

Newsletter



4th June 2025

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Reflection

Beloved Friends, Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

During this Exam Season for your schools, I am thinking of you all and praying for you.

The Month of June, which sits right in the middle of the year, gives us a time to reflect on the past six months as we look forward to the next six months and what they mean to us. The summer months are coming, exams will be over, and some of your students are preparing to move to secondary schools, universities, or vocational programmes and skill acquisitions. Some of you may be seeking new opportunities and exploring greater outcomes. I wish you many blessings in all your endeavours.

Liturgically, June is packed with Solemnities: On June 8th, we celebrate Pentecost Sunday, the outpouring of the Holy Spirit and the birthday of the Church; with that celebration, the Easter Season comes to end, and the beautiful season of Ordinary Time begins. You will once again notice that the colours in your Church will change to Green. Ordinary time is such a lovely season in the Church. It invites us to focus on Jesus, our Saviour, when no significant ceremonies exist.

We also have the Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity on Sunday, June 15th, the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi) on Sunday, June 22nd, the Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus on Friday, June 27th, and the Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul, Apostles, on Sunday, June 29th.

In June, we will also celebrate the feast day of several Saints, such as Saint Barnabas, Saint Anthony of Padua, Saint Aloysius Gonzaga, Saints John Fisher and Thomas More, the Birth of Saint John the Baptist, and Saint Irenaeus. In different ways, all these Saints inspire us to lead a life of holiness and speak to us to have courage and keep Hope alive. To never give up.



As a child, my mum registered every one of us in the family as devotees of the Sacred Heart. During our family prayer, we all turn to face the picture of the Sacred Heart and say this prayer: "Christ is the head of this house, the unseen guest at every meal, the silent listener to every conversation." I would like to introduce this prayer to you. I always draw strength and feel the love, mercy and compassion of the Sacred Heart of Jesus any time I say this prayer.

Let us continue to draw close to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, especially in this month of June, recognising that He is the head of our schools, of our homes and of our families, and in His heart, we find unconditional and ever-giving love that we so desire. The Sacred Heart of Jesus invites us to have a heart-to-heart conversation with Him.

May we continue to find solace and strength in the Most Sacred of Jesus, Amen.

Canon Victor Darlington
Episcopal Vicar for Education

Archbishop's Appeal Grant 2025

What is the Archbishop's Appeal Grant?

The Archbishop's Appeal is a fundraising appeal that takes place across parishes in the Archdiocese of Southwark each year. Launched in November 2022, this fundraising effort seeks to invest faith, hope, love, and charity into the missionary work of the Archdiocese in three key areas: Youth and Evangelisation, Social Outreach and Clergy Care. Funds are collected and held centrally by the Archdiocese of Southwark and ring-fenced for the Archbishop's Appeal, a portion of which is designated to be granted back to parishes and schools to support their local work.

Grants of up to £5,000 are available to support innovative projects taking place in Southwark parishes, schools, commissions, and other Catholic entities working alongside the Archdiocese, which seek to enhance one or more of the key missionary areas: Youth/Evangelisation or Social Outreach.

More information available: <https://rcaos.org.uk/archbishops-appeal-grant>

Financial Benchmarking and Insights Tool

The School Information (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2025 ("the 2025 Regulations") comes into effect on 16 June 2025 and requires governing bodies of maintained schools to publish on their website a link to the specific page on the Financial Benchmarking and Insights Tool, that is dedicated to their school.

At present, Schedule 4 to the School Information (England) Regulations 2008 ("the 2008 Regulations") require there to be a link to the Schools Financial Benchmarking website, which is due to be retired. The purpose of the 2025 Regulations then is to amend the 2008 Regulations, so as to replace "Schools Financial Benchmarking website", with "Financial Benchmarking and Insights Tool".

[Find a school, trust or local authority - Financial Benchmarking and Insights Tool - GOV.UK](#)



Reception Year Conference- Invite to Senior Colleagues

Regional conferences for senior education leaders, focussed on the importance of the reception year and the impact of a good level of development on the overall attainment of pupils.

[Further details and booking.](#)

Celebration of Service Mass

Archbishop John looks forward to meeting headteachers at the Mass to celebrate Catholic Education and those who serve as leaders that will be held on 18th June 2025 at 4pm. All headteachers are encouraged to attend and pupils are also welcome. Heads are invited to bring a future leader with them, be it a member of the teaching, support or administrative staff who you wish to encourage into leadership in their area of school responsibility.

Please [click here](#) to view more details and book.

Support for Teaching Judaism

Anna Silver from the Board of Deputies is leading an 'Any questions' zoom session to support teachers in their teaching of Judaism. It's free and informative.

Date: Tuesday 17th June Time: 3:45-4:45

Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87673118531?pwd=jbr7OdUuZJyHNVgav1kZMrIde1ozgU.1>

Meeting ID: 876 7311 8531

Passcode: 409549

Wintershall Life of Christ performances

17th-21st June 2025. 10am-3.30pm

Discover the wonder of Jesus' life with an unforgettable event for all the family. The Life of Christ is a play like no other, placing you in the middle of an immersive theatre experience. Join over a hundred actors in the stunning grounds of Wintershall Estate as this magnificent story is movingly recreated with authentic detail in an epic open-air production.

Further details can be viewed here: <https://www.wintershall.org.uk/event/life-of-christ/>

Photos from the Jubilee Year

Please send photos from activities from the Jubilee Year of Hope to Claire Williams (claire.williams@rcaos.org.uk) at the Education Service. We would like to take time in the Headteacher Conference to celebrate all the wonderful things going on in our schools.



Support Requested – Global Survey for Catholic Teachers (UMEC-WUCT)

The World Union of Catholic Teachers (UMEC-WUCT) UMEC-WUCT, an international body recognised by the Holy See, is conducting a worldwide survey to understand more about the identity, values, and lived experience of Catholic teachers in all educational settings. The University of Glasgow (a WUCT member) is collaborating with the Pontifical University of Chile and Saint Louis University, Missouri, to analyse the data. The survey has ethical approval and contains no identifiable data.

The aim of the survey is to explore the identity, values and lived experience of Catholic teachers working in all settings. It is being supported by the University of Glasgow in partnership with the Pontifical University of Chile and Saint Louis University, Missouri.

Key details:

The survey is anonymous and has received full ethical approval.
It takes only 5–10 minutes to complete.

It forms part of the Church's contribution to the Jubilee Year 2025.

Results will be shared at the Jubilee Conference on Education later this year.

Please consider completing the survey and encouraging your colleagues to do the same. Your voice and experience are greatly valued and important.

Survey Link: https://uofg.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_7TyF0wIxiV7zJ6m

The survey closes on 4 July 2025.

WorkNest - Addressing Workplace Conflict and Grievances

Workplace conflict is inevitable – but are you equipped to deal with it before it becomes a grievance, whistleblowing claim, or Tribunal case? From personality clashes and workstyle differences to more serious disputes, workplace conflict is one of the most common – and costly – issues employers face.

In this free 60-minute webinar on the 12th June at 2pm, WorkNest's Employment Law and HR experts, will guide you through four real-life scenarios, showing how situations can escalate — and how to resolve issues early to protect your organisation.

Register here: <https://worknest.com/training/addressing-workplace-conflict-and-grievances-partners/?v=ADOSW>

Deputy and Assistant Headteacher Conference - Reframe your Brain

Wednesday, 9th July 2025. 9.15am – 4pm. £25. St Mary's High Catholic School, Woburn Road, Croydon, CR9 2EE

“Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.”

Romans 12:2 (EIV)



This year's Deputy and Assistant Headteacher Conference will be split into two parts. The morning session will begin with Catherine McLoughlin and will give leaders the opportunity to develop greater positivity and resilience in their roles, creating a solution focused attitude to the challenges faced every day. The afternoon session will be led by Dr Nancy Walbank, supporting leaders to develop their understanding of the Religious Education Directory, which is expected to be in place in all schools in September 2026.

Book: <https://www.rcaoseducation.org.uk/deputy-and-assistant-headteacher-conference/>

Recruitment

Vacancies can be viewed in full here: <https://www.rcaoseducation.org.uk/recruitment/>

Trust Relationship Officer, Education Service
Orpington

ECT/Mainscale Class Teacher, Notre Dame Catholic Primary School

London
Closing date: 6th June 2025

Chief Financial Officer, Christ the Redeemer Catholic Educational Trust

Closing date: 6th June 2025

RE Teacher, Ursuline High School

Wimbledon
Closing date: 6th June 2025

Catering Assistant, Ursuline High School

Wimbledon
Closing date: 6th June 2025

KS2 Class Teacher, St Mary's Catholic Federation

Carshalton
Closing date: 11th June 2025

Class Teacher, St Thomas' Catholic Primary School

Kent
Closing date: 16th June 2025

Teacher of English, St Ursula's Convent School

Greenwich
Closing date: 19th June 2025

Teaching Assistant, St Teresa's RC Primary School

Morden
Closing date: 6th June 2025

Foundation/KS1 Lead, St Thomas' Catholic Primary School

Kent
Closing date: 16th June 2025

Head of Year, St Ursula's Convent School

Greenwich
Closing date: 19th June 2025

Support for Parents from Catholic Marriage Care

Catholic Marriage Care offer Relationship Counselling, Marriage Preparation and more, online and in-person. Research tells us that family issues come high on the list of the things that young people worry about. Therefore, if we can offer support for those relationships, we will be helping pupils.

[Click here](#) to view more details.



Events at St Ursula's Covent School



YEAR 5 CHAPLAINCY DAY!
Monday 30th June 2025 9.15 am - 2pm
At St Ursula's Convent School

Join us for a Retreat Day

We're looking forward to welcoming your Chaplaincy teams to our year 5 Chaplaincy day. It's a wonderful opportunity to connect with others, reflect on your role in school, explore future possibilities—and most importantly, spend time with God.

Please RPSV before the 13th of June
Send an email to twilliams-swaby@stursulas.com

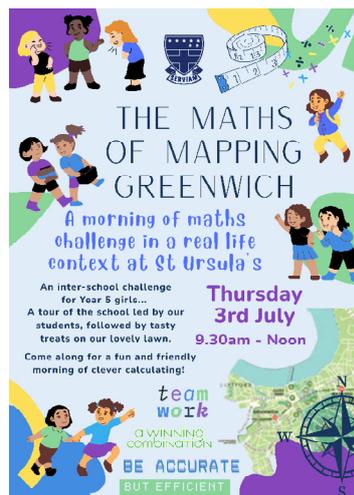


LEGO ROBOT COMPETITION
MONDAY 7TH OF JULY
AT ST URSULA'S CONVENT SCHOOL SE10 8NN

JOIN THE BATTLE OF THE BOTS!

BUILD. CODE. COMPETE.

RPSV BEFORE THE 13TH OF JUNE:
twilliams-swaby@stursulas.com



THE MATHS OF MAPPING GREENWICH

A morning of maths challenge in a real life context at St Ursula's

An inter-school challenge for Year 5 girls...
A tour of the school led by our students, followed by tasty treats on our lovely lawn.

Come along for a fun and friendly morning of clever calculating!

Thursday 3rd July 9.30am - Noon

team work
A WINNING COMBINATION
BE ACCURATE BUT EFFICIENT



SPELLING BEE AT ST URSULA'S

Buzz your way to victory!

July 8th 10 - 3.30 p.m. at St Ursula's

EVENT

- Open to female Y5 students
- Place on the line - please bring your own book
- Light nibbles provided for everyone
- A tour of the school led by our students
- Come along for a fun and friendly day of spelling, teamwork, and school spirit!

PRIZES

- 1ST PLACE £100
- 2ND PLACE £50
- 3RD PLACE £25

How to Register?

Send an email to twilliams-swaby@stursulas.com

Events & Training

Summer 2025

Induction for New Foundation Directors, Governors and Clerks

Thursday 26th June 2025 5.30-7pm. Zoom

[Book](#)

Buildings Termly Update Meeting

Tuesday 10th June 2025. 2-3pm. Zoom

[Book](#)

School Building Responsibilities as a Governor

Thursday 12th June 2025. 5.30-6.30pm. Zoom

[Book](#)

Celebration of Service Mass

Wednesday 18th June 2025. 4pm

St George's Cathedral

[Book](#)

Finance for Governors

Tuesday 24th June 2025 5.30-7pm. Zoom

[Book](#)

Festival of Hope - fully booked

Wednesday 25th June 2025. 9am-3pm

The Friars, Aylesford, Kent ME20 7BY

[Book](#)

Chaplaincy Retreat

Friday 27th June 2025. 9.30am-4pm.

£55. Canterbury Cathedral Lodge, The Precincts, Canterbury, Kent, CT1 2EH

[Book](#)

Foundation Directors of CAT's Training Session: Catholic Social Teaching

Monday 7th July 2025 5.30-7pm.

Zoom

[Book](#)

Deputy and Assistant Headteacher Conference

Wednesday, 9th July 2025. 9.15am – 4pm

£25. St Mary's High Catholic School, Woburn Road, Croydon, CR9 2EE

[Book](#)

Save the Date!

Beginning of Year Mass - 24th September 2025

Headteachers' Conference 2025 -Ashford International Hotel - 19th and 20th November 2025

News

World Day at St Augustine's Catholic Primary School



St Augustine's Catholic Primary School in Tunbridge Wells celebrated World day for cultural diversity. It was an amazing day where super brave children performed dancing and singing in assembly.

[Continue reading.](#)

Father Roshy Visits Laleham Lea School

Students and staff from Laleham Lea School in Purley were delighted to welcome Father Roshy from John The Baptist on Wednesday for our Crowning of Mary service and procession.

[Continue reading.](#)

