



26th January 2024

### The Month of the Holy name of Jesus



Issue 18

### 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 as we bid farewell to January and welcome the beginning of February. It truly feels like time is flying by!

As always, it brings me great joy to visit each and every one of our classes. This week was particularly delightful as I had the pleasure of witnessing the incredible work of our Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) children. They were eager to show me their writing based on 'The Naughty Bus', and their enthusiasm was contagious. It is truly remarkable to see their creativity and growth firsthand.

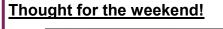
Over the next three weeks, our focus will be on nurturing the virtue of Simplicity. By embracing a simpler way of life, we come to understand what truly matters and become less consumed by the desire for material possessions. Living simply allows us to break free from the constant pursuit of the next purchase or trend. Gradually, we realize that a happy life does not require an abundance of things. Simplicity grants us the freedom to think of others, perform acts of kindness, and care for the world around us. Moreover, it deepens our faith and trust in God.

In other news, many of our Year 3 children will be making their first Reconciliation this coming Saturday. Let us keep them in our thoughts and prayers as they experience this special sacrament for the first time. It is a significant milestone in their spiritual journey, and we are proud to support them every step of the way.

Wishing you all a wonderful month ahead filled with joy, simplicity, and blessings.

Warm regards,

Mrs Lesley Roche





Live simply so others may simply live. — Mother Teresa —

AZQUOTES

### Virtues to live by



This week the children will be growing in the Virtue of SIMPLICITY

Signs of living in the Virtue of SIMPLICITY:

I understand that simply things can make me happy.

I am thankful for all I have.

I can work, play, rest and pray each day.

I take care of my belongings and those of others.

I share my things with those who need my help.

I do not waste food or resources.

I only take what I need.

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



#### Multiplication Check 2023!

I am delighted to share with you some exciting news! We have recently received a letter from the Rt Hon Damian Hinds MP, Minister for Schools, congratulating Our Lady Immaculate school on its outstanding performance in the 2023 multiplication check.

The average score for our pupils was an impressive 24.1 out of 25. This remarkable achievement places OLI among the top 200 performing schools in England for this important assessment and is a testament to the hard work and dedication of our pupils and staff.

Knowing times tables by heart is not only crucial for academic success but also for everyday life. I would like to personally congratulate Year 5 for their excellent performance in the multiplication check. Their commitment to learning and the support they received from their teacher, Miss Worth, have undoubtedly contributed to this fantastic outcome.

### **Multiplication Tables**



Timestables.com

#### Multi-Faith Fayre

The Year 5 and 6 Chaplaincy Team attended a Multi-Faith Fayre on Monday. I am pleased to report that Mrs Gibbs was extremely proud to witness the children's natural curiosity and respect for other people's faith. They engaged in meaningful conversations and had the opportunity to speak with Rabbi Warren Elf from Southend. Rabbi Elf expressed his enthusiasm to visit OLI and lead a whole school assembly!





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

JANUARY 2024	
Wednesday, 31st	Year 2 Parish Mass @ 9.30am
FEBRUARY 2024	
Saturday, 3rd	Friends School Disco
Monday, 5th	Year 4 Superstars sports event
Wednesday, 7th	Year 3 Parish Mass @ 9.30am
Wednesday, 14th	Ash Wednesday - 9am Whole School Mass
Monday, 19th - Friday, 23rd	Half-Term
Monday, 26th	INSET DAY
Wednesday, 28th	Year 4 Parish Mass @ 9.30am
MARCH 2024	
Monday, 4th	Teacher Learning Conferences - 3.30pm - 6.30pm
Wednesday, 6th	Year 5 Parish Mass @ 9.30am Teacher Learning Conferences - 3.30pm - 6.30pm
Thursday, 7th	Year 1 trip to Pizza Express - details coming soon
Wednesday, 13th	Reception and Year 6 Parish Mass @ 9.30am
Wednesday, 20th	Year 1 Parish Mass @ 9.30am
Thursday, 28th	9.30am - Easter Service in the Church LAST DAY OF SPRING TERM - SCHOOL CLOSES AT 3.15PM - PLEASE NOTE THERE IS NO AFTER SCHOOL ARK CLUB
APRIL 2024	
Monday, 15th	Back to school
Saturday, 20th	Friends Talent show school
MAY 2024	
Saturday, 11th	Friends Bingo

### **MERIT BADGES**

### WEEK ENDING 26th January 2024

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

Foundation	Ayla	Finley
Year 1	Olivia	Richmond
Year 2	Rita	Joshua
Year 3	Jocelyn	Buddy
Year 4	Sienna	Lachlan
Year 5	Abigail	Kushal
Year 6	Mayah	Alessia

### **HOUSE POINTS**

#### WEEK ENDING 26th January 2024

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

BECKET	CAMPION	FISHER	MORE
1st (226)	4th (208)	2nd (238)	3rd (237)
		ER OF THE WEEK DING 26th January 2024	
Foundation	Kitt		Maja
Year 1	TJ		Jessica
Year 2	Lucas		Violet
Year 3	Hugh K		Emma
Year 4	Tommy		Julia
Year 5	David A-H		Sofia O'S
Year 6	Ben		Patrick

### 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.

### 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.

### **Friends Association News**

#### School Disco - Saturday 3rd Feb

Tickets will be on sale next week in the playground after school. If your child is in the Ark then please leave the money in an envelope in the office. Tickets are £2.50 per person and children need to be accompanied by an adult. The night will be lots of fun! We will have a children's raffle, tuck shop and hot food and a licenced bar for the adults. We hope to see you all then.

Many Thanks,

The Friends Association

ARE YOU READY TO BOOGIE THE NIGHT AWAY?

OLI Family Disco

FOOD! GOOD MUSIC! LICENSED BAR TICKETS £2 PER PERSON

OUR LADY IMMACULATE SCHOOL HALL

### School Vacancies

### Midday Assistant

Our Lady Immaculate School is looking to recruit a permanent Midday Assistant. The position is for a total of 1.5 hours a day on Mondays - Fridays from 12:00pm to 1:30pm, term time only. The hourly rate is: £11.79 plus holiday pay. For further information and an application form please contact Lindsey Murgatroyd – lindsey.murgatroyd@ourladyimmaculate.essex.sch.uk or 01245 353755. No previous experience required as training will be given.

Our school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of our children and expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. All appointments require an enhanced DBS disclosure, medical check and satisfactory references. In compliance with Safer Recruitment guidelines, CVs cannot be accepted.

We look forward to hearing from you!

### MENU WEEK COMMENCING - 29th January – 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** <u>https://www.essex.gov.uk/free-school-meals</u>

### **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**

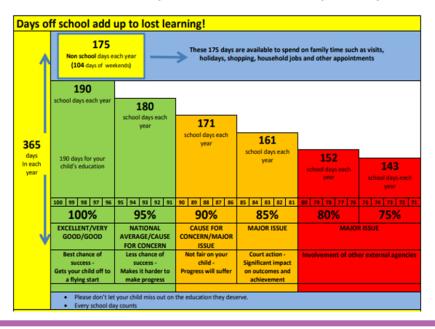
When asking for time off from school, please remember to complete a Leave of Absence form and accompanying letter. The Leave of Absence form can be found on the school website.



### <u>Attendance</u>

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.



Attendance
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			indance		
Attendance Data:	94% and below 94% - 97%			97% and above	
		Last	week %	This	week %
		15.0 <sup>-</sup>	1.24 - 19.01.24	22.0 <sup>7</sup>	1.24 - 26.01.24
Founda	Foundation			99.39	%
Year 1	Year 1		%	82.7	%
Year 2	Year 2		%	<mark>94.3</mark> 9	%
Year 3	Year 3		%	97.8	%
Year 4	Year 4		%	94.7	%
Year 5		<mark>96.3</mark> 9	%	90.99	%
Year 6		<mark>91.3</mark> 9	<mark>91.3%</mark>		%
Whole School Total		<mark>93.5%</mark>		93.69	%

Congratulations to Foundation and Year 3 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 (<u>www.ourladyimmaculateprimary.org</u>) under 'Key Information/GDPR and Privacy

### <u>Safeguarding</u>

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 **<u>NOT</u>** 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.

### News from the ARK

Bookings for the Ark breakfast and afternoon sessions can be made up to 10pm the night before.

Morning Sessions: 7:30am until 8:30am

Afternoon Sessions: 3:15pm until 4:15pm

4:15pm until 5:15pm

5:15pm until 6:15pm

### **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.







# **Multiply Maths**

## for parents of children 0 to 5 years

Want to support your child with their maths schoolwork and increase your confidence in maths?

Join us for lots of tips, activity ideas and demonstrations in a fun and informal environment. Takeaway pack includes playdough, paint and a maths book.



TIEGr

Our Lady Immaculate Catholic Primary School Church Hall February 2nd, 9th and 16th - 9am to 11am



Book your FREE place today! Contact the school office or email: info@tiegr.org

MULTIPLY