. All parents are welcome to join us on our walk which will leave school at 9am.

You can help to beat global poverty and help to turn hope into joy, by donating, what you can, via our Just Giving Page. A better world needs all of us.

https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/our-lady-and-st-johns-big-lent-walk-2026?utm_medium=FA&utm_source=CL

THE BIG LENT WALK

Year 1 Playground update

You may have noticed that the Climbing Frame for the Year 1 playground has been fitted over the half term. If you have not had a chance to come and see it please do.

Once again, we are so appreciative to JC and his family for all the help in fundraising for this to be built. We are also appreciative to the children who designed the climbing frame, Vinnie, Wanda & Kian.

As I mentioned in the previous newsletter, the children will not be able to use the climbing frame until we have fitted the new membrane and installed all the play bark. We hope this will be very soon. Thank you to those parents who have offered their help.







Netball competition

On Tuesday 24th February we competed in the Hounslow borough year 5 and 6 netball competition. Last year we were only able to take year 5's but that meant that they had gained valuable experience for this time around.

We have been working hard during lunch times and P.E. at keeping our positions, marking our players and on a couple of patterns of play. These came in very useful during the tournament as we were able to get from our centre to a shooting position in just a few seconds.

We began with a very intense warm up but showcased how fast we were capable of playing, hoping this would help us in our matches. Our blue team managed 1 win and 2 defeats in the first group stage, but really kicked in to gear in the second group phase winning 3 out of their next 4 and finishing second in the plate competition. They unfortunately rushed a lot of their passes in their opening games, but as soon as they settled down, they had some very comfortable wins. We were really impressed with some of the defending and teamwork in the later stages and some amazing shooting.

Our yellow team walked through the first group stage without conceding a single shot against us despite some very strict umpiring. Our shooting let us down after that. We drew all 3 of our next games where we dominated possession, had over 30 shots across the 3 matches but just couldn't find the finish we deserved. Our last group game was a tightly fought 1-1 match where we drew to the eventual winners of the tournament. It's a shame we didn't make the most of our opportunities but overall some of the netball we played was unbelievable and I still maintain we were the best team there.

Big shout out to Mads whose effort and tenacity was non-stop for the blue team. For the yellow team, Lily was superb and dictated so much of our game. Well done to everyone though, amazing performances and a big thanks to Mrs O'Sullivan who helped with travel and support.

Yellow team goals;
Maja 3, Lily 2, Shalom 2, James 1.

Blue team goals;
Sofie 4, Mads 2, Julia 1, Bella1.





PTA Update

Year Group Leaders & Deputies Confirmed

We're pleased to share an update on the refreshed PTA structure and to introduce the newly appointed PTA Year Group Leaders and Deputies. Each year group now has a named parent representative and a deputy to help strengthen communication between families and the PTA, coordinate support for events, and ensure every year group has a clear voice as we work more closely with the school.

PTA Year Group Representatives

- **Nursery** – Group Leader: Camila | Deputy: Tamara
- **Reception** – Group Leader: Magali | Deputy: Martina
- **Year 1** – Group Leader: Amy | Deputy: Beth
- **Year 2** – Group Leader: Angelika | Deputy: Carla
- **Year 3** – Group Leader: Jade | Deputy: Ciara
- **Year 4** – Group Leader: Ciara | Deputy: Vanessa
- **Year 5** – Group Leader: Kerstin | Deputy: Esther

Year 6 – Group Leader: Jo | Deputy: Gillian

A huge thank you to all the parents who have stepped forward to support thei year groups – this is a really positive step in building a more connected and sustainable PTA community.

Further information will follow about how parents can get involved in upcoming events and how to contact their year group representatives.

With thanks,
Elizabeth Horwood (Chair, PTA)
Stephen Smith (Treasurer, PTA)

Our Lady & St John's Nursery September 2026

OLSJ Nursery

- Early Year Teacher led education and childcare
- Caring values-based ethos
- Excellent preparation for school readiness
- 15 or 30 Hours nursery to meet with childcare needs of working families

Government funded 15/30 hours available

Term time nursery up to 30 hours per week, 8.30am to 3pm.

All parents are entitled to 15 hours of Government funded childcare a week for children aged three and four years.

Eligible parents will receive an additional 15 hours of Government funding at OLSJ bringing the total number of Government funded hours to 30 per week.

We also offer breakfast and after school club for nursery children.

Next Steps

For more information visit our website or scan the QR code below.

School Tours - all start at 9am

2026

Monday 19th January, Wednesday 28th January, Tuesday 10th February, Tuesday 24th February







Tours can be booked by calling the school office on 020 8560 7477
or email admin@stjohnrc.hounslow.sch.uk

Please note that the deadline for applications is Friday 6th March.

Book Swap

Well done to all the children who have already started bringing books into school for our Book Swap — we are absolutely delighted with the response so far!

We are very excited to launch this initiative, as we believe it will inspire an even greater love of reading. Sharing books that friends have already enjoyed is a wonderful way to spark curiosity and encourage children to discover new stories and authors.

We would like to reassure parents that every child will have the opportunity to choose a book from the Book Swap, whether or not they have brought a book into school. All we ask is that once a child has finished reading their chosen book, it is returned to school so another child can enjoy it.

The Book Swap is open to all year groups, and each class will have its own box for books to be shared. Any support you can give in helping us keep the Book Swap well stocked and running smoothly is greatly appreciated.

If you have any questions about the Book Swap, please do not hesitate to speak to your child's class teacher.
Thank you for your continued support in helping us nurture a love of reading.

Thank you for a great response!

Stay & Read

We are delighted to invite you to our new Stay and Read sessions with your child, starting after half term.

Taking place every Tuesday morning from 8:30–8:50, this is a relaxed and enjoyable opportunity to spend a few special moments sharing a book with your child during our soft start to the day.

We warmly welcome all families, including our multilingual parents, to read a story in any language that is special to you. Sharing books in your home language is a wonderful way to celebrate our diverse community and nurture a love of reading.

We would love you to join us and help foster a love of reading together.





Library Club

We are delighted to share that, after half term, we will be launching a Library Club at lunchtimes as part of our ongoing commitment to promoting a love of reading for pleasure.

Children from Year 1 through to Year 6 will be invited to visit the library during their lunchtime, where they can relax and enjoy books in a calm and welcoming space. They may choose to read independently, share a story with friends, or enjoy reading with a member of staff. To make the experience even more comfortable, children are welcome to bring in a small cushion to sit on.

We hope this will be a wonderful opportunity for children to develop a lifelong love of reading in an enjoyable and pressure-free environment. Please encourage your child to take full advantage of this exciting opportunity on their allocated day.

Library club timetable

	Years 1&2 12:00-12:20	Years 3-6 12:30-12:50
Monday		
Tues		Year 3&4
Weds	Year 1&2	
Thurs		
Fri		Year 5&6


SWIM SCHOOL
ISLEWORTH LEISURE CENTRE & LIBRARY
Scan QR code to sign up today!
FIT AROUND YOUR SCHEDULE
NO WAITING LIST
LEARN A BRILLIANT LIFE SKILL
INCLUDES
Weekly 30-minute lesson • Free Public Swimming
Free hat when you first sign up

30-45 MINUTE LESSONS DEPENDENT ON STAGE

Baby with Adult	3 - 18 months
Toddler with Adult	18 months - 3 yr 6 months
Pre-School 1 & 2	3 yr 6 months - 5 years old
Stage 1 - Stage 7	5 years old +
STAGE 8, 9, 10 (COMPETITIVE SWIMMING) INCLUDE 45-MINUTE LESSONS.	
Adult Lesson Beginner	16 years old +
Adult Lesson Intermediate	
Adult Lesson Advanced	

Monday - Friday	3:00pm - 7:00pm
Weekends	8:30am - 2:00pm
Monday, Wednesday and Friday (Lunch Lesson)	11:30am - 1:30pm
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday (Adult Swimming)	Evening: 6:45pm - 9:00pm Weekend: 1:00pm - 5:00pm



Isleworth Leisure Centre & Library
Twickenham Road, Isleworth TW7 7EU
Isleworth.Leisure@lamptongroup.co.uk
0208 583 2900

CHECK OUT OUR OTHER SITES

Brentford Fountain Leisure Centre
658 Chiswick High Road, Brentford TW8 0HJ
Brentford.Leisure@lamptongroup.co.uk

Hanworth Air Park Leisure Centre & Library
Uxbridge Road, Feltham TW13 5EG
Hanworth.Leisure@lamptongroup.co.uk

Heston Pools & Fitness
New Heston Road, Heston, Hounslow, TW5 0LW
Heston.Leisure@lamptongroup.co.uk

New Chiswick Pool
Edensor Rd, Chiswick, London W4 2RG
Chiswick.Leisure@lamptongroup.co.uk

Osterley Sports and Athletic Centre
120 Wood Lane, Isleworth TW7 5FF
Osterley.Leisure@lamptongroup.co.uk

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To all our parents, grandparents and carers.

We really need your help.

With the increasing demands on the curriculum, we are finding it more and more difficult to provide 1-1 reading for our children.

Although this is not an expectation of the curriculum, it is something that we have always valued in the hope that it provides children with a love of reading from an early age.

So, if you can spare an hour or two every week (or more) to hear children read, please let me know, we would be eternally grateful.

This support is invaluable to both the teachers and the children.

Thank you in advance

Mrs Sheehan