**20th November 2025**

**Issue 11**

# Weekly Newsletter

Our Lady Immaculate Catholic Primary School
A Multi-Academy

The Rosary Trust

THE SCHOOL OFFICE HOURS ARE 7:30 AM. UNTIL 4:00 PM. MONDAY - FRIDAY

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for your generosity and support last week. Not only did you raise a considerable amount of money for our Greatest Athlete visit—60% of which we will receive to purchase additional sports equipment for the school—but you also helped the children raise an incredible amount for BBC Children in Need!

It was lovely to see so many of you last Friday at our annual Friends Association disco. Thank you to everyone who gave up their time to prepare and run the event. Without the dedication of our committee and volunteers, we would not be able to hold these events, which raise invaluable funds for our school. So far this academic year, the Friends Association has already purchased seven new iPads so that each class has one to use, benefiting all pupils.

We are always in need of more members and volunteers, and joining is a great way to meet new people too. Please look out for information about how you can help with our upcoming Christmas event on 30th November.

Our school is a true community, and we are so fortunate. I hope you all enjoy a nice long weekend while staff are training this Friday, and I am sure many of you will support the parish bazaar this Sunday.

Warmest wishes and God Bless,

*Mrs Sophie Gibbs - Acting Headteacher*

## Notices

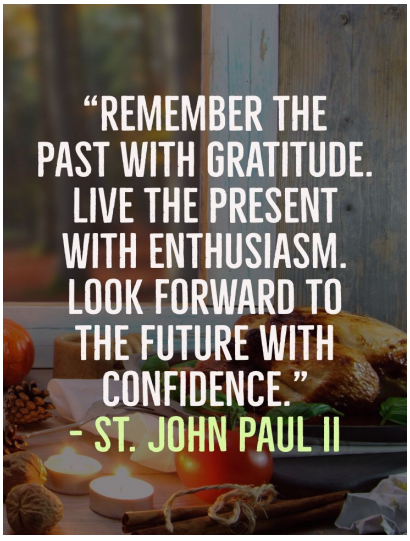
- **UK parliament week.**
- **Year 3/4 indoor tennis on Monday.**
- **All in event on Tuesday.**

## Catholic life of the school

Jubilee mass



## Thought for the weekend!




TEN TEN

Prayer and Liturgy Monthly Newsletter

Parent Newsletter – Ten Ten Resources



## Our Virtue

Virtues to Live by

**I am thankful**

**when**

I can say thank you to God.

I take time to appreciate the awe and wonder in God's creation.

I show God I am thankful to Him by cherishing the gifts of His creation.

I am thankful for all the gifts in me and around me.

I count my blessings every day and remember to praise God for them.

I know that all I have is a gift from God.

# DATES TO REMEMBER

**Please note:**
**new information will be presented in red**

| | |
|---|---|
| **NOVEMBER 2025** | |
| Friday, 21st | INSET DAY |
| Wednesday, 26th | Year 6 and Reception Mass - 9.30am in the church |
| Friday, 28th | Non-uniform day - bring a bottle (please see Friends Association page below) |
| Sunday, 30th | Friends Association Festive family fun day |
| **DECEMBER 2025** | |
| Monday, 1st | Year 6 visiting Chelmsford Museum (WWII) |
| Wednesday, 3rd | Year 5 Mass - 9.30am in the church |
| Friday, 5th | Friends Association - Christmas wreath making |
| Monday, 8th | Feast Day Mass at 2pm to celebrate 180th anniversary of the school |
| Tuesday, 9th | EYFS/KS1 Christmas performance @ 9.30am (**Reception and Year 1 parents only)**<br>Year 5 meeting re. Residential trip 2027 - 5.30pm in the school hall |
| Wednesday, 10th | Year 3 Mass - 9.30am in the Church<br>Children's Christmas Dinner Day |
| Thursday, 11th | EYFS/KS1 Christmas Performance @ 2.30pm (**Year 2 parents only**) |
| Friday, 12th | Friends Association Christmas gift sale |
| Wednesday, 17th | Junior Carol Service @ 2pm in the Church |
| Friday, 19th | Last day of term - no after school Ark - school closes at 3.15pm |
| **JANUARY 2026** | |
| Monday, 5th | INSET DAY |
| Tuesday, 6th | First day back of Spring term |
| Wednesday, 7th | Whole school Epiphany Mass - 9am in the church |
| Wednesday, 14th | Year 2 Mass - 9.30am in the church |
| Wednesday, 21st | Year 1 Mass - 9.30am in the church |
| Wednesday, 28th | Reception and Year 6 Mass - 9.30am in the church |
| **FEBRUARY 2026** | |
| Monday, 2nd | Year 2 - Roald Dahl Day |
| Tuesday, 3rd | Year 6 visiting Chelmsford Museum (Electrical Engineers)<br>Year 4 Superstars |

| | |
|---|---|
| **FEB 2026 cont...** | |
| Wednesday, 4th | Year 5 Mass - 9.30am in the church |
| Tuesday, 10th | Parents evening - 3.30pm - 6.30pm |
| Wednesday, 11th | Year 4 Mass - 9.30am in the church |
| Thursday, 12th | Parents evening - 3.30pm - 6.30pm |
| Monday, 16th - Friday, 20th | Half-term |
| **MARCH 2026** | |
| Wednesday, 18th | Year 6 trip to Down House |
| Monday, 30th March | Last day of Spring term |
| **APRIL 2026** | |
| Monday, 13th | First day of Summer term |
| Wednesday, 22nd | Year 3 trip to Colchester Museum |
| Tuesday, 28th | Reception trip to Hyde Hall<br>Year 2 - 3Tees sports |
| **MAY 2026** | |
| Thursday, 14th | Year 2 trip to Osea View Beach |
| Monday, 25th - Friday, 29th | Half-term |
| **JUNE 2026** | |
| Monday, 1st | INSET DAY |
| Wednesday, 3rd | Year 1 trip to Colchester Zoo<br>Year 3 - Fitness 3s |
| Monday, 15th - Wednesday, 17th | Year 6 Residential trip to Bawdsey Manor |
| Tuesday, 23rd | Year 5 - Food and Farming Day at Writtle College |
| Thursday, 25th | Reception trip to Chelmsford Museum |
| Monday, 29th | Year 2 - Mini Games |
| **JULY 2026** | |
| Friday, 3rd | Year 6 trip to Adventure Island |
| Friday, 17th | LAST DAY OF TERM - SCHOOL CLOSES AT 3.15PM - NO AFTER SCHOOL CLUB |
| Monday, 20th | INSET DAY |

# WHAT'S ON AT THE ARK





## 24.11.25 - 28.11.25

## AFTER SCHOOL

## Wednesday 26th November - Board games from 3.30pm

## HOUSE POINTS

WEEK ENDING 21ST NOVEMBER

(figures in brackets refer to aggregated totals from the start of term)

| BECKET | CAMPION | FISHER | MORE |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1st (157) | 2nd (160) | 3rd (130) | 4th (143) |

## MERIT BADGES

**WEEK ENDING 21st November 2025**

(Merit Badges are awarded for demonstrating the Value of the Week)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Reception** | Sandhra | Lara |
| **Year 1** | Bjorn | Freya |
| **Year 2** | Godswill | Miriam |
| **Year 3** | Luca | Annie |
| **Year 4** | Xander | Zuzanna |
| **Year 5** | Charlotte | Pola |
| **Year 6** | Hannah | Elijah |

## LEARNER OF THE WEEK

**WEEK ENDING 21st November 2025**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Reception** | Ryan | William |
| **Year 1** | Leo | Ezra |
| **Year 2** | Kezia | Odhran |
| **Year 3** | Naia | TJ |
| **Year 4** | Joshua | Eloise |
| **Year 5** | Kaleb | Sophia |
| **Year 6** | Jeffray | Sienna |

## Safeguarding

The wellbeing of our children is of paramount importance to all staff. Should any parent have a concern regarding a child's wellbeing, please inform the school's Designated Safeguarding officer: **Mrs Gibbs** or the Deputy Designated Safeguarding Officer: **Mrs Daley.**

In cases where school staff have concerns, they have a statutory duty to discuss the issue with one of the Designated Safeguarding Officers to seek further advice.

***"Safeguarding is thinking the unthinkable and then figuring out how to reduce the probability of the unthinkable happening."***

Graham Fawcet

Child Protection & Safeguarding

# Friends Association News

## Christmas events

**Festive family fun day Sunday 30th November**

This is the re-branded Christmas Bazaar. It will have all the fun and games, refreshments, grand drawer and raffle, and not forgetting a visit from Father Christmas.

We really need volunteers to help us on the Friday 28th for setting up and throughout the day on Sunday 30th. Follow the link to book tickets and volunteer https://bit.ly/OLIxmasfun25 or speak with your year group Friends rep or email the Friends to volunteer Friends@ourladyimmaculate.essex.sch.uk

**Friday 28th November**

Non uniform day for bring a bottle for the Festive fun day bottle tombola. Please bring an unopened bottle of alcohol/non-alcoholic drink.

Suggested hamper themes for each year group to buy:

| | |
|---|---|
| Foundation: | Christmas craft kits & supplies |
| Year 1: | cosy night in (books, herbal teas, eye mask, fluffy socks, tea lights, etc) |
| Year 2: | me time (bath bombs, hand & body cream, novelty hairband, scented lip balm scented candle, novelty sponge |
| Year 3: | art supplies (watercolours, paint, brushes, paint trays, scrap books) |
| Year 4: | Christmas baking (baking kits, sprinkles/syrups, dry ingredients, biscuit cutters / rolling pin, aprons etc) |
| Year 5: | film night (popcorn, snacks, hot chocolate, marshmallows, etc) |
| Year 6: | Christmas party (snacks, bottles, decorations, family games) |

We also need sweets/chocolate (no nuts) and any soft toy donations. Please also leave in the trolley in the playground.

**Grand drawer**

Tickets have been given to children. Please ask family and friends and send back the stubs and money into school, or bring them with you on Sunday 28th November.

**Wreath Making evening – Friday, 5th December**

We will be holding a wreath making event in the church hall on Friday 5th December 7-9pm. Tickets are £25 each and bring your favourite drink and snacks. It should be a fun evening for getting into the Christmas spirit. https://bit.ly/OLIwreath

**Christmas gift sale Friday 12th December**

Children will be able to purchase Christmas gifts in school for their loved ones, date to be confirmed and published soon.

Many thanks

The Friends Association

OLI Friends Association

Our Lady Immaculate fully complies with information legislation. For the full details on how we use your personal information please see our privacy notices which are located on our school website (www.ourladyimmaculateprimary.org ) under 'Key Information/GDPR and Privacy Notices' or call 01245 353 755 if you are unable to access the internet.

**Jubilee Year, Signs of Hope**

This week, the Mini Vinnies and the Reception children have been planting spring bulbs in the prayer garden, Forest School and in the Reception outdoor area. Look out for these signs of hope in the Spring term. Thank you to Miss Carr and Mrs Harpur for leading the gardening groups.









## MENU WEEK COMMENCING - 24th November – Week 3

**Please refer to the menus on our website so the children are aware and know what to choose when asked by their teachers. Please use the online payment system to pay for all dinners (Years 3 to 6).**

**Is your child eligible for this award - Free School Meals?**

In order for the school to receive the Pupil Premium funding, a parent/carer must be claiming one of the following benefits:




- Income Support / Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (as long as you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- **Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit) Universal Credit.**

Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get). **Further information can be found on** https://www.essex.gov.uk/free-school-meals

## Attendance

Attendance Data:

**94% and below** | **94% - 96.9%** | **97% and above**

| | **Last week %**<br>**10.11.25 - 14.11.25** | **This week %**<br>**17.11.25 - 20.11.25** |
|---|---|---|
| Foundation | 96.3% | 91.3% |
| Year 1 | 97% | 95% |
| Year 2 | 98.7% | 98.3% |
| Year 3 | 97.9% | 97% |
| Year 4 | 95.9% | 95.7% |
| Year 5 | 97.4% | 97.6% |
| Year 6 | 95.1% | 91.3% |
| **Whole School Total** | **96.9%** | **95.1%** |

Congratulations to years 2, 3 & 5 for being above 97%.

The aim of the attendance chart is for all classes to achieve green.

If your child's attendance falls below 95%, you will receive a legal attendance letter as per the Attendance Policy.