



School Newsletter

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

Friday 2nd October 2026

What's in this Newsletter:

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- Message from Head Teacher
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- Attendance
- Pre-Loved Uniform
- PE Uniform
- Year 6 Transition
- SEND
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- Class Messages

- Harvest Festival
- Shine Assembly

Key Dates:

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

October 9th. World Mental Health Day

October 14th & 15th. Parents' Evening

October 22nd. Last day of term 1

October 23rd: Inset Day

Message from Mrs Wilson:

At OLOL, everything we do is rooted in our mission statement: **Live, Love and Learn as Jesus taught us**. This mission comes to life through our six Gospel Values: **Compassion, Courage, Justice, Service, Respect and Community** – all of which stem from **Love**. Each term, we focus on a different Gospel Value, allowing our children to explore and deepen their understanding of what it means to live as Jesus taught us. Through assemblies, classroom activities, acts of worship and daily interactions, these values become part of who we are. Thank you for your continued support in helping our children to live out these values at home and in the wider community.

This term, we have been celebrating Community and how we come together as one to support and celebrate each other. It has been wonderful to see our children supporting one another in the classroom and playground, showing kindness and understanding as they work together on collaborative projects. They recognise that we achieve more when we unit our efforts by celebrating each other's successes, big and small, with genuine joy and encouragement. I am incredibly proud of how well our children have been showing all our values. They demonstrate every day that we are stronger together, and that each person in our school community has an important role to play.

I am delighted to share that we had a visit from the Local Authority yesterday, which was incredibly positive. They spoke about how impressed they were with our EYFS provision and how quickly this has turned around since our Ofsted inspection. This is a testament to the hard work of our staff, especially our EYFS team, and the wonderful efforts from our youngest children.

Mrs Wilson

'For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.' - Matthew 18:20

Inset Days for this Academic Year:

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

Attendance

Whole School attendance this week 96.8%. This is incredible! Thank you for all your efforts!
The class with the best attendance this week was year 6 with 98.8%!



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.



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.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Charlotte Johnston'.

Charlotte Johnston
Admissions and Transport Manager

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

www.southglos.gov.uk

SEND

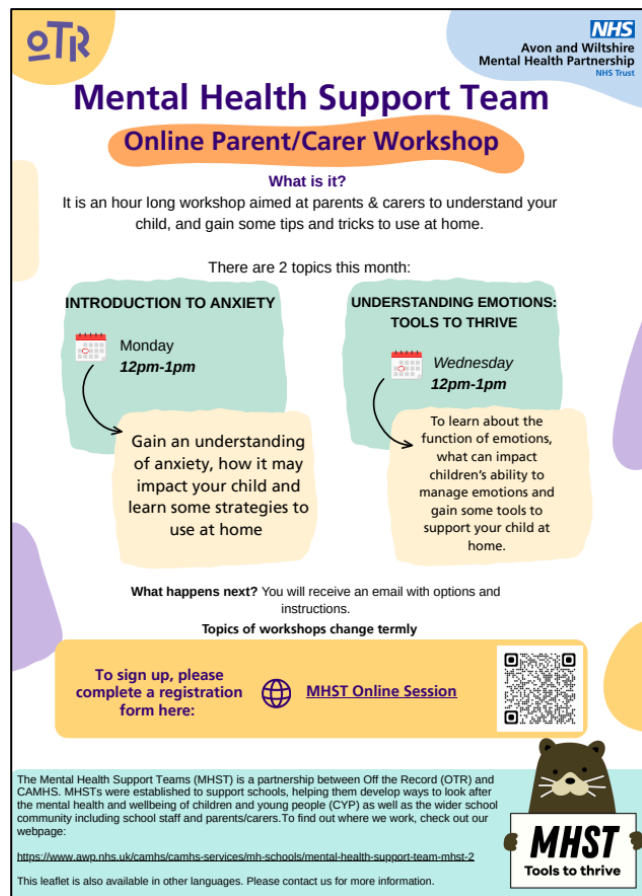
You may or not know that we are supported in school by our mental health worker, Matt. He is in school and works with families and children every Thursday afternoon. Parents can do a self-referral and details of how this is done are attached.

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



OTR **NHS**
Avon and Wiltshire
Mental Health Partnership
HIND Trust

Mental Health Support Team

Online Parent/Carer Workshop

What is it?
It is an hour long workshop aimed at parents & carers to understand your child, and gain some tips and tricks to use at home.

There are 2 topics this month:

INTRODUCTION TO ANXIETY

Monday
12pm-1pm

Gain an understanding of anxiety, how it may impact your child and learn some strategies to use at home

UNDERSTANDING EMOTIONS: TOOLS TO THRIVE

Wednesday
12pm-1pm

To learn about the function of emotions, what can impact children's ability to manage emotions and gain some tools to support your child at home.

What happens next? You will receive an email with options and instructions.

Topics of workshops change termly

To sign up, please complete a registration form here: [MHST Online Session](#)



The Mental Health Support Teams (MHST) is a partnership between Off the Record (OTR) and CAMHS. MHSTs were established to support schools, helping them develop ways to look after the mental health and wellbeing of children and young people (CYP) as well as the wider school community including school staff and parents/carers. To find out where we work, check out our webpage:
<https://www.awp.nhs.uk/camhs/camhs-services/mh-schools/mental-health-support-team-mhst-2>

This leaflet is also available in other languages. Please contact us for more information.



SEND

School Nursing Service

Who is the service for?

The School Nursing Service across Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire is made up of School Nurses, Public Health Nurses, Nurse Associates, School Health Assistants, and Administrators who work in schools and in local communities with children, young people and families from aged 4, when a child starts school, to 19 years.

All children, young people and parents/carers can receive information and support from the School Nursing Service by telephone. The School Nursing Service is open to all children and young people of school age.

For more information ring 0300 125 5151

In primary schools there are drop-ins and some group sessions for parents/carers. Look out for information soon on a workshop being held at Our Lady of Lourdes on sleep later this academic year- details to follow.

Parking

We kindly ask all parents and carers to be mindful of where you park during drop off and pick up times.

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.



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!

On Tuesday 20th October from 3-3.30pm we will be holding an exhibition in the school hall to showcase our learning.



Class Messages

Reception/Year 1

Our reception cohort have settled in well to school life and have made many new friends. They are making rapid progress with their phonics and every Friday, parents/carers will see what sounds they have learnt that week, as your child will come home with a review of these sounds to share with you and to scribe. Please keep these at home so you can re visit these with your child.

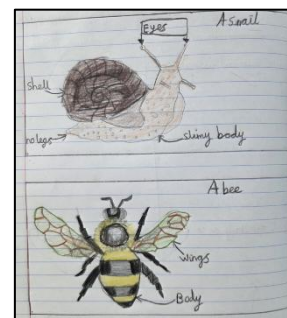
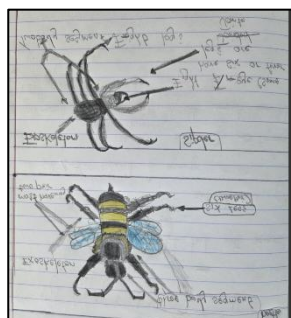
Year 1 are working hard to become positive role models. They are understanding that their learning is often separate and different to Reception's and are making progress. We are looking forward to taking the Year 1s to the library for a puppet workshop on October 20th. Please let the class teacher know if you can help with walking the children up to the venue.

Year 4

Last week, our Year 4 and some Year 6 pupils took part in swimming sessions, and we are delighted with how well they all went! The children showed fantastic effort, enthusiasm and determination, supporting one another and demonstrating great confidence as they developed their swimming skills. It was wonderful to see them challenge themselves, make progress and enjoy the experience. All the teachers are incredibly proud of every single pupil for their hard work, positive attitudes and achievements. Well done, Year 4 and Year 6 - you should all be very proud of yourselves!

Year 6

Amazing effort from Year 6, who have been looking At the characteristics of invertebrates in science. Alongside amazing discussions. Children are taking amazing care and pride in their presentation. Keep up the amazing work!
Mrs Searle



Harvest Festival

October is a special month in our Catholic calendar. We will celebrate our Harvest Mass on Thursday 15th October, giving thanks to God for all that we have and remembering those in need. October is also the Month of the Holy Rosary, and children will have the opportunity to pray the Rosary together every Wednesday until the end of term. We also celebrate the Feast of St Francis of Assisi on 4th October, reflecting on his love for God, others and all of creation. This month, we are also delighted to announce and enrol our School Chaplaincy Team. These children will take an active role in developing and enriching the prayer life of our school, helping to lead prayer and encouraging our whole school community to grow together in faith.

This October, we invite all our families to take a little time to pray, reflect and care for God's creation together. Choose one evening to pray a decade of the Rosary as a family and, inspired by St Francis of Assisi, complete one act of care for our common home – perhaps going on a litter pick, reducing waste, feeding the birds or spending time appreciating God's wonderful creation.

We would love to hear how you got involved!

Children can bring in a photo, drawing or short reflection to share and celebrate.



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



Great Athletes

This week we had a visit from Paralympian Leif Thobroe. He and the children took part in some exercise circuits which the children have been collecting sponsorship for, for the last couple of weeks. It was a great success, and the children had a great time, supporting and encouraging one another.

Please ensure that all sponsorship money is returned to the office by Monday 5th October. Every contribution will help our support our community and we are grateful for your continued support.

Well done everyone!



Wooden Pallets

We have several wooden pallets, free to collect, which would be good for firewood or any DIY projects. If you would like any, please see the school office to arrange a time for you to collect.

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



**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



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
-1342-

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