

OLSJ SCHOOL NEWS:

24th March 2024

REHEARSALS FOR THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS: These have been going very well. They have been led by Linda Guilding (using all her drama skills from her days of teaching!) with the support of the teaching staff. And Fr David is providing music & PowerPoint support.

The actual performance of the **STATIONS OF THE CROSS** will be on Monday, 25th March in the afternoon at 2.25pm in the school hall. Parents & guardians are invited and will be most welcome.

ECO Gardening Club blog. We have enjoyed a busy few weeks in Gardening club! We have been stuck right in with enriching our beds with manure (thank you to Miss Kennard's horses!) ready for our spring planting. We have also explored natural resources to create props or characters from our favourite books in celebration of World Book Day - we had: Hermione from Harry Potter, Edward Tulane from the Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane, Matilda from... Matilda, a cauldron from Harry Potter, a Sugar Monster from The Sugar Monster, a tree from The Gruffalo and many more! We are now looking forward to continuing to sow and plant many seeds, bulbs, plug plants and sets and we are looking forward to the remainder of Spring and Summer! A big thank you to the parishioners from OLMSJ parish, Lymington for supplying seeds, plants and tools to help make our grounds beautiful. After weeks of planting bulbs, the warmer weather is starting to deliver some vibrant colours around the school. The children continue to work hard to compost as much organic material as possible and plant new evergreen shrubs. Enjoy looking through our pictures! <https://olsjschool.co.uk/schoolblog/gardening-club-blog>

JUNIOR ROAD SAFETY OFFICERS: Over the past month, here at Our Lady & St Joseph the children have been busy designing and creating a potential future Wow walk to school challenge badge! We have been busy making some very difficult decisions and Mrs Montague has selected Our Lady's top three designs! Well done to: Richard Year 5 (Our green planet), Violet Year 5 (Love our Earth) and Chloe Year 1 (Butterflies in nature). These final designs will be submitted to the Living Streets competition where they will be selecting winners from across schools in the country. We will be keeping our fingers crossed for them as the final winning designs will be transformed into physical

badges and distributed to all schools signed up to the campaign as rewards for active travel! Thank you to everyone who entered, it was incredibly difficult to select the best designs and we are incredibly proud of the wonderful creations produced here at OLSJ. All three entries have now been entered into the national competition and you can keep a close eye on the grand reveal soon! <https://www.livingstreets.org.uk/walk-to-school/primary-schools/wow-the-walk-to-school-challenge/wow-badge-design-competition-2024/>

RISE THEATRE VISIT: Last week we had the exciting RISE Theatre visit our school. RISE Theatre CIC is a professional Christian theatre company with a passion for delivering exciting, original, transformative theatre, with the aim of inspiring people of all ages to realise their full potential in life. They are passionate about creating: faith based stories that spark the imagination and speak to hearts and minds. Through multi-creative platforms they create opportunities for people of all ages to explore their sense of identity and purpose in the world. Together, we creatively explored God's planet, the impacts of a changing world and what we can do to help look after the planet in our own lives. Throughout the day we had opportunities to learn more about this topic through the morning assembly and rehearsals with RISE Theatre. Each class also had the opportunity to create some artwork, depicting what is happening to our planet and what we can do to look after God's creation. All of the work undertaken linked to the CST 'Stewardship'. *"Then God said, 'Let the Earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed and fruit trees of every kind on Earth that bear fruit with the seed in it.' And it was so. The Earth brought forth vegetation, plants yielding seed after their kind, and trees bearing fruit with seed in them, after their kind; and God saw that it was good."* (Genesis 1:11—12)

ZUMBA FOR ZAMBIA: You may recall that last year, our pupils across the partnership took part in a charity initiative, *"Zumba for Zambia!"* Across the partnership, our pupils raised nearly £1000 for *Eneless Patmos School in Lusaka, Zambia*. The community school welcomes all children from Lusaka for a free education, including a number of orphans and children living on the streets. Our donation has enabled the school to purchase musical instruments for their pupils, but also allowed them to purchase land to accommodate even more pupils! The money raised really does mean the world to the school and

to its pupils. Your donations will ensure that children in Zambia, many of whom live in severe poverty, receive an education and learn to read and write. OLSJ Governor Roger Maughan delivered the funds personally, through the charity Mission Direct, to school leader Eneless, who was absolutely delighted to receive the donation from our partnership of schools. Many thanks to all parents and pupils who raised funds and took part in Zumba for Zambia!