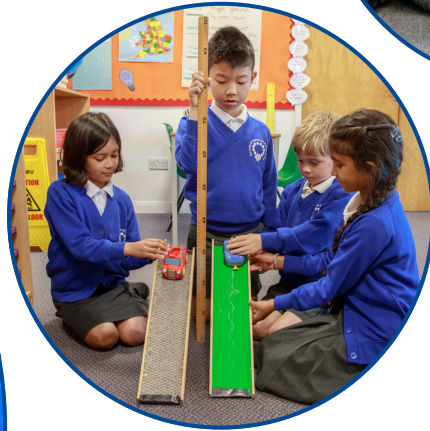




Ave Maria

# Our Lady of Lourdes RC Primary School



# Autumn Half Term News 24<sup>th</sup> October 2025

# HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents,

As we reach the half term break, I would like to thank you for your continued support and partnership. From Curriculum Meetings to Reading Workshops and secondary transition meetings; working in partnership with you it is clear that you care deeply about our school and how we support your children. Our partnership with you is central to the success of your child and indeed our school and we are truly grateful for the trust you place in us every day.

This half term, it has been a joy to see so many children building strong and supportive friendships both in and out of the classroom. These friendships form the foundation of a happy and inclusive school and we are proud of the way pupils continue to look out for, and care about each other.

Our clubs and enrichment activities continue to go from strength to strength. From sports and arts to STEM, the enthusiasm and engagement has been exceptional. With over 40 activity clubs and our own thriving Breakfast and Tea Time Club, our provision is continuing to offer an unrivalled service for parents. There have been a number of workshops and trips, most recently including the Year Six residential, which gave pupils the chance to challenge themselves, grow in confidence and strengthen their independence and sense of teamwork. Thank you to our wonderful staff team for making this trip possible.

We have announced our new School Ambassadors and after the half term will be advertising for pupil Community Leaders who will help us to strengthen links beyond our school both nationally and internationally. It is another opportunity for pupils to lead, champion projects and make a positive difference.

Thank you for your on-going support.

Wishing you all a restful and enjoyable half term.

Kind regards,

Mrs Boon



# Life at OLO1



# Life at OLOL



# SPACE WEEK

## Little Acorns

Last week during Space Week, we dressed up as astronauts and blasted off to the moon! We discovered countless aliens in space, explored dazzling stars in the “space rice,” and even used moon flour in our activities. Our mission took us on a journey to uncover hidden planets and stars, and with the help of VR, we launched into a rocket and soared through outer space. Along the way, we encountered many incredible planets!

## Reception

Reception zoomed around the Solar System and were able to look at all the planets closely with the VR workshop. They were able to name all the planets and could recall facts and features about them.

## Year 1

Our learning took us into Space where we journeyed through the Solar System looking at the order of the planets. We were fascinated and learned a few facts about each planet.

## Year 2

Our learning blasted off with an exciting Space Week! The highlight was a thrilling VR experience where children put on headsets and became astronauts, exploring outer space and visiting different planets. They were amazed by the sights and loved discovering new space facts.

## Year 3

In our virtual reality session, the children journeyed through the Solar System and discovered how long each planet takes to orbit the Sun, as well as how their days compare to Earth's. They also investigated the materials planets are made of and identified which moons belong to which planets. We focused on satellites, learning about their various functions, such as communication, weather monitoring, and space exploration. Using this knowledge, the children designed their very own satellites, thinking about their features and missions



# SPACE WEEK

## Year 4

The Year 4 crew launched into an amazing VR space mission! They virtually blasted off, soaring past swirling nebulae and exploring the gravity-defying rings of Saturn. They collected a cosmic cargo of facts, learning how our solar system operates .

## Year 5

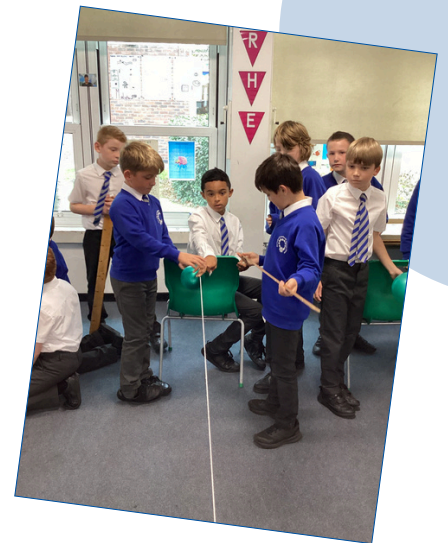
Year 5 participated in an exciting and enriching Space Week, designed to deepen pupils' understanding of space through a range of cross-curricular activities.

In English, pupils wrote a creative description imagining what life would be like living in space. They explored the daily routines, challenges and sensations astronauts might experience aboard a spacecraft — from exercises conducted in a space craft to the day to day roles and responsibilities of an astronaut.

A highlight of the week was an immersive virtual reality workshop, where pupils had the chance to explore the solar system and beyond using VR headsets. The experience offered a powerful and engaging perspective on the scale and beauty of space. This was a fantastic opportunity for children to contextualise their learning.

## Year 6

During Space Week, Year 6 explored gravity and air resistance by designing our own space parachutes. Our aim was to create the slowest possible parachute. We attempted to do this by changing one variable but keeping our test fair. We worked in groups of 4 and used a variety of mathematical and scientific skills.



# HARVEST DONATIONS

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to you for all of your generous donations to our Harvest collection. Your kindness and support has been overwhelming, and thanks to your donations we have been able to help local families and make a meaningful donation to the foodbank.

Your generosity will go a long way to supporting families in our community who are facing difficulties. The act of giving not only fits with our Gospel Values but reflects a wonderful example for our children about the importance of compassion and helping others.



# YEAR 6 RESIDENTIAL TRIP & SPORTING SUCCESS



Last week, Year 6 went on their residential trip. The children had a fantastic few days in Kent and were excellent ambassadors for our school. The OLOL staff were very proud to receive compliments from the PGL staff about the children's beautiful manners and enthusiasm over the course of their trip.

Whilst there, the children took part in a variety of exciting and adventurous activities such as rock climbing, archery, an obstacle course and the Leap of Faith. Year 6 pushed themselves outside of their comfort zone and demonstrated our school values of respect, community, learning, adventure, independence and excellence at all times. It was a joy to see the smiles on the children's faces and the many new friendships formed. Although they returned home feeling tired, they have gained new skills, challenged themselves and created memories that will last a lifetime.



## Sporting Success!

Congratulations to our Year 6 boys' football team who kicked off their Redbridge Cup journey with an impressive 6-0 win in the first round!



A huge well done also to our Year 6 boys and girls tag rugby team, who showed fantastic teamwork and determination to secure 3rd place in the Redbridge Tournament held at Eton Manor Rugby Club.



Great job, everyone!

# ATTENDANCE & PUNCTUALITY AUTUMN TERM 1

Good attendance is vital in equipping your child with skills for life. It will help them to achieve the aspirations that you have for them. Please ensure your child is in school every day to make this possible.

Please report your child's absence by 8.30am via ParentMail with a reason. Occasionally messages left on the voicemail are not clear. Please note evidence for any medical appointments will be required.

This half term our whole school attendance is 97.3%

Class	Attendance %	Class	Attendance %
Redwood	95.3	Oak	96.8
Cedar	97.4	Fir	97.9
Ash	97.8	Sycamore	98.3
Elm	96.0	Rowan	96.8
Chestnut	97.2	Hazel	98.4
Maple	98.9	Olive	98.1
Cherry	98.7	Pear	98.3
Little Acorns	92.7	Whole school	97.3

Maple class are the winners this half term with 98.9% attendance! Congratulations on your fantastic attendance.



Attendance is important because when miss school, you miss important lessons and key skills. V Y6

I think it is important because you miss time with your friends and you will feel left out in the playground. R Y6

Attendance is important because if you're not in school and its a two part lesson you will miss out on what to do. E Y6

Attendance is important because if you're not in school and its a two part lesson you will miss out on what to do. E Y6

In my opinion attendance is important because if you don't come to school you miss crucial lessons which are key to your education and will help you to succeed in later life. J Y6

# STARS OF THE WEEK

Each week teachers choose pupils who have really stood out. Our Stars of the Week are pupils who:

- Go above and beyond- they make additional effort, sometimes take the initiative and do more than is asked of them.
- They live our school values – they show kindness, respect and a growth mindset as much as possible.
- They make a consistently strong effort -they always try their best showing perseverance and resilience.

Our Stars might shine in different ways from learning, behaviour and attitude to the way they support and help others. Every week is another chance for our children to shine.

This week certificates are awarded to :

Name	Class
Theo & Naomi	Little Acorns N
Arthur & Michael	Pear R
Ann & Orin	Cherry R
Buckley & Coren	Maple Y1
Adaeze & Hector V	Olive Y1
Kaleb & Olivia	Chestnut Y2
Douglas & Gracie	Hazel Y2
Josephine & Oscar	Elm Y2
Andrei & Joshua	Rowan Y2
Ismael & Niyah	Ash Y4
Elisa & Theo	Sycamore Y4
Quinn & Nathania	Cedar Y5
Hannah & Jenson	Fir Y5
Chace & Eva	Oak Y6
Sol & Sidra	Redwood Y6

## Birthdays



Eyad  
Nathan G  
Marytta  
Alexander T  
Arthur C  
Gurveer  
Noah  
Isabelle S  
Roxanne  
William S  
Charlotte F  
Rémy  
Saoirse  
Lara  
Chase  
Edward  
Everett  
Beatrix

# HALF TERM UPDATE FROM OLOL PTA

## 2024-2025 Finances

The PTA has recently submitted its accounts for the 2024-2025 academic year (1st September 2024 to 31st August 2025) to the Charity Commission.

Please follow this link if you'd like to take a look:

<https://register-of-charities.charitycommission.gov.uk/en/charity-search/-/charity-details/5070656/accounts-and-annual-returns>

## Little Recyclers Is Back!

Got old clothes and paired shoes you no longer need? Donate them and help raise valuable funds for the PTA!

Little Recyclers will be collecting items on Friday November 7th. Please drop your filled bags just inside the main school gate no later than 9.30am. If your child attends breakfast club, an activity club or boosters, please leave your filled bag as specified when you drop off your child. Donations are accepted in bin liners.

The school are unable to accept donations prior to these dates due to Health & Safety and fire risk.

Check out the attached flyer for details of what can and can't be accepted. Thank you for your support!

## Christmas Fayre

Planning for the Christmas Fayre is underway and we need your help to make it a success! Please check your year's WhatsApp groups, where your class reps will be sharing:

- Ride allocations for your year group
- A poll where you can sign up for volunteer slots
- Information on how you can contribute to our famous Family Kitchen.

Thank you to all those who have already signed up - every bit of help makes a huge difference and helps things to run smoothly on the day.

## Year 5 and 6 - Stalls At The Fayre

Calling all Year 5 and 6 entrepreneurs - if you'd like to have a stall at the fayre, please register your interest at [lolrcpta@gmail.com](mailto:lolrcpta@gmail.com) by Friday November 7th. Please note that a pitch fee applies (more info about this on enquiry).

Spaces are limited, so don't delay. We look forward to seeing your ideas!

# HALF TERM UPDATE FROM OLOL PTA

## **External Stallholders**

The PTA is also looking for external stallholders for the fayre. If you're a local business selling books, art, clothes, bags (and everything in between!) we'd love to hear from you.

Please register your interest by emailing [ololrcpta@gmail.com](mailto:ololrcpta@gmail.com) by Friday November 7th. Please note a £25 pitch fee applies.

## **Sponsors**

We're also looking for companies to sponsor the Christmas fayre. If you run a business, or know someone you think might be interested in sponsoring the fayre, please email [ololrcpta@gmail.com](mailto:ololrcpta@gmail.com) for more details.

## **Christmas Raffle - Prize Donations**

Are you a local business or do you have some great contacts you could tap up through family, friends or work?

We are looking for prize donations for the Christmas raffle, which will be drawn a few days after the fayre. In the past, we've had some great prizes, including day trips, hotel stays, Pilates courses, gym trials, restaurant and theatre vouchers and much more.

If you can help, please contact your PTA Rep or email the PTA on [ololrcpta@gmail.com](mailto:ololrcpta@gmail.com). Thank you!

**Wishing you all a happy and restful half term break.**

# AUTUMN TERM SCHOOL CALENDAR

Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> November	12.00-6.00pm Year 6 Parent Consultations
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> November	Windrush, Then & Now Workshop Y1-Y6
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> November	12.00-6.00pm Year 4 Parent Consultations
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> November	8.55am Remembrance Assembly Fir Class 9.30am Little Recyclers clothing collection
Mon 10th-Fri 14 <sup>th</sup> November	Anti-Bullying Week
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> November	Odd Socks Day
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> November	12.00-6.00pm Year 3 Parent Consultations
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> November	9.45am Reception Tour -Prospective Parents 2026 12.00-6.00pm Year 5 Parent Consultations
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> November	9.00am Reception Remodelled Read Write Inc lesson for parents- details to follow
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> November	12.00-6.00pm Year 1 Parent Consultations
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> November	12.00-6.00pm Year 2 Parent Consultations
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> November	French Institute Trip Y4
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> November	8.55am Cedar Class Special Assembly
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> November	History off the Page - 1940's Day Y2 10.30am-6.00pm Nursery Parent Consultations Imperial War Museum Trip Y6
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> November	Roman Amphitheatre Explorer's Workshop Y4 Trip -Sycamore Class 10.00am Reception Tour - Prospective Parents new to school
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> November	Roman Amphitheatre Explorer's Workshop Y4 trip -Sycamore 10.00am Reception Open Day Tour - Prospective Parents new to school
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> November	Roman Amphitheatre Explorer's Workshop Y4 Trip - Ash Class 9.30am KS1 Writing Parent Workshop via Zoom
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> November	8.55am Sycamore Class Special Assembly
Saturday 29 <sup>th</sup> November	PTA Christmas Fayre
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> December	9.45am Reception Tour - Prospective Parents new to school 3.30-5.00pm Parent Book Look PTA Wreath Making Workshop
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> December	Science Museum Trip - Wonderlab & Feel The Force Workshop Y3

# AUTUMN TERM SCHOOL CALENDAR

Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> December	2.00pm Reception Christmas Play
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> December	Pop-up Panto N-Y2
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	Young Shakespeare – Romeo & Juliet Play & Workshop Y5 & 6 9.30am Nursery Christmas Play 2.00pm Year 1 Christmas Play
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	8.10-8.35am Parent Book Look
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Lunch/Christmas Jumper Day Ark Farm Visit N-Y2 2.30pm Year 2 Live Nativity Wizard of Oz Panto Trip Y5-6
Friday 19th December - End of Term School Finishes at 1.30pm.	