



School Newsletter

(for parents, pupils, governors, staff and parishioners)

Friday 18th September 2026

What's in this Newsletter:

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Key Dates:

September 22nd. Flu Vaccine

October 5th, 7th, 13th, 16th. Open days for Reception starters 2027

October 22nd. Last day of term 1

October 23rd. Inset Day

Message from Mrs Wilson:

Welcome back to the new academic year! It's wonderful to see all our children back in school, and I'm delighted to share how brilliantly they have settled into their new classes. I am incredibly proud of how our children are already demonstrating our six gospel values in their daily lives that work towards living out our mission of 'Love, Live and Learn as Jesus Taught us':

- **Community** - The way our children have welcomed new pupils and supported each other during the transition has been heartwarming - especially our older children supporting the newer and younger children of the school.
- **Justice** - Our children continue to show fairness and understanding in their interactions with one another.
- **Courage** - I've witnessed so many brave moments as children have stepped into new challenges this term.
- **Service** - From helping tidy the classroom to supporting younger pupils, our children are showing what it means to serve others.
- **Compassion** - The kindness and empathy our children show to one another truly reflects the caring community we are.
- **Respect** - Our children are treating each other, staff, and our school environment with genuine respect.

I'm thrilled to share that our recent SATs results reflect the hard work and dedication of last year's Year 6 pupils, staff, and families. These results are a testament to the progress we're making on our school improvement journey, and I couldn't be more proud of what we're achieving together.

Recently, a post was shared with me from Facebook where parents from our community spoke really highly about Our Lady of Lourdes. Reading your public positive comments to try and encourage someone to come to our school was truly uplifting, and I want to thank you for taking the time to share your experiences. Your feedback and support are invaluable as we continue to improve and develop our school. It means so much to know that our efforts are making a positive difference to your families.

Thank you for your continued support. Together, we're creating a wonderful learning environment where every child can thrive- lets have another success year here at Our Lady of Lourdes where we all live out our values and come together as a community!

"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." (Philippians 4:13)

Mrs Wilson

Inset Days for this Academic Year:

- 01st September 2026
- 23rd October 2026
- 18th December 2026
- 28th May 2027
- 07th June 2027

Attendance

Whole School attendance this week 96.4%.

The class with the best attendance this week was year 6 with 98.9%!



Staffing changes

We say goodbye to Mr Hall who is moving on to pastures new, we wish him good luck in his new venture.

We welcome Miss MacCarthy into year 4 and Miss Whooley into year 3. Both have settled well into the community and supporting our children amazingly.

Baby News

Mrs Horler has welcomed baby Lando. They are all home and settling into life as a family of four. We wish her all the best during her maternity, whilst spending time with her beautiful family.



Pre-Loved Uniform

We have a rail of pre-loved school uniform available in school for families to help themselves to. We simply ask for a small monetary donation, which helps support our school community.

If you have any pre-loved logoed uniform in good condition that your child has outgrown; we would be very grateful for any donations. Items can be handed in to the PTFA or the school office.

Thank you for your support in helping us promote sustainability and provide affordable uniform for our families.



Year 6 Transition

Please read the following letter with regards to your child starting secondary school in September 2027.

Department for People



All Parent/Carers of Year 6 Children

Date: September 2026
Your Ref:
Our Ref: Bulk Secondary
Enquiries to: Contact Centre
Section: Admissions and Transport Team
Tel: (01454) 868008
Email: AdmissionsAndTransport@southglos.gov.uk

Dear Parent/Carer

Your child is of age to transfer to a secondary school from September 2027.

From 7 September 2026, if you live in South Gloucestershire, you will be able to apply for a place online at www.southglos.gov.uk/admissions. The online application system is secure and simple to use.

If you have already registered on our Citizen Portal, you can simply log on using your original email address and password. **Before completing the application, please check your details in 'My Account' to ensure they are up-to-date and accurate.** If you have changed your email address since you registered, you will need to log on using your original email address and then change your email address using the option in 'My Account'.

The on-line form may ask for your Council Tax Reference Number; please note that this is not essential information and does not have to be entered in order to complete your on-line application form.

We strongly recommend that you read the parent guide 'Admission to Secondary Schools in South Gloucestershire' which is available on the website **before submitting your application**. The guide details the geographical area(s) that schools serve, the oversubscription criteria and other information to help applicants.

Once you have completed and submitted an on-line application form you will receive an email to confirm that your application has been received. Amendments can be made to your online application up to the closing date of but it is very important to remember to re-submit your application each time you access the form even if you do not make changes.

If you would prefer not to use the Citizen Portal an application form can be downloaded from the website.

If you are resident outside of South Gloucestershire you will need to apply through your home Local Authority, regardless of the location of your preferred school(s).

The closing date for the submission of on time applications is 31 October 2026.

If your child has an EHCP (Education, Health and Care Plan) please contact your EHCP co-ordinator or school SENCO, as you will need to follow a different process.

Please contact schools directly or look at their websites for details of open evenings, etc. If you would like further information or advice about the admission arrangements please contact us.

Regards

Charlotte Johnston
Admissions and Transport Manager

People, South Gloucestershire Council, PO Box 1955,
Bristol BS37 0DE

www.southglos.gov.uk

Democracy Day

This week, we celebrated International Day of Democracy! The children took part in a school council election, learning about democracy and having their voices heard. They voted for the children they would like to represent their class on our School Council. Our school council are: Oakley, Kiara, Eli, Deborah, Gabriel, Noa, Laniya, Adanna and Meiqi.



SEND

You may or not know that we are supported in school by our mental health worker, Matt. He is in school and works with families and children every Thursday afternoon. Parents can do a self-referral and details of how this is done are attached.

His team also run parent workshops on a variety of themes. These are free and are online.

If you would like to attend, please scan the QR code below where you can find out more and register your interest.

As you can see, they are presently running workshops on anxiety and understanding emotions. However, they are covering other themes in the coming months, such as transition, exam stress, wellbeing and low mood.

Thanks

A flyer for the Mental Health Support Team (MHST) Online Parent/Carer Workshop. The flyer is titled 'Mental Health Support Team Online Parent/Carer Workshop' and features the NHS logo and 'Avon and Wiltshire Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust'. It describes the workshop as an hour-long session for parents and carers to understand their child's mental health. It lists two topics for the month: 'INTRODUCTION TO ANXIETY' on Monday 12pm-1pm and 'UNDERSTANDING EMOTIONS: TOOLS TO THRIVE' on Wednesday 12pm-1pm. It includes a QR code for registration and a link to the MHST Online Session. The flyer also mentions that topics change termly and provides a website link: <https://www.awp.nhs.uk/camhs/camhs-services/mh-schools/mental-health-support-team-mhst-2>. At the bottom, it states that the leaflet is also available in other languages and includes a cartoon bear holding a sign that says 'MHST Tools to thrive'.

SEND

Please see the following message from South Glos Council with regards to SEND.

South Glos Parent Carers

Support for parents of children and young people with SEND

South Glos Parent Carers (SGPC) is the local parent carer forum representing and supporting parents of children and young people aged 0 to 25 with SEND in South Glos.

Some of our sessions are changing from September:

- [Drop-in](#) Support at our Community base in Kingswood will be open on Tuesdays from 10:00am – 1:30pm
- Little Treasures stay and play is moving from Warmly Park to Cadbury Heath Children's Centre.
- Early Years [Drop-in](#) Support at Patchway Children's Centre continues to run on Wednesdays from 10:00am – 11:30am

To help you deliver this information to parents, we have created some flyers that can be printed out or sent digitally via school communications such as Class Dojo. Flyers include a printable PDF, a [png](#) image for digital use and a Word Document with text that you can copy and paste.

Visit our [Signposting to SGPC page](#) on our website for all the latest flyers

Changes to Autism and ADHD support

Join us on 16th September 7-8.30pm online, to hear from Sirona Care and Health about changes to the local Autism and ADHD pathways and waiting lists.

You will hear about what is changing, what it means for families and how children and young people will be able to access support earlier.

There will be time for questions and discussion. Please note that the team will not be able to answer questions about individual children or young people.

This event is for parents and carers of children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities and professionals who would like to understand the changes that are happening.

[Book your spot](#)

Free online workshops on a range of SEND themes: bookings are now open for the latest workshops, which include:

- Understanding and Supporting Sensory Differences, Wednesday 30th September 10:00am - 1:00pm
 - Managing Emotions, Tuesday 13th October 7:00pm - 9:00pm
 - [AuDHD](#) (Autism and ADHD combined), Thursday 19th November, 6:30pm - 8:30pm
 - Understanding and Supporting Communication, Wednesday 9th December 10:00am - 1:00pm
 - Understanding Masking, Thursday 14th January 7:00pm - 9:00pm
 - Understanding and Supporting Behaviour, Monday 8th February 10:00am - 1:00pm
- Our workshops are also open to associates wishing to learn more about SEND subjects and what we do at SGPC.

Visit the [workshops page](#) on our website to find out more and to book your place.

Flyers to share the [workshop](#) details with parents are available on our [Signposting to SGPC page](#)

Black History Month

This October, we will be celebrating Black History Month across our school. Children will learn about inspiring Black individuals, important stories and contributions, celebrating the rich history and diversity of our communities. We look forward to learning, celebrating and sharing our discoveries together!



Parking

We kindly ask all parents and carers to be mindful of where you park during drop off and pick up times. Sadly, a child was nearly hit by a car outside the school this week, so we would like to remind everyone of the importance of keeping the area around the school as safe as possible. Please do not park on the yellow or white lines outside the school, and please ensure that the gates are kept clear at all times. Thank you for your continued cooperation in helping us keep our children safe.



Homework

At OLOL, we believe children need quality family time and rest after a demanding school day. Our homework approach focuses on key areas that underpin all learning, whilst keeping demands manageable at home.

Our non-negotiables that we ask children complete are:

1. **Daily reading** – recorded on Class Dojo, with rewards for consistency
2. **Weekly spelling practice** – preparing for the weekly spelling test
3. **Times tables practice** – using Times Tables Rock Stars, including inter-class competitions

These three areas underpin everything children do in school, which is why we prioritise them.

Each term, teachers set an optional project linked to the Discovery or Science topic. There's no pressure to complete these, but they're designed to: spark curiosity and interest, encourage families to work together, allow children to lead their own learning.

Past projects have included rainforests with flowing waterfalls, WW2 bunkers, games and inventions. Completed projects are showcased in class and during end-of-term SHINE worship, with children having the option to present their work.

Many parents have shared how positive the project experience was, creating quality time they wouldn't usually have spent together. We've seen children become so engrossed that they've independently explored data charts, percentages and other concepts - taking their learning in exciting new directions.

Our goal is simple: we want children to leave primary school still having a love for learning. This will make them amazing learners as they step into secondary school.



PE Uniform

We are aware that Harris Sports are no longer supplying PE Kit to OLOL, everything now needs to be purchased through Monkhouse (hoodies may take a while to sort). Coloured PE t-shirts can be purchased from supermarket without OLOL logo to help with the cost of living for parents.

Dear parents and carers,

We want to make it easier for residents to access and use online services, regardless of people's backgrounds and circumstances. Some evidence shows that households with children are more likely to struggle to do the things they need to do online. We are keen to understand this in more detail, so that we can work towards reducing the barriers that families may face.

We would be grateful if you could complete a short survey by **Friday 16th October**, so that we can hear from you about your experiences. Your answers will remain anonymous, and you have the option enter a prize draw for a chance to win one of five £10 shopping vouchers. If you have any concerns or wish to complete the survey another way, please contact South Gloucestershire Council by either calling 01454 868009 or by emailing consultation@southglos.gov.uk.

[What does digital inclusion look like in households with children? – Fill in form](#)

Thank you,
South Gloucestershire Council Customer Services Team

SHINE Assembly: Our children always SHINE Bright. These are our children SHINING the last two weeks.



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2027

Applications are now open for
children who have been baptised
in the Catholic Church, and who
are in **Year 3** and above.

Application forms are available
from the **School Office**,
Parish Office (2 Court Road),
the at the back of **Church** or from
the **Parish website**
www.ololbristol.co.uk

Closing Date:
Monday 2nd November 2026

Completed application forms should
reach the Parish Office by the closing
date. *If your child was not baptised in
Our Lady of Lourdes, please include a
copy of their baptism certificate with
the application form.*

For more information please contact the Parish Office
☎ 0117 9498743
✉ bristol.ourladyoflourdes@cliftondiocese.com



West of England
MUSIC & ARTS

NEW AT WEMA MUSIC CENTRES

Instrument Lessons & Courses

Woodwind, Brass, Piano, Strings, Guitar

Music Production, DJ Skills

Learn after school at your local WEMA Music Centre - then join an ensemble when you're ready!

Discounts available for children eligible for Pupil Premium

Bookings open now
wema.org.uk/music-centre-lessons



DJ & Music Production times

- Saturdays - Backwell - from 9.30am
- Mondays - Little Stoke - from 6.30pm
- Wednesdays - Bath - from 5.45pm



West of England
MUSIC & ARTS

NEW AT WEMA MUSIC CENTRES

DJ skills Music Production

Brand new sessions for young musicians. Mix, produce and make your own tracks.

- Saturdays - Backwell - from 9.30am
- Mondays - Little Stoke - from 6.30pm
- Wednesdays - Bath - from 5.45pm

Bookings open now
wema.org.uk/music-centre-lessons

Discounts available for children eligible for Pupil Premium




West of England
MUSIC & ARTS

DISCOVERY DAYS

at WEMA Music Centres

Our free-of-charge Discovery Days are the perfect chance to try out our Music Centres, meet new friends, and experience the fun of playing in an ensemble. Bring your enthusiasm and see where music can take you!

Ensembles available for a wide variety of instruments, ages and playing levels.



Sign up using the QR code or visit:
wema.org.uk/wema-music-centres




FREE

South Gloucestershire
Council

CAR SEAT SAFETY CHECK

Experienced and qualified staff
No appointment required
just drop in



FREE Car seat safety check make sure your children are secured safely

1st October 2026
10:00 am - 2:30 pm
at Yate Fire Station
Station Road, Yate BS37 4AL

 lively.blunt.twins

Organised and delivered by South Gloucestershire Council's Road Safety Team and supported by Child Seat Safety Ltd

DON'T LET YOUR CHILDS MILK BREAK STOP AT AGE 5

A healthy mid-morning boost that helps children stay energised, hydrated and ready to learn



DID YOU KNOW?

Children receive **FREE** milk until their 5th birthday.

Once they turn 5, government funding ends.

The good news?

Milk can continue with a simple registration.

WHY CONTINUE SCHOOL MILK?



Supports healthy growth

Calcium & protein for strong bones and teeth



Natural energy boost

Helps keep children fuelled until lunchtime



Hydrating & refreshing

A healthy drink during the school day



Aids concentration

Supports focus and learning in the classroom



FROM LESS THAN £2.50 PER WEEK*

PAY IN 1, 2 OR 4 INSTALLMENTS ACROSS THE YEAR



School Milk Services Ltd

Building healthy habits for a bright future

Our Lady of Lourdes Pre-School

2 Court Road, Kingswood, Bristol, BS15 9QB
Email: ololpreschool@hotmail.co.uk
Established in 1983
For all children aged 2 – 5 years

OUR VISION

- To provide an appropriate curriculum for each child, based on their individual needs and interests.
- To provide a stimulating, challenging and safe environment.
- To form close relationships with parents in order to achieve the best outcomes for children and their families.

♥ We welcome all families
♥ We accept 15 and 30 hours funding

SPACES AVAILABLE

You are welcome to join us, to look around preschool and meet our experienced staff team. Please see our website for more information or contact us on

01179872027
www.ololpreschool.co.uk

St Bernadette Catholic Secondary School



OPEN EVENTS

Open Evening

Thursday 17th September

5.00-8.00pm

Head's Talk

5.45pm & 6.45pm

Open Mornings

Wednesday 30th September

9.15-10.45am

Thursday 15th October

9.15-10.45am

We offer :

Academic Excellence
-Strong Pastoral Care
Traditional Values -High Expectations
Inclusive Ethos - Excellent Behaviour

Pupils feel welcome and included at this school. The school has high expectations of pupils' achievement. The school provides a wealth of opportunities including trips, visits and public speaking.

Ofsted January 2025



WINTERBOURNE HARVEST DAY

11am - 4pm | 11 October 2026

Early Bird: **£1/£5** (Ends 4th October)

Join us as we bring back some of your much loved barn favourites for all the feel of a village harvest fayre. The day will include something for all the family including Morris Dancers, wandering children's entertainers, live music and (of course) ferret racing!



WINTERBOURNE
medieval
BARN

Free parking and shuttle bus provided at Winterbourne Academy
Visit winterbournebarn.org.uk for full details and tickets