20th March 2026

Issue 25

Weekly Newsletter

Our Lady Immaculate Catholic Primary School
A Multi-Academy

The Rosary Trust

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

Dear Parents and Carers,

Not only did the sun come out this week, but we also had a wonderful start thanks to Reception Class and their beautiful and thoughtful Mother's Day assembly. Thank you to Mrs Kelly and Miss Carr for all of their hard work preparing the children, and a big well done to the children themselves.

Our Year 6 boys' football team were also in action this week against St Anne's – a match report can be found below. Our gymnastics team competed on Tuesday; thank you to Miss Schultz for all of her hard work choreographing and preparing the team.

Keeping with the theme of showcasing our talents, Year 2 performed at Christ Church on Tuesday in the Infant Music Festival, and in the afternoon our Rocksteady bands took to the stage.

Next Tuesday we will be taking on the BIG LENT WALK as a school to raise money for CAFOD. So far, we have only received one donation – please give generously to support this worthy cause. OLI's fundraising page is fundraising for CAFOD

Speaking of talents, I am very much looking forward to our Friends Association Talent Show this evening!

Warmest wishes and God bless,

Mrs Sophie Gibbs – Headteacher

Notices

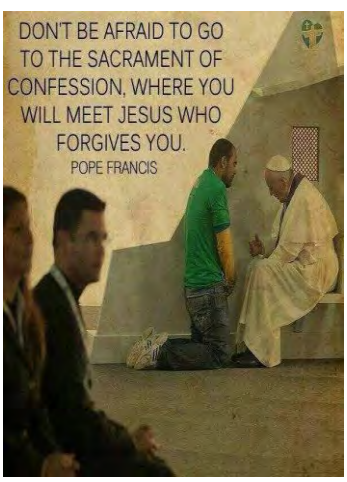
- KS1 tag rugby competition 23/3
- BIG LENT WALK 2026 around Central park 1.30pm 24/3
- KS2 Easter production in the church 2.00pm 26/3

Catholic life of the school

RECONCILIATION WITH FR BARTO



Thought for the weekend!



TEN TEN

Prayer and Liturgy Monthly Newsletter
Parent Newsletter – Ten Ten Resources

Our Virtues



DATES TO REMEMBER

Please note:

New information will be presented in red

MARCH 2026	
Tuesday, 24th	CAFOD Big Lent Walk – 1.30pm
Wednesday, 25th	Year 5 Mass - 9.30am in the church
Thursday, 26th	Easter Service in Church – 2pm
Friday, 27th	Last day of Spring term
APRIL 2026	
Monday, 13th	First day of Summer term
Wednesday, 15th	Year 3 Mass – 9.30am in the Church Reception and Year 6 – height and weight checks
Friday, 17th	Friends Association school disco
Tuesday, 21st	Dental screening (information has already been shared with selected parents)
Wednesday, 22nd	Year 4 Mass – 9.30am in the Church Year 3 trip to Colchester Museum Year 4 St. George's Day assembly - 2.45pm (year 4 parents welcome)
Tuesday, 28th	Reception trip to Hyde Hall Year 2 - 3Tees sports
Wednesday, 29th	Year 2 Mass – 9.30am in the Church
MAY 2026	
Tuesday, 5th	Year 5 trip to the Science Museum
Wednesday, 6th	Reception and Year 6 Mass – 9.30am in the Church
Wednesday, 13th	Year 1 Mass – 9.30am in the Church
Thursday, 14th	Year 2 trip to Osea View Beach
Wednesday, 20th	Year 5 Mass – 9.30am in the Church
Monday, 25th - Friday, 29th	Half-term
JUNE 2026	
Monday, 1st	INSET DAY
Wednesday, 3rd	Year 1 trip to Colchester Zoo Year 3 - Fitness 3s
Wednesday, 10th	Reception class – Road Safety meeting at 2pm

JUNE 2026 cont…	
Monday, 15th - Wednesday, 17th	Year 6 Residential trip to Bawdsey Manor
Tuesday, 16th	Year 4 - History off the Page, day in the life of an ancient Egyptian
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	
Thursday, 2nd	Year 6 - The Rosary Trust retreat day to St. Joseph's, Harwich
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

HOUSE POINTS

WEEK ENDING 13TH MARCH

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

BECKET	CAMPION	FISHER	MORE
1st (395)	2nd (408)	3rd (369)	2nd (356)

MERIT BADGE

WEEK ENDING 20th March 2026

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

Reception	Alice	Lily
Year 1	Samuel	Thalia
Year 2	Oliver B	Evie
Year 3	Hannah	Alexa
Year 4	Kallie	Alexander
Year 5	Buddy	Heavenly
Year 6	Max	Lachlan

LEARNER OF THE WEEK

WEEK ENDING 20th March 2026

Reception	Poppy	Sienna
Year 1	Noelani	Henry
Year 2	Edward	Gaia
Year 3	Truman	Olivia
Year 4	Toby	Marika
Year 5	Mia	Ronnie
Year 6	Russell	William

WHAT'S ON AT THE ARK



23.03.26 – 27.03.26

BREAKFAST

Hide the Bunny



AFTER SCHOOL

Easter Egg Colouring Competition (Monday – Thursday)

Winner announced Friday

Friends Association News

Good luck to all those taking part in the talent show tonight. air looks to be a fun filled evening, celebrating our children's talents. We hope you all enjoy it!

Lent sponsored reading
This Lent, our pupils are setting out on an inspiring and exciting journey — a commitment to read every single day for 40 days!

Every donation will help us transform our school in ways that continue to benefit every child. The most avid readers will also have a chance to win afternoon tea with Mrs Gibbs to celebrate the end of lent.

Please donate and share the link with your family and friends.
https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/olireadforlent260394464834060

School Disco
The family school disco is on Friday 17th April, the first weekend in after the Easter holidays. Keep the date free! We will be selling tickets soon and will send out the link to the WhatsApp groups.

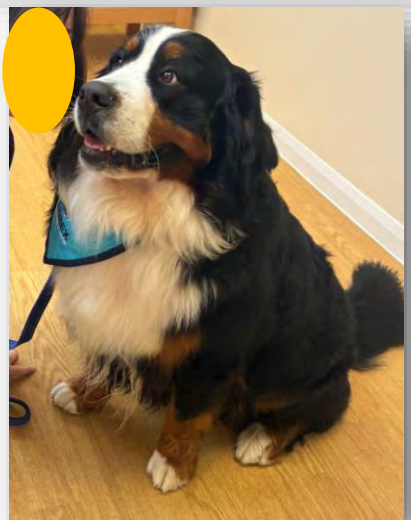
Summer uniform sale
The summer uniform has been sorted and will be available in reception for a small donation to the friends association.

Many thanks
The Friends Association

This week Yogi from Essex Therapy Dogs visited the school







Photos from the Ark – St. Patrick's Day











Safeguarding

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

MENU WEEK COMMENCING – 23rd March – Week 1

Please refer to the menus on the website so the children are aware of the daily options so they know what to choose when asked by their teacher. Please use the online payment system to pay for all dinners (Years 3 to 6) dinners need to be paid for in advance.

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 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 1st 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

Year 2 Infant Music Festival





Sporting activities at OLI



Football

On Monday, OLI played St Anne's delivering an excellent team performance to secure a 4–1 victory.
Lachlan made several crucial saves in goal, while Harry, Daniel and Jack were solid in defence, helping to launch numerous attacking moves. In midfield, Hugh TC, Tommy and Hartley combined well and played some impressive football. Max and Paul also worked hard up front, contributing to the team's strong attacking display.
The goals came from a well-worked corner taken by Hugh, which resulted in an own goal, along with two well-taken finishes from Hartley and another from Daniel.



Gymnastics

On Tuesday, a group of pupils from the gymnastics after-school club represented OLI at a competition held at Chelmsford Sports and Athletics Centre. They delivered an excellent performance, finishing in 5th place out of 10 participating schools.



Congratulations to all involved for their hard work and for representing OLI so brilliantly!

PHOTOS FROM THE YEAR 6 TRIP TO CHARLES DARWIN'S – DOWN HOUSE











Attendance Data

94% and below	94% - 96.9%	97% and above
	Last week % 09.03.26 – 13.03.26	This week % 16.03.26 – 20.03.26
Reception	96.2%	97.9%
Year 1	93.9%	92.2%
Year 2	97.3%	96%
Year 3	93.5%	95.2%
Year 4	93.1%	95.9%
Year 5	97.5%	95.6%
Year 6	98.4%	97.5%
Whole School Total	95.7%	95.8%

Congratulations to Reception and Year 6 for being 97% and above. 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.

CLUBS



The clubs for the Summer term will be:

Monday **Basketball** - years 4, 5 & 6 - 3.15pm - 4.15pm

(13.04.26 - 06.07.26 = 10 sessions)

Booking for April - July

Tuesday **High 5's (Netball)** - years 5 & 6 - 3.15pm - 4.15pm

(*due to netball matches being organised on Tuesdays, there will only be 8 sessions for the remainder of the term - please read the email when sent for dates)*

Booking for April - July

Football - years 1, 2 & 3 - 3.15pm - 4.15pm

(14.04.26 - 07.07.26 = 11 sessions)

Booking from April - July

Wednesday **Chess** - years 3, 4, 5 & 6 - 3.15pm - 4.15pm

(15.04.26 - 20.05.26 = 6 sessions)



Thursday **Football** - years 4, 5 & 6 - 3.15pm - 4.15pm

(16.04.26 - 09.07.26 = 12 sessions)

Booking for April - July

Dance – years 3, 4, 5 & 6 - 3.15pm - 4.15pm

(16.04.26 - 11.06.26 = 8 sessions)

Performance at the Civic Theatre on 23rd June 2026

Friday **Irish Dancing** - years 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6 - 3.15pm - 4.15pm

(*17.04.26 - 10.07.26 = 12 sessions - priority is given to those who are currently booked in*)

Booking for April - July