24th April 2026

Issue 28

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,

A question I have often been asked throughout my teaching career is, "How can I help my child?" My honest answer has always been: read. Reading to your child, reading with your child, and listening to them read is the most beneficial thing teachers will ever ask of parents. It helps children access the world of education in a meaningful way.

This year is the National Year of Reading. You can find more information here: 5 Things You Need To Know About The National Year Of Reading 2026 | National Literacy Trust . As a parent, I appreciate how difficult it can be to fit reading in at home, and many of us now read almost exclusively on digital devices. However, we are increasingly noticing in school that children lack reading stamina and accurate eye tracking—skills which are best developed through regular reading of physical texts.

At OLI, we will be running a range of events this year to encourage our children to read, and it would be wonderful to have as much parental support as possible. Please visit the website above for top tips and further information on how you can support us.

Finally, a quick IT safety update: did you know that Pinterest has an in-app private messaging facility? No—neither did I! Here is a useful article about the apps our children may be using or exposed to, helping us to keep them safe: What Parents Didn't Know About Pinterest Matters for All Caregivers

Warmest wishes and God Bless,

Mrs Sophie Gibbs – Headteacher

Notices

- **Reception trip to Hyde Hall 28/4**
- **Year 2, 3 tees event at New Hall 28/4**
- **Year 6 netball match away at Great Leighs 28/4**
- **Girls team football match at Great Leighs 30/4**

Catholic life of the school

As we begin the season for tests and examinations the chaplains would like to invite everyone to



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

APRIL 2026	
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
Friday, 15th	May Procession – 2.30pm staring in the school hall – parents welcome
Wednesday, 20th	Year 5 Mass – 9.30am in the Church
Thursday, 21st	World Culture Day – 1.30pm
Friday, 22nd	Sports Day – details coming soon
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 2 – visiting Wagamama 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
Saturday, 4th	Friends Association Summer Festival
Friday, 17th	LAST DAY OF TERM - SCHOOL CLOSES AT 3.15PM - NO AFTER SCHOOL CLUB
Monday, 20th	INSET DAY

HOUSE POINTS

WEEK ENDING 24TH APRIL

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

BECKET	CAMPION	FISHER	MORE
1st (434)	3rd (442)	2nd (409)	3rd (386)

MERIT BADGE

WEEK ENDING 24th April 2026

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

Reception	Oscar	Awura
Year 1	Freya	Bjorn
Year 2	Adaora	Stephen
Year 3	Antoni	Leila
Year 4	Brooke	Gabriel
Year 5	Molly	Matheo
Year 6	Belle	Isabella

LEARNER OF THE WEEK

WEEK ENDING 24th April 2026

Reception	William	Rowan
Year 1	Henry	Mugunthan
Year 2	Helena	Oliver W
Year 3	Molly	Adam
Year 4	Zuzanna	Fabian
Year 5	Charlene	Peter
Year 6	Lachlan	Charlotte





Sporting activities at OLI

Bee Netball Match - Tuesday, 14th April

On Tuesday, we hosted a netball league match against Danbury Park. The team delivered an outstanding performance, securing a fantastic 20–0 victory. The children have consistently showed a positive attitude throughout their games and demonstrate excellent teamwork. Well done to everyone involved!



Girls football match – Monday, 13th April

The first half saw opportunities for both teams to score but at half time the score was still 0- 0. After a scrappy start to the second half and going down 1- 0 the girls worked together, and won a corner. Sophia whipped in the corner to Hannah who tapped it in to equalise in the last few minutes. Well done also to Isabella, Belle, Charlotte, Matilda, Anna, Ciara and Elsie. Final score 1-1



Friends Association News

Disco

Thanks for everyone who helped with the running of the disco last Friday and for the support in attendance. It looked like everyone had a really fun evening and we raised £735.

Sponsored reading challenge
Thank you for your support with the sponsored reading for Lent challenge. We raised £410. Prizes and afternoon tea with Mrs Gibbs to be announced.

Summer Festival
This will be on Sat 4th July.

We are looking for raffle prizes and a sponsor for the grand draw. If anyone or their work places are able to offer any prizes/ sponsorship then please contact one of your Friends Association reps or email friends@ourladyimmaculate.essex.sch.uk

Many thanks
The Friends

Congratulations!

Elijah in year 6 had a gymnastic competition last weekend, where he achieved a gold, silver and 2 bronze medals. This has meant that he has qualified for regionals in May in Ipswich, we are very proud of him. Well done Elijah!



Florence and her sister had the amazing opportunity last week to travel to America and compete at the Allstar World cheerleading competition. Their team delivered a fantastic routine, finishing in 4th place and creating so many special memories along the way.



MENU WEEK COMMENCING – 20th April – 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

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."

Attendance Data

94% and below	94% - 96.9%	97% and above
	Last week % 13.04.26 – 17.04.26	This week % 13.04.26 – 17.04.26
Reception	91.3%	92.7%
Year 1	94.3%	97.5%
Year 2	96.7%	98%
Year 3	96.1%	97.7%
Year 4	98.1%	98.7%
Year 5	96.9%	98.1%
Year 6	92.5%	92.8%
Whole School Total	95.1%	96.5%

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.