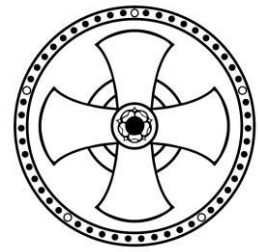




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CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Thursday April 7th 2022

Re: End of Spring Term Update and Year 6 SATs Arrangements

Dear Parents and Carers,

Well.....we're nearly there! I thought it better to write today so that I can make sure I give you the updates you need rather than leave it until tomorrow...what a brilliant term we've had! Looking back over our time since January we've had some truly wonderful moments to be proud of – in fact there are so many positive stories from Sport, that Miss Golawska has written a separate update for you just around those fantastic events which we've not only taken part in, but also won! I'm sending the Sporting Update with this letter– so please do look out for it. I'm absolutely delighted that many of the wider events that we had to stop due to the pandemic are back up and running, we've also been able to enjoy our celebration assemblies again, Forest School has restarted and so have the extra-curricular trips and fixtures.

I'd also like to thank you again for your support over the past term. I think it would be fair to say that there have been easier times to work in schools and I know that you appreciate the challenges that we've faced with staff absences and the pressures of keeping the school open. You've been brilliant in your support of us and that helps so much. As ever, the children have proven themselves to be fantastic. The level of effort in classrooms has been palpable and offers another strong foundation for future work across the Summer Term.

When we return from our Easter Break on Monday April 25th, Year 6 and Year 2 will be on the verge of their SATs and we'll be heading at pace towards the residential trips for Year 5 and 6 that are such a highlight. The Year 6 SATs will be held w/b May 9th and the Year 2 tests will be done in an age appropriate manner beginning on May 16th. Both classes have been working very hard in preparation for these and we're looking forward to the chance to show what we can all do:

Year 6 SATS week 9th May – 12th May 2022

As you know the children (and adults!) have been working incredibly hard to prepare for their SATs, and have been doing so cheerfully and enthusiastically. This is just to give you an idea of what the actual week itself will look like:

8.15 Children are welcome to join us for a communal Breakfast, pre SATS chat and time to hang out with their friends.

8.50 We will start to get them all ready for a prompt 9am start

9am Start of test. The children will be divided into different rooms suitable for the level of support they need. Some will sit their test in the hall with Ms Nicholson and Mr Littlejohn, some will be in The Arches, some in Mr Barber's room and other small enclosed areas.

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We have already spoken to those of you whose children will need different levels of support. The children themselves are also aware of this. If appropriate we will send you additional information regarding this nearer the time via PING.

All tests should be finished by 10.15 at the latest. In the afternoons, the children will have the opportunity to have fun with creative projects; Art, craft, ICT etc...We would request that all children have their PE kit in school every day, they should attend in uniform, please. Should your child be unwell on the day of a SATs test, we ask you to call school as soon as possible, so we can discuss how best to proceed.

In Year 2, we'll undertake the tests in a way that the children are put under as little stress as possible – in fact they might not even register that any tests are running! Like Year 6, we'll make sure they have times in the afternoons where we get creative and ensure the fun stays in their time in school. Year 2 children should attend these two weeks in their sports kit, so we have the flexibility to quickly get them active. Miss Hamilton will be in touch with more information tomorrow.

All that remains for me to say is that I look forward to seeing some of you tomorrow at 9am for the Parent Council and I do hope you have a really restful and joyous Easter break. See you on the 25th April!

Kind regards,

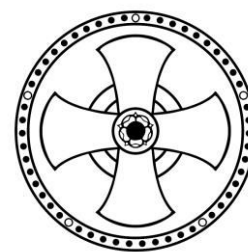
Paul

Headteacher



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Spring Term Sports Update

What a wonderful start to 2022 we have had at OLOL and how good it is to be back and participating in sporting events once again.

We have participated in many events since September, including football, cross country, Let's Dance and more recently, quite a few netball tournaments! Whilst these events have been thoroughly enjoyable, they've also been rather challenging; each event is highly competitive and we are often competing against schools much larger than ours. For this reason, it is essential that we recognise our fantastic achievements.

Cross Country

Back in November, many of our year 5 and 6 children participated in the City Cross Country Championships. The race was approximately 2km and all our children who entered finished the race in a very respectable time. Many of our children finished the race in the top 100 and with over 300 children in each race, this is something to be very proud of. Bruno, Jacob and Akim in year 5, finished in the top 20 and were invited to represent Brighton and Hove at the next round of the City Championships which were held in March. The Brighton and Hove team competed against over 650 children from 9 other areas of Sussex and the year 5 boys team finished 2nd overall. A very special mention to Bruno who finished 22nd in his race – wow!



Brighton and Hove Netball Champions!

NETBALL

Recently, two teams from years, 4, 5 and 6 participated in a round of netball tournaments against our local partnership schools. ALL the teams were outstanding! Their team work was very impressive, they listened to advice given to them and most of all, they all had lots of fun. After each tournament, our year 4, 5 and 6 teams were crowned overall winners of each of their tournaments,

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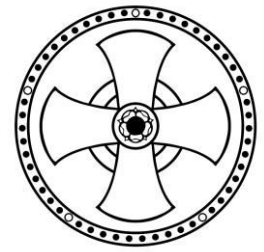
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which now means OLOL are currently top of the 'ACE Sports Partnership' league table! It was also so lovely to see our year 3 children participating in a netball festival against the same schools, giving them a great opportunity to learn new skills and put these into practise in some friendly games.



Following the above, our year 6 team participated in a city-wide netball tournament, competing against primary schools from all over the City. Once again, the team played absolutely brilliant, were unbeaten on the day and declared winners of this tournament. This meant that we progressed through to the Brighton and Hove finals – competing against 5 other schools, who were all winners on their tournament day.

Final's day...and the weather was not on our side! Despite the pouring rain, our year 6 team showed up and delivered once again. We played 5 other schools from across the City, all of who had earned their right to be in the final. I am so incredibly proud to say that OLOL won the final competition (still unbeaten!) and were crowned Brighton and Hove champions. This meant that our team were then invited to represent Brighton and Hove at the Sussex School Games finals, which were held last week. Despite the pouring rain (and even snow at one point!) the children thoroughly enjoyed this experience and finished 7th on the day.



The children representing our school at all events always do so in the most extraordinary manner – they are kind, polite, respectful, determined, ambitious and just an absolute credit to our school.

What a fantastic achievement! To say we are proud is an understatement. Well done Team OLOL!

The summer term will see us participating in tag rugby tournaments and athletics competitions.

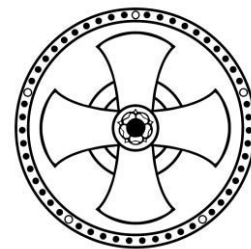
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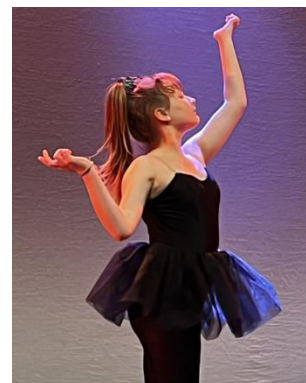
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Let's Dance

We were delighted to learn that 'Let's Dance' was back for 2022 and we decided that our year 5 class would participate on behalf of OLOL this year. Mrs Didzus helped choreograph our routine and certainly challenged the year 5s - we had 5 different dances to learn! I'm sure I can say on behalf of year 5 that we thoroughly enjoyed our performance night. Despite a few nerves beforehand, the children were just amazing and wanted to do it again. A huge thank you to Mrs Didzus for all her help and support in allowing the children to participate at this event.



Tag Rugby

A group of our year 5 and 6 children participated in a tag rugby festival earlier this week. The day was all about having fun and learning something new – which the children certainly did. Wonderful sports leaders from Cardinal Newman (some of who were ex OLOL pupils!) taught the children a few rugby skills, spoke to them about tactics and helped them to participate in friendly games. The children thoroughly enjoyed themselves and it was great to see more of our children involved in sporting activities.



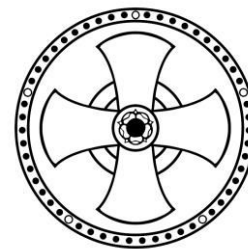
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Girls' Cricket

Last, but certainly not least, I'd like to share with you what one of our wonderful children decided to do for our school recently. India attends our girls' cricket club and came to see me with a proposal about cricket t-shirts for the club. Her proposal included information about what she wanted, along with a drawing of the t-shirts. Of course, I told her what a wonderful idea it was and we'd get our heads together to see if we could think of a way to purchase the t-shirts for the club. In the meantime, India decided that, for Lent, she wanted to give something to someone else, and so, using her own money, India took her proposal and purchased a set of t-shirts for our girls' cricket club. What an incredibly kind thing to do India and, thank you.

Clubs

We've really 'kicked off' our after-school clubs this year, which have just been fantastic. So many of our children are participating in extra-curricular sporting activities and I cannot wait to get more involved.

Clubs running for the summer term are as follows:

KS1:

Tuesday 3:15 – 4:15pm – Multi-skills with Mr Hoad – FULLY BOOKED

Wednesday 3:15-4:15pm – Athletics with Dan – FULLY BOOKED

Wednesday 4:15-5:15pm – Athletics with Dan – SPACES AVAILABLE

KS2:

Tuesday 3:15 – 4:15pm – Netball with Mrs Golawska – FULLY BOOKED

Wednesday 3:15 – 4:15pm – Girls' football with Mr Hoad – FULLY BOOKED

Friday 3:15 – 4:15pm – Girls' cricket with Mr Hoad – SPACES AVAILABLE

If you'd like to book your child onto the clubs above that have spaces, please email me directly using: sports@lourdes.brighton-hove.sch.uk

Thank you to the children for their wonderful efforts this term and congratulations on your achievements. Thank you also, parents are carers, for all your continued help and support.

Mrs Golawska

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