With God all things are possible'





20th October, 2023

The month of the Holy Rosary

Issue 8

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

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we arrive at the end of the first half term of the new academic year, we can all be extremely proud of the achievements of our children. In particular, our new Reception children, who have settled so quickly into life and learning at Our Lady Immaculate School.

I would like to express my gratitude to all parents who attended our Termly Learning Conferences this week. It was an absolute pleasure to see so many familiar faces and have the opportunity to discuss your child's progress. I hope that you found these meetings informative and helpful in understanding how your child has settled into the new school year. Remember, we are always here to support you and your child in their learning journey.

On Wednesday, Reception class bid a fond farewell to Mrs Daley, as she began her maternity leave. We would like to extend our warmest wishes to Mrs Daley and her growing family during this special time. Mrs. Kelly will be stepping in to cover Reception in Mrs. Daley's absence, ensuring a smooth transition for our little ones. We are grateful for Mrs. Kelly's dedication and commitment to our pupils, and we are confident that she will provide the nurturing environment that our Reception class thrives in.

As we approach the next half term, the air is filled with a sense of anticipation and excitement as we prepare for Christmastide. The children's enthusiasm is truly contagious, and it is heartwarming to witness their joy and eagerness during this special time.

Wishing you all a relaxing and safe half-term break.

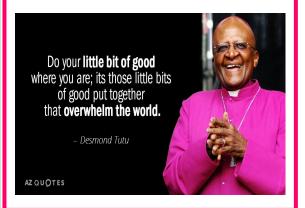
God Bless!

Lesley Roche Headteacher

School Uniform

When we return to school on 30th October, we ask that you please ensure your child is dressed in full winter school uniform, including black or navy-blue hats, coats, and scarves and black shoes.

Thought for the weekend



National Fundraising



Today, rather than our traditional blue uniform, a sea of pink could be seen across the playground, as we came together to support 'Wear it Pink Day'. This

event brings together thousands of people on one day, all with the same aim – to raise money and help make life saving breast cancer research happen by dressing in pink and raising awareness.

Through being committed to works of charity, we are developing in children their understanding of responsibility, showing our support and solidarity with all members of God's family, whilst reminding children that:

'We are what we repeatedly do!'
(Aristotle)

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Year 4 Collective Worship

On Monday, Year 4 parents were invited to come into school to join us as we celebrated the word of God.

The Year 4 children led a beautiful prayer service, allowing us to reflect on the teachings of Jesus and the values that guide us as a community. They reminded us about the importance of family, presenting their beautifully crafted family trees and showcasing the love and bond that exists within their households. This not only enabled them to connect with their roots but also served as a reminder that family is the foundation upon which we build our lives.

It is through these moments of spiritual connection that we strengthen our bond with one another and deepen our understanding of our faith.



Prayer for peace in the Middle East



God of peace, bearer of hope, we seek your help for the peoples of the Middle East. Quiet the clamour of war and guide us towards peace.

Where there is hatred and division sow seeds of calm and openness.

Where there is destruction help us to rebuild.

Where children are crying bring an end to tears.

Shelter your peoples and protect them Guide them and keep them from harm.

Show us how to break down the barriers of history and fear and breathe whispers of hope.

Amen.

Year 3— Oaklands Museum

On Wednesday, Year 3 had a fascinating visit to Oaklands Museum.

This local trip provided the children with an invaluable opportunity to explore and learn about the rich history of the Stone Age to the Iron Age.

We are so lucky to have such a wonderful resource on our doorstep!.



Mini-Vinnies

Thank you to everyone who donated food to the Mini-Vinnies' harvest collection. They were delighted by your generosity and are looking forward to passing all the donations on to the LittleEdi Foundation, so that it can be distributed to those most in need.

Again, through being committed to works of charity, we are developing in children their understanding of responsibility, showing our support and solidarity with all members of God's family, whilst reminding children that:

'We are what we repeatedly do!' (Aristotle)



Friends Association News

Christmas artwork ordering

You are still able to order Christmas artwork, just the commission given to the school is now lower.

Placing an order is very simple. Each design card has a QR code on. Just scan the code and follow the link or enter the website name as it appears on the card, follow the steps and place your order. If you don't have your design card please contact the friends association and we can assist you.

Every order helps raise money for the school.

Pre loved uniform

Pre loved school uniform is on display in the school now, please speak to the office if you would like to see it. We ask for just a small donation to the friends association.



Thank you all for your support in the first half term of the school year, have a lovely break.





Please note: new information will be presented in red

OCTOBER 2023				
Monday, 23rd - Friday, 27th	Half-Term			
Monday, 30th	Travelling Book Fair - 3.15pm - 3.45pm			
Tuesday, 31st	Travelling Book Fair - 3.15pm - 3.45pm			
NOVEMBER 2023				
Wednesday, 1st	All Saints' Day Whole School Mass @ 9am Travelling Book Fair - 3.15pm - 3.45pm			
Friday, 3rd	Junior School Council members to visit the Houses of Parliament			
Tuesday, 7th	Individual and Sibling photographs - please see message below			
Wednesday, 8th	Year 6 Mass @ 9.30am			
Thursday, 9th - Friday, 10th	Year 6 Bikeability - group 1			
Friday, 10th	Year 5 Remembrance Assembly - 9.15am			
Monday, 13th	INSET DAY			
Wednesday, 15th	Year 1 & 2 Mass @ 9.30am			
Monday, 20th - Tuesday, 21st	Year 6 Bikeability - group 2			
Wednesday, 22nd	Year 3 Mass @ 9.30am			
	Year 6 visit to Chelmsford Library - details coming soon			
Tuesday, 28th	Whole school flu immunisations			
Wednesday, 29th	Year 4 Mass @ 9.30am			
DECEMBER 2023				
Friday, 1st	Non-uniform day - bring a bottle			
Sunday, 3rd	Friends Bazaar			
Monday, 4th	Year 3 Advent Assembly @ 2.30pm			
Friday, 8th	Whole school Mass @ 9.30am			
Tuesday, 12th	Infant Nativity @ 9.30am - Reception parents to attend			
Wednesday, 13th	Infant Nativity @ 2pm - Year 1 parents to attend			

Thursday, 14th	Infant Nativity @ 9.30am - Year 2 parents to attend Junior Carol Service - 2pm in the church		
Wednesday, 20th	LAST DAY OF AUTUMN TERM - SCHOOL CLOSES AT 1.30PM Please note that there is no after school club		
JANUARY 2024			
Thursday, 4th	First day back at school		

MERIT BADGES

WEEK ENDING 20th October 2023

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

Foundation	Finley	Olivia		
Year 1	Tadhg	Jessica		
Year 2	Zuzanna	Zerah		
Year 3	Sean	Pola		
Year 4	Jeffray	Julia		
Year 5	Edith	Rhoda		
Year 6	Lily	Ben		

HOUSE POINTS

WEEK ENDING 20th October 2023

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

BECKET	CAMPION	FISHER	MORE
4th (91)	3rd (73)	1st (107)	2nd (103)

LEARNER OF THE WEEK WEEK ENDING 20th October 2023 Foundation Thiem Oliver Year 1 Antoni Michelle Year 2 Savio Nahson Year 3 Richmond Elsie Year 4 Keva Tommy Year 5 Oscar Natalia Year 6 Sanad Isabella

MENU WEEK COMMENCING - 30th October - 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).

PLEASE SEE THE NEW MENU ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE. THIS STARTS ON MONDAY, 30TH OCTOBER

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

Please remember that dogs are not allowed on the school playground. They are only permitted to be in the gated area once you have entered the main gate.

Many thanks



SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS

Carmel Jane Photographic Ltd will be visiting the school on 7th November to take individual and group family photographs. All the children will be photographed, however, parents are under no obligation to purchase them. If any parent wishes their children to be photographed in a family group, **please send a letter for the attention of Mrs Wright** clearly stating your wishes by Friday, 3rd November – verbal messages from children will not be accepted nor will any letters be accepted after this date. If your request for a family photo includes pre-school siblings please bring them to school at 11.00 a.m. If you have any queries see Mrs Wright in the office.

SCHOOL PUPIL DETAILS

If you have moved or if any of your details have changed, please can you inform the Office so we can update your child's records.



POPPIES - REMEMBRANCE DAY

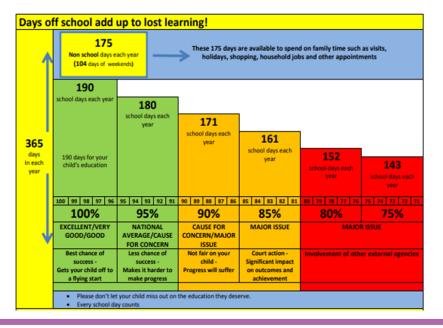
Poppies are now available from the school office at a minimum donation of $\pounds 1$.



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.



<u>Attendance</u>							
Attendance Data:		94% and below 94% - 97%		94% - 97%	97% and al		ove
			Last week %		This week %		
			09.10.23 - 13.10.23		16.10.23 - 20.10.23		
	Foundation Year 1 Year 2 Year 3 Year 4 Year 5		97%	1	94.7%	%	
			97%	97%		98%	
			97.7% 98.8% 97.2% 98.4%		98% 97.2% 98.4% 99.4%		
Year 6 Whole So			96.9%		94.1%		
		School Total	97.6%		97.1%		

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

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

New secondary admission round (Year 6 to 7 transfer September 2024)

The application period for admission to Year 7 in secondary schools for September 2024 opened on Tuesday, 12 September 2023.

From this date, parents/carers of current Year 6 Essex resident children will be able to make their applications using our website www.essex.gov.uk/admissions. Last year, 99% of Essex parents applied online.

As usual, the Council will not be sending out letters to parents/carers about applying. All of the application information is published on the website above.

The closing date of 31 October 2023.

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, and disturbing children's learning.



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.

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: **Mrs Gibbs**.

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



PARENT EMAIL ADDRESS

<u>parents@ourladyimmaculate.essex.sch.uk</u> 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 <u>2 p.m. on the day</u>. – 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.

Clubs

The clubs for Autumn Term 2 will be:

Monday Art - years 1 & 2 - 3.15pm - 4.15pm

(30th October - 11th December = 6 sessions)

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

(30th October - 11th December = 6 sessions)

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

(30th October - 11th December = 6 sessions)

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

(30th October - 11th December = 5 sessions

NO SESSION ON 4TH DECEMBER)

PLEASE NOTE THERE IS NO SESSION ON MONDAY,

13TH NOVEMBER DUE TO THE INSET DAY

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

(31st October - 12th December = 7 sessions)

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

(31st October - 12th December = 7 sessions)

Guitar - years 3, 4, 5 & 6

(31st October - 12th December = 7 sessions)

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

(1st November - 22nd November = 4 sessions)

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

(2nd November - 14th December = 7 sessions)

Art - years 3, 4, 5 & 6 - 3.15pm - 4.15pm

(2nd November - 14th December = 7 sessions)

Chess - years 3, 4, 5 & 6 - 3.15pm - 4.15pm

(2nd November - 7th December = 6 sessions *these have already been booked*)

Please ensure all payments are up to date as you will not be able to book onto future clubs until all payments are cleared.



