



THIS IS HOW WE DO IT HERE

9th October 2026

WELCOME FROM HEAD



Welcome to this edition of our newsletter.

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to this edition of our school newsletter. As always, it has been a busy and successful time at OLSB, with many opportunities for our pupils to grow in faith, learning and personal development. This newsletter celebrates some of their achievements and the experiences that make our school community so special.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership. Together, we can ensure that every pupil is encouraged to thrive and reach their full potential.

Mrs Wilkinson
Headteacher



BARCELONA TRIP

Year 10 Barcelona Trip

Our Year 10 trip to Barcelona was an unforgettable experience and a wonderful opportunity for students to broaden their horizons. Throughout the visit, pupils embraced the culture, explored the city's rich history and traditions, and fully immersed themselves in all that Barcelona has to offer.

From sampling delicious local food to experiencing life in a different country, students represented the school brilliantly and approached every activity with enthusiasm and maturity. It was fantastic to see them stepping outside their comfort zones, building confidence, and creating lasting memories with their peers.

A fantastic time was had by all, and the trip will undoubtedly be remembered as one of the highlights of the year. We are incredibly proud of how our pupils conducted themselves throughout the visit.



RAISING ASPIRATIONS

Durham University

Raising Aspirations with Durham University!

Our Year 7 and Year 10 Lumina students had the exciting opportunity to take part in a special assembly delivered in partnership with Durham University.

The session introduced students to the concept of university life, exploring:

What university is and how it differs from school and college The wide range of courses and career pathways available

Student life, opportunities and experiences beyond the classroom The importance of ambition, aspiration and planning for future success

Our students were encouraged to think about their future goals and the many possibilities that higher education can offer. It was fantastic to see such enthusiasm, curiosity and engagement from students as they began to consider the pathways that could lead them to university and beyond.

A huge thank you to Durham University for inspiring our young people and helping them to broaden their horizons and produce the next generation of learners.



YEAR 10 WORK EXPERIENCE



Celebrating Success in Computer Science and Creative iMedia

It was wonderful to see so many Year 10 pupils, parents and carers attend the launch of our 2027 Work Experience Programme. Led by Miss Coates, our CEIAG Lead, provided valuable information and guidance on securing a meaningful placement and highlighted the many benefits of work experience, including developing confidence, independence and employability skills.

Families will receive all resources from the evening, including the Work Experience Information Guide, via Arbor. Pupils will also have the opportunity to revisit the process and ask questions during a Year 10 assembly, where the next steps in finding a placement will be explained.

We look forward to supporting our Year 10 students as they begin this exciting journey towards their future careers.



It was wonderful to see so many families join us for our Year 7 Welcome Mass, marking an important milestone in the transition journey of our newest pupils into the OLSB community.

Transition is about much more than starting a new school. It is about developing a sense of belonging, building new relationships and becoming part of a supportive community. The partnership between home and school plays a vital role in this process, and it was a pleasure to welcome so many parents and carers to share in this special celebration.

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to Fr Mark for leading the Mass, and to all those who helped make the evening such a memorable occasion.

We are delighted to welcome our Year 7 pupils and their families to OLSB and look forward to supporting them throughout their journey with us in the years ahead.

YEAR 7 WELCOME MASS



DREAMS INTO REALITY

Inspiring Year 11

We were delighted to welcome motivational coach Cameron Parker to OLSB for an inspiring day of learning and personal development with our Year 11 pupils.

The day began with a thought-provoking assembly for the entire year group, focusing on the importance of a growth mindset, setting realistic goals and understanding the steps needed to turn ambitions into achievements. Pupils were encouraged to reflect on their aspirations, consider the habits that support success and develop the mindset required to achieve their goals.

Following the assembly, Cameron worked with targeted groups of pupils in intervention sessions designed to develop resilience, self-belief, aspiration and a positive outlook as they progress through this important stage of their education.

The response from pupils was extremely positive, and we are pleased that this work will continue throughout the year. Cameron will return to OLSB for a further eleven intervention sessions, providing ongoing support, challenge and motivation to help our pupils reach their full potential.

At OLSB, we believe that aspiration is about more than simply having a dream. It is about developing the confidence, character and determination needed to turn those aspirations into reality.



ATTENDANCE SUPERSTARS!



Congratulations to five of our students who have received special attendance awards in recognition of their outstanding commitment to school.

Each pupil was recognised for their individual attendance achievement, whether through consistently excellent attendance or significant improvement throughout the year. We are incredibly proud of the dedication and determination they have shown.

A special congratulations goes to Chloe, who achieved an outstanding 100% attendance throughout Year 7 and has maintained 100% attendance so far in Year 8. This is a fantastic achievement and a wonderful example of commitment and perseverance.

As an added reward, all five pupils received an Amazon Echo in recognition of their success.

At OLSB, we know that excellent attendance plays a vital role in achievement, wellbeing and making the most of every opportunity. We look forward to celebrating even more attendance successes throughout the year.

Well done to all of our attendance superstars!

ENRICHMENT CLUBS



OUR LADY AND ST BEDE
CATHOLIC ACADEMY

Period 6 Enrichment Programme

Autumn Term

Period 6 runs from 2:55pm to 3:35pm

MONDAY



Club	Location	Teacher
Roald Dahl on Stage	DR1	LWa/RSi
Homework Support	EMS	LSe/AGI
Steel Pan Band	Hall A	PTH
Minecraft Club	CS1	SFu/LGi
Y7 and Y8 Netball	Sports Hall	RLo
Inclusion Club (Invite Only)	Gym	CWa
Board Games	EMS	SMc
Challenge Zone	RE5	RPa
Darts League	Sports Hall	BWo
Student Librarians	Library	MJa
Faith Leaders and SVP	RE4	LWe/MSh
Pokemon Club	Library	MJa

TUESDAY



No Period 6 enrichment clubs scheduled.

WEDNESDAY



Club	Location	Teacher
Creative Writing Club	E5	NPi
Worship Choir	MU2	ECo
Homework Support	EMS	LSe/AGI
Lego Club	EMS	KDi
OLSBand	MU1	PWa
Dodgeball/Handball (Before School 8am)	Gym	BWo
Gardening Club	Prayer Garden	ENe
Dance Squad	DR1	FBa
Y9/10 Netball	Sports Hall	JEg
Football (Girls in all years, Y7/8 Boys & Y9/10 Boys)	Field	BWo, CWa, OBU
Young Citizens	Chapel	LWe
Multi Culture Club	Library	MJa
MFL Champions League of Linguists	MFL3	DRa
Student Librarians	Library	MJa

THURSDAY



Club	Location	Teacher
Performing Arts Club	DR1	ACa
Student Newspaper	RE2	MHu
Homework Support	EMS	LSe/AGI
Global Fashion	G3	SRI
Potions Club	S1	LHo/SJo
History Debate Club	H3	IMc
K-Nex	EMS	VSm
Recycling Club	AD2	KPo
Y7-Y9 Rugby	Field	AGI
Sustainability Club	G2	HSn
Faith Leaders and SVP	RE4	LWe/MSh
Social Justice Club	Library	MJa
Student Librarians	Library	MJa

FRIDAY



Club	Location	Teacher
Religion in the Media	RE2	MHu
Pop Choir	MU1	PWa
Badminton	Sports Hall	JEg
Catholic Life Society	Chapel	LWe
Student Librarians	Library	MJa



FAITH



COMPASSION



RESPECT



EXCELLENCE

Pupils are welcome to attend **more than one enrichment club** and are encouraged to explore the wide range of opportunities available. There is no need to sign up in advance for most clubs, simply turn up, get involved and enjoy being part of our vibrant enrichment programme.



KEY DATES AND UPCOMING EVENTS

- Thursday 22nd October - Year 7 Disco
 - Tuesday 3rd November - PTA Meeting (Hall A)
 - Wednesday 4th November - Future Steps for Year 11
 - Wednesday 18th November - Y7 Retreat Youth Village
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OUR LADY &
ST BEDE
CATHOLIC ACADEMY

*To know God
is to know me.*

ATTEND TODAY ACHIEVE TOMORROW

Every day in school matters.

GOOD ATTENDANCE HELPS YOU...



LEARN MORE

You don't miss important lessons.



MAKE PROGRESS

You build knowledge, skills and confidence.



BUILD FRIENDSHIPS

You belong and feel part of our school community.



ACHIEVE YOUR GOALS

Good attendance opens doors to your future.



BE YOUR BEST

You develop positive habits for life.

ATTENDANCE MAKES A BIG DIFFERENCE!

ATTENDANCE

THAT MEANS...

100%

0 DAYS MISSED

Excellent! You are making the most of every opportunity.



97%

6 DAYS MISSED

Good attendance. You're on the right track!



95%

10 DAYS MISSED

Room for improvement. You could be missing key learning.



90%

20 DAYS MISSED

Poor attendance. You are missing valuable learning time.



85%

30 DAYS MISSED

Serious impact on your progress and future opportunities.



REMEMBER: Even a few days missed here there adds up to lost learning over time.

EVERY DAY COUNTS!

Missing just 1 day a fortnight means you miss...



20

DAYS A YEAR

That's nearly 4 weeks of learning missed.



100

LESSONS A YEAR

That's a lot of new knowledge missed.



LESS CHANCE

of achieving your full potential.

Be here. Be ready. Be your best.

WE ARE COMMITTED TO YOU



We care

We notice.
We listen.
We support.



We help

We work with you and your family to overcome barriers.



We challenge

We have high expectations because we believe in you.



We celebrate

We recognise and reward great and improved attendance.



TO KNOW GOD
IS TO KNOW ME

*Together we flourish
in faith, learning
and love.*

★ STRIVE FOR 100% – BE PROUD OF YOUR ATTENDANCE ★



RESPECTFUL



RESPONSIBLE



COMPASSIONATE



AMBITIOUS



TOGETHER

ONE COMMUNITY • ONE PURPOSE • ONE JOURNEY

IMPORTANT LINKS



OUR WEBSITE

[VISIT OUR WEBSITE HERE](#)



OUR FAITH

[VISIT OUR PAGE HERE](#)



OUR CURRICULUM

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OUR POLICIES

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This is how we do it here