

*'With God all things are possible'*



The Rosary Trust

# Our Lady Immaculate School News



Our Lady Immaculate  
Catholic Primary School  
A Multi-Academy

2nd February 2024

The Month of the Holy Family

Issue 20

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

Dear Parents and Carers,

Another week has flown by here at Our Lady Immaculate, filled with learning, reflection, and growth.

During this week's prayer and liturgy assembly, the children had an opportunity to listen to the story of Saul. They pondered the notion of change and considered how they, too, possess the ability to transform themselves. Furthermore, the children engaged in thoughtful discussions regarding our new Virtue, Simplicity. They recognised that by embracing simplicity, they can, like St. Paul, discern what truly matters in life.

On Tuesday, Linda Orr came into school to talk to the children about this year's **CAFOD Lenten Walk**. The Mini-Vinnies will be taking the lead in organising this important fundraising event, which will not only raise money for a worthy cause, but will also promote the Virtues of compassion and solidarity.

In other news, on Wednesday, the Year 4 children took part in a public speaking workshop. Here at OLI we firmly believe in the importance of equipping our children with the skills and confidence to express themselves eloquently in public. This workshop continues to be a valuable addition to our OLI curriculum, allowing our children to develop their public speaking abilities and showcase their newfound confidence.

As the weekend approaches, I hope that you and your families have a wonderful time, filled with joy and relaxation – I might even see some of you at the Friends' Disco!

Warmest regards,

*Lesley Roche*  
Headteacher

## Virtues to Live By



This week we have been growing in the Virtue of **Simplicity**.



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

## Thought for the weekend!

WITH God  
ALL THINGS  
ARE  
possible

MATTHEW 19:26

## **RE Parent Survey—January 2024**

I would like to take this opportunity to extend a big thank you to all the parents who participated in the recent RE parent survey. The response was overwhelmingly positive, the majority of parents expressing their support and understanding of the ethos of our school. The feedback we received included comments, such as, "OLI always goes above and beyond," and "I feel very proud to be part of this school." Your kind words serve as a testament to the welcoming and inclusive environment we strive to create at Our Lady Immaculate.

One area for development that was highlighted in the survey was the need for improved reporting to parents on their child's progress in RE. Rest assured, this is a priority for us, and our teachers will be sharing this information with you at your child's next Teaching and Learning Conference, scheduled to take place in March. We believe that open communication between home and school is crucial in supporting your child's educational journey, and we are committed to addressing this matter promptly.

	<b>Agree/Strongly Agree</b>
My child is happy at this school.	100%
My child feels safe at this school.	97%
This school enables my child to behave respectfully.	98.5%
This school is a supportive and joyful community.	98.5%
Staff at this school are positive role models for my child.	98.5%
The school works well with the local parish(es).	98.5%
I understand the school's Catholic mission and I am supportive of it.	98.5%
The school supports me in my role as the first educator of my child.	98.5%
My child enjoys learning in RE lessons.	98.5%
I know how well my child is doing in RE and what they need to do to improve.	91%
The school supports my child's spiritual and moral development.	98.5%
I am invited to be involved in the prayer and life of the school.	97%

# Meet the Governors

*On Tuesday, I had the pleasure of meeting with the Full Governing Body, and it dawned on me that many of you may not be familiar with their role within our school community. The Full Governing Body is made up of dedicated individuals who voluntarily contribute their time and effort to ensure the smooth running of Our Lady Immaculate school. I am immensely grateful for their commitment and the strategic guidance they provide.*

***Linda McSweeney (Chair of Governors)***

***James Johnson (Vice-Chair of Governors)***

***Father Martin Hardy (Foundation Governor)***

***Richard Jowers (Foundation Governor)***

***Catherine Shuttlewood (Foundation Governor)***

***Freda Benjamin-Laing (Foundation Governor)***

***Dan Ward (Foundation Governor)***

***Meela Williams (Parent Governor)***

***Maria Catchpole (Staff Governor)***

***Anne Lee (Support Staff Governor)***

*Please note the Governing Body does not involve themselves in the day-to-day operations of the school. Therefore, if you have any questions or concerns regarding the daily functioning of the school, I kindly ask that you reach out to the office staff or schedule an appointment to meet with your child's class teacher or myself.*

# DATES TO REMEMBER

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

<b>FEBRUARY 2024</b>	
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
<b>MARCH 2024</b>	
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
<b>Friday, 8th</b>	<b>Mother's Day Gift Sale</b>
Wednesday, 13th	Reception and Year 6 Parish Mass @ 9.30am <b>Friends Committee meeting</b>
Wednesday, 20th	Year 1 Parish Mass @ 9.30am
<b>Friday, 22nd</b>	<b>Friends Colour run</b>
Thursday, 28th	9.30am - Easter Service in the Church LAST DAY OF SPRING TERM - SCHOOL CLOSSES AT 3.15PM - PLEASE NOTE THERE IS NO AFTER SCHOOL ARK CLUB
<b>APRIL 2024</b>	
Monday, 15th	Back to school
Saturday, 20th	Friends Talent show school
<b>MAY 2024</b>	
Saturday, 11th	Friends Bingo

## MERIT BADGES

**WEEK ENDING 2nd February 2024**

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

Foundation	Aaliyah	Oliver
Year 1	Antoni	Daisy
Year 2	Zuzanna	Xander
Year 3	Ciara	Hugh K
Year 4	Jack	Belle
Year 5	Oscar	Nell
Year 6	Lily	Kwemto

## HOUSE POINTS

**WEEK ENDING 2nd February 2024**

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

BECKET	CAMPION	FISHER	MORE
1st (244)	3rd (222)	2nd (253)	4th (250)

## LEARNER OF THE WEEK

**WEEK ENDING 2nd February 2024**

Foundation	Tigerlilly	Olivia
Year 1	Luca	Dhiya
Year 2	Toby	Zerah
Year 3	Buddy	Charlene
Year 4	Julian	Kimberley
Year 5	Oliver	Edith
Year 6	Patrick	Isla

## 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.**

## **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

We look forward to seeing you tomorrow at the disco. It starts at 5:30 and finishes at 7:30. Please remember that children need to be supervised by an adult. There will be hot food, a tuck shop and a bar.

Many thanks

The Friends



## 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](mailto: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!



## SPORTING AT OLI



### The Athletics Competition

There were four girls and boys who went to an athletics competition. They were...

Aisling, Emily, Rosie, Jessica, Amari, Hugo, Gabriel and Lucas.

It was really fun. OLI came 9th out of 13! We did howler throwing, stand long jump, vertical jump, chest push and obstacle courses.

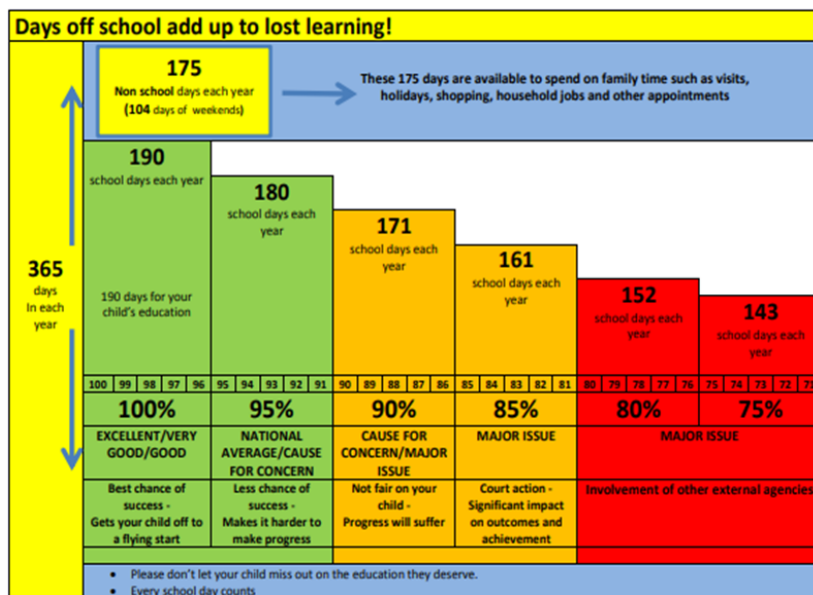
By Jessica and Lucas



## 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.



## Attendance

Attendance Data:

**94% and below**

**94% - 97%**

**97% and above**

	Last week % 22.01.24 - 26.01.24	This week % 29.01.24 - 02.02.24
Foundation	99.3%	98.3%
Year 1	82.7%	95%
Year 2	94.3%	95.7%
Year 3	97.8%	98.8%
Year 4	94.7%	97.5%
Year 5	90.9%	96.9%
Year 6	95.2%	83.9%
<b>Whole School Total</b>	<b>93.6%</b>	<b>95.2%</b>

Congratulations to **Reception, Years 3 and 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 ([www.ourladyimmaculateprimary.org](http://www.ourladyimmaculateprimary.org)) under 'Key Information/GDPR and Privacy

## 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.

## MENU WEEK COMMENCING - 5th February – Week 3

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>



## Clubs

The clubs for Spring Term 2 will be:

Monday Team sports - years 2, 3 & 4 - 3.15pm - 4.15pm

(4th March - 25th March = 4 sessions)

Football - years 1, 2 & 3 - 3.15pm - 4.15pm

(4th March - 25th March = 4 sessions)

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

(4th March - 25th March = 4 sessions)

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

(4th March - 25th March = 4 sessions)



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

(27th February - 26th March = 5 sessions)

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

(27th February - 26th March = 5 sessions)

Guitar - years 3, 4, 5 & 6

(27th February - 26th March = 5 sessions)



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

(29th February - 28th March = 5 sessions)

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

(11th January - 15th February & 29th February - 28th March

= 11 sessions ***please book all sessions as these are for the whole Spring term***)

***Art club will be booked by Mrs Williams from the rolling waiting list so if you haven't added your child to the list but would like them to be included, please contact her as soon as possible. You will be notified by email if your child has a place for this half-term.***

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