



The Rosary Trust

*'With God all things are possible'*

# Our Lady Immaculate School News



Our Lady Immaculate  
Catholic Primary School  
A Multi-Academy

10th February 2023

The Month of the Holy Family

Issue 21

THE SCHOOL OFFICE HOURS ARE 7:30 AM. UNTIL 4:00 PM. MONDAY—FRIDAY  
Tel: 01245 353755

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are now half way through the school year and I am sure that you will agree, we can all breath a collective sigh of relief as we look forward to a well-earned break.

February is the official end of Christmastide and a welcome theme of light. Just as the evenings and mornings are beginning to show signs of brightening, Candlemas, the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord on 2nd February, celebrated Jesus, the Light of the World.

In recent months, price rises have brought the cost of light and heating sharply into focus. Perhaps we've been a little more careful with our energy usage; switching off lights when leaving a room, being mindful of saving the planet and our pennies etc.

Light and salt were high-value commodities in ancient cultures, and Jesus uses these metaphors to describe the real value of our contributions to the Christian way of life. Towards the end of February, we begin the season of Lent, another opportunity to focus on our mission as followers of Jesus.

Throughout this week we have been celebrating Children's Mental Health Week which culminated in today's 'dressed to express'! It was wonderful to see our children looking so vibrant, bringing their own light into our world.

I look forward to seeing everyone back at school safe and sound on Tuesday, 21st February.

**Wishing you all a wonderful half-term break.**

**God Bless!**

*Lesley Roche*  
*Headteacher*

## Thought for the weekend!

THERE IS A CRACK IN  
EVERYTHING, THAT'S  
HOW THE LIGHT GETS  
IN"  
— LEONARD COHEN

Parade



I would like to take this opportunity to remind you that there are lots of mental

health and wellbeing resources available to view on our school website. Please do take a look.

[ourladyimmaculateprimary.org](http://ourladyimmaculateprimary.org)

## Safer Internet Day



On Tuesday the children spent time learning about how to keep safe online.

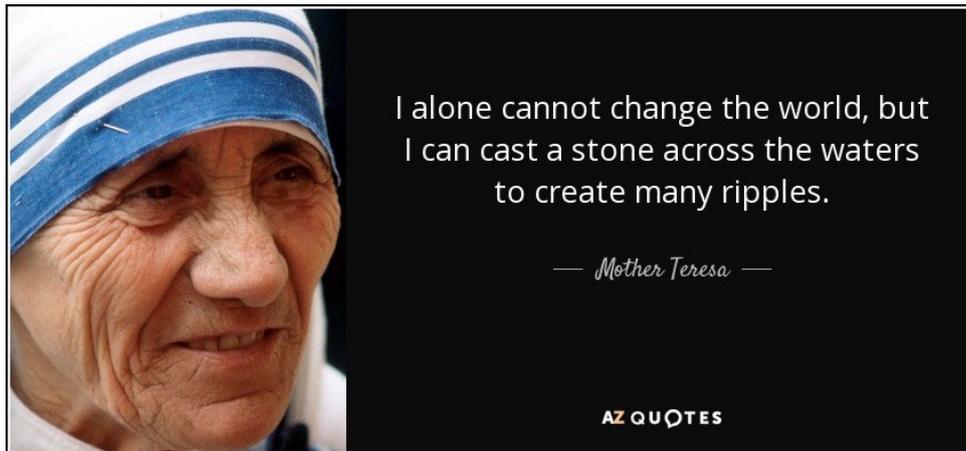
This is certainly an area that can have devastating effects on children's mental health and wellbeing, so perfectly timed!

We would be grateful if you could please carry on these conversations at home.

## Virtues to Live By



We continue to grow as a school community in the Virtue of **Citizenship**.



*Know it in your head, feel it in your heart, and show it with your hands.*

### Princess Trust

Matilda (Year 3) donated lots of her beautiful hair to the Little Princess Trust, reaching her target and raising a massive £500 for charity!

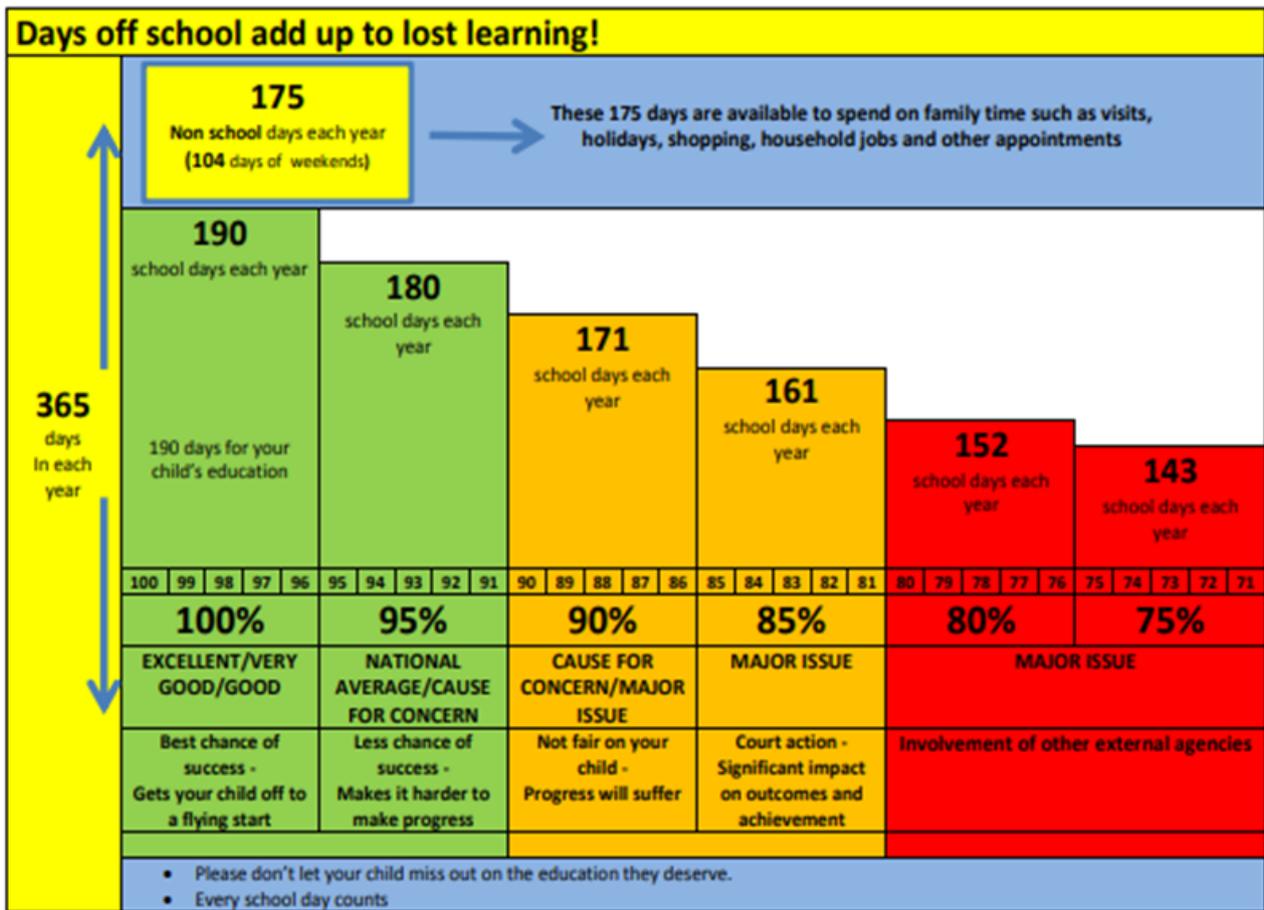
Well done Matilda, your generosity and kindness will make a huge difference to a child or young person who is affected by hair loss.



## Attendance

We know that these things are unavoidable but please do ensure that your child is in school whenever they can be. Lost learning now has a big impact on children's future learning.

Please be aware that the school is **strictly unable to sanction any holidays** taken during term time.



## Friends Association News

Dear All,

Disco 25/2/23 5.30-7.30pm.

There are still tickets available for the disco, these can be purchased after half term.

Adventure island wrist bands

We are selling Adventure Island wrist bands for £16. If you require these in half term then please email the friends association email address and this can be arranged.

Friends association email address:

[friends@ourladyimmaculate.essex.sch.uk](mailto:friends@ourladyimmaculate.essex.sch.uk)

Many thanks

The Friends Association



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](http://www.ourladyimmaculateprimary.org)) under 'Key Information/GDPR and Privacy

# DATES TO REMEMBER

**Please note: new information will be presented in red**

<b>FEBRUARY 2023</b>	
Monday, 13th - Friday, 17th	Half term
Monday, 20th	INSET DAY
Wednesday, 22nd	Whole School Mass - Ash Wednesday @ 9.30am
Saturday, 25th	Friends Disco
<b>MARCH 2023</b>	
Wednesday, 1st	Year 6 trip to the Natural History Museum Year 1 Parish Mass @ 9.30am
Thursday, 2nd	World Book Day - Bedtime Stories
Wednesday, 8th	Foundation and Year 6 Parish Mass @ 9.30am
<b>Tuesday, 14th</b>	<b>Infant Music Festival (Year 2) - more details soon</b>
Wednesday, 15th	Year 3 trip to Colchester Castle Year 2 Parish Mass @ 9.30am
Friday, 17th	Friends Mother's Day Gift Sale
Monday, 20th	Foundation class assembly celebrating Mother's Day
Wednesday, 22nd	Year 4 Parish Mass @ 9.30am
Friday, 31st	LAST DAY OF SPRING TERM - please note there is no after school Ark club Friends Easter Raffle and Easter Fun Day
<b>APRIL 2023</b>	
Monday, 17th	First Day of Summer Term
Saturday, 22nd	Friends Bingo
Monday, 24th	Year 4 trip to Harry Potter World
<b>MAY 2023</b>	
Saturday, 13th	Friends Race Night
Monday, 29th - Friday, 2nd	Half-term
<b>JUNE 2023</b>	
Monday, 12th - Wednesday, 14th	Year 6 trip to Norfolk
Friday, 16th	Friends Father's Day Gift Sale
Wednesday, 28th	Year 5 - Farm to Fork at Writtle College - more details soon

<b>JULY 2023</b>	
Wednesday, 5th	Infants trip to Barleylands - more details soon
Saturday, 8th	Friends Summer Festival
Friday, 21st	LAST DAY OF SUMMER TERM - please note there is no after school Ark club

## MERIT BADGES

**WEEK ENDING 10th February 2023**

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

<b>Foundation</b>	Naia	Neve
<b>Year 1</b>	Brooke	Gabriel
<b>Year 2</b>	Sienna	Heavenly
<b>Year 3</b>	Paul	Kimberley
<b>Year 4</b>	Cillian	Abril
<b>Year 5</b>	Sam	Roisin
<b>Year 6</b>	Amalie	Charlotte

## HOUSE POINTS

**WEEK ENDING 10th February 2023**

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

<b>BECKET</b>	<b>CAMPION</b>	<b>FISHER</b>	<b>MORE</b>
2nd (243)	1st (244)	4th (219)	3rd (259)

## LEARNER OF THE WEEK

**WEEK ENDING 10th February 2023**

<b>Foundation</b>	Ethan	Jessica
<b>Year 1</b>	Nahson	Jessica
<b>Year 2</b>	Buddy	Agatha
<b>Year 3</b>	Russell	Charlotte
<b>Year 4</b>	David C	Hattie
<b>Year 5</b>	Maks	Conor
<b>Year 6</b>	Dawid	Edward

## PARENT EMAIL ADDRESS

[parents@ourladyimmaculate.essex.sch.uk](mailto: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.**

## **MENU WEEK COMMENCING - 20th February – Week 1**

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>

## **Attendance**

Attendance Data:	94% and below	94% - 97%	97% and above
	Last week % 30.01.23 - 03.02.23	This week % 06.02.23 - 10.02.23	
Foundation	96.7%	96.7%	
Year 1	97.4%	95.9%	
Year 2	95.8%	97.7%	
Year 3	95.3%	94.4%	
Year 4	99.2%	96.3%	
Year 5	91.4%	98.1%	
Year 6	96.1%	95.9%	
<b>Whole School Total</b>	<b>96%</b>	<b>96.4%</b>	

Congratulations to years 2, & 5 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.

## Clubs

The clubs for February will be:

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

(27th February - 27th March)

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

(27th February - 27th March)

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

(27th February - 27th March)



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

(21st February - 28th March)

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

(21st February - 28th March)



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

(22nd February - 29th March)

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

(23rd February - 30th March)

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

(23rd February - 30th March - **only children who attended last half-term**)

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

(23rd February - 30th March)

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

(23rd February - 24th March - **no guitar club on the 31st March due to the school closing at 3.15pm**)

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.



## **REMINDER**

Please could you make sure that your child comes equipped and ready for their School Day with their PE/Club kit, Books, Water Bottle, Forest School Clothing, Wellie Boots and their packed lunch (those that have a packed lunch).

This would alleviate the need for the Office Staff to deliver late items to the classrooms.



## **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



## **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](mailto: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.