5th December 2025

Issue 13

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,

It was lovely to see so many of you on Sunday at the annual Friends Association Christmas Bazaar - it truly was a magical day! These events are only possible thanks to the dedication of our Friends committee and volunteers. We are always looking for more people to help so we can continue offering these wonderful social opportunities. If you are interested, please contact the Friends Association.

This week, our after-school dance club attended the KS1 Christmas Dance Competition at Great Baddow High School. A big thank you to Miss Schultz for all her hard work preparing the team - they were fantastic!

On Monday, we celebrate the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, and you are warmly invited to join us for Mass at 2:00p.m. The children will bring some of the work they have created during the day as part of the offertory in celebration.

On Wednesday, as we are having Christmas lunch in school, we will be holding our annual Christmas Jumper Day fundraiser. The children are invited to wear a Christmas jumper with their uniform, instead of their school jumper or cardigan. Please donate if you can at https://www.justgiving.com/page/sophie-gibbs-1?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=CL

Warmest Wishes and God Bless,

Mrs Sophie Gibbs - Acting Headteacher

Notices

- 9/12/25 2pm Rocksteady concert
- 9/12/25 5.30pm Year 5 meeting regarding the Year 6 residential
- 10/12/25 Christmas Dinner
- 12/12/25 Friends Christmas Gift sale

Catholic life of the school

Advent Prayer bags

The chaplaincy team would like to remind parents in reception, years 1, 2 and 3 that the children may have the opportunity to bring home and share with you their class advent prayer bag. It would be wonderful if you could email in some photographs of your child/family enjoying using this together that we could share.

Thank you from the Chaplaincy Team!

Thought for the weekend!



TEN TEN

Prayer and Liturgy Monthly Newsletter

Parent Newsletter – Ten Ten Resources



Our Virtue

Virtues to Live by

I am hopeful

when

I believe and trust that God will not give up on me.

I am positive about the future.

I don't give up on myself.

I have hopes and dreams that we can all work for a better world.

I pray to God placing my life in his hands.

I know God has a plan for me.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Please note:
new information will be presented in red

DECEMBER 2025	
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)** Year 5 meeting re. Residential trip 2027 - 5.30pm in the school hall
Wednesday, 10th	Year 3 Mass - 9.30am in the Church Children's Christmas Dinner Day / Christmas Jumper Day (to be worn over uniform)
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) Year 4 Superstars
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
Friday, 27th	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 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 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

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

Christmas Dinner

Wednesday, 10th December

Roast Turkey

or

Vegetarian option

Quorn Fillet

Served With

Pigs in Blankets

Crispy Roast Potatoes

Carrots

Brussels Sprouts

Peas

Yorkshire puddings

Gravy (optional)

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Christmas Cookies / Raisins

Soya ice cream or biscuit with marshmallows (dairy allergies)

Milk / Aqua juice cartons (apple or orange) / Water

Christmas crackers

HOUSE POINTS

WEEK ENDING 5TH DECEMBER

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

BECKET	CAMPION	FISHER	MORE
1st (191)	2nd (197)	3rd (160)	4th (172)

MERIT BADGES

WEEK ENDING 5th December 2025

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

Reception	Lilia	Jack
Year 1	Riley	Emma-Rose
Year 2	Oliver B	Kiyomi
Year 3	Ethan	Naia
Year 4	Rosie	Riona
Year 5	Kaleb	Molly
Year 6	Tommy	Panbhu

LEARNER OF THE WEEK

WEEK ENDING 5th December 2025

Reception	Michael	Rowan
Year 1	Libby	Henry
Year 2	Olaedo	Serin
Year 3	Claudia	Peter
Year 4	Kingsley	Brooke
Year 5	Avery	Hugh T-C
Year 6	Jack	Charlotte

MENU WEEK COMMENCING - 8th December – Week 2

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?

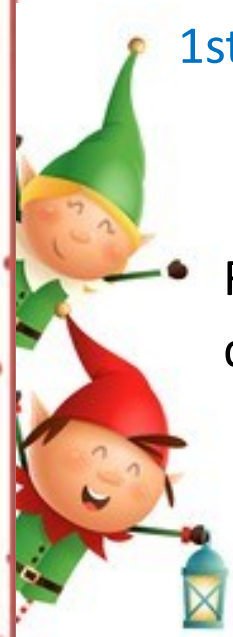
In order for the school to receive the Pupil Premium funding, a parent/carer must be claiming one of the following benefits:



- 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

Activities in The Ark



1st Dec - 5th Dec North pole themed breakfast

1st Dec - 19th Dec

Find the Elf competition at 8.15am daily with prizes

1st Dec - 19th

Christmas Tree colouring competition





15th Dec - 17th Dec

Christmas cupcake decorating with Mrs Gibbs



18th December

Festival movie night



Friends Association News

Thank you to everyone who volunteered for and attended our Festive Family Fun day last Sunday. It was a great fun day and the children looked to all be enjoying themselves. We raised approximately £2300.

The school disco raised £1100.

Christmas Gift Sale

Our popular gift sale is back on Friday 12th December, giving the children the opportunity to buy a gift for someone special.

If you would like your child to have the opportunity to pick a gift, you will either need to use the online sales platform or send them in with cash. Online sales are open using the link below, please add your child's name in 'booking name'.

Gifts cost £3 each and we have a selection for adults, children and even pets

(This sale happens during school time)

Link for buying gifts https://pta.events/wfexvxg8

Volunteers needed

We are looking for someone to photograph the infant nativity on Tuesday and someone to film the Junior carol concert on Wednesday 17th. If you are able to assist please let one of the friends representatives know.

Many thanks

The Friends

CHESS TOURNAMENT

On Friday, 28th November, six children from the Chess Club attended a tournament at Widford Lodge. St Anne's and OLI joined forces to form a single team to compete against Widford Lodge. As Widford had more players, their pupils rotated in once they had finished a game, meaning some of our players ended up taking part in three matches.

Once all the results were counted, the combined St Anne's and OLI team emerged victorious, scoring an impressive ten points out of thirteen.

There was some excellent chess on display, and the children thoroughly enjoyed the event. We hope to return next year for another great afternoon of competition.



Year 6 trip to Chelmsford Museum - Monday, 1st December









Year 1 & 2 Dance Show - Tuesday, 2nd December





Attendance

Attendance Data:

94% and below	94% - 96.9%	97% and above
	Last week % **23.11.25 - 28.11.25**	**This week %** **01.12.25 - 05.12.25**
Foundation	97%	91.7%
Year 1	98.7%	94.5%
Year 2	98.7%	94.5%
Year 3	97.3%	99.4%
Year 4	91.6%	99%
Year 5	97.7%	98.7%
Year 6	93.3%	92.9%
Whole School Total	**96.3%**	**95.9%**

Congratulations to years 3, 4 & 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.

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.