12th December 2025

Issue 14

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,

This penultimate week began with the celebration of our Feast Day and the wonderful celebration of our school's 180th birthday. Many thanks to Gina and Margaret who came in to talk to the children about their time as pupils at OLI. It was also a lovely surprise to have Fr Damien join us to celebrate mass.

I hope you enjoyed the infant 's nativity play as much as I did, they were terrific. A special thanks to Miss Hitchen for all her work preparing Year 2, to Miss Zielinski for the wonderful props and to all the staff, Mrs Southwell, Miss Worth, Mrs Kelly, Miss Carr, Mrs Harpur, Miss Trinnaman, Mrs Grey and Miss Wall for all their hard work ensuring the children knew their words and positions and looked fab-u-lous!

On Tuesday we were treated to a performance by our Rocksteady bands, it was lovely to hear what they have been working on. Ten children from the choir, accompanied by Mrs Harding-Smith and Mrs Wright, sang at Bailey Court this week, bringing the joy of Christmas to the residents. A special thank you to our catering team for the delicious Christmas lunch on Wednesday. Next week it is the turn of our Junior children to perform, I hope to see many of you there.

Warmest wishes and God bless,

Mrs Sophie Gibbs - Acting Headteacher

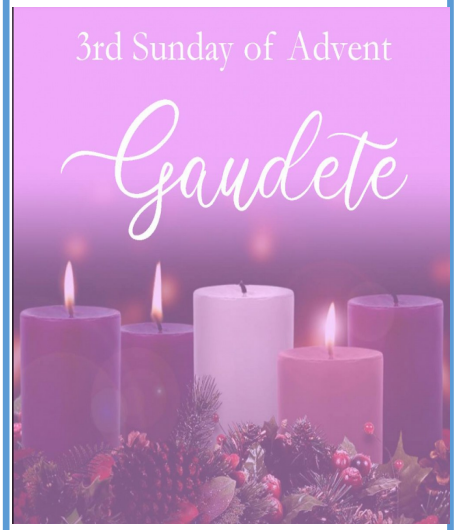
Notices

- **17/12/25 Junior carol concert 2pm at OLI church**
- **School closes at 3.15pm on Friday 19th no ARK**
- **After school year 5 & 6 gymnastics club starts 9/1/26 there are still lots of spaces!**

Catholic life of the school



Thought for the weekend!



TEN TEN

Prayer and Liturgy Monthly Newsletter

Parent Newsletter – Ten Ten Resources



Our Virtue

Virtues to Live by

I am patient

when

I can wait.

I use strategies to keep myself calm.

I can do something now that will help me in the future.

I can accept things I cannot change with humour and grace.

I am patient with myself when I make mistakes.

I am patient with others when they mistakes.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Please note:
new information will be presented in red

DECEMBER 2025	
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

APRIL 2026 cont…	
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



HOUSE POINTS

WEEK ENDING 12TH DECEMBER

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

BECKET	CAMPION	FISHER	MORE
3rd (205)	2nd (216)	1st (182)	4th (185)

MERIT BADGES

WEEK ENDING 12th December 2025

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

Reception	Kara	Malaika
Year 1	Mugunthan	Eliza
Year 2	Stephen	Olivia
Year 3	Kobi	Alexa
Year 4	Zerah	Kallie
Year 5	Elsie	Buddy
Year 6	Adnan	Eloise

LEARNER OF THE WEEK

WEEK ENDING 12th December 2025

Reception	Teniola	Aria-Jayne
Year 1	Riley	Orla
Year 2	Ayla	Nathalia
Year 3	Molly	Jan
Year 4	Emily	Eloise
Year 5	Sienna	Esme
Year 6	Russell	Lachlan

MENU WEEK COMMENCING - 15th December – 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?

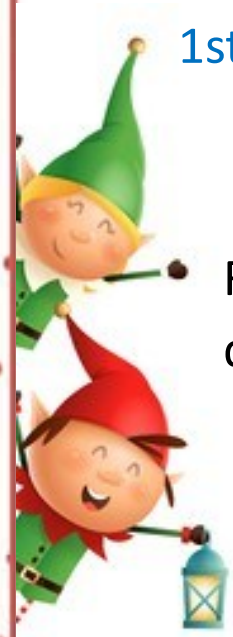
In order for the school to receive the Pupil Premium funding, a parent/carer must be claiming one of the following benefits:



- 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

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



CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS DINNER











Friends Association News

Thank you to everyone who came to the wreath making workshop, we raised almost £200 for the school, had a lot of fun and gained beautiful wreaths at the end of it!

Thank you for your support and to the organisers and volunteers at the gift sale today. We raised nearly £500, which is tremendous!

We hope everyone loves their gifts that the children have chosen. It is so lovely to see the children get so enthusiastic with the shopping!

Many thanks

The Friends

OLI Friends Association

Attendance

Attendance Data:

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

	Last week % **01.12.25 - 05.12.25**	**This week %**
Foundation	91.7%	95.2%
Year 1	94.5%	93.4%
Year 2	94.5%	98.6%
Year 3	99.4%	99.4%
Year 4	99%	95.2%
Year 5	98.7%	92.6%
Year 6	92.9%	95.9%
Whole School Total	**95.9%**	**95.8%**

Congratulations to years 2 & 3 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.