Our Lady of the Rosary Catholic Primary School Newsletter



13th November 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been lovely to welcome everyone back following the half-term break, and the children have quickly settled back into the routines of school life. We have had a busy and productive start to the new half term, with plenty happening across the school and some particularly meaningful opportunities for our school community to come together.
November is a special month in the Catholic Church, when we remember and pray for those who have died. Last week, we gathered for our Holy Souls Mass, taking time to remember loved ones who are no longer with us and to pray for all those who have died. It was a particularly fitting way to begin the month, reminding us of the importance of keeping those we have lost in our thoughts and prayers and of the hope that our faith brings.
This theme of remembrance continued this week as we marked Remembrance Day. Throughout the school, children have been learning about the significance of the day and reflecting on the sacrifices made by others so that we might live in peace. Our whole-school Celebration of the Word, led by the children, brought everyone together in a shared moment of reflection, while our remembrance artwork provided a visual expression of the children's understanding. Members of our Pupil Parliament also represented the school at the Remembrance Service at the council offices, where they laid a wreath on behalf of our school community. It has been so encouraging to see the thought and care with which the children have approached these occasions, recognising that remembrance is not only about honouring the past but also about appreciating the peace and freedoms we enjoy today.
As we move further into the half term, there is much to look forward to. Next week, we will be marking Anti-Bullying Week, with a particular focus on kindness, respect and the responsibility we all share for making our school a place where everyone feels safe, valued and included. This links closely to our school mission and the Gospel values that underpin our daily life. We will be encouraging the children to think carefully about how they treat others and, importantly, how they can put kindness into action through the choices they make each day.
It is also an important time in the school term as we prepare for our forthcoming parents' evenings. These meetings provide a valuable opportunity to celebrate the children's achievements, discuss the progress they are making and identify the next steps in their learning. We look forward to welcoming parents into school and continuing to work together to support every child in achieving their best.

God Bless
Mrs. McCarthy

Catholic Life of our School

Religious Education: Prophecy and Promise

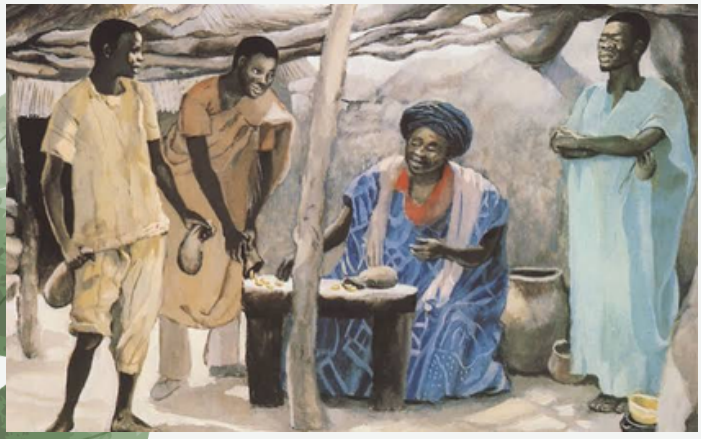
Across the school, the children are beginning their new Religious Education branch, Prophecy and Promise. This branch explores how God prepared his people for the coming of Jesus and how the promises made throughout the Old Testament are fulfilled through his birth.

The children will learn about the prophets who shared God's messages of hope and the important role of Mary in God's plan. As they progress through the school, they will explore the events leading up to the birth of Jesus in greater depth, making connections between Scripture, the promises of the Old Testament and the Christian belief that Jesus is the promised Saviour.

As we approach Advent, this learning will help the children understand why it is such an important season in the Church's year. It is a time of waiting, preparation and hope, as we look forward to celebrating the birth of Christ.



Sunday 15th November 2026
33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
Matthew 25:14-30



“Well done, good and faithful servant.”

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus tells the parable of the talents. Three servants are entrusted with different amounts of money by their master. Two make good use of what they have been given, while the third hides his away out of fear. Jesus reminds us that God has given each of us gifts and talents, and that what matters is how we choose to use them. At school, we encourage the children to recognise their own strengths, develop their abilities and use them to help others. This links closely to our school mission, as we aspire to excellence and offer ourselves in service to God and neighbour.

Safeguarding

Anti-Bullying Week 2026: Break the Silence

Next week is Anti-Bullying Week, and this year's national theme is 'Break the Silence'. The campaign encourages children and adults to speak openly about bullying, listen to one another and recognise the importance of taking action when something is wrong.

A key message is that everyone has a role to play in creating a culture of kindness and respect. At school, I often remind the children to 'Be an upstander, not a bystander' , encouraging them to look out for others, speak up when they see unkind behaviour and seek help from a trusted adult when needed.

Families can support this message by keeping conversations about friendships open and helping children understand that asking for help, whether for themselves or someone else, is always a positive step. By working together, we can help children develop the confidence to speak up and the kindness to support those around them.

Contact Info

We want to remind all members of our school community that we have a dedicated safeguarding email address, monitored exclusively by Mrs McCarthy. This email is a safe and confidential way to:

Ask for help

Report a concern

Seek advice or guidance

Please do not hesitate to reach out if something doesn't feel right or you need support. No issue is too small, and every concern wil be treated with care and sensitivity.

Email: dsl@olrs.co.uk

Celebrations and Achievements

Football News

It has been an exciting couple of weeks for our school football teams! Our girls' team secured a fantastic 2–0 victory against Stanwell Fields, putting in a brilliant performance to earn a well-deserved win.

Meanwhile, our boys' team played a nail-biting match against Springfield. After taking an impressive 2–0 lead, the game took a dramatic turn, with Springfield eventually winning 4–2. Despite the result, the boys showed tremendous determination and battled right up to the final whistle.

A huge well done to both teams for their incredible effort, teamwork and sporting spirit. They certainly gave it their all, and we couldn't ask for more!



Golden Ticket

Each week, children who have put exceptional effort into their learning and produced work that reflects their personal best are awarded a 'Golden Ticket'. They bring their work to show Mrs. McCarthy, receive a very special golden Sticker, and have their name added to our Golden Book in recognition of their achievement.

Tristen- A wonderful re-enactment of a Baptism, taking on the role of the priest.

Hubert - Creating his own Leaf-Man in response to a story and describing his character in detail.

Dylan -Writing a super prayer of thanks.

Ben - Writing an amazing prayer for his family.

Honor - Super art appreciation focusing on this term's theme of 'Sculpture'.

Edward - A fantastic graphic representation of the words of the 'Our Father'.

Abigail– Fabulous history learning showing all she knows about the lives and legacy of Florence Nightingale, Mary Seacole and Edith Cavell.

Tamara - A superb history assessment answering the big question, 'How can one person make a difference?'

Sarah - Impressive maths learning showing her problem solving skills.

Harry - An amazing imagery-filled acrostic poem

Rafferty -Thoughtful RE learning about the life and legacy of Sean Devereux.

Isabella - Super RE learning about the work of Sean Devereux.

Florence - An outstanding poem inspired by Grace Nichols, 'When the colours spoke'.

Anastasia- A well thought-out, creative poem full of description.

River - A lovely poem, full of similes.

Leo - An amazing poem written from the point of view of an evacuee in World War II.

Golden Ticket



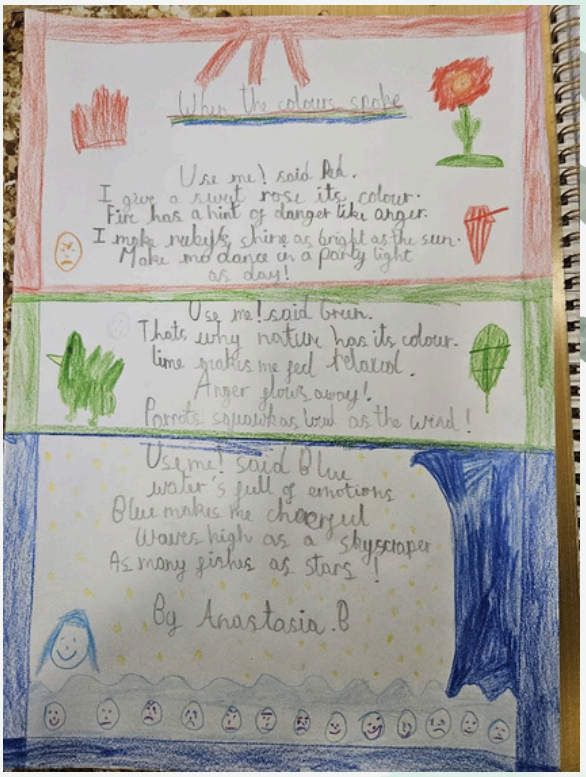
When the colours Spoke

"use me" said Red
I am the colour of danger and and anger.
I am as important as remembrace
like the poppies that washed over the empty field.

"use me" said Blue
There are so many shades of me, Usain Bolt couldn't keep up.
I the Sea, wavy and furious sometimes
I can be as calm as reading

"use me" said Purple
I am as mystical as a diamond cave
only rich could afford me.
So mysterious you're not know where to find
find me

all colours bring happiness and creativity to all The End



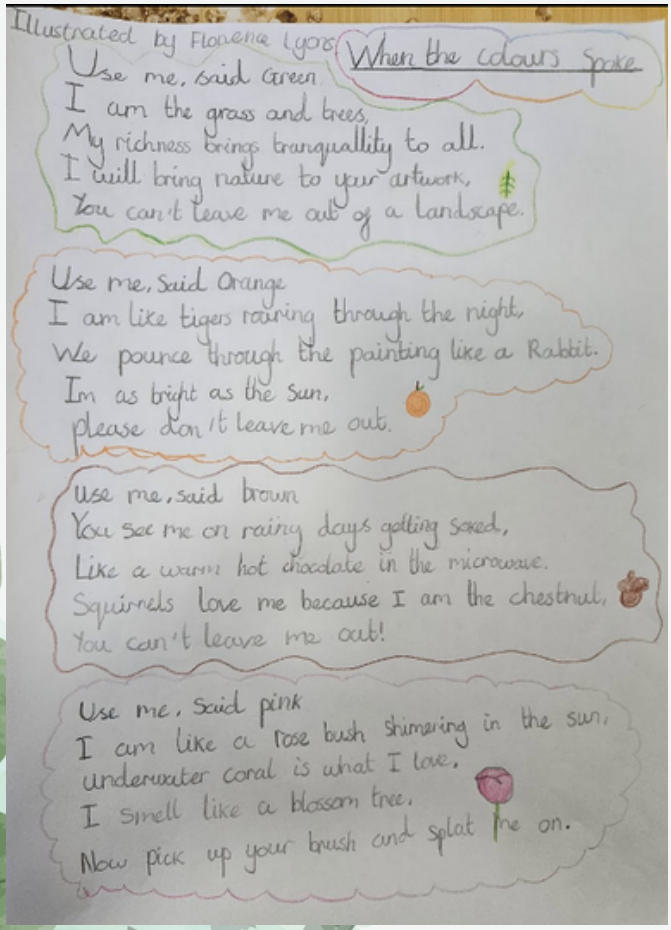
When the colours spoke

Use me! said Red.
I give a rose its colour.
Fire has a hint of danger like anger.
I make rubys shine as bright as the sun.
Make me dance in a party light as day!

Use me! said brown.
That's why nature has its colour.
Time grabs me feel relaxed.
Anger flows away!
Parrots squawk as loud as the wind!

Use me! said Blue
water's full of emotions
Blue makes me cheerful
Waves high as a skyscraper
As many fishes as stars!

By Anastasia.B



Illustrated by Florence Lyons

When the colours Spoke

Use me, said Green
I am the grass and trees,
My richness brings tranquallity to all.
I will bring nature to your artwork,
You can't leave me out of a landscape.

Use me, said Orange
I am like tigers roaring through the night,
We pounce through the painting like a Rabbit.
Im as bright as the sun,
please don't leave me out.

Use me, said brown
You see me on rainy days getting soked,
Like a warm hot chocolate in the microwave.
Squirrels love me because I am the chestnut,
You can't leave me out!

Use me, said pink
I am like a rose bush shimering in the sun,
Underwater coral is what I love,
I smell like a blossom tree,
Now pick up your brush and splat me on.



Attendance

Please see below for a reminder from Surrey County Council regarding attendance and penalty notices:

If a child is taken out of school without authority for 5 or more days (which do not have to be consecutive), then the following will apply:

1. If you have not incurred a penalty notice relating to this child/children in a rolling 3 year period since 19 August 2024, then the penalty notice will be charged at the rate of £160.00, per parent/carer per child, if paid within 28 days. This will be reduced to £80.00 if paid within 21 days of receipt of the notice. Failure to pay the Penalty Notice will result in Surrey County Council considering legal proceedings against you in the Magistrates Court.

2. If you have incurred a penalty notice relating to this child/children since 19 August 2024, the rolling 3 year period will be activated from the date of the first penalty notice and the second penalty notice will be charged at the flat rate of £160.00, per parent/carer per child, if paid within 28 days. There will be no reduction for payment within 21 days. Failure to pay the Penalty Notice will result in Surrey County Council considering legal proceedings against you in the Magistrates Court.

3. If you have incurred 2 penalty notices relating to this child/children in the rolling 3 year period since the first penalty notice was issued, then you will NOT receive a third penalty notice – Surrey County Council will have no option but to consider a prosecution, per parent/carer per child, in the Magistrates Court under s 444 Education Act 1996.

Surrey County Council is not responsible for authorising pupil absence and therefore cannot withdraw any Penalty Notice requests without the written permission of the Headteacher.

Attendance

Good attendance is one of the most important foundations for success at school. Being in school every day means more than simply not missing lessons. It allows children to keep up with their learning, develop secure friendships, take part fully in school life and feel that they belong. Even occasional days of absence can quickly add up and create gaps in learning that can be difficult to recover.

A few important reminders:

- Absence due to illness should be reported through Studybugs. Please ensure that the Studybugs app is downloaded and ready to use. Absence should be reported on each day that a child is unable to attend school.
- Medical and dental appointments should be arranged outside school hours wherever possible. Where this is genuinely not possible, appointments should be arranged to avoid morning or afternoon registration so that the minimum amount of learning is missed.
- Please email the school office in advance with details of appointments and provide supporting evidence where available.
- Term-time leave will only be authorised in exceptional circumstances, in line with government guidance.

Congratulations to Year 4 who have had the highest attendance for the last two weeks. Well done to Year 5 who have the highest attendance for the year to date.

	Last week	This week	Year to Date
Year R	98.00%	90.00%	97.60%
Year 1	97.70%	99%	97.40%
Year 2	95.20%	91.80%	96.60%
Year 3	94.50%	98.70%	98.60%
Year 4	99.40%	99.20%	98.50%
Year 5	96.30%	98.80%	98.90%
Year 6	99.00%	99.20%	95.70%

School Uniform

The children have returned after half term looking very smart in their winter uniforms, and thank you to parents for your continued support in maintaining our high standards of presentation.

As the weather becomes colder, just a few reminders about outdoor clothing. **All coats should be plain navy blue, and hats, scarves and gloves should be in school colours.** Please also remember that earmuffs are not part of our school uniform and should not be worn to school.

All children must have a pair of wellies in school so that they can continue to access all areas of our school grounds throughout the winter months, even when the weather is wet and muddy. Please ensure these are clearly named and kept in school.

We are also seeing an increasing amount of unnamed lost property in school. Please could parents make sure that all items of clothing, including coats, jumpers, hats, scarves and gloves, are clearly labelled with their child's name. This makes it much easier for us to return misplaced items to their owners.

Thank you for your continued support.

Reminders

Park Avenue

Following concerns raised by local residents about congestion, parking and driving around the school, we would like to remind all parents and carers of the importance of being considerate towards our neighbours and keeping our children safe.

Please drive slowly and carefully, park responsibly and avoid blocking driveways, junctions or pavements. Where possible, we encourage families to walk to school or park a little further away and walk the final part of their journey.

At collection time, please avoid forming a queue that extends around the corner onto Park Avenue. There is no requirement to queue, and we encourage parents to gather along the pathway between the school and Park Avenue, keeping access clear for pedestrians. Arriving closer to collection time will also help reduce congestion.

We work hard to maintain positive relationships with our local residents and appreciate everyone's cooperation in helping to keep our school surroundings safe and considerate for all.



Upcoming Events

20th November	Year 5 Class Mass
20th November	Share my work afternoon ,2.15pm (Years 1-6)
24th & 26th November	Parents Evening (Years 1-6)
26th November	PTA Stretch & Relaxation Event
27th November	Dyslexia Workshop, 1.45pm
27th November	Year 3 Class Mass
30th November	St. Andrew's Day (wear something blue with uniform)
4th December	Reception - Stay, Play & Read, 9am

Upcoming Events

5th December	Parish Christmas Fair
8th December	KS2 Carol Concert 5.30pm,Our Lady of the Rosary Church
9 & 10th December	EYFS & KS1 Nativity Play 9.30am
10th December	PTA Panto Night, Woking
18th December	End of term

Upcoming Events

OLRS PTA

~ Participate To Achieve ~

CHRISTMAS PANTO!



PTA has secured a great discount on Tickets for the Christmas Panto at Woking theatre for Christmas 2026!

£ 28 / Ticket

THURSDAY 10TH DEC 2026
7 PM(EVENING SHOW)
NEW VICTORIA THEATRE,WOKING
ROYAL CIRCLE SEATS

Tickets on Sale: www.pta-events.co.uk/olrspta

Limited availability - 100 Tickets