With God all things are possible'





10th November, 2023

The month of the Holy Souls

Issue 10

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

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this newsletter finds you well and that you have had a wonderful week. It has been a busy one here at Our Lady Immaculate, filled with opportunities for growth, learning, and coming together as a school community.

On Monday, we gathered as a school to celebrate the word of God. The children listened attentively to the Gospel reading and engaged in thoughtful discussions about what it truly means to be humble. It was a beautiful moment of reflection and unity, reminding us of the importance of kindness and humility in our daily lives.

I had the pleasure of meeting with our dedicated Friends Association on Monday evening. Their unwavering commitment to raising funds for our school is truly inspiring. They selflessly give their time and energy, always making a difference in the lives of our children. I am humbled by their dedication and grateful for their continued support. Without them, many of the enriching experiences and resources we provide for our pupils would not be possible.

On Thursday and Friday, once again our Year 6 students participated in the bikeability program. This excellent initiative equips our children with the skills and knowledge they need to stay safe on the roads.

I would like to take this opportunity to inform you about the upcoming Parish Bazaar on the 19th of November. This event is an integral part of our community, and I encourage you all to mark it in your diaries. The Parish committee has been working tirelessly to ensure that this year's bazaar is a memorable one, and your presence and support would mean the world to them.

In closing, I would like to express my gratitude for your continued support and partnership. Our Lady Immaculate is truly blessed to have such a dedicated and involved community.

Wishing you a restful weekend.

God Bless!

Lesley Roche Headteacher

# Thought for the weekend I alone can't change the World, But I can cast a stone across the waters, to create many Ripples. - Mother Teresa -

## **Anti-Bullying Week**

Next week is Anti-Bullying Week. The Anti-Bullying Ambassadors have been busy preparing posters for a whole school assembly, drawing on this year's theme of 'Make a Noise about Bullying!'.

As part of our Anti-Bullying week activities, on **Friday**, children are invited to come into school wearing **'Odd Socks'**. The children have agreed that all monies raised by this event will be donated to the NSPCC—faith in action.





Please note: new information will be presented in red

| NOVEMBER 2023                   |  |  |  |  |
|---------------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Monday, 13th                    | INSET DAY  |  |  |  |
| Wednesday, 15th                 | Year 1 & 2 Mass @ 9.30am   |  |  |  |
| Friday, 17th                    | Odd Socks Day - £1 donation  |  |  |  |
| Monday, 20th -<br>Tuesday, 21st | Year 6 Bikeability - group 2   |  |  |  |
| Wednesday, 22nd                 | Year 3 Mass @ 9.30am<br>Year 6 visit to Chelmsford Library                                       |  |  |  |
| 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    |  |  |  |
| Tuesday, 19th                   | Children's Christmas dinner  |  |  |  |
| 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 10th November 2023**

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

| Foundation | Kezia      | Serin  |  |  |  |
|------------|------------|--------|--|--|--|
| Year 1     | Rachel     | Adam   |  |  |  |
| Year 2     | Raine-Esme | Toby   |  |  |  |
| Year 3     | Mia        | Hugh K |  |  |  |
| Year 4     | Florence   | Johan  |  |  |  |
| Year 5     | Oscar      | Nell   |  |  |  |
| Year 6     | Sam        | Grace  |  |  |  |

# **HOUSE POINTS**

#### **WEEK ENDING 10th November 2023**

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

| BECKET    | CAMPION   | FISHER    | MORE      |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 2nd (123) | 1st (104) | 2nd (145) | 3rd (133) |

#### **LEARNER OF THE WEEK** WEEK ENDING 10th November 2023 **Foundation** Aron Ayla Year 1 Olivia Cameron Year 2 Sienna Joshua Year 3 Ronnie Ciara Year 4 Jack **Emilia**

## **PARENT EMAIL ADDRESS**

Hattie

Luke

Joseph

Caius

Year 5

Year 6

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.

## **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.

## **Friends Association News**

#### **Christmas Bazaar hamper Donations**

As the bazaar is fast approaching we need to start making the Christmas hampers. Each year the success of this event is due to your generosity. Therefore this week we have been collecting the following donations:

Alcohol

Chocolates

**Puddings** 

Chutneys

Crackers

**Biscuits** 

Other luxury food items.

(No nuts please)

Next week we would be grateful for the following items;

New/unused gifts

**Sweets** 

Chocolate

(Please remember no nuts)

We are still in need of at least 55 volunteers for stalls at the Christmas Bazaar between 9.30-11.30 and 11.30-1.30pm.

If you are able to help even if just for an hour, please speak to Amy Campen (yr2) or email the Friends Association at Friends@ourladyimmaculate.essex.sch.uk

Many Thanks,

The Friends Association



# Reception admissions for academic year starting in September 2024

Primary school (Reception) admission round opened on **Monday 6 November 2023**, for parents of children to apply for a Reception school place for the academic year that starts in September 2024.

The statutory national closing date for applications is **15 January 2024**.

**From 6 November 2023**, applications can be made online via <a href="www.essex.gov.uk/admissions">www.essex.gov.uk/admissions</a>. 99% of parents in Essex applied online last year.

All of the application information is available on the website above. The website <a href="www.essex.gov.uk/admissions">www.essex.gov.uk/admissions</a> also has a copy of the Primary Education in Essex 2024-25 booklet and the Schools Admissions Policies Directories contain details of all admission policies.

You will also need to complete a Supplementary Application Form which can be obtained from the office or the

## **MINI VINNIES**

Today two members from the Mini Vinnies went to the Little Edi Foundation in Melbourne on Thursday. They helped to pack boxes of food for families ready to be delivered later that day. It was a good opportunity for the children to see the next stage of where the food the school has donated goes to.





#### MENU WEEK COMMENCING - 13th November - 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).

## TUESDAY, 14TH WILL BE RAINBOW PASTA WITH TOMOTO SAUCE OR CHEESE SAUCE.

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.

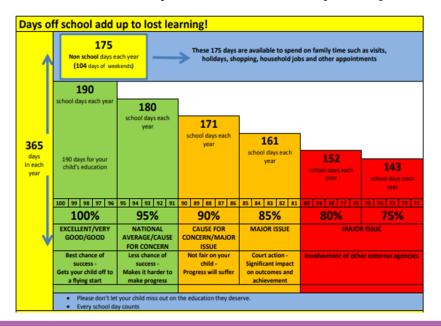
Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get). **Further information can be found on** <a href="https://www.essex.gov.uk/free-school-meals">https://www.essex.gov.uk/free-school-meals</a>



#### **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.



| <b>Attendance</b> |              |      |                             |       |                          |  |  |  |  |
|-------------------|--------------|------|-----------------------------|-------|--------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Attendance Data:  | 94% and belo | )W   | 94% - 97%                   |       | 97% and above            |  |  |  |  |
|                   |              |      | t week %<br>0.23 - 03.11.23 |       | week %<br>.23 - 10.11.23 |  |  |  |  |
| Founda            | Foundation   |      | 95%                         |       | 90.3%                    |  |  |  |  |
| Year 1            | Year 1       |      | %                           | 97.3% | 6                        |  |  |  |  |
| Year 2            |              | 99.3 | 3%                          | 98.7% | 6                        |  |  |  |  |
| Year 3            |              | 95%  | )                           | 97.8% | 6                        |  |  |  |  |
| Year 4            |              | 99.7 | <b>'</b> %                  | 100%  |                          |  |  |  |  |
| Year 5            |              | 97.5 | 5%                          | 96.3% | 6                        |  |  |  |  |
| Year 6            |              | 94.7 | <b>'</b> %                  | 93.8% | 6                        |  |  |  |  |
| Whole             | School Total | 97.3 | 3%                          | 96.3% | <mark>6</mark>           |  |  |  |  |

Congratulations to Years 1, 2, 3 & 4 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 (<a href="www.ourladyimmaculateprimary.org">www.ourladyimmaculateprimary.org</a>) under 'Key Information/GDPR and Privacy

# 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** 

## **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.