8th May 2026

Issue 30

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,

This week I was privileged to attend Mass with our Year 6 and Reception children. It was a pleasure to witness how seriously our Year 6 pupils take their responsibilities towards their Reception 'buddies', and how thoughtfully they support them to understand how to participate in the Mass. Each week, a class joins our parish for Mass, and parents and carers are warmly invited to attend. We always include this information in our diary dates.

Next week marks the start of the Year 6 SATs. Please join me in praying this weekend for our incredible Year 6 children, who, without exception, have worked extremely hard throughout their school careers to prepare for this. I know they have nothing to worry about as they will all try their best and are, in the words of Craig Revel Horwood, A-MA-ZING!

Next week we will also come together for our annual May Procession to mark the month of Mary. Please do come and join us.

Warmest wishes and God Bless,

Mrs Sophie Gibbs – Headteacher

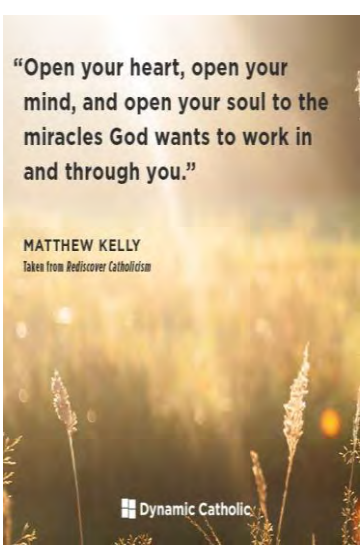
Notices

- **Please could all choir parents respond, if you would like your child to participate in the upcoming Junior music festival.**
- **Year 2 trip to Osea Beach 14/5**
- **May procession will now be at 2.30pm on Thursday 14th of May**

Catholic life of the school



Thought for the weekend!

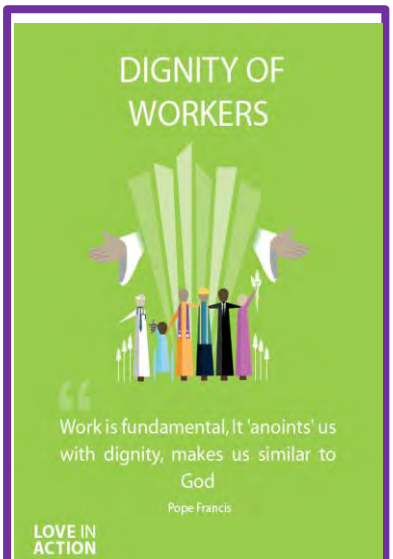


TEN TEN

Prayer and Liturgy Monthly Newsletter

Parent Newsletter – Ten Ten Resources





DATES TO REMEMBER

Please note:

New information will be presented in red

MAY 2026	
Wednesday, 13th	Year 1 Mass – 9.30am in the Church
Thursday, 14th	Year 2 trip to Osea View Beach May Procession – 2.30pm starting in the school hall – parents welcome
Friday, 15th	Choir – rehearsal for Junior Music Festival 12.45pm – 3pm @ Mildmay School
Monday, 18th	Friends Association meeting – 7.30pm via Zoom
Tuesday, 19th	School netball team - Bee Netball Finals
Wednesday, 20th	Year 5 Mass – 9.30am in the Church St. John Payne visiting year 6 pupils going to SJP
Thursday, 21st	World Culture Day – 1.30pm
Friday, 22nd	Sports Day
Monday, 25th - Friday, 29th	Half-term
JUNE 2026	
Monday, 1st	INSET DAY
Wednesday, 3rd	Year 1 trip to Colchester Zoo Year 3 - Fitness 3s Year 4 Mass – 9.30am in the Church
Tuesday, 9th	School class photographs
Wednesday, 10th	Year 3 Mass – 9.30am in the Church Year 6 – Cricket event at Writtle Cricket Club 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
Wednesday, 17th	Year 2 Mass – 9.30am in the Church
Thursday, 18th	Choir – Junior Music Festival – all day rehearsal and performance at 7pm at the Civic Theatre
Tuesday, 23rd	Year 2 – visiting Wagamama Year 5 - Food and Farming Day at Writtle College
Wednesday, 24th	Year 1 Mass – 9.30am in the Church Dentist visit for year 3 and Reception
Thursday, 25th	Reception trip to Chelmsford Museum
Monday, 29th	Year 2 - Mini Games

JULY 2026	
Wednesday, 1st	Reception and Year 6 Mass – 9.30am in the Church
Thursday, 2nd	Year 6 - The Rosary Trust retreat day to St. Joseph's, Harwich
Friday, 3rd	Year 6 trip to Adventure Island Year 5 – Taster Day at St. John Payne
Saturday, 4th	Friends Association Summer Festival
Wednesday, 8th	Year 5 Mass – 9.30am in the Church
Thursday, 9th	Transition afternoon – 1.30pm – 2.45pm
Tuesday, 14th	Year 6 Production – details coming soon
Thursday, 16th	Year 6 Leavers Mass – 6pm in the Church
Friday, 17th	LAST DAY OF TERM - SCHOOL CLOSES AT 3.15PM - NO AFTER SCHOOL CLUB
Monday, 20th	INSET DAY

HOUSE POINTS

WEEK ENDING 8th MAY

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

BECKET	CAMPION	FISHER	MORE
2nd (472)	1st (476)	3rd(442)	4th (414)

MERIT BADGE

WEEK ENDING 8th May 2026

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

Reception	Elijah	Jack
Year 1	Libby	Leo
Year 2	Olivia	Hector
Year 3	Alexa	Olivia
Year 4	Khai	Jessica
Year 5	Charlotte	Ayden
Year 6	Hartley	Ciara

LEARNER OF THE WEEK

WEEK ENDING 8th May 2026

Reception	Michael	Indie
Year 1	Isla-Mae	Riley
Year 2	Olaedo	Nathalia
Year 3	Richmond	Hannah
Year 4	Gabriel	Prisca
Year 5	Sonia	Avery
Year 6	Florence	Paul

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

Friends Association News

Fundraising so far this year:



Meeting
Friends Association Meeting - Monday 18th May 1930 via Zoom. A link will be sent out nearer the time. Please join to discuss fundraising ideas, everyone's welcome

Sports day
The friends will be selling ice creams at the sports day on 22nd May**.**

Summer festival
Saturday 4th July 3-5pm - We are looking for any donations for prizes for the raffle. If your workplace is able to support then please contact one of the friends or email friends.ourladyimmaculate.essex.sch.uk

We will be sending out further information regarding the festival after the friends meeting. Join us at the meeting if you would like to be involved.

Other requests
The friends have a shed in the playground where all of our equipment/stock is stored. This is starting to fall down so we need to replace this at some point in the near future. If anyone is able to help with clearance of rubbish or support/advice to purchase a shed then please get in contact with the friends.

Many thanks for your continued support

The Friends

Year 3 trip to Colchester Castle – 22nd April 2026



Reception and Year 6 Mass – Wednesday, 6th May





MENU WEEK COMMENCING – 11th May– 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





Sporting activities at OLI

Rounders Tournament - Tuesday, 5th May

On Tuesday, some pupils from Year 6 took part in a Rounders Tournament at Boswells School. Their first match was against a very strong Lawford Mead team, which they lost. However, they went on to win all of their remaining matches.

They represented OLI fantastically and showed great teamwork, determination, and sportsmanship throughout the tournament.



Eco-Council – Litter Picking

Yesterday, members of the Eco-Council took part in a litter-picking session around the local area. The children worked incredibly hard to collect a large amount of rubbish, helping to make the community cleaner and safer for everyone.
It was wonderful to see members of the public stopping to thank the children for their efforts and praise them for caring about the environment. The Eco-Council represented the school brilliantly and showed great teamwork and responsibility.



Discovery at OLI

Cameron recently found an interesting looking bone on the school field and was convinced it could be a fossilised bone. We reached out to a specialist who was happy to help. After meeting with him, he confirmed that the bone is indeed fossilised and approximately 100,000 years old. He believes it belonged to a deer that would have lived alongside a river that once ran through what is now the school grounds.
Cameron was absolutely delighted with his discovery!



Year 5 trip to The Science Museum – 5th May 2026











Attendance Data

94% and below	94% - 96.9%	97% and above
	Last week % 27.04.26 – 01.05.26	This week % 05.05.26 – 08.05.26
Reception	98%	96.3%
Year 1	90.4%	97.8%
Year 2	99.3%	98.3%
Year 3	98.7%	98.4%
Year 4	96.1%	98.4%
Year 5	95.3%	95.7%
Year 6	100%	99.2%
Whole School Total	96.9%	97.7%

Congratulations to Years 1, 2, 3, 4 & 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.