Our Lady & St John's Newsletter

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Volume 7 Issue 8

3rd March 2025

Dear Parents,

We began the season of Lent with Mass on Ash Wednesday in church. I would like to thank everyone who attended for contributing to such a prayerful service. A special thank you to Father Gerard for all he does for our school community, to Mrs. O'Connor for supporting our music, the children from Y5 who read so confidently and brought up the offertory gifts and to our altar servers from Y4 and Y5. Thank you Y6 for helping their reception buddies receive their ashes. The church was packed and it was lovely to share the service with parents and parishioners.

This week, the first week of Lent, saw our Mini-Vinnies introduce our CAFOD big walk. Thank you to all pupils for their participation and to all our parents for their generous contributions.

We also celebrated World Book Day on Thursday. More details below.

Have a lovely weekend,

Mrs. Cunningham

Stars of the Week
3rd March 2025

Rec : Miles & Viksha
Yr1: Michal & Carlota
Yr2: Leen & Ray
Yr3: Grace & Francis
Yr4 Ethan M & Laura
Yr5: Bronagh & Liwia
Yr6: Emilia & Gabriella



Red Nose Day

We will be celebrating Red Nose Day on ***Friday 21st March***.
We are asking ALL the children to come to school dressed in **'Red'**

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 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 David's who received the most house points over the last week.

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

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

House point winners for this week

HOUSES	Score
St Patrick	181
St Andrew	152
St George	141
St David	182
St John	137
Overall Winner	St David's



Punctuality & Attendance

POSITION	YEAR	%	Lates
1st	3	98.6	2
2nd	4	98	0
3rd	6	98	2
4th	2	96.3	0
5th	Rec	95.3	3
6th	1	94.8	1
7th	Nur	92.3	1
8th	5	91.4	1





Important Dates February/March

Tuesday 11th March
2:45 Y1 Celebration assembly
- Y2 trip to Florence Nightingale museum

Wednesday 12th March
8:30&2:00 Nursery & Reception Stay & Play
- Y3/4 Football

Thursday 13th March
8:30&2:00 Nursery & Reception Stay & Play
- Y6 British museum trip
- Y5 Netball borough competition

Friday 14th March
- Poet visit

Friday 21st March
- Red Nose day
- Y6 Road safety theatre
- Y3&4 Best Football

Monday 24th March
6:00 GB meeting

Tuesday 25th March
- Gunnersbury Park workshop Yr3

Thursday 27th March
- Y3&4 Multi skills festival

Friday 28th March
2:45 Y3 Celebration service

Monday 31st March
- Y5&6 Tag rugby

Tuesday 1st April
9:00 Y4&5 Lenten service

Wednesday 2nd April
8:50 Achievement assembly

Thursday 3rd April
9:00 End of term mass

Friday 4th April
1:00 End of term

Congratulations to Year 3 on their 98.6 % attendance!

They will receive 10 minutes extra play

Writers of the Month
February

Rec :	Skyler
Yr1:	Alexander
Yr2:	Eliora
Yr3:	Emma
Yr4	Ethan M
Yr5:	Emily-Rose
Yr6:	Naana



Pen Licence

Congratulations to Emma on receiving her pen licence



Book Fair

What a fantastic turnout we have had this week to our Book Fair. Thank you so much for your continued support. It was lovely to see the children so enthused about reading and eager to pick out new books.

To date, it looks as if we have sold more books this year than ever before, so we are looking forward to receiving some vouchers for the school with which we can buy new books for the classrooms.

Pancake Races











Please log on to Google Classroom to see more pictures of our Pancake Races

Pancake Races











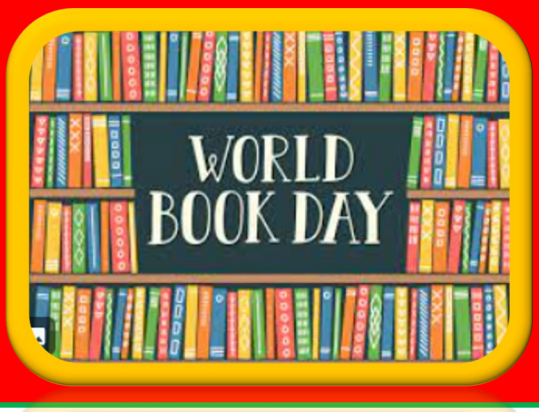
Please log on to Google Classroom to see more pictures of our Pancake Races

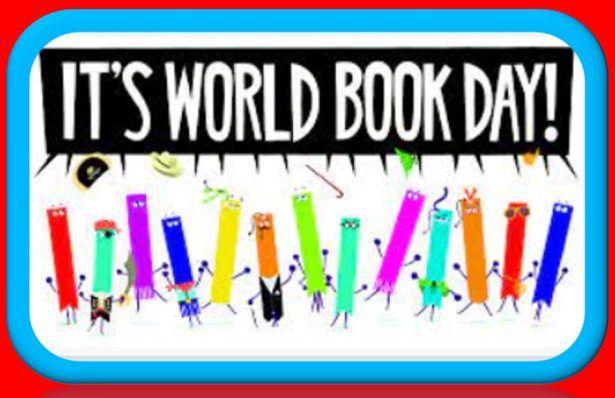
World book day

What a fantastic week we have had at OLSJ!
Our World Book Day, on Thursday, was a great success with an amazing array of colourful costumes. The children enjoyed walking the catwalk and looking at all the different book characters on display. It was immensely difficult to choose two winners from each class, but we did, please see the winners below..



Please log onto google classroom for more pictures from World Book day





CAFOD Lenten Walk











A huge thank you to everyone that made a donation to this very worthy charity. We have raised £341.25 so far

Please log onto google classroom for more pictures from World Book day

YEAR 5 AND 6 GIRS BOROUGH FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

On Friday 28th February we competed in the girls borough football tournament. There were around 30 teams in attendance.

We had 2 teams this year and luckily we had great weather on the day, so all of our girls were in good spirits. We looked sharp in our warm up with some fast passing, skillful dribbling and some amazing finishing. Both teams got off to great starts as they both won their first match. Our B team won 2-0 and our A team won 1-0. We played some really good football in the first few games and both teams were amazing at supporting and even helping coach their friends when they weren't playing.

During the group stage our B team managed 2 wins and 2 draws, 0 defeats! Our A team managed 2 wins, 1 draw and again 0 defeats. Both teams completed the group phase without even conceding 1 goal which is an amazing achievement.

On to the knockout phase where our B team came up against Belmont, we had previously lost to them at a festival, 3 from their team play for Brentford! We battled really well but unfortunately lost that game. Our A team won their knock out game 1-0 and their quarter final 3-0! In the semi final we came across Belmont. To be honest I think we were the better team, we played some real good passes, our girls pressed really high up the pitch to stop Belmont from playing the way they wanted but unfortunately we couldn't put any of our chances away and lost to a very unlucky goal.

Belmont won the final 3-0 which just shows how amazingly well our girls played. We kept a combined 9 clean sheets in 11 matches which is unbelievable, scoring 14 goals along the way. Some stand out performances in every game from Sheena. The speed and strength she showed with every aspect of the match was incredible. Nadia in defense was like a brick wall, nothing was getting past her, she also showed off some silky skills to beat players before playing amazing passes. Lastly to Arabella who scored a massive 5 goals across all of our games.

Well done to everyone, it was a great day and amazing performances from everyone! I'll also mention that the B team beat the A team in a friendly match after! Thanks to all the parents who helped with travel and support.

Goals from;

Arabella 5, Sheena 3, Shalom 3, Keeva 2, Julia 2, Victoria Lily, Ellie, Saskia





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

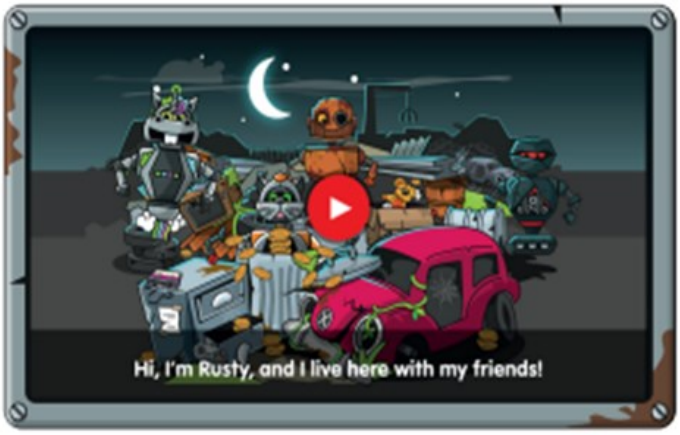
12:15-1:00

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.

