Our Lady & St John's Newsletter

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Volume 7 Issue 11

14th November 2025

Dear Parents,

WOW WOW WOW! What a busy week we have had at OLSJ's! Anti-bullying week, Remembrance Day and Children in Need. We've been reminding the children that God calls each of us to be a light for others. The small choices we make every day by showing kindness, including someone who's feeling left out, or speaking up when something isn't right are simple but powerful ways of living out Jesus' message of love. It's been wonderful to see the children reflecting on how they can use their God-given gifts to help make our school a place where everyone feels safe, valued, and loved.

These values have also shone through in our marking of Remembrance Day and our fundraising for Children in Need. Each class remembered those who fought for us and gave their lives for peace, and to think about how we can continue to be peacemakers in our own world. Our efforts for Children in Need have shown the same spirit of compassion and generosity by putting our faith into action by helping others who may be struggling. I'm so proud of how our community has come together, living out our Catholic mission by using our "power for good" in so many meaningful ways. It has been wonderful to be a part of this week and I am so proud of every single child in the school. Thank you for your continued support.

Have a lovely weekend,

Mrs. Kelliher

Stars of the Week
10th November 2025

Rec : Inaaya & Eesa
Yr1: Matteo & Aurelia
Yr2: Rosa & Zainab
Yr3: Oliver & Miki
Yr4: Elma & Emma
Yr5: Sophie M & Szymon
Yr6: Daniel & Annie



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	221
St Andrew	131
St George	119
St David	149
St John	94
Overall Winner	St Patrick's



Punctuality & Attendance

POSITION	YEAR	%	Lates
1st	5	99	1
2nd	Rec	98.6	1
3rd	1	98	5
4th	Nur	97.8	2
5th	6	96.7	2
6th	2	95	1
7th	3	94.6	1
8th	4	92	3







Congratulations to Year 5 on their 99% attendance!

They will receive 10 minutes extra play

Important Dates

Monday 17th November
- Y3/4 Girls football

Wednesday 19th November
- Nursery & Reception Stay & Play

Thursday 20th November
- School photos

Tuesday 25th November

2:45 Y3 Celebration Service
- Y6 Benjamin Franklin museum
- Y4 Pedestrian skills

Wednesday 26th November
- Nursery & Reception Stay & Play
- Y5/6 Sports hall tournament

Friday 28th November
- INSET DAY
- Y5/6 Best football

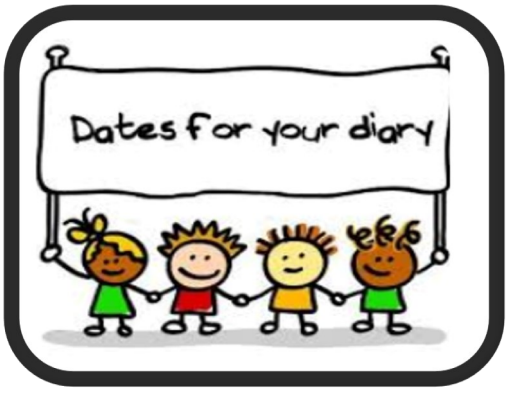
Wednesday 3rd December

9:00am Nursery nativity
- Y3 cake cake

Thursday 4th December
- Y4 Live nativity @Gumley House

Friday 5th December

9:00am Reception nativity
- Reception height & weight checks



Congratulations to our Superstar swimmers this week: Nathaniel, Tom & Finlay



Congratulations to Fred on receiving his pen license



London city of language logo competition update

Did you know that there are more than 300 languages spoken in London? Earlier this year, a new initiative called London: City of languages was established to celebrate London's linguistic diversity, inspire people of all ages to learn a new language and engage communities to support language education.

School children from across London were invited to create a logo for this new organisation, including the Key Stage Two children in OLSJ. I was thrilled with our children's enthusiasm for languages and the wonderful creativity of their entries; in total, I received 41 competition entries! London: City of
Languages have received all entries and have sent back a certificate of participation for each child who entered. They are still deciding on an overall winner for their official logo and many more entries will be displayed on their website in time.

A big 'congratulations' to all who submitted their design and we will watch this space for more news!



Children in Need

To all parents, children and staff.

Thank you, thank you and thank you once again for your enormous generosity with the many events that we had running for '**Children in Need'** today.
The children and staff embraced the day, as they always do, with such kindness and enthusiasm.

Great efforts were made to bring in cakes, prizes for raffles and bric 'n' brac, Cars were washed with such care and attention to detail! A huge thank you to Miss Ryan and Mrs Waghorne for organising this. Teddy bears shared a picnic with nursery and reception. Many tickets were bought for the raffles, guesses were made to name the 'teddy' and guess how many sweets in the jar., as well as guessing the weight of the cakes.

The activities were endless and so was the amount of money spent. To top it all off the children donated £1.00 to come into school wearing spots. Parents also donated to our 'Just giving' page too!

These days are not possible unless we all work together. Today was a very good example of how hard we all worked. You should all be very proud of all your children. A very special mention to the School Council for all their hard work, in making this day run so smoothly. These children worked so hard to make the day such a success

Should you wish to contribute to our Just giving page, please find the link below

https://www.justgiving.com/page/our-lady-st-john-primary-school-11?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=CL



Please log onto Google classroom to view more pictures from today









Our total so far is £1132.20











Remembrance Day Service

On Tuesday 11th November, the Mini Vinnies led a beautiful Remembrance Day Service. It was a very moving occasion as we observed a minute's silence and listened to the bugle call of 'The Last Post'. Each class showed how they had remembered, all those who gave their lives for us.

Reception showed their decorated poppies, **Year 1** wore vibrant poppies they had made, **Year 2** displayed their 3D artwork on Flanders Fields, **Year 3** recited a reflective poem, **Year 4** recited their emotive Remembrance poems, **Year 5** read their beautiful prayers and **Year 6** sang a thought provoking song.

"Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen".














Lest We Forget
11th November


Class presentations




Class presentations


Class presentations


Lest We Forget
11th November



Anti-Bullying week/Odd socks day

This week, the whole school focussed on anti-bullying and all classes completed a variety of activities based around this. Anti-Bullying Week shines a spotlight on bullying and encourages all children, teachers and parents to take action against bullying throughout the year. The theme this year is **'Power for Good'** with the aims to:

empower children to celebrate what makes them, and others unique,

help children to understand how important it is that every child feels valued and included in school, able to be themselves, without fear of bullying.















CROSS COUNTRY LONDON FINALS

On Saturday 8th November, Bella from year 6 and Vinnie from year 5 represented us as well as Hounslow at the London cross country finals. After already doing so well in the borough competition they would now be taking on the top runners from the capital.

The course was 1.4 kilometers and began with a ridiculously steep slope.
That accompanied by over 200 runners fighting for places made the start incredibly difficult. Both of our athletes were nervous before the race but found a good position at the side of the start to avoid the impending collisions.

The girls race was first and straight away there was a bit of a pile up with several of the girls tripping over each other. Luckily Bella had found space down the outside of the course and managed to start making her way through a busy pack. Unfortunately the course became very narrow after the hill at the beginning which made it very difficult for our runners to make up any ground. Vinnie had a similar start as a lot of the boys in the middle pushed for places but he found his space and was able to settle in to his speed very soon after.

Both races were done in around 8-9 minutes with the winners finishing in 6.06 for the girls and 5.27 for the boys which just shows the level of the runners competing, so we are so proud of both of ours. Well done Bella and Vinnie, outstanding effort from both of you. We haven't had many students over the years who have gone on to London finals, so this is an amazing achievement.





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

November: Month of Remembrance

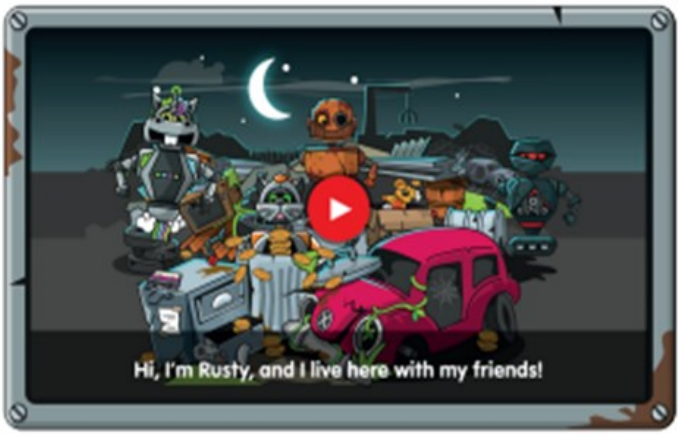


Eternal rest grant unto them,
O Lord,
and may perpetual light
shine upon them.
May the souls of all the
faithful departed
through the mercy of God
rest in peace.
Amen

HOW THE GAME WORKS

BEFORE THE GAME

Children are welcomed to the game with an opening video, where they are introduced to the central character, "Rusty". In the video, Rusty asks for help in his quest to find new parts to upgrade him to a diamond robot, so he can "shine inside and out, like a Diamond". Next, the child will be able to choose a bot name they will play under, as well as their own robot character.



PLAYING THE GAME: STORY MODE

The game starts in 'Story Mode'. There are 18 stages - from Rust to Diamond - and each stage is made up of a number of levels. Players start at Rust level 1 and, to unlock the next level, they need to earn at least 2 out of 3 stars.

To earn the 2 or 3 stars required to pass the level, children must demonstrate a level of fluency when answering the questions. This means they must be accurate and timely with their answers; if children get 0 or 1 stars they need to answer more quickly. The game ensures that learners don't move on to the next level until they show they are prepared for it.

Story Mode starts with very basic maths (subitising numbers) and progresses steadily and rigorously to addition and subtraction of double-digit numbers.



PLAYING THE GAME: CHALLENGE MODE

When players complete Stage 3 (Tin): Level 35 in Story Mode, they will unlock Challenge Mode. Here they can race the clock to test themselves on how many questions they can answer correctly in one minute. There are 20 different challenges to choose from; each challenge testing a different skill, for example number bonds to 10, adding single digits or subtracting double digits.



HOW THE GAME WORKS

THE CUSTOM SHACK

For every maths question answered correctly, the child will receive coins to spend in the Custom Shack. Here, they are able to purchase new parts to upgrade and personalise their own robot character. As well as earning coins, children are kept motivated throughout their NumBots journey by collecting badges and winning trophies to reward their achievements.



SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD

We recommend children get 3 minutes a day four or five times a week. There will be times when they need your help understanding what to do (to help with that, there is an info slide before each level begins) or even with typing in the answers. They may need encouragement from time to time and they may benefit from being reminded that making mistakes is something perfectly natural.

They could also reach a point in the maths that is beyond their reach for now; if it feels like they've reached a blocker, we'd recommended returning to earlier levels and trying to complete them with 3 stars. If they are regularly struggling to achieve 2 stars, it may be worth speaking to their teacher abour possible strategies and asking them to change the Story Controls for your child, which will give them longer to pass each level.

