

'With God all things are possible'



The Rosary Trust

Our Lady Immaculate School News



Our Lady Immaculate
Catholic Primary School
A Multi-Academy

9th December, 2022

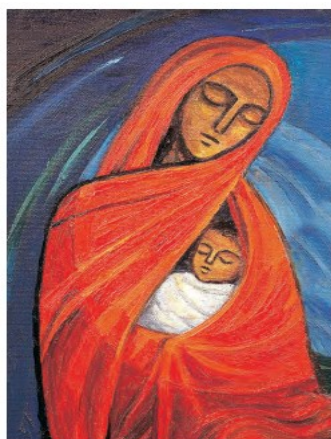
The month of the Immaculate Conception

Issue 14

THE SCHOOL OFFICE HOURS ARE 7:30 AM. UNTIL 4:00 PM. MONDAY - FRIDAY

Tel: 01245 353755

Dear Parents and Carers,



On Thursday we came together as a school family to celebrate our Patronal Feast Day in Church with Fr Martin.

As usual, the whole school were off timetable, spending the day creating artwork depicting the Blessed Virgin Mary, along with

Christmas cards and crafts for their families. The end results were incredible, and I look forward to sharing some photos with you.

I would like to say a big thank you to the Friends Association who, as is now tradition, gave every child in school a chocolate Santa. A perfect end to a perfect day!

Today I am travelling with the Junior Choir to Brentwood Cathedral, where they will be taking part in the Christmas Concert. It has been 3 years since this event has been able to take place, and I am looking forward to watching our children shine brightly as they sing alongside the other six Catholic schools.

Christmas traditions continue into next week as we sit down to watch the Infant Nativity and enjoy Christmas dinner together. I am looking forward to both immensely!

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend.

God Bless!

Lesley Roche
Headteacher

Reception Nativity!

It has been such a privilege to share the beautiful nativity with parents and carers this week. The children sang their hearts out with gusto and conviction, as they shared the story of Jesus' birth in true Reception fashion.



After an excellent first term, I think that we can all agree that the children are now firm members of the family of Our Lady Immaculate and we are very proud of each and everyone of them.

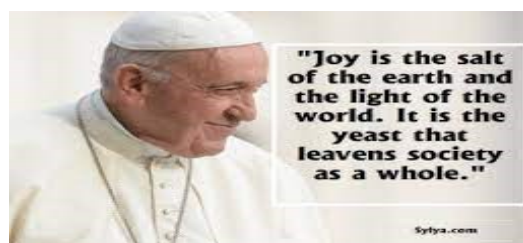
Virtues to live by

We have been continuing to grow in the Virtue of Patience.

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 make mistakes.

Thought for the weekend



The Christmas Bazaar



It was wonderful to see so many of you at the school Christmas Bazaar on Sunday making it such a huge success. Mrs Harrison, the Friends Chair, along with her team of parent volunteers worked tirelessly beforehand and on the day: setting up, creating Santa backdrops, wrapping presents, manning stalls and tidying up!

Mrs Clow the Friends treasurer also spent a considerable amount of time with her team counting the money raised – once again it proved record breaking as more than £5,000 was raised for our children!

Our OLI choir opened the event with their beautiful voices. Their singing was a joy to hear, lifting everyone's spirits and Fr Damien did a sterling job at announcing the raffle prizes, bringing the house down with his witty remarks on each and every prize!

It was truly marvellous to see so many 'old and new' parents and children, grandparents and friends come to OLI to meet each other and be entertained. These events show in action the true sense of what it means to belong to the OLI community and I feel blessed to be part of it.

Thank you ladies and gentleman for all your hard work, with special thanks to the Friends Association Committee members, for working exhaustively behind the scenes to make these events happen. I think that Mrs Harrison and her Christmas elves truly deserve some time off!



Congratulations!

Congratulations and best wishes to Sophie (Year 5), who received the Sacrament of Baptism on Saturday, 3rd December at Our Lady Immaculate Church.

Loving Father,

Your Son told us that the most important thing we can do with our lives is to love you with everything we've got and to love others the way we love ourselves.

That often means setting aside our wants and desires to do what's best for someone else.

I pray that you will help me to see the needs of those around me and lay down my wishes to help someone today.

Reading with your child at home...

We are always delighted to talk with parents and carers and give advice about reading with your child at home.

Children enjoy being read to, even when they can read for themselves. Listening to your child read and sharing a book daily is so important. That precious 20 minutes every day is time very well spent.

Here is a summary of some of our **Top Tips** for reading with your child at home:

- Make a regular time each day to read with your child;
- Read to your child as well as listen to them read to you;
- Pick a time for reading when there will not be any interruptions;
- Read a variety of texts – stories, poems, information books, magazines, newspaper articles, and comics;
- Read recipes, food labels, timetable, maps, instructions, advertisements, flyers, and brochures with your child;
- Look up information in phone books, cookbooks, manuals, atlases, and dictionaries;
- Take your child to the local library to borrow books;
- Ask your child what he or she would like to read about;
- Subscribe to a magazine for your child;
- Read and talk about your own favourite books from childhood;
- Encourage your child to think critically about all books. Does he or she agree or disagree with the author? Why? Is the information accurate or not?



DATES TO REMEMBER

Please note: new information will be presented in red

DECEMBER 2022	
Monday, 12th	Years 5 & 6 attending Christ Church to see The Snowman @ 12.45pm
Tuesday, 13th	Year 1 and 2 Nativity @ 9.30am - Year 1 parents to attend
Wednesday, 14th	Children's Christmas Dinner Christmas Jumper Day - £1 donation to Save the Children
Thursday, 15th	Year 1 and 2 Nativity @ 9.30am - Year 2 parents to attend
Friday, 16th	Friends Christmas gift safe
Monday, 19th	Junior Carol Concert - 2pm in the Church
Tuesday, 20th	LAST DAY OF AUTUMN TERM - please note there is no after school Ark club
JANUARY 2023	
Thursday, 5th	First day back to school
Friday, 6th	Epiphany Mass - whole school Mass @ 9am
Thursday, 19th	Year 1 trip to Oaklands Museum
FEBRUARY 2023	
Monday, 13th - Friday, 17th	Half term
Monday, 20th	INSET DAY
MARCH 2023	
Wednesday, 1st	Year 6 trip to the Natural History Museum - details to follow
Thursday, 2nd	World Book Day - Bedtime Stories
Wednesday, 15th	Year 3 trip to Colchester Castle - details to follow
Friday, 31st	LAST DAY OF SPRING TERM - please note there is no after school Ark club

PARENT EMAIL ADDRESS

parents@ourladyimmaculate.essex.sch.uk Please use the parent email address to leave messages about a child's absence or pick up arrangements. Child absences must be reported by 9 a.m. on the first day, and changes to pick up can be emailed until **2 p.m. on the day**. – You must ring the school thereafter.

PLEASE DO NOT SEND ABSENCE NOTES AND PICK UP ARRANGEMENTS VIA THE ADMIN@

EMAIL ADDRESS NOR VIA SCHOOLCOMMS – THANK YOU.

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'

MERIT BADGES

WEEK ENDING 9th December 2022

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

Foundation	Anthoni	Lewis
Year 1	Sienna	Francine
Year 2	Heavenly	Hugh K
Year 3	Tommy	Isabella
Year 4	Joseph	Abril
Year 5	Sophie	Taid
Year 6	Gracie	Josiah

HOUSE POINTS

WEEK ENDING 9th December 2022

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

BECKET	CAMPION	FISHER	MORE
3rd (177)	1st (173)	4th (163)	2nd (190)

LEARNER OF THE WEEK

WEEK ENDING 9th December 2022

Foundation	Claudia	Alexa
Year 1	Ella	Joshua
Year 2	Leo	Ayden
Year 3	Sienna C	Charlie
Year 4	Isaac	Florence J
Year 5	Dominic	George
Year 6	Pippa	Amelia

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 Roche**.

We also have a Deputy Designated Safeguarding Officer: **Mr Owens**.

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



Christmas Lunch Wednesday 14th December 2022 - Price £3.05

Roast Turkey
Sage & Onion Stuffing Balls
Pigs in Blankets
Gravy
Crispy Roast Potatoes
Honey Roast Parsnips
Brussels Sprouts
Sweetcorn
Sliced Carrots
~
Ice Cream
~
Milk / Aqua juice cartons (apple or orange) / Water

**A vegetarian alternative is available – please let the School Office know if required.*

Payment will be taken from your child's School Gateway dinners account.

All Children in KS1 have Universal Free School Meals and do not have to pay, however, for those in the Juniors, the cost will be £3.05.

Please note No Jacket Potatoes available on this day, therefore please send in your own packed lunch should your child not want the Christmas Dinner on offer.

Friends Association News

Dear All,

Thank you

The friends would like to say a huge thank you to all of you who helped with the Christmas bazaar. It is such a huge fundraiser and it wouldn't be possible without you all, from your generous donations, helping on the stalls and all the preparation in the run up, plus all who attended on the day. You're support has helped us to raise an amazing £5,273. Well done and thank you to everyone.

A big thank you also to Mr Hogan for all his help and time with the bazaar set up.

Gift sale

Children will have the opportunity to buy gifts for their parents/carers/grandparents/aunts/uncles at the gift sale next Friday, 16th Dec. Gifts will be £2 each.

Clothes Bin

The clothes bin in the playground replaces the bag to school collections. This means you are able to drop off any unwanted clothing at any time.

Many thanks



Clubs

The clubs for January will be:

Monday Multi sports - years 1 & 2 - 3.15pm - 4.15pm

(9th January - 6th February)

Team sports - years 3 & 4 - 3.15pm - 4.15pm

(9th January - 6th February)

High 5's - years 5 & 6 - 3.15pm - 4.15pm

(9th January - 6th February)



Tuesday Rugbytots - years 1 & 2 - 3.15pm - 4.15pm

(10th January - 7th February)

Football - years 5 & 6 - 3.15pm - 4.15pm

(10th January - 7th February)



Wednesday Art - years 1, 2 & 3 - 3.15pm – 4.15pm

(11th January - 8th February)

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

(12th January - 9th February)

Mindful Movement (formerly Music and Movement) - years 1-6 - 3.15pm - 4.15pm

(12th January - 9th February)

Chess - years 4, 5 & 6 - 3.15pm - 4.15pm

(12th January - 9th February & 23rd February - 30th March - **booking for the whole term**)

Art - years 4, 5 & 6 - 3.15pm - 4.15pm

(12th January - 9th February)

Friday Guitar - years 3, 4, 5 & 6 - 3.15pm - 4.15pm

(13th January - 10th February)

The clubs will be released towards the beginning of next week. There is no Drama club until the start of the Summer term.

DROP OFF AND PICK UP PARKING

Church Car Park and Staff Car Park (in front of school)

Please remember that there is NO PARKING behind the church when dropping off or collecting your child. The car park is for Church use only.

Please also note that you are not to park in the staff car park (in front of the school) for drop off for the Ark. This applies to both before and after school.



Attendance

Attendance Data:

94% and below

94% - 97%

97% and above

	Last week % 28-11-22 - 02.12.22	This week % 05-12-22 - 09.12.22
Foundation	94.2%	82.1%
Year 1	95%	93%
Year 2	96.9%	97.3%
Year 3	97.2%	91.9%
Year 4	97.3%	96.1%
Year 5	97%	88.8%
Year 6	94.3%	93.8%
Whole School Total	96%	91.9%

Congratulations to year 2 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.

MENU WEEK COMMENCING - 12th December – Week 2

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>**

HEALTHY PLAYTIME SNACKS

Please note that the school has a policy for Healthy Snacks at playtime. As part of our healthy eating programme, children are not permitted to bring sweets or chocolate into school.



LEAVE OF ABSENCE

When asking for time off from school, please remember to complete a Leave of Absence form and accompanying letter. The Leave of Absence form can be found on the school website.

PATHWAY FOR PARENTS

From time to time, parents and carers may have concerns about their son or daughter's education and/or wellbeing at school. Quite often this is due to a misunderstanding about school policy or practice. Sometimes the pupil may be behaving unusually at home or at school and/or expressing their own concerns. Whatever the situation, we would encourage you, and/or your child, to **talk to us about it at the earliest opportunity** so that we can help sort out the problem.

If it is your child's academic progress that you wish to speak to us about, or if it is an issue around your child's wellbeing (for example, bullying or other anxiety), please ask to see their teacher in the first instance or make an appointment, through the School Office, telephone number 01245 353755, or via our Parent email address: Parents@ourladyimmaculate.essex.sch.uk or in person at Reception.

Our Lady Immaculate School emphasises the partnership between parents, church and school and the majority of concerns can be dealt with through informal contacts, usually with the class teacher and, sometimes, the Headteacher. Most concerns and complaints can be sorted out quickly by speaking with your child's class teacher.

If, having spoken to the class teacher, you still have concerns, you should see the Headteacher who will look into the problem and discuss their findings with you so that we can find a way forward together which serves the best interest of both the school and your child.