6th March 2026

Issue 23

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,

Congratulations to our Year 3 football team, who took part in their first ever football match this week. The school football team were also in action on Thursday against Little Waltham. As always, thank you to all the parents and carers who helped with transport and to all our supporters.

Thank you to Mrs Kelly for all the fun we enjoyed on World Book Day. We had so many superheroes, princesses, dancers, warriors and sportspeople in school. We hope you enjoyed joining your children today - it was wonderful to see so many parents in school. I know how much joy I get from reading with and to my own children, and it is such an important thing to share with them.

We are busy preparing for our Easter production in school and look forward to welcoming many of you into the church this Easter season on Thursday 27th March. Fr Barto will be coming into school to lead a short service of reconciliation for all KS2 pupils and to offer the Sacrament of Reconciliation to those children who have made their First Holy Communion on Friday 20th March. Please do discuss this with your children, as it is an important part of our Lenten preparations.

Warmest wishes and God bless,

Mrs Sophie Gibbs – Headteacher

Notices

- KS1 and 2 Cross country 10/3/26
- OLI netball match v St Anne's 10/3/26
- Irish dancing day 13/3/26 all children to wear PE kit

Catholic life of the school



Thought for the weekend!



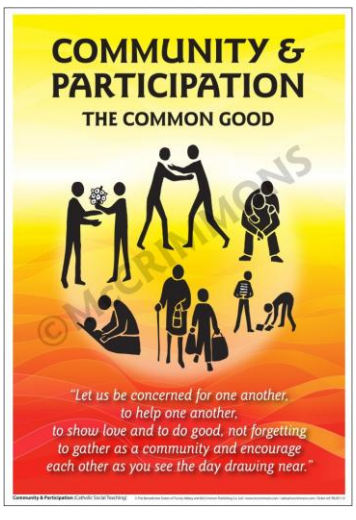
TEN TEN

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	
Wednesday, 11th	Reception class and Year 6 Mass - 9.30am in the church
Friday, 13th	Friends Association Mother's Day gift sale Irish Dancing Day – all children to wear PE kit
Monday, 16th	Reception class - Mother's Day Assembly - 9.15am (reception class parents welcome)
Tuesday, 17th	Year 2 - Infant Music Festival (9.15am-12pm)
Wednesday, 18th	Year 6 trip to Down House Year 1 Mass - 9.30am in the church
Friday, 20th	Friends Association Talent Show
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
Friday, 17th	Friends Association school disco
Wednesday, 22nd	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
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
Wednesday, 10th	Reception class – Road Safety meeting at 2pm
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 6TH MARCH

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

BECKET	BECKET	FISHER	BECKET
1st (356)	2nd(376)	2nd (342)	1st (324)

MERIT BADGE

WEEK ENDING 6th March 2026

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

Reception	Aria-Jayne	Jaxon
Year 1	Israel	Monica
Year 2	Miriam	William
Year 3	Richmond	Molly
Year 4	Gabriel	Graciella
Year 5	Sienna	Richmond
Year 6	Paul	Eloise

LEARNER OF THE WEEK

WEEK ENDING 6th March 2026

Reception	Poppy	Malaika
Year 1	Charlotte	Ezra
Year 2	Olivia	Hector
Year 3	Tadhg	Jessica
Year 4	Brooke	Jessica
Year 5	Filip	Pola
Year 6	Joselyn	Hannah

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."

Child Protection & Safeguarding

WHAT'S ON AT THE ARK



09.03.26 – 13.03.26

After School

Wednesday, 11th March – hama beads* from 3.30pm



(*if the weather is warm, the children choose to be outside so hama beads will be delayed until the next week)

Friends Association News

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.

By sponsoring our challenge, you are not just donating — you are helping to spark imaginations, nurture faith through perseverance and commitment, and create readers for life.

Let's make this Lent a journey filled with stories, discovery, and achievement. Thank you for supporting our pupils as they read their way through Lent — one page at a time!

Please donate and share the link with your family and friends.

https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/olireadforlent

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OLI talent show
Further details for participants and to buy tickets to attend will be sent out soon. Everyone is welcome to come and waych, so cheer on your friends too! It will be a fun evening!

Mother's Day gift sale

On Friday 13th March, pupils can choose lovely Mother's Day gifts for all the special ladies in their lives, for just £3 each

It's a sweet way for them to show their love — and keep it a surprise!

Preferred payment via this link:

https://www.pta-events.co.uk/oli-school-friends-association/?event=event&eventId=113684

Purchases

The friends have approved funding for the KS2 books, Y3 recorders and KS2 dictionaries.

Many thanks
The Friends Association

Congratulations!

Last weekend, Theodora in Year 3 took part in the Scouts District Swimming Gala, where she achieved an outstanding result by coming 1st overall in the Beavers freestyle race. Congratulations to Theodora on this fantastic achievement!



World Book Day 2026













Sporting activities at OLI



Football
OLI played their first league match of the season against Little Waltham this week.

The first half was dominated by OLI, with Little Waltham unable to register a single shot. Unfortunately, despite controlling the play and creating chances, OLI couldn't turn their dominance into goals, as the opposition keeper made a series of impressive saves.

In the second half, a couple of unfortunate mistakes saw OLI fall 2-0 behind. The boys continued to dominate possession and push forward, eventually earning a penalty which was confidently converted by captain Tommy. OLI pressed hard for an equaliser but couldn't quite find the back of the net, and the match finished 2-1 to Little Waltham.

The team played extremely well and were very unlucky not to come away with more from the game. Lachlan had a solid performance in goal, with Jack and Elijah in defence. Hugh TC, Tommy, Daniel and Harry worked hard in midfield, while Hartley and Hugh K led the attack.



Year 3 took part in a 5-a-side football tournament at Chelmer Valley High School this week.

They played seven league matches followed by a play-off final. Against a very strong level of opposition in their group, the team performed brilliantly and exceeded expectations, drawing four games – including one against the eventual runners-up – and narrowly losing three.

They then moved on to their play-off final against Broomfield, where the children secured a well-deserved win thanks to a goal from T.J.

All of the players did extremely well. Lewis and Richmond both put in great performances, along with T.J., Kwabena and Jan. Our three girls – Annie, Niamh and Angel – also played brilliantly.
It was a fantastic evening, and very well done to all of the children!



MENU WEEK COMMENCING – 9th March – Week 3

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

Attendance Data

94% and below	**94% - 96.9%**	**97% and above**
	Last week % 23.02.26 – 27.02.26	This week % 02.03.26 – 06.03.26
Reception	88.3%	93.4%
Year 1	91.8%	97.9%
Year 2	96.3%	99%
Year 3	94.5%	92.8%
Year 4	98.1%	97.5%
Year 5	95.6%	99.1%
Year 6	93.4%	99.4%
Whole School Total	94.1%	97%

Congratulations to Years 1, 2, 4, 5 & 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.

STAMPING OUT POVERTY ON

THE BIG LENT WALK

Scan this QR to support the challenge

CAFOD A better world needs all of us

CAFOD is the official aid agency of the Catholic Church in England and Wales and part of Caritas International.
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