

Autumn Term

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Friday 16th October 2026

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Our Lady & St. Swithin's



Catholic Primary School

Dates for your diary

Date and Times	Event	Class
20/10/2026	Pumpkin Picking 3pm - 4.30pm	Whole School
21/10/2026	Spooky Disco 2pm - 3pm	Whole School
21/10/2026	Whole School finish for half term	Whole School
02/11/2026	Children return to school for Autumn 2	Whole School
11/11/2026	Parents Evening	Reception - Year 6
16/11/2026	Anti-bullying Week	Whole School
02/12/2026	Breakfast with Santa	Whole School
03/12/2026	Christmas Panto	Year 1 - 6
09/12/2026 - 8:45am	Christmas Craft Morning	Whole School
11/12/2026	Christmas Bonanza and Christmas Jumper Day	Whole School
17/12/2026	Christmas Lunch	Whole School
16/12/2026 - 3:00pm	Christmas Bingo	Whole School
18/12/2026	Christmas Party Day - Party Clothes	Whole School
18/12/2026	Children finish for Christmas.	Whole School

Catholic Life

As we come to the end of another busy week, we continue to celebrate the many ways in which our children live out our Catholic faith through their words, actions and kindness towards others. This Sunday's Gospel (Matthew 22:15-21), for the 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time, reminds us of Jesus' words: "Give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar, and to God what belongs to God." Through this message, Jesus encourages us to remember that we all belong to God and are called to show His love in everything we do. In school, we encourage our children to put their faith into action by treating others with respect, showing compassion, making good choices and using their God-given gifts to help those around them. As we enter the weekend, we invite our families to reflect on how we can give our time, love and kindness to God through the way we care for one another. May we all continue to grow together in faith, hope and love, following the example of Jesus each day.

Please join us in prayer.
Dear Heavenly Father,

Thank You for the many blessings You give us each day. Help us to remember that we are all Your children, created in Your love and called to share that love with others.

Guide us to make good choices, to treat everyone with kindness and respect, and to use our gifts and talents to make a difference in the world.

May our words and actions reflect the teachings of Jesus, and may we always find ways to serve You by helping and caring for those around us.

Bless our school, our families and our wider community, and help us to grow together in faith, hope and love.

Amen.

Prayer & liturgy Dates

Year 2 - 21/10/26

A message from Mrs Allen.

To ensure every child receives the right support at the right time, we follow a clear graduated approach.

Your child's class teacher is the first point of contact and will put initial strategies in place. Mrs Allen oversees this process and becomes more directly involved where needed, including reviewing Individual Plans. Referrals to external agencies must follow this graduated process.

Appointments with Mrs Allen should be made via the school office

Attendance

Reception	82.86%
Year 1	95.24%
Year 2	94.07%
Year 3	90.45%
Year 4	95.56%
Year 5	94.29%
Year 6	95.2%
ARC	93.61%

OLSS Target-97%

Whole School Attendance - 93.34 %

97%+

90%-96.9%

Below 90%



Arriving late can affect your child's attendance!

Every minute counts!

As few as 19 missed days over the school year reduces your child's chances of success.

Lateness = lost learning (Figures below are calculated over a school year)

5 minutes late each day 3 days lost!

10 minutes late each day 6.5 days lost!

15 minutes late each day 10 days lost!

20 minutes late each day 13 days lost!

30 minutes late each day 19 days lost!

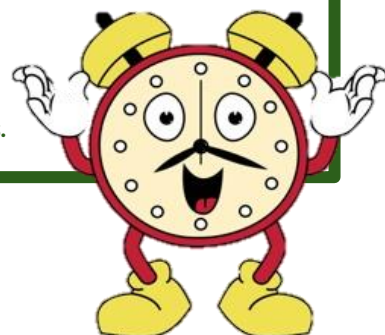
Don't let your child miss out! What you can do:

- Have a regular routine for the start of each day.
- Help your child get their clothes and equipment ready before they go to bed.
- Set a reasonable bedtime to make sure they get enough sleep. Get your child to school on time.

If they are late, they have a bad start to the day.

If your child arrives late for class:

- They miss Phonics
- They miss out on important learning, which could affect their achievement.
- They don't have the social time to settle into class.
 - It can be embarrassing for them.
- They may disrupt the learning of the rest of the class.



Stars of the Week

Nursery	Myaleigh
Reception	Reuben
Year 1	Armaani
Year 2	Zuza
Year 3	Alfie
Year 4	Evelin
Year 5	Heidi
Year 6	Jordan
ARC (S)	Sara
ARC (D)	Henleigh

Around School



FOOD FOR THOUGHT – LUNCH MENU WEEK 8

w/c 19th October	MONDAY (Planet Friendly / Meat Free)	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
SOUP	Pea	Chef Choice	Roasted Pepper		
HOT MAINS (Option 1)	Fish Fingers and Chips	Chinese Chicken Curry with Wholegrain Rice & Prawn Crackers	Cumberland Sausage Slice with Wedges & Beans		
HOT MAINS (Option 2)	Meat Free Burritos with Salad (V)	Puy Lentil Shepherds Pie with Garden Peas & Carrots (V)	Spaghetti & Veggie Meatballs (V)		
CHEF SPECIAL	Tuna Pasta	Tomato Pasta			
DESSERT	Fruit	Rice Pudding	Biscuits		

Available Daily: Jacket potatoes with tuna, cheese or beans, salad, hummus, fresh fruit and yoghurt.

Dietary & Quality: Please speak to a member of staff about dietary requirements. All menus are checked by a nutritionist and adhere to School Food Standards.

Key: (V) Vegetarian / (Ve) Vegan

Healthy Lunches

A healthy packed lunch gives children the energy and nutrients they need to learn, play and stay focused throughout the afternoon. Aim to include a variety of foods such as fruit or vegetables, a wholegrain sandwich/wrap or other starchy food, a protein-rich food such as cheese, eggs or yoghurt, and a drink of water. Try to keep sugary snacks, sweets, chocolate and fizzy drinks as occasional treats rather than everyday lunchbox choices. A colourful, balanced lunch helps children develop healthy eating habits and supports their wellbeing.





School Start Times

Nursery - 8:45am-2:55pm
Reception - 8:45am-3:05pm
Year 1 & 2 - 8:45am-3:10pm
Year 3, 4, 5 & 6 - 8:45am-3:10pm
ARC - 8:45am-3:05pm

Sensory Toys

Any children needing to use fidget toys will be provided with one from school to use during the school day to help them focus during lessons. Child are NOT allowed to bring in their own fidget toys. If you require any further information, please contact our SENDCo on the above email address.



Rec & Year 7

Reception and Year 7 admissions 2027
Reception closes 15/1/2027, Year 7 closes 31/10/2026 -any problems or help needed submitting contact the office.

Parent Teacher Consultations are now live on Arbor 11/11/2026 slots from 1pm to 4.50 pm, any problems or need help to access, contact the



REMINDERS



Parents are asked to download the new ARBOR Parent App and follow all instructions for gaining access to your account, Office staff are here to help if needed.



School dinner money must be paid on a Monday for the week



We currently have uniform available in most sizes. Once this stock has been sold, we will no longer be selling uniform in school due to storage issues



After School clubs are all live on ARBOR and must be booked through the APP



PARENTPAY: Activation letters have been sent out, please activate your account for payments for trips, meals etc.



Nursery Places available for children who are 3+



Our Lady and St Swithin's is a NUT FREE School



Please remember to CUT all grapes lengthways in your children's packed lunches

