Our Lady & St John's Newsletter

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Volume 7 Issue 7

13th June 2025

Dear Parents,

Another busy week at OLSJ. We had two more sports competitions this week – a huge 'thank you' to the parents who helped with transport, without whom we would not be able to enter all these competitions.

Reception performed their class Assembly on Wednesday. The theme was 'Pentecost' and the children all performed brilliantly. Thank you to Mrs. Whitehouse, Mrs Keogh-Smith and Ms. Johannes for preparing the children and to all the parents for coming to support them.

We also had Year 3's assembly on Friday. Many of our Year 3 pupils have recently made their first holy communion so the theme was the eucharist. All pupils spoke clearly and sang beautifully. Thank you to Mrs. Ashton and Mrs. Bresciani for their help, and a huge congratulations to Year 3!

Finally, we had a more relaxed day on Friday with pyjama day organised by the school council – well, we were relaxed with clothing, not school work!

Have a lovely weekend,

Mrs. Cunningham

Stars of the Week

9th June 2025

Rec: Szofia & Matteo
Yr1: Xavier & Zainab
Yr2: Ray & Antoni
Yr3: Pharez & JC
Yr4 Vivien & Sophie M
Yr5: Maja & George
Yr6: Max & Simone



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 JC, Richard, Francis, Alexa & Sophie on achieving their pen licence.



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 Cunningham 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 Cunningham to seek further advice.

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

The children in St. George'swill receive 15 minutes of extra play in Key stage 1.

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

House point winners for this week

HOUSES	Score
St Patrick	96
St Andrew	103
St George	143
St David	138
St John	114
Overall Winner	St George's



Punctuality & Attendance

POSITION	YEAR	%
1st	6	97.9
2nd	3	96.5
3rd	4	96.4
4th	5	96.4
5th	2	96.2
6th	Rec	96
7th	1	94.3
8th	Nur	92.3







Congratulations to Yr 6 on their 97.9% attendance!

They will receive 10 minutes extra play

Important Dates: June/July

17th June

9:00 New to Reception parents induction meeting

- Y5 trip to Boston Manor park

18th June Y2 assembly

19th June

9:00 New to Nursery parents induction meeting

20th June 8:50 Nursery assembly

23rd June 9:00 Nursey & Reception Sports day

25th June 8:50 Y1 assembly

27th June Y5 trip to Fulham Palace

30th June Sports day– Y1-6

1st July

9:00-10:00 Transition morning for all children

2nd July

8:30& 2:00 Nursery & Reception Stay & Play

- Y3/4 Tennis festival

3rd July

8:50**& 2:00** Nursery & Reception Stay & Play

- Reports home

4th July

- No work day

7th July

8:50 Piano assembly

2:00-3:00 Open afternoon for Y1-6

9th July 2:00pm Mrs Cunningham's retirement mass—all parents welcome

10th July 7:00pm Y6 production

11th July French day

14th July 6:00 GB meeting

15th July

1:00pm Y6 mass/presentation followed by refreshments

16th July 8:50 Achievement assembly

18th July 1:00 End of term

Science Projects

This week at OLSJ, we have been celebrating our annual science week. The children in Early Years and Key Stage One have been taking part in mini STEM activities every afternoon this week, which have promoted awe and wonder. The excitement has been a wonderful sight, with very young children demonstrating skills of predicting, observing and concluding.

The children in Key Stage 2 have been busily and tirelessly creating science projects and preparing presentations. The standard has been extremely high this year. I have seen incredible projects in years 3,4,5 and 6 on making electricity using potatoes and lemons, as well as impressive projects around light, sound, volcanoes, space, photosynthesis, lava lamps, bone structure, oceans and much more! The range of topics has been inspirational and thought provoking.

I would like to thank the all the parents for their support, we know the children rely on you and we very much hope that you enjoyed working with your children on aspects of their project.

A big well done to EVERYONE. The overall project winners were:…

Winners:
Year 6: Arabella & Julia
Year 5: Julieta, Bronagh, Julia & Liwia & Fred, Obafemi, Tristan & Nathan
Year 4: Amelia D & Gabriella
Year 3: Max, Richard & Elijah

In Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2, teachers selected a 'super scientist' these were:

Year 2: Eli
Year 1: Vespyr & Jayden
Reception: Nora



Congratulations to all the winners!

Y6 Lyric theatre

Last week, Year 6 were able to visit the author Onjali Q. Rauf at the Hammersmith Lyric theatre. This was a free event provided to schools by the Barnes Children's Literature Festival. Onjali talked about the childhood influences that made her pursue a career in writing and she also spoke about her work helping refugees in France, which led to her writing the story 'The boy at the back of the class'. Her talk was exceptionally informative and emotionally poignant. The class really enjoyed the opportunity to learn about her life and there was a question and answer session at the end.

Barnes Children's Literature Festival will be held in Barnes on the 21st and 22nd June - please follow the link for more details.

https://www.barneskidslitfest.org/whats-on/



Pyjama day

A huge thank you to all the children and parents for supporting the School Council's Pyjama day today. It was lovely to see so many children in their PJ'S
We managed to raise £ 170 which will go towards purchasing headphones for our laptops in the ICT suite.
If you have not donated please log onto parentmail to make your payment









Pyjama day









Year 5 and 6 Hounslow Tennis competition

On Monday 9th June we competed in the borough tennis competition. There were 9 teams in this contest, 2 of which were us but the standard was one of the highest it has been.

Each team of 4 had 2 boys and 2 girls who played a 5 minute match against their corresponding opponent. The courts were a lot smaller than we hoped for, roughly pickle ball size meaning that some of our players who have incredible serves had to take some power off or it wouldn't land in the playing area! Never the less our serves gave us a great platform to score points in every game.

We showed great control and accuracy with our returns and back hand shots which gave us an edge over most opponents. There were some really impressive rallies on the day lasting up to 12 shots which is rare at any age and level, but luckily our teams kept their composure.

Our B team did very well on the day, winning 3 rounds, drawing 3 and only losing 2 – one of which was against the A team. Amazing performances from the whole team who scored some amazing points and showing great support and encouragement for their team when they weren't playing. We think they scored more points than the referees awarded but they came third! Well done to everyone in the B team, 3 of them will have the chance to better that next year.

The A team won their first 7 games putting them on 21 points, some stand out serves from Tymek who scared the leaders with his power. Dawid and Nadia showed great control and skill to consistently find spaces on the other side of the court that their opponents couldn't reach, and Arabella whose persistence was constant and won her so many games. Our last game was against St Mary's who had won 6 and drawn won putting them on 19 points making this game a winner takes all match! A very well fought game from both teams finished in an even 2-2 split so points were shared.

Borough Champions!! That last point sealed the win for us! Fantastic performances from everyone meant we finished first and third which is incredible. Thank you to the parents that helped with travel and support.





Nursery & Reception Sports Day

Nursery & Reception Sports day will be in the school playground on

Monday 23rd June from 9:00am

We look forward to welcoming you all to cheer your children on.

Please bring the children into school in a pair of shorts, t-shirt and trainers.

They can wear this for the whole day.

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

Homework club

Mrs. Sheehan & the School council will be running a homework club for the juniors in the ICT suite.

Monday & Tuesdays

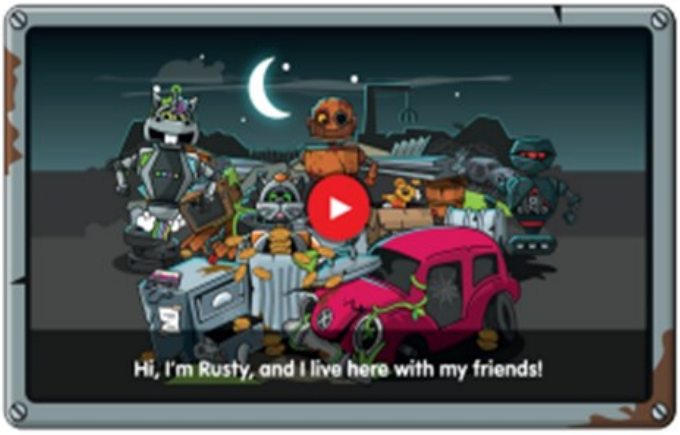
12:15-1:00

HOW THE GAME WORKS

Numbots

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

Numbots

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.

