# Our Lady & St John's Newsletter

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

**Volume 8 Issue 4**

**6th February 2026**

**Dear Parents,**

It has been a great time in school celebrating story telling week. The children have loved having their reading buddies from a younger/older year. We are continuing a love of reading with more events which you will see later in the newsletter.

Thank you as well to the parents who attended the Reception phonics workshop this week. It was lovely to see such strong engagement, and we hope you found the session helpful. The resources from the workshop have now been shared on Google Classroom so that you can revisit them at home and continue to support your child's phonics learning.

Well done to the Year 6 Young Voices choir, who were absolutely amazing at Wembley on Wednesday. The children represented the school brilliantly, and it was a fantastic night of singing and dancing. A huge thank you to Mrs Poterachi for preparing the children so well! What a memorable and joyful experience for everyone involved.

Parents' evenings

Next week is parents' evenings. Thank you to all the parents and carers who have already booked their appointments. We really appreciate you taking the time to meet with us and share in your child's learning. We look forward to welcoming you into school and having positive, supportive conversations. Please remember that we are unable to provide child-care so please organise care for your child/children either at home or with friends/other parents.

I hope you all have a wonderful weekend,
**Mrs. Kelliher**

## Stars of the Week
## 2nd February 2026

**Rec : Oliver & Lylagh**
**Yr1: Coco & Skyler**
**Yr2: Modupeola & Jayden**
**Yr3: Posy & Igor**
**Yr4: Diar & Emma**
**Yr5: Frank & Julia**
**Yr6: Liwia & Bella**





## 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.




**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.**

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

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

**The children in St. Patrick's in Key stage 2 will receive a Homework pass for this weeks' homework.**

## House point winners for this week

| HOUSES | Score |
|---|---|
| St Patrick | 283 |
| St Andrew | 160 |
| St George | 205 |
| St David | 165 |
| St John | 170 |
| Overall Winner | St Patrick's |

## Writers of the Month

**January**

**Rec : Poppy**
**Yr1: Ryan**
**Yr2: Anna**
**Yr3: Antoni**
**Yr4: Oscar**
**Yr5: Mads**
**Yr6: Julieta**

## Punctuality & Attendance

| POSITION | YEAR | % | Lates |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1st | 3 | 98.8 | 0 |
| 2nd | 4 | 98.6 | 1 |
| 3rd | 5 | 97.4 | 2 |
| 4th | 1 | 96.6 | 3 |
| 5th | 6 | 96.4 | 2 |
| 6th | 6 | 94.6 | 2 |
| 7th | Rec | 93.3 | 3 |
| 8th | Nur | 82.3 | 1 |












**Congratulations to Year 3 on their 98.8% attendance!**

**They will receive 10 minutes extra play**

## Important Dates

**Monday 9th February**
**3:30-6:30** Parents evening N-Y6

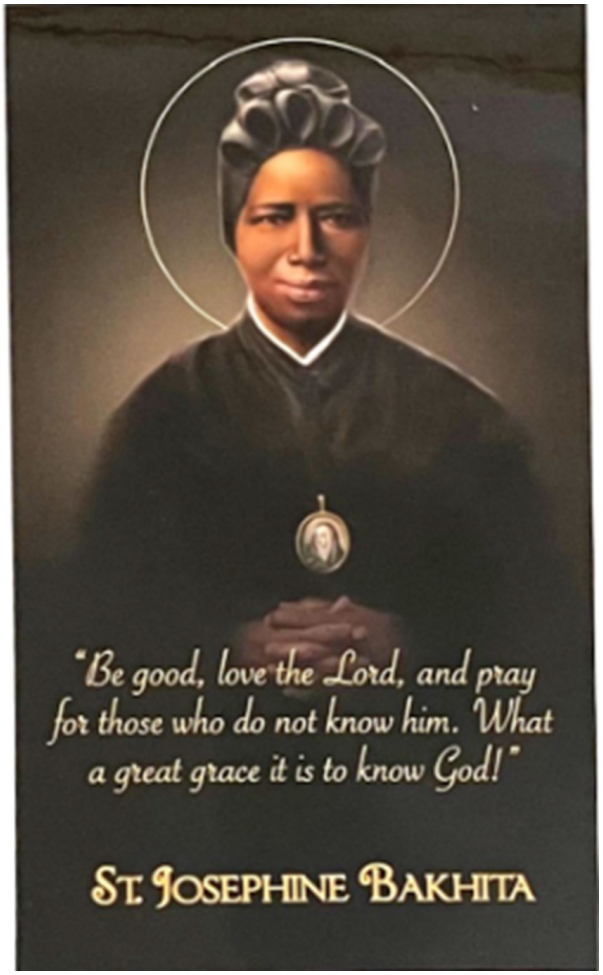
**Wednesday 11th February**
**3:30-6:30** Parents evening N-Y6

**Friday 13th February**
- Number day

**End of Half term**

# St Josephine Bakhita

This week during pupil lead celebration of the Word the children introduced the school to St Josephine Bakhita who is the patron saint of victims of slavery and human trafficking. Her feast day is February 8, which is also the International Day of Prayer and Awareness Against




O St. Bakhita, assist all those who are trapped in a state of slavery;

Intercede with God on their behalf so that they will be released from their chains of captivity.

Those whom man enslaves, let God set free. Provide comfort to survivors of slavery and let them look to you as an example of hope and faith.

Help all survivors find healing from their wounds. We ask for your prayers and intercessions for those enslaved among us.

Amen

St. Josephine Bakhita was born in Sudan in 1869 and enslaved as a child. Eventually she was sold to an Italian diplomat and taken to Italy, where she was later brought to freedom through the help of the Canossian Daughters of Charity. Through their guidance, she learned about God and served him faithfully until her death in 1947.

# 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.

# Reception phonics workshop

Mrs Whitehouse would like to thank all the parents/ carers who attended the phonics workshop on Wednesday 4th February. We hope that the workshop was beneficial to show you how school are teaching phonics in Reception and what the children are learning in the spring term. Thank you for all the support with the reading at home. We can really see how the children are progressing.



**Congratulations to our Superstar swimmers this week:**






# National Storytelling Week

This week in school we celebrated National Storytelling Week, a wonderful opportunity to share, create and enjoy stories together.

Pupils took part in a range of storytelling activities, from listening to traditional tales and modern stories to creating and sharing their own imaginative ideas.

Storytelling helps children to develop creativity, confidence and a love of language, and it was fantastic to see pupils so engaged and enthusiastic. We loved hearing their stories and watching their imaginations come to life.

Families are encouraged to continue the celebration at home by sharing favourite stories, retelling family tales, or encouraging children to invent their ow



# National Storytelling Week



Rec & Year 6



Nur & Year 3



Year 1 & 4

# Young Voices

On Wednesday 4th February, the OLSJ choir had the amazing opportunity to sing in the OVO Wembley arena as part of Young Voices choir. This was a phenomenal opportunity; our children joined almost 5000 other schools from all across the country in one of the largest children's choir events in the world.

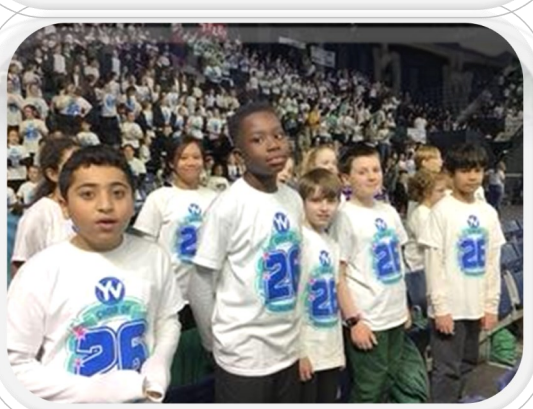
I would like to thank each and every one of the children for all their dedication and perseverance in our rehearsals and truly all your hard work paid off in a spectacular performance. Your singing was wonderful, the dance moves were brilliant and even your parents had a go at singing and dancing with you! I was so proud of the confidence and incredible self-belief each and everyone of you showed. Every single one of you was an incredible ambassador for our school and I hope your love for music continues beyond OLSJ.

A huge thank you to the parents for all their support throughout the year and to Mrs Kelliher and Lily's mum for coming on the trip and making it possible.

Mrs Poteratchi









# Raising money for Outdoor table top play equipment

## Friday 13th February

## Pancake sale

£2 donation via parentmail



£2 donation via parentmail

On 13 February we will be having our own pancake day.

Your child will be able to have pancakes, they will get to chose their toppings (lemon sugar chocolate and honey)

They can pick two topping for £2
Parents will be able to pay this on parent mail.
This money will help us pay for play ground games.

**By Emily Rose**

# Number Day

**Friday 13th February**








On **Friday 13th February** the School Council have organised for us to take part in Number day.

We are asking everyone to wear an item of clothing with a number on it (football shirt, cap, netball shirt or even a onesie!), or get even more creative by dressing in a maths or numbers theme.

**There will be a prize for the most imaginative outfit.**

We would love everyone in the school to take part in this special event.

**The children will be taking part in lots of fun maths activities on the day**

**Thank you very much**
**The School Council**









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

**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**

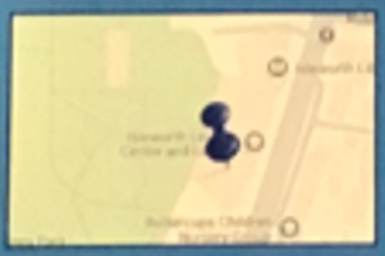
**Mrs Sheehan**


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<br>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*

mpton