



# Our Lady's News

# The RUAH



Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April  
2026

## A message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy Easter! I hope you all had a restful and enjoyable Easter holiday and enjoyed spending time together as a family. It is a pleasure to welcome everyone back as we begin the summer term always one of the busiest and most exciting times in the school year.

This term is filled with opportunities for both learning and celebration. We are currently finalising the dates on the Summer Term calendar and we hope to send them out to you early next week. Please put the dates on your fridge so that you don't miss any! We always display the dates of events on our website so if you are not sure, please check the home page:

[www.ourladyscowley.co.uk](http://www.ourladyscowley.co.uk)

Our pupils will be taking part in a wide range of activities, including trips to Legoland (years 3&4) and PGL (residential for year 6) as well as lots of sports events (rugby, cricket and sports day at Horspath) and creative opportunities in cultures day that celebrates who we are as unique people made in the image and likeness of God. For our Year 6 children, this is an especially important time as they prepare for their SATs (week of the 11<sup>th</sup> May) and we are very proud of the hard work and determination they continue to show.

We will also be focusing on making the most of the longer days and (hopefully!) warmer weather, with increased opportunities for outdoor learning and physical activity. Please ensure your child comes to school prepared, with a water bottle, sun hat and appropriate clothing for the changing weather.

As always, our staff remain committed to providing a supportive and inspiring environment where every child can thrive. We value the strong partnership we have with our families and we encourage you to stay in touch with us throughout the term.

Thank you for your continued support. I look forward to sharing another successful and enjoyable term with you all.

With best wishes  
Ms Davies and all the staff



**Graded  
outstanding in  
all areas in our  
Diocesan  
inspection in  
December 2024.**

*Respect, understanding, affection, humour*

# Important News!

## Essential Dates for Year 1, Year 4 and Year 6

Phonics Screening for Year 1: week of the 8<sup>th</sup> June

Multiplications Check for Year 4: starting Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June for 2 weeks

SATs week for Year 6: week of the 11<sup>th</sup> May

These are tests set by the government and children MUST be in school. If children fail to attend, senior leaders will visit your homes to collect children and bring them into school.

Any unauthorised holidays during this time will result in severe consequences including penalty notices and referrals to the Local Authority Safeguarding teams for neglect.



## Theatre Trip Opportunity for Years 2, 3, 4 and 5



As part of our enriched curriculum, we are delighted to offer pupils the opportunity to take part in exciting extracurricular theatre trips during their time at Our Lady's Catholic Primary School.

We have arranged two fantastic outings:

Matilda at Milton Keynes Theatre on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2026

Paddington: The Musical at the Savoy Theatre, London on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2027

These trips are open to children currently in Years 2, 3, 4 and 5.

There are 32 places available for each trip, which will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. Once all places have been filled, bookings will close.

The cost for each trip is as follows:

Matilda: £34.75

Paddington: The Musical: £47.50

This price includes both coach travel and the theatre ticket.

If you would like your child to attend, please book via Arbor by 1<sup>st</sup> May 2026.

# News from the classrooms



A Brilliant Start to Our Ancient Egyptian Topic  
LKS2 have begun their Ancient Egyptian topic with some fantastic artwork! The children explored patterns, symbols, and colours, creating eye-catching pieces inspired by Ancient Egypt. A wonderful start to our new topic. Well done, everyone!



Scarlet Class also had a wonderful time planting their own seeds as part of their 'Plant Parts' topic. As they have a short germination period, we're hoping to see some growth very soon provided the children remember to keep them watered!



Year 6 had a fantastic morning exploring The Highwayman! The children engaged deeply with its themes, imagery, and characters, and 6 have started confidently sharing thoughtful ideas and interpretations.



Coral class had a great time in maths exploring capacity. We counted how many cups it took to fill different items, such as a metal bowl and a cylinder!

**What a fantastic beginning to the term!**



In Nursery have been using their early mathematical skills to measure objects. We explored different ways of measuring using measuring sticks, rulers, tape measures and maths cubes. We used mathematical language such as tall, taller, tallest, short, shorter, shortest, small, smaller, smallest, large, larger, largest, more and less.



# Internet Safety

At our school, we recognise that screen time is now a common part of children's daily routines, supporting both learning and leisure. While technology can be a valuable educational tool, excessive use may impact children's sleep, concentration, and overall wellbeing, as well as reduce time for important real-life interactions and physical activity (). We encourage parents and carers to support healthy habits at home by setting clear limits on recreational screen time, promoting regular physical activity, and establishing screen-free periods, particularly during meals and before bedtime.

Please click the link below for information on how to limit screen time:

<https://www.ourladycowley.co.uk/page/?title=Useful+Parent+Guides&pid=134##>

We also have a range of guides available to support you and your children with the safe and balanced use of the internet, games, and other digital activities, including advice on setting parental controls and encouraging positive online behaviours.

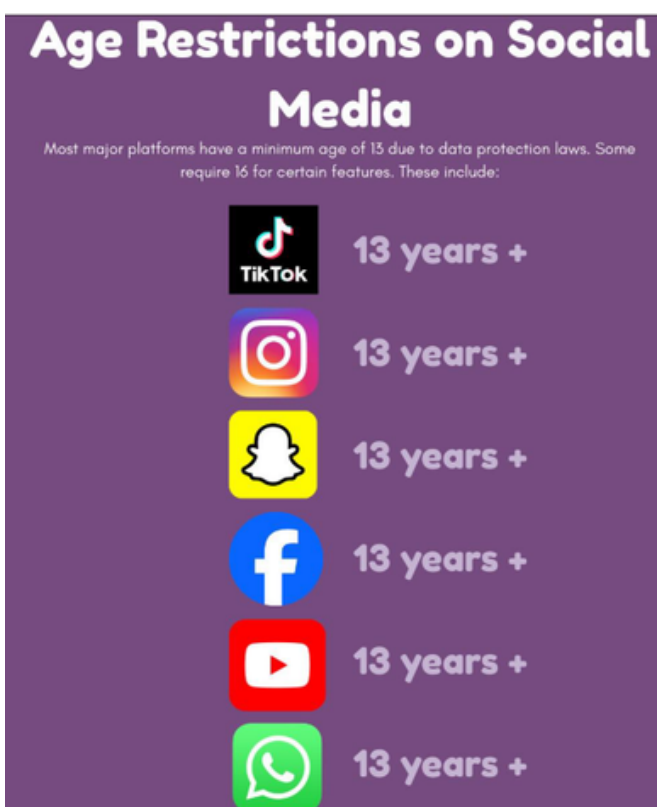
By working together, we can help children develop a balanced approach and make the most of both their digital learning and real-world experiences

## Screen Time



## Social media age limits

Did you know that most social media platforms have a minimum age requirement of 13? These limits are in place to help protect children's safety and privacy online, ensuring they are better prepared to manage potential risks such as sharing personal information and communicating with others. We kindly ask parents and carers to check which apps and platforms their child is using, ensure they meet the appropriate age requirements, and continue to have regular conversations about safe and responsible online behaviour.



# Attendance Matters

Your child's attendance at school is crucial.  
Unless they are very ill, they must be in school every day.

Furthermore, they must be in school on time our gates open at 8.30am and close at 8.40am.

It is vital that all children are in school as early as possible so that their learning is maximised.

**A polite reminder that if your child is unwell, you must contact the school office. Please call 01865 779176 to inform us.**

## Supporting your child to stay safe on the roads

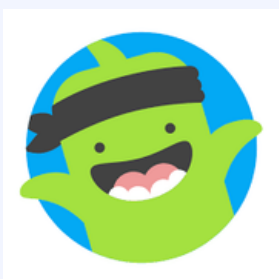


With brighter weather and lighter evenings ahead, now is a great time to help your child become a safer, more independent pedestrian.

Oxfordshire County Council's road safety scheme, Footsteps, includes a simple step-by-step guide and short videos to support you. The programme can be used during everyday activities like walking to school or the shops, encouraging children to think about their safety by asking open questions rather than just being told what to do.

Road safety is an important life skill that is best learnt through real-life experiences, and your support plays a key role in developing your child's confidence.

To access the guide and videos, please visit:  
<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/fire-and-community-safety/community-safety/safety-and-accident-resources/footsteps>



For all live updates and regular communication with your child's teacher, please sign up for Class Dojo.





# Let's Celebrate



## Learner and Salesian of the week

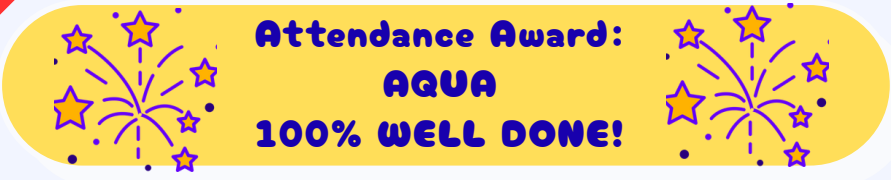
Sunshine Nursery	Arad A	Nathaniel
Sunflower	Jacob R	Destiny
Buttercup	Zach Z	Muhammad
Coral	Joshlyn	Alia
Ruby	Arlic	Levi James
Scarlet	David I	Erlin
Lime	Aitzaz H	Emma F
Olive	Marcel	Evelyn
Emerald	Elina	Bryan
Indigo	Aatika	Casimiro
Aqua	Rahim K	Abdul
Sapphire	Amika	Yusef

**Caught  
being  
Kind**



**Rapunzia-Scarlet  
&  
Jacob-Sunflower**

**What a fantastic start to the week!**



**Attendance Award:  
AQUA  
100% WELL DONE!**

# Dates for your Diary

## April

Monday 20th	Living Eggs arrive Year 3 & 4 Trip to Legoland
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup>	Indigo class to Pizza Express (AM)
Tuesday 28th	Reception Class Writing workshop for parents 15.20-16.00

## May

Monday 4 <sup>th</sup>	<b>School Closed Bank Holiday</b>
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> - Friday 15th	Year 6 SATs Week

**Wishing everyone a wonderful and restful weekend! We look forward to seeing everyone refreshed and ready for another great week of learning ahead.**

