Our Lady & St John's Newsletter

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

Volume 7 Issue 7

17th October 2025

Dear Parents,

It was a joy to join Year 1 for their beautiful celebration service this week, reflecting on the wonder of God's creation. The children spoke, sang and prayed with such care. Thank you to the Year 1 team for helping the children to prepare so thoughtfully, and to parents and families who joined us for this special occasion.

Today, Year 6 led a thoughtful Mass devoted to Mary, as we continue to honour her during this month of the Rosary. The children read and sang beautifully, helping us all to reflect on Mary's faith and trust in God. Thank you to Father Gerard, Mrs Mc Mahon, Mrs Poterachi and Mrs Waghorne who helped the children prepare. Thank you to those who read so confirmedly and those who served.

Our cross-country runners also did brilliantly this week. We are so proud of their determination, and sportsmanship throughout the event. A huge thank you to Mr Bovington for preparing and encouraging the children.

We also had our first Friends of Our Lady and St John's (PTA). meeting of the year. It's wonderful to see the enthusiasm and commitment to supporting our school community. Class representatives have now been assigned, and the Friends will soon be reaching out for more help and involvement from parents as there will be plenty of ways to get involved, big and small! Thank you in advance for any time and support you can offer.

Finally, we look forward to seeing you all at Parents' Evening next week. These meetings are such a valuable opportunity to celebrate your child's progress and talk about their next steps. Thank you, as always, for your continued support and partnership.

Mrs. Kelliher

Stars of the Week

13th October 2025

Rec : Mia & Tye
Yr1: Skyler & Thiago
Yr2: Elezah & Franciszek
Yr3: Antoni & Naod
Yr4: Hunter & Alexa
Yr5: Vivien & Ethan M
Yr6: Kahjel & 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.

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

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

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

House point winners for this week

HOUSES	Score
St Patrick	317
St Andrew	228
St George	308
St David	148
St John	378
Overall Winner	St John's



Punctuality & Attendance

POSITION	YEAR	%	Lates
1st	R	100%	1
1st	5	100%	1
2nd	4	99.30%	0
3rd	2	98.80%	1
4th	6	98.50%	1
5th	1	98.30%	1
6th	3	97.40%	0
7th	Nur	92.70%	0







Congratulations to Reception & Year 5 , on their 100% attendance!

They will receive 10 minutes extra play

Important Dates

Monday 20th October
3:30-6:30 Parents evening

Wednesday 22nd October
3:30-6:30 Parents evening

Friday 24th October
8:50 Y4 class mass
- Y6 trip to Sky studios
- End of half term

Tuesday 4th November
- Reception Hearing tests

Wednesday 5th November
- Y4 cake sale

Thursday 6th November
- Y5 WW1 workshop
- Flu vaccinations

Wednesday 12th November
- Y5/6 Netball competition

Thursday 13th November
9:00 Y5 Class mass

Friday 14th November
- Children in Need

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 Sportshall tournament

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



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 our Superstar swimmers this week Yana & Katia





Congratulations

After a term of waiting the current yr3 received their winning medals from the Y2 Quadkids competition last summer.

The current yr4/5 also received there first and second place medals in the yr3/4 quadkids competition.



Congratulations to Vivien on receiving her pen licence



Year 3-6 Cross country

Quite simply, what are we feeding them!!! We had such an amazing day at the borough cross country competition this week, where the children showcased their enormous levels of stamina and determination. Our year 3 and 4 athletes were tasked with a 1 kilometer run where as our year 5 and 6's were challenged with a full mile.

Despite the route being a mix of pavement, grass, muddy woods and even thick roots to contend with all of our team gave it their all for their course. We have been training almost every day at lunch time practicing continuous running as well as changing speeds to help recover or overtake and it quite obviously has paid off.

We began with the year 3 and 4 girl race. Like all races on the day, there were about 100 children ready to represent their school. Our 5 girls smashed it!! After a really good start where they had controlled their speed they began overtaking all the other children 1 at a time and as they ran out of view we had 4 in the top 8. Our first runner re-emerged in second place, followed by another in 3rd , then another in 4th and another in 5th!!! Our next runner was in 20th which is amazing to have all our runners in the top 20, I haven't seen that in any other race.

On to the year 3 and 4 boys. It was a slightly more aggressive start unfortunately from some of the children in other schools resulting in a few of the runners including a couple of ours falling over, but never the less they were more determined to get up and carry on. They paced themselves really well and began making up ground very quickly. We had 2 in the top 20 this time including another second place. Shout out as well to Bruno who despite getting a very bad stitch and wasn't able to run, he didn't give up and persevered all the way till the end overtaking at least 10 runners on his way.

The year 5 and 6 girls were next and again dominated, 3 of our 5 in the top 10 including a first and second place!! Absolutely outstanding from both Emily and Bella who have been asked to represent Hounslow in the London games.

Our year 5 and 6 boys were in the busiest race of the day and once again more pushing from other schools but we managed to avoid it. 3 of ours finished in the top 20 and Vinnie has also been selected to represent Hounslow in the London games.

There is supposed to be an overall award for the top school. Given that we got 5 of the 12 medals available, 10 top 10 finishes and 14 top 20 finishers I think we are in a very competitive position. Amazing effort from everyone, this was by far our best year at cross country. Well done to all and a big thanks to James's mum, Vinnies mum and Noa's mum who helped with travel support and even the warm up!!



Children in Need Day
Friday 14th November 2025



More details to follow

Help us raise as much money as possible

Year 6 Trip to Gunnersbury Park

On Monday this week, Year 6 went to Gunnersbury Park to find out what life was like on the home front during World War 2.
They looked at rationing and how to put out a fire caused by an incendiary bomb. They also learnt about the different gas masks that everyone had to carry and how to put them on quickly and correctly when they heard the Warden sound the gas rattle.

They then moved out into the grounds of the Museum to learn about the land girls and how everyone was encouraged to grow their own food. The class particularly enjoyed the opportunity to explore an Anderson Shelter and look at artifacts from the time period.





School council

This week in our school council meeting we allocated specific roles to our school councillors. Congratulations to:

JC who is **Vice role**—he will support Mrs Sheehan in running the meetings and he will be in charge of the agenda.

Emily who will be our **Public Liaison Officers** - she will be keeping everyone, including parents informed of what the School Council are doing.

Nathan who will be our **Secretary.** He will be taking the minutes in our meetings.

Vinnie & Rapha who will be our **Treasurers** and will be responsible for counting money and keeping us all updated with how much money we have to spend

Chloe & Vinnie who will be our **Alerting Team** and will let everyone know when the meetings are happening.

Taylor & Noa who are our committee members

All the children have already had a class council meeting and are working towards are first fund raising event.

Year 5 Cake sale

A big thank you to everyone in year 5 who brought cakes in to sell at the year 5 cake sale.

The children managed to raise £161.05. Thank you to everyone who brought in money to spend.



.

Annual Poppy Appeal - Mini Vinnies

We will be selling poppies next week and other merchandise during break times.

We wear poppies as a symbol of Remembrance and honour the service and sacrifice of the Armed Forces, veterans and their families. It represents all those who lost their lives on active service, from the beginning of the First World War right up to the present day.

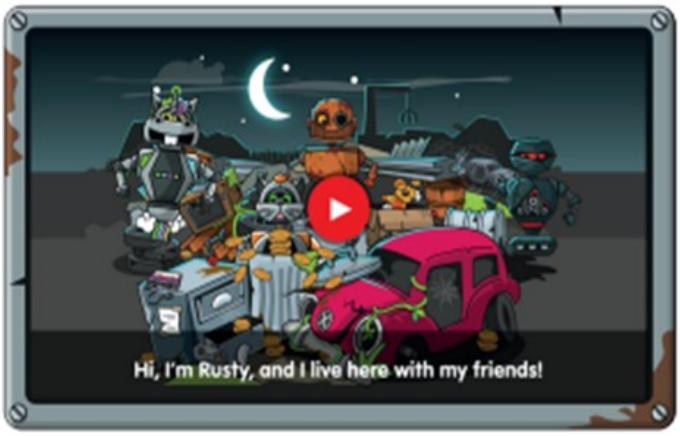


Please bring some money in next week to help support this worthy cause. Poppies are a donation and the other merchandise is £1.00 each

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

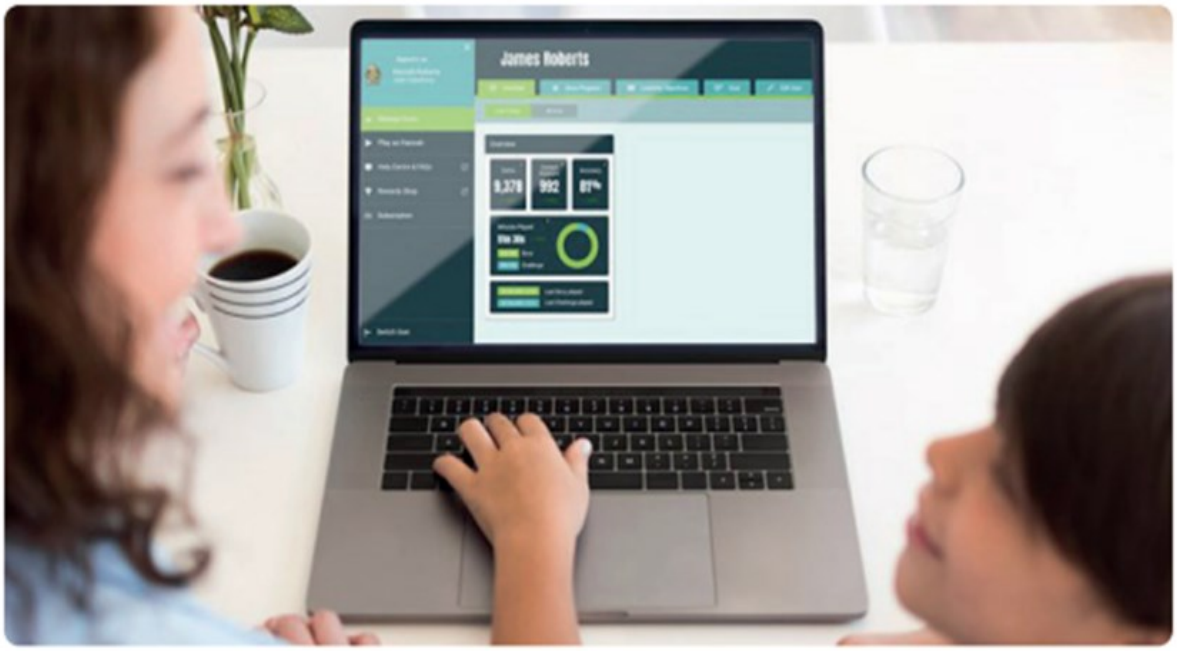
For every maths question answered correctly, the child will receive coins to spend in the Custom Shack. Here, they are able to purchase new parts to upgrade and personalise their own robot character. As well as earning coins, children are kept motivated throughout their NumBots journey by collecting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



London: City of languages competition

London is one of the most linguistically diverse cities in the world—there are more than 300 languages spoken in our capital.

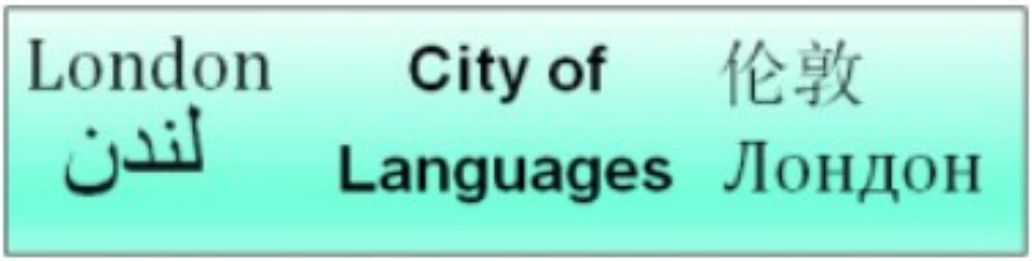
London: city of languages is a new initiative to celebrate London's linguistic diversity, inspire people of all ages to learn a new language and engage communities to support language education.

London: city of languages is holding a competition for children to design their official logo. We at OLSJ are inviting all Key Stage Two children to create a hand-drawn logo for London: city of languages to be returned to Mrs Poteratchi by **Friday 25th October.** All children have been given a hard copy of the logo design template.

All entrants will receive a participation certificate and the winning entry will have their logo used on London: City of languages promotions such as their website, badges, posters and much more! They will also receive a framed poster of their logo.

Good luck and I can't wait to see your creative designs.

Mrs Poteratchi



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



Dear parents,

At OLSJ we use a platform/app called Google classroom to set homework, send pictures and to send messages/reminders to parents/carers.

You can access Google Classroom on your phone and/or a laptop/chrome book.

Once you have downloaded the app or searched for the website, you will be asked to login.

All children have a login for Google classroom - it will look something like this:

email: tfrmt671.313@gs.stjohnrc.hounslow.sch.uk

password: flower4

Children in Years 1-6 will have this login & password stuck into their reading record books. Children in Nursery & Reception will be given their login details from their class teacher.

Once you have logged in you will be asked to join or decline your child's class dashboard. Here you will see messages on the stream tab and homework instructions on the classwork tab.

Homework will be completed in your child's homework book

If you are having problems logging into Google classroom or you are experiencing any problems please let me know or speak with your child's class teacher.

Regards

Mrs. Sheehan