

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Primary School
Newsletter
22nd September 2026

Weekly Attendance Figures

Congratulations to St John's Class who had **98.4%** attendance week ending 4th September.

Our overall attendance was **94.7%**

Most improved attendance is St Matthew's Class from **91%** to **96.2%**

Congratulations to St Matthew's Class who had **98.5%** attendance week ending 11th September.

Our overall attendance was **97.7%**

Most improved attendance is St Mark's Class from **90.6%** to **97.5%**

Congratulations to St Mark's Class who had **98.3%** attendance week ending 18th September.

Our overall attendance was **92.2%**

Most improved attendance is St Mark's Class from **97.5%** to **98.3%**

Class	Class Attendance For the week ending: 04/09/26	No. of lates	Class	Class Attendance For the week ending: 11/09/26	No. of lates	Class	Class Attendance For the week ending: 18/09/26	No. of lates
St Nicholas	94.7%	2	St Nicholas	98.1%	1	St Nicholas	87.1%	1
St Matthew	96.2%	1	St Matthew	98.5%	1	St Matthew	93.8%	0
St Mark	90.6%	2	St Mark	97.5%	1	St Mark	98.3%	2
St Luke	92.7%	0	St Luke	97.8%	3	St Luke	96.2%	3
St John	98.4%	0	St John	96.9%	3	St John	85.6%	2
Winner	St John's		Winner	St Matthew's		Winner	St Mark's	

Welcome!

A special welcome goes to all of our new starters and their families. We are delighted that you have joined our school family and look forward to getting to know you over the coming months.

We are also delighted to welcome our new members of staff, Miss Littlemore, Miss Hylands, Miss Lakin and Miss Brown, and we know they will be wonderful additions to our school community.

As we continue this year together, we are filled with excitement and anticipation for all that lies ahead. We have so many wonderful opportunities, experiences and events planned for our children, and we cannot wait to share them with you.

Most importantly, we look forward to supporting each child as they grow in confidence, deepen their faith, develop new friendships and achieve their very best.

We are excited to watch them learn, grow and flourish throughout the year, and we look forward to creating many happy memories together as a school family.

Here's to a fantastic year ahead!



Welcome Mass

On Wednesday 9th September, we were delighted to come together as a school family for our Welcome Mass. We would like to extend our sincere thanks to all the parents, carers and parishioners who joined us for this special celebration as we marked the beginning of a new school year. It was wonderful to see our school community gathered together in faith and friendship.

We would also like to offer our heartfelt thanks to Father Emmanuel for leading the Mass and helping us begin the new academic year with such a meaningful and prayerful celebration.

We are incredibly proud of all our children, who were beautifully behaved throughout the Mass and represented our school with great reverence and respect. Their singing was wonderful and helped to make the celebration even more special. Thank you to everyone who attended and helped us make this such a memorable and uplifting start to the year.



Achievers - Week ending 11th September

	Following in the footprints of Christ award	Dojo Star	Reader	Homework
St Nicholas	Melissa	Riley	Zion	Bella
St Matthew	Deity	Lucas	Zoey	Parker
St Mark	Lily-May	Muna	Oliver B	Cohen
St Luke	Katie	Hallie	Tiwa	Cohen
St John	Willow	Calista	Emilia	Nahla



We would like to make you aware that we have moved the time of our weekly Achievers' Assembly from 9:00am on Friday mornings to **2:45pm on Friday afternoons**.

If your child has been chosen to receive a special award, you will receive a paper slip and a text message on Thursday. This will serve as an invitation for you and other family members to join us in celebrating their achievement.

St Matthew's Family Reading Session

On Tuesday 8th September, we were delighted to hold the first of our Family Reading Sessions, welcoming parents and carers from St Matthew's Class into school. It was wonderful to see families enjoying quality time together in our library, sharing books and fostering a love of reading with their children. These sessions provide a valuable opportunity for children to experience the joy of reading alongside their loved ones, and it was lovely to see so many smiling faces.

We would like to thank everyone who attended and helped make the session such a success. We look forward to welcoming many more families to our future reading sessions and continuing to celebrate the importance of reading together.



St Mark's Family Reading Session

On Tuesday 15th September, we were pleased to welcome the families of St Mark's Class to our Family Reading Session. The library was filled with the sound of stories being shared as children and their parents enjoyed exploring books together in a relaxed and enjoyable environment. These sessions are a fantastic way to encourage a love of reading and create special moments for families to enjoy together.

A huge thank you to all the parents and carers who joined us. Your support makes a real difference to your child's reading journey. We thoroughly enjoyed spending the morning with you and look forward to welcoming more families to our upcoming Family Reading Sessions throughout the year.



Austerfield

On Thursday 17th September, the children from our Year 4 class set off on their exciting residential visit to Austerfield, where they stayed overnight before returning to school on Friday 18th September.

During their visit, the children took part in a variety of fun and adventurous activities, including pond dipping, animal handling, orienteering and den building.

They also had the opportunity to enjoy a campfire on Thursday evening, creating special memories with their friends and teachers.

Residential visits provide wonderful opportunities for children to develop their confidence, independence and teamwork skills.

We hope all of the children and staff have a fantastic time and look forward to hearing all about their adventures!



The Hive Wrap Around Care

We are delighted to announce that we have successfully launched the OLPH Hive, our new after-school wraparound care provision.

Key Information

- Days: Monday to Friday
- Time: 3.30pm - 5.45pm
- Location: School Hall
- Collection: School Hall door
- Who can attend: Reception to Year 6 pupils
- Cost: £7.00 per child, per session (£30 for 5 sessions attended in the same week)



Children attending OLPH Hive will have access to a variety of activities, including arts and crafts, games, construction activities, outdoor play, sports and opportunities to relax and socialise with friends. Please see class Dojo for more information on how to book and pay for this new provision.

Harvest Festival

On Thursday 1st October, St Mark's Class will be leading a special Harvest Festival Assembly at 9:00am, and we would be delighted to welcome parents and carers to join us for this celebration.

Harvest Festival is a wonderful opportunity for us to give thanks for all that we have and to support those in need within our local community.

To help with this, we are inviting children from across the school to bring in donations for our harvest collection.

We would particularly appreciate donations of tinned foods, rice, pasta and toiletries, which will be shared with those who need them most. Please bring these to your child's class by Wednesday 30th September.



Thank you in advance for your generosity and support, and we look forward to seeing you at this special event.

OLPH Building Fund

As a voluntary aided school, we have to pay 10% towards any capital building improvements to our school. To help towards these costs we ask for a contribution of £30.00 per family per academic year. In recent years this fundraising has supported the building of our beautiful new library and the replacement of the Foundation Unit floor. Your contribution can be paid as a one-off payment of £30.00 on ParentPay or in smaller instalments. We really hope you can support us by making a contribution from your family to help us maintain the very best learning environment for our children.



After School Clubs - Autumn Term 1

Please see the table below for the after-school clubs.

Please note there is a cost of £2 per session to cover the cost of the ingredients and staffing. The full payment for all 6 sessions (£12) must be paid on ParentPay by Friday 4th September.



We still have 13 spaces available in our Young Voices choir. This runs every Monday 3.30pm until 4.30pm and is free of charge. We are asking for a cost of £12.37 to cover the cost of the coach.

After School Clubs	Year Groups
Baking Club - Monday until 4.30pm	Mixed Years 1 - 6
Baking Club - Thursday until 4.30pm	Mixed Years 1 - 6
Young Voices - Monday until 4.30pm	Years 3 - 6

School Uniform Reminder

We believe that school uniform gives pupils a sense of pride and belonging within our school community. It also makes children feel equal to one another in terms of appearance. Please see below a list of our school uniform.

Girl

Grey or Black trousers/ skirt/
pinafore dress
Summer red gingham dress
White blouse/polo shirt
Red cardigan/ sweatshirt
Black
shoes/ black trainers

Boys

Grey or black
trousers/shorts
White shirt/polo shirt
Red Sweatshirt/jumper
Black shoes/ black
trainers



PE Kit

Black/navy PE shorts or tracksuit bottoms
Plain white T-shirt/polo shirt
Plain black/navy sweatshirt/tracksuit jacket
Trainers/ pumps
No logos of any type



Jewellery, make up and nails

Please note that jewellery is not permitted to be worn in school with the exception of a small pair of plain, studded earrings and a watch. Earrings must be removed before PE - we do not permit plasters to be worn over earrings during PE.

Children are not permitted to wear make up to school unless there is an agreed non-uniform or dress up day.

Please be reminded that, in line with our health and safety requirements, students are not permitted to wear false or acrylic nails while at school. These nails can pose safety risks during practical lessons, physical activities, and everyday school routines, and may also make it difficult to maintain proper hygiene. Children will not be permitted to participate in PE lessons, break times outside or physical activities until nails are removed. To ensure a safe learning environment for all students, we ask that nails remain natural, clean, free from nail varnish and of an appropriate length.



PE days

Each class has two PE sessions per week, one in the morning and one in the afternoon.

For morning sessions, children should come to school dressed in their PE kit, but must also bring their school uniform to change into afterwards.

For afternoon sessions, children should arrive in their school uniform, and bring their PE kit with them to change into before the lesson.

If a child forgets their PE kit, they will be provided with a spare kit from school to ensure they can still take part.

Thank you for your support in helping us keep PE running smoothly!



Please see below the relevant PE days for each class.

Day of the week	Morning	Afternoon
Monday	Foundation Stage	St John's Class
Tuesday	St Matthew's Class	N/A
Wednesday	N/A	St Luke's Swimming St Mark's Class St John's Class
Thursday	N/A	Foundation Stage St Matthew's Class
Friday	St Mark's Class	N/A

Diary Dates

Event	Date
St Luke's Family Reading Session	Tuesday 22 nd September - 3pm
St John's Family Reading Session	Tuesday 29 th September - 3pm
Phonics workshop for the parents of Nursery and Reception pupils	Wednesday 23 rd September
St Mark's Harvest Festival assembly	Thursday 1 st October- 9am
Training Day	Friday 2 nd October
Foundation Stage (Nursery/Reception) Family Reading Session	Tuesday 6 th October - 3pm
Flu Vaccination Session	Monday 12 th October
St Matthew's Family Reading Session	Tuesday 13 th October - 3pm
Parents Invited to Maths Lessons	Wednesday 14 th October - 9am
School nurse session with St Mark's class - The importance of sleep	Monday 19 th October - 1pm
St Mark's Family Reading Session	Tuesday 20 th October - 3pm
Dojo Dash Day (theme to be confirmed)	Friday 23 rd October
School nurse dental session with Foundation Stage	Friday 23 rd October - 9:15am
Last day of term	Friday 23 rd October
School Reopens	Monday 2 nd November
St Luke's Family Reading Session	Tuesday 3 rd November - 3pm
Parents Evening 1 of 2	Wednesday 4 th November
St John's Remembrance Assembly	Tuesday 10 th November - 9am
St John's Family Reading Session	Tuesday 10 th November - 3pm
Parents Evening 2 of 2	Thursday 12 th November
St Nicholas's Family Reading Session	Tuesday 17 th November - 3pm
Children in Need - Theme to be confirmed	Friday 20 th November
Flu Vaccination Catch up session	Thursday 3 rd December
St Nicholas's, St Matthew and St Marks Nativity 1 of 2	Tuesday 7 th December - 2.40pm
Pantomime - Jingle Generator Jam (in school)	Tuesday 8 th December - 2pm
St Nicholas's, St Matthew and St Marks Nativity 2 of 2	Thursday 10 th December - 9.15am
St Luke and St John Nativity 1 of 2	Monday 14 th December - 2.40pm
Carol Service at Our Lady of Perpetual Help church, Bentley	Tuesday 15 th December - 7pm
St Luke and St John Nativity 2 of 2	Wednesday 16 th December - 9.15am
Talent Show	Friday 19 th December - 9am
Dojo Dash Parties	Friday 19 th December - PM
Last Day of Term	Friday 19 th December
First Day of Spring Term	Monday 4 th January 2027

OLPH 2026/27 Academic Year - School Holidays

School opens	School closes at the end of the school day
Wednesday 2 nd September 2026	Friday 23 rd October 2026
Tuesday 1st September - Training Day	Friday 2nd October - Training Day
Monday 2 nd November 2026	Friday 18 th December 2026
Monday 4 th January 2027	Friday 12 th February 2027
Monday 22 nd February 2027	Thursday 25 th March 2027
	Friday 26th March - Bank Holiday
Monday 12 th April 2027	Friday 28 th May 2027
Monday 3 rd May 2027 - Bank Holiday	
Monday 7 th June 2027	Friday 16 th July 2027
Monday 19th July - Training Day	Tuesday 20th July - Training Day
Wednesday 21st July - Training Day	

All dates in red the school will be closed to students

Bank holidays:	Training Days:
Friday 26 th March 2027 Monday 3 rd May 2027	Tuesday 1 st September 2026 Friday 2 nd October 2026 Monday 19 th July 2027 Tuesday 20 th July 2027 Wednesday 21 st July 2027