



'With God all things are possible'

Our Lady Immaculate School News



Our Lady Immaculate
Catholic Primary School
A Multi-Academy

8th December, 2023

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,

It has been a busy and exciting week here at Our Lady Immaculate.

On Monday, five Year 6 children had the opportunity to travel to St Joseph's in Harwich, to take part in a liturgical dance workshop. It is always a pleasure to see our pupils engage with their faith in such a meaningful way and the results were nothing short of beautiful!

In addition to this, Monday afternoon brought us the Year 3 assembly, where the children shared their knowledge of Advent. The children truly impressed us all with their understanding and enthusiasm, and it was heartwarming to see so many parents join us for this special event.

On Tuesday, our School Council took the stage and led a fantastic assembly. They served as outstanding ambassadors for our school, sharing their experiences from their recent trip to the Houses of Parliament. These opportunities to lead assemblies not only build confidence and public speaking skills, but also help our pupils develop a sense of responsibility and pride in representing Our Lady Immaculate.

Today, we celebrated our Patronal Feast Day. The day began with a whole school Mass led by our dedicated Chaplaincy team. It was a beautiful service that brought our school community together in prayer and reflection. Following the Mass, classes worked collaboratively on religious artwork and arts and crafts, further embracing the spirit of the day.

I would like to thank Fr Damien for celebrating this special day with us in Church. Your presence made the occasion even more meaningful. I would also like to thank all the parents who took the time to join us. Your support and involvement in our school community is greatly appreciated.

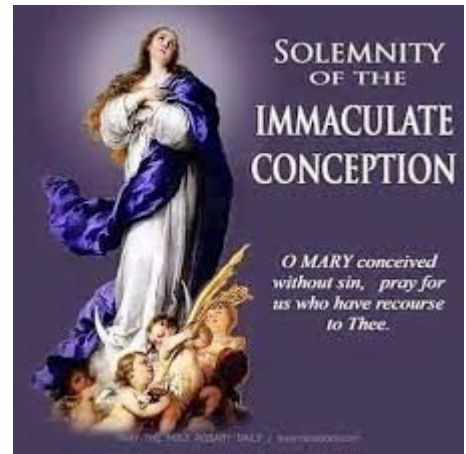
Looking ahead, I am thrilled to inform you that next week we have the Infant Nativity and the Junior Carol Service to look forward to. These events are always a highlight of the year, showcasing the incredible talent and hard work of our children. I personally cannot wait to see the joy and excitement on their faces as they perform!

Wishing you a wonderful weekend.

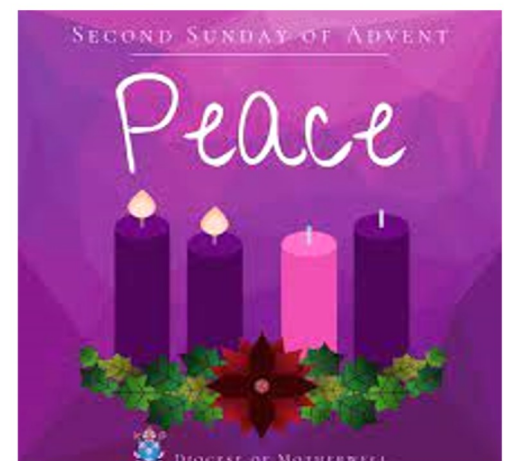
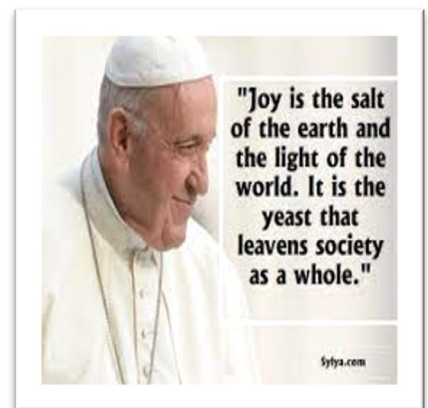
Warmest regards,

Mrs Roche
Headteacher

Happy Feast Day!



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 Charles-Foster, 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 in my office counting the money raised!

Once again, 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 Charles-Foster and her Christmas elves truly deserve a mince pie!

Liturgical Dance Workshop



Sharing Christmas Spirit in the Community!

Mrs Baker came into school to work with some Year 4 pupils on a beautiful Christmas stained glass window, requested by a past parent for their shop front! Keep a look out for it on Moulsham Street!



At Home with the Travelling Crib!



It's Christmas Time!



A Parent's Guide to Social Media



A Parent's Guide to Sharing Pictures



A Parent's Guide to Gaming



A Parent's Guide to Online Grooming



scan the QR code with your phone's camera to see the guides on our website



A Parent's Guide to Live Streaming



A Parent's Guide to Online Influencers



A Parent's Guide to Fake News



A Parent's Guide to Privacy Settings

It's always best to be prepared

Many parents may be planning to give electronic gadgets to their children this festive period.

Our guide is designed to help parents take a realistic approach to help keep their children safe when using the internet, social media and playing online games.

Scan the QR code to find out more.

Online safety is when young people know who they can tell if they feel upset by something that has happened online.

Parents please contact your school to enquire attending their next e-safety workshop or have any concerns.

Working with Home Office 'PREVENT', The Police and Crime Commissioner and Children's Safeguarding Partnerships to help keep children safe online.

Skips Educational Email: info@skipsed.com Tel: +44 121 227 1941

Developed in partnership with



DATES TO REMEMBER

Please note: new information will be presented in red

DECEMBER 2023	
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 CLOSSES AT 1.30PM Please note that there is no after school club
JANUARY 2024	
Thursday, 4th	First day back at school

PROCEDURE FOR MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS

Whilst we appreciate how hard you try to arrange appointments for your child outside of schooltime. If your child has to have a medical appointment during the school day, in order to authorise this absence, the **school office** requires a copy of your original appointment letter or confirmation. Thank you in advance for your continued support and co-operation.

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 www.essex.gov.uk/admissions. 99% of parents in Essex applied online last year.

All of the application information is available on the website above. The website www.essex.gov.uk/admissions 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 school's website www.ourladyimmaculateprimary.org.

MERIT BADGES

WEEK ENDING 7th December 2023

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

Foundation	Aaliyah	Rupert
Year 1	Angel	Molly
Year 2	Ella	Zuzanna
Year 3	Sophia	Ronnie
Year 4	Hanna	Tommy
Year 5	Sophia	Aurora
Year 6	Anthony	Isabella

HOUSE POINTS

WEEK ENDING 7th December 2023

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

BECKET	CAMPION	FISHER	MORE
3rd (179)	4th (155)	1st (189)	2nd (187)

LEARNER OF THE WEEK

WEEK ENDING 1st December 2023

Foundation	Aron	Maja
Year 1	Tadhg	Claudia
Year 2	Alexander	Sienna
Year 3	Sebastian	Charlene
Year 4	Emily	Anna
Year 5	Malachy	Florence
Year 6	Erin	Damia

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.**

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



Infants Nativity

This year the fabulous Mrs Baker has kindly offered to take photos of the children's nativity play. Photos will be on sale after each performance at £1.50 each.

Plus our brilliant Year 2 dad Mr Joe Kelly will be filming the show. Copies of the performance will be £5 and can be ordered on the day

Gift sale

The Christmas Gift Sale is on Friday 15th December. Only £2.50 per gift

Children are able to purchase as many gifts as they would like from our lovely Elfridge's!

Please send your child in with the correct money, again all proceeds will go back to the school.

Thank you

We would like to say a huge thank you to all of you who volunteered your time to help at or with the Christmas bazaar. Thank you all for showing your support at the event and we believe it was a huge success, there were lots of happy children and parents. We are so very lucky to have such a supportive community at our school. We really couldn't do it without you all.

Many Thanks,



The Friends Association

MENU WEEK COMMENCING - 11th 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>

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



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, and disturbing children's learning.



Christmas Lunch Tuesday, 19th December 2023 - Price £3.35

Roast Turkey

Pigs in Blankets

Stuffing

Gravy

Crispy Roast Potatoes

Carrots

Brussels Sprouts

Peas

~

Ice Cream

~

Milk / Aqua juice cartons (apple or orange) / Water

Vegetarian option

Quorn Fillet

Stuffing

Gravy

Crispy Roast Potatoes

Carrots

Brussels Sprouts

Peas

~

Ice Cream

~

Milk / Aqua juice cartons (apple or orange) / Water

***If you would like the vegetarian option, please let the school office know
no later than Friday, 8th December.***

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 £3.35.

Christmas Jumper Day!

Tuesday, 19th December - Same day as Children's Christmas Dinner

Children to wear school uniform plus the Christmas jumper

£1 donation to the Little Edi Foundation.

