



HEADTEACHER Miss Elise Gribble

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Monday 21st July 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we arrive at the end of term and the school year, we have been reflecting on the successes and the challenges of the school year. There have been many successes and moments of joy, many of these stem from your wonderful children and your support!

One of the most exciting things is that we finally have a PTA! Many thanks to Miss Gurney for championing this and to all of the parents who have signed up to support! It is a very important collaboration between the school and parents to ensure that we can make the school experience filled with memorable moments!



We are also celebrating improved National outcomes for EYFS, Phonics, Year 2 and Year 4, which is down to our wonderful children, staff and your continued support at home.

We are so incredibly proud of all of the work and dedication that our school community has put into achieving these and we will keep striving for success!

We have also had lots of opportunities to compete, develop and perform, including:

- ✚ 23 children made the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and 21 children made their First Holy Communion!
- ✚ 47 children who competed at the Cross-County Championships!
- ✚ 3 children who made it to the Cross-Country County Finals following school sport competitions!
- ✚ 65 children who wowed us with their Musical Performances at the Musical Extravaganza!
- ✚ 120 children have had 7 weeks of swimming lessons!
- ✚ The whole school who went to see Peter Pan at the Castle Theatre.
- ✚ Our school performed at The Castle twice and at St Thomas Becket School.
- ✚ A wonderful Activities Week – that the children have said they loved!
- ✚ Every Year Group had 3 educational visits or experiences to bring their learning to life!

From September, we will be looking to offer as many opportunities as possible for our children to embrace new experiences!

Safeguarding arrangements for the holiday

Throughout the summer, we will be on hand to support with Safeguarding concerns. If you have any worries, please do not hesitate to contact us via email. In order to ensure your email is picked up, please include Miss Gribble, Mrs Connor and Miss Gurney in the email so that one of us can respond

DSL: Miss Elise Gribble

Email: egribble@ol.well.olicatschools.org

DDSL: Miss Hannah Gurney

Email: hgurney@ol.well.olicatschools.org

DDSL: Mrs Sarah Connor

Email: sconnor@ol.well.olicatschools.org

If you feel that a child is in immediate danger you should call 999.

If you are worried or concerned about something that has happened to you, a friend or someone you know, please contact the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub on 0300 126 7000. They will be able to talk through your concern and advise what will happen next.

September 2025

Moving forward there are a few areas that we need to improve on and we will definitely need your help with this. As these changes will require action on your part, we felt it was important to give you plenty of notice of these to ensure that any support or guidance can be offered before the term starts in September.

Attendance

Our school attendance is currently below the Department for Education's expectation. Overall, our attendance is 93.5%. The Local Authority expect this to be 95% or better. This impacts negatively on your children's learning, our ability to safeguard the children and will result in the school being unable to get a secure judgement for Attendance at our next Inspection.

The Ofsted inspection will consider if the school has:

- a strong focus on attendance and punctuality so that disruption is minimised.
- clear and effective behaviour and attendance policies with clearly defined consequences that are applied consistently and fairly by all staff.

In line with these principles, we will be reviewing our policy and as our whole school attendance needs to improve, including punctuality, we will be working with the Local Authority to challenge unauthorised absences and persistent absence and lateness.

During recent weeks, we have been receiving daily requests for holidays during term time, which does not constitute an exceptional circumstance. We are passionate about ensuring every child reaches their potential and personal best and absence impacts greatly on our ability to close those gaps in learning.

We will continue to be issuing Penalty Notices to parents for:

- Non-school attendance - 5 days (10 sessions including the morning and afternoon register) or more unauthorised absences in a 6 week period. This could also apply to lateness, where this is a persistent problem.

- Term time absence - 5 days (10 sessions including the morning and afternoon register) or more of consecutive unauthorised absence.

Fixed Penalty Notices can give each parent a fine of £80 (per child), which rises to £160 each if you do not pay within 21 days.

Uniform

We will be ensuring that all children meet our Uniform expectations. This is actually covered under our current Behaviour Policy. Please see below our expectations for the School Uniform, footwear and PE Kits. As we will be continuing to allow the children to wear PE Kits on PE days (this saves so much time during PE sessions), please ensure that your child's PE kit meets the school's expectations.

School Uniform

White Polo Shirt for EYFS and Key Stage 1 (EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2)

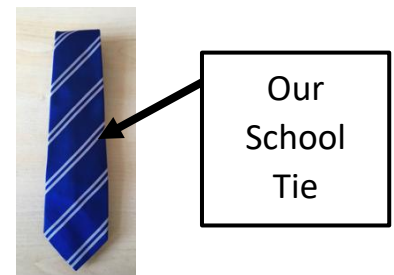
White Shirt and School Tie for Key Stage 2 (Years 3 – 6)

Grey Pullover/Cardigan

Grey shorts/trousers or skirts

White or Grey Socks

Black Shoes – Not Trainers



Light blue gingham summer dresses can be worn in the warmer months of the year.

PE Kits

White T-Shirt (we are moving away from our house colour t-shirts in order to keep costs down for you but we understand that you might want to let your children grow out of them before you replace them).

Blue Shorts/Navy Tracksuit Bottoms

Navy Hoodie/Jumper

Trainers

Uniform Items with the School Logo

We appreciate your continued support with regards to proper school uniform. Uniform items with the school logo are available from the Uniform Shop, Wellingborough. Ordering online from the Uniform Shop is simple and secure but you will need to create an account to be able to order.

[Click link: www.uniformshopwellingborough.co.uk](http://www.uniformshopwellingborough.co.uk)

If you have any queries please ring: 01933 426433 or visit the Uniform Shop, 8 Olympic Way Wellingborough. NN8 3QE

Staff Changes

We have some new staff joining our team, which is really exciting! We are very pleased to welcome Miss Kemp and Mr Prime. Your children have already met our new teachers and some of you may have as well!

Congratulations and welcome back to Mrs Cole and Miss Wright, who will be returning from their Maternity leave this week!

Sadly, we will be saying goodbye to some staff members at the end of the Year and we thank them for all of their hard work. They will always remain a part of our school family.

Mrs J Ward has taught at Our Lady's for 10 years and will be retiring this summer. We thank her for all of her dedication, especially championing attendance and always bringing such joy to assemblies as her classes embrace singing and worship so beautifully!

Mrs Young will be taking on an Assistant Headteacher role at one of our Trust Schools, which is an exciting opportunity for her! We thank her for all of her hard work and dedication over the last 9 years and wish her every blessing in her new school!

Mrs Lewins will be taking on a teaching role in another school having successfully achieved her PGCE, this year! We are really excited for her as she takes on the next step in her career in Education!

Mrs Butler will be moving onto a new school and we would like to thank her for all of her hard work and positivity throughout the last school year. We wish her all the best!

Mrs Vitagliano will also be leaving us at the end of the term, as she was covering Maternity Leave this year. We thank her for all of her passion and enthusiasm and wish her all the best!

Finally, thank you for all of your support throughout the year – it is greatly appreciated!

We look forward to welcoming your lovely children back on Wednesday 3rd September and wish you all a blessed and restful Summer holiday!

Yours sincerely,

Miss Elise Gribble

Headteacher