

# END OF TERM NEWSLETTER

2024



## Message from the Headteacher

Dear Families,

As we approach the final few days of our first term, I wish to begin by thanking you all for your fantastic support. As I have mentioned previously, OLOR is an exciting school full of enrichments and this term has been exceptionally busy. We really appreciate the commitment from our families especially at the recent Christmas events. We have been so proud of all the children and I'm sure you would agree their unique personalities and confidence have shone brightly in all the performances over the last few weeks! They have been excellent!

This term has been full of a variety of events and achievements and I hope you enjoy reading all about them below. There have been challenges as always, but I was incredibly humbled at the response to our finance letter that was sent out recently. It is fantastic to know that we have so many families that wish to support the school in many different ways, it really does demonstrate a true Catholic Community that we wish to promote to our children.

Our Advent assemblies and services have hopefully encouraged pupils to not only consider the meaning of Christmas but has helped to create an opportunity to contribute to the lives of others, spreading joy and having belief in a more hopeful story for many. Children have been actively involved in this in our community. As you read below you will see the joy children at OLOR have spread.

I hope by reading this newsletter it also gives you hope for the future as we enter in to 2025, the Jubilee Year of the Catholic Church. I ask that this holiday time, during the next few busy weeks, you take time to reflect with your children on the true meaning of Christmas, find some time to spread joy and hope to those less fortunate than us and remind children that the most important gifts in life we cannot buy.

Finally, thank you for supporting me in my new role and for trusting me to lead such an incredible school with the most wonderful children! On behalf of the Staff and Governors at OLOR we wish you all a Happy and Holy Christmas. We look with hope to our new year where we have an exciting journey ahead, joining the Emmaus Trust. We will welcome children back on Monday 6th January.

Best wishes and Happy Holidays!  
Mrs Groves



*M. Groves*

### This term:

Advent at OLOR

Faith in Action

Gift Chaplains

SEND

Fundraising

Enrichment

Attendance

Autumn in the  
Nursery

PE



# ADVENT AT OLOR



## Santa Dash

Many thanks to all the children, parents and staff who joined in with the dancing before school. It was a great start to the day!



## Christmas Dinner

Our children enjoyed our annual Christmas Dinner. There were lots of festive jumpers, Christmas music and fun! Thank you to Julie and Ellie for making such a wonderful dinner for us all.



## Class Advent Prayer Services

It was great to welcome family members into our class prayer services throughout December.



## The Travelling Nativity

Our children have all taken home our Travelling Nativity where as family they say a prayer and write their own family prayer in the book. At this time of the year we come together as one family in the preparation for the coming of Jesus.



## Letters to Santa

Our Nursery and Reception pupils brought great joy and festive cheer to the residents of Urmston on their trip to post their letters to Father Christmas





## Faith in Action by Sophia (Year 6)

This term we have been working on achieving our FIA Pin Award. To contribute towards it we have done many things, these include;

- Our Harvest Festival and donating all the food to Cornerstone and Stretford Food Bank
- Holding our Year 6 Prayer and Liturgy Service
- Sending home our Travelling Nativity for our Advent Reflection
- Helping our Chaplains with the Wednesday Word

We hope to do more actions as we work towards achieving our Award, we hope you enjoy what we have planned for the term ahead.



## Gift Chaplains

Our Gift Chaplains have been busy over Advent visiting Parishioners in our local community, Our children were spreading both joy, and biscuits which were greatly received.

Over coming months there were be a lot more work to be done by our Gift Chaplains.

## SEND at OLOR

It has been a busy first term at OLOR. I would like express my thanks to all of the OLOR parents for making me feel so welcome during my first term here.

This term we have introduced ELSA (Emotional Literacy Support Assistant) at school which is aimed at helping children build their emotional development, and work on finding solutions to problems that they may have.

In October we held our first Parent Coffee Morning with a focus on Autism. One of our school priorities this year to achieve the Dyslexia Award, I will send out more information in the coming months about this exciting initiative for our children at OLOR.

Dates for your diary:

- Our next Coffee Morning will be Wednesday 5th February at 9am
- The next IEP meetings will take place on Wednesday 5th March



## Fundraising at OLOR

We have been selling raffle tickets for a £1 to fundraise for the Motor Neurone Disease (MND) charity. This is a cause close to our school's heart. The hampers included a luxury Christmas hamper, a wine hamper and pamper hamper to name a few.

We raised over £800.

Watch this space for more information about our fundraising for MND throughout the school year!





## Enrichment at OLOR

### Robin Wood by Jessica

On a freezing cold Wednesday our Year 5 class set off for an exciting residential trip for three days! We went to Robin Wood to face our fears, make stronger friendships and challenge ourselves. Our first thrilling activity was the ZIPWIRE and then the piranha pool. The final activity of day one was the giant swing, this was thrilling and I won scream challenge! After we had endured a very long and tiring day of activities, I had a lovely, warm dinner and soon it was time to go to sleep. Overall, this has been the best day of my life!

### Imperial War Museum by Liam and Theo

In our History lessons we have been learning about World War One and this trip was to help us find out more. To start our day we walked to the Trafford Centre to get the tram directly to the Museum. Whilst we were there we had questions to answer about the different exhibitions. We were also Secret Agents and tasked with restoring why Remembrance is so important. We also watched films that were projected all across the Museum. The most interesting one was about animals used in War. We found out that a pigeon flew 120 miles back to base to inform them that their soldiers needed rescuing!

## Attendance at OLOR

Thank you to all of our families for supporting attendance at OLOR. Our whole school attendance is 97.10%. Below is the attendance of all of our classes and as you can see all of our classes have had excellent attendance this term. As we enter a new term please refamiliarise yourselves with our attendance procedures.

Class	Attendance
Nursery	96.4%
Reception	98.15%
Year 1	96.28%
Year 2	97.97%
Year 3	97.54%
Year 4	96.59%
Year 5	97.85%
Year 6	95.92%

### GOOD ATTENDANCE MEANS

BEING IN SCHOOL AT LEAST 95% OF THE TIME (BETWEEN 180 & 190 DAYS)



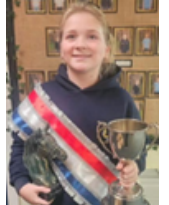


## Autumn term in the Nursery

In Nursery, our topic for this half term was 'celebrations.' We talked about different celebrations we celebrate e.g. birthdays, Christmas, Easter. We talked about how we prepare for these celebrations and what we do to celebrate them. The first celebration we looked at was Diwali and learnt that it is 'The Festival of Light.' The children made rangoli patterns and created Diya lamps. The next celebration we looked at was 'Birthdays.' We decided to have our own birthday party in Nursery so the children wrote invitations, made party hats to get ready for our birthday party. Of course, we needed a birthday cake for our party so the children carefully followed instructions to make a delicious birthday cake. In the afternoon, we had a birthday party, we played musical bumps and statues, sang happy birthday and ate the cake, it was yummy! The final celebration we looked at was Christmas, we wrote a letter to Father Christmas and walked to the post office to get a stamp and post our letter. We made lots of different Christmas crafts for our families. The children also performed in the nativity and were all fantastic and made us all very proud!



## PE at OLOR



Wow - what a start to the year for sport at OLOR! We are so proud of all the achievements of our pupils across all year groups. We have such talent, and all children are really living through our school mission statement of 'Persevere to Succeed'. This term we have taken part in the Let Girl's Play Football Tournament; girls football league; the netball league; handball and the multi sports festival.

We had record numbers of children across the whole of KS2 taking part in the Longford Park Cross Country Events winning medals in all categories we entered each week. Our Year 5 & 6 Boys football team have won all their games so far this season and are top of the league! We have introduced a new sport this term, Futsal with all KS2 classes enjoying a taster session during Health & Happiness Day. Year 5 have taken part in weekly PE lessons lead by our Futsal Coaches. We will be offering Futsal as an after-school club in the Spring Term. Our four, Year 5 Sports Leaders kick started their leaders award at Lancashire County Cricket club and are excited to implement their training over the year. Miss Wrigley has led an early morning Dance class each Friday for KS1 & 2, with the dance troupe displaying their skills at the Trafford's Got Talent festival. She continues to deliver dance sessions weekly to classes throughout the year groups

Congratulations to Zara Hayler in Year 6 who took part in the Star Champions of Champions Horse Riding competition and got 1st Ridden Plaited Show Hunter Pony and 1st place out of 45. Congratulations also to Zack Magdinski in Year 6 who has been signed for Salford Football Club, we wish him lots of success in his training and games with them. Each week during Mrs Groves assembly we have celebrated achievements across all year groups in many sports. Children are always welcomed to bring in their medals, trophies and certificates to share with the school. Bitesize Bootcamp have continued to deliver excellent PE lessons to Year 6, 5 and 4 and we have introduced a weekly staff bootcamp. Our children continue to amaze us with their daily mile efforts each day. We look forward to more exciting sporting events and achievements in the New Year.