



'With God all things are possible'

Our Lady Immaculate School News



Our Lady Immaculate
Catholic Primary School
A Multi-Academy

16th February 2024

The Month of the Holy Family

Issue 22

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

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we officially reach the halfway point of the year and prepare to break up for half-term, I wanted to take a moment to celebrate the wonderful progress and achievements of our pupils here at Our Lady Immaculate.

This week, during Monday's assembly, we focused on the theme of 'Wellbeing'. Our children engaged in thoughtful discussions about what wellbeing means to them and why it is so important. We explored the definition that wellbeing encompasses both feeling good and functioning well. It enables us to navigate the highs and lows of life, pursue our passions, and maintain positive relationships. It provides us with a sense of purpose and control over our lives. Encouraging our children's wellbeing is a fundamental aspect of their education, and we will continue to prioritise it in the coming months.

Indeed, upon our return after the half-term break, we will dedicate some of our assembly time to delve deeper into the various factors that contribute to our overall wellbeing. Through these sessions, we aim to equip our children with the knowledge and skills to lead healthier and happier lives, benefiting both themselves and those around them.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to all those who joined us on Wednesday as we embarked on our Lenten journey together. Coming together as a school family is always a special occasion, and it was truly uplifting to witness the unity and devotion displayed by our community. I extend my thanks to Fr Paschal and the Chaplaincy Team for their guidance in leading us through prayers, reflections, and liturgy.

As we enter this well-deserved half-term break, I hope you all take the time to relax, recharge, and enjoy quality moments with your loved ones. May this break be a source of rejuvenation and inspiration for us all.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership in providing the best education and nurturing environment for our children. Together, we will continue to make a difference in their lives.

Warmest regards,

Lesley Roche

Thought for the weekend!



Rest is so necessary for the health of our minds and bodies, and often so difficult to achieve due to the many demands placed on us. But rest is also essential for our spiritual health, so that we can hear God's voice and understand what he asks of us.

— Pope Francis —

AZ QUOTES

Virtues to Live by

We continue to grow in the Virtue of **SIMPLICITY**.

Our Virtue to Live by:

Simplicity

I know what really matters in life.

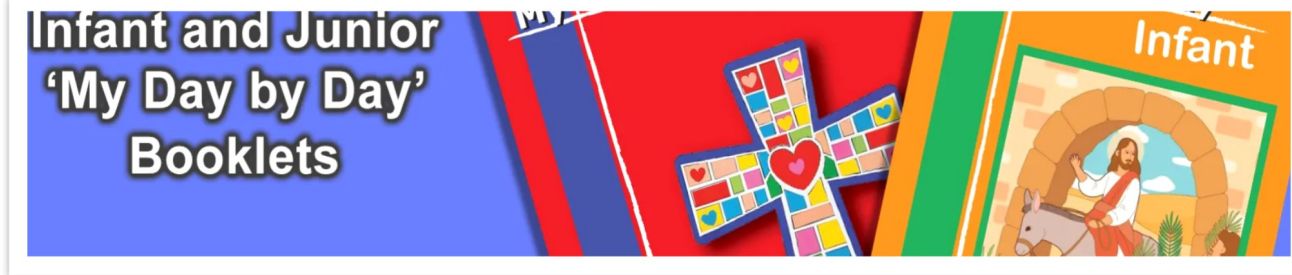
I can give time to think of others, do good and care for creation.

Living simply helps me put more trust in God.

"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."
(Matthew 6:21)



Day by Day Easter and Lent Booklets



I would like to express my gratitude to Father Martin for his unwavering support and generosity. Last term, the Parish provided each child at OLI with a wonderful 'My Day by Day' Advent booklet, which was warmly received by both children and their families. I am thrilled to announce that Father Martin and the Parish have decided to continue this initiative into the current term. Therefore, I am pleased to inform you that every child will soon be receiving a Lent and an Easter booklet to be completed at home. These resources will undoubtedly deepen our children's faith as they embark on their Lenten journey.

Fun Fundraiser

Our school council team have been working very hard at putting together a "fun fundraiser" for all classes to raise money to buy more glue sticks, pens and tissues for each class. They have put a lot of thought into planning this; they have asked if you could support the fundraiser from the 4th - 6th and 11th - 13th of March. They will be selling a variety of things such as fidgets, loom bands and books. The team also ask if you can donate to this cause. You will not need to bring much as things will not cost more than £2 so please be generous.

Many thanks

The School Council

Dear Parents/Carers,

Just to remind you that we are a **healthy school** and as such our children should be having healthy snacks at snack time, such as fruit, vegetable sticks, malt loaf or rice cakes etc. For more ideas for healthy snacks do please visit the NHS website at this link;

[Healthier snacks - Food facts - Healthier Families - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk)

In addition we are a **NUT FREE SCHOOL** it is essential that children **do not have nuts in either their snack or packed lunch**, as these can be dangerous to members of our school community with nut allergies.

Thank you in advance for your co-operation and understanding.

Mrs Sophie Gibbs



DATES TO REMEMBER

Please note: new information will be presented in red

FEBRUARY 2024	
Monday, 19th - Friday, 23rd	Half-Term
Monday, 26th	INSET DAY
Wednesday, 28th	Mother's Day Gift Sale 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	World Book Day - dress as Fairy Tale or Traditional Tale characters
Friday, 8th	Author John O'Leary visiting the school
Monday, 11th	2.30pm - Reception class assembly
Wednesday, 13th	Reception and Year 6 Parish Mass @ 9.30am Friends Committee meeting
Friday, 15th	Infant Music Festival - details to follow
Monday, 18th	2.30pm - Year 4 class assembly
Tuesday, 19th	Year 2 trip to Wagamama
Wednesday, 20th	Year 1 Parish Mass @ 9.30am
Thursday, 21st	2.30pm - Year 1 and 2 assembly
Friday, 22nd	Friends Colour run
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
APRIL 2024	
Monday, 15th	Back to school
Thursday, 18th	Year 1 trip to Pizza Express
Saturday, 20th	Friends Talent show school
Monday, 29th	2.30pm - Year 3 class assembly

MAY 2024	
Saturday, 11th	Friends Bingo
Monday, 27th - Friday 31st	Half term
JUNE 2024	
Monday, 3rd	INSET DAY
Monday, 10th - Wednesday, 12th	Year 6 Residential trip to Bawdsey Manor
Tuesday, 25th	Year 5 trip to Writtle College - Food & Farming Day
Wednesday, 26th	Year 6 theatre trip
JULY 2024	
Monday, 22nd	LAST DAY OF SUMMER TERM - SCHOOL CLOSSES AT 1.30PM Please note that there is no after school club
Tuesday, 23rd	INSET DAY

Friends Association News

Mother's day gift sale - 28/2/24

The Mother's day gift sale has moved to Wednesday 28th February because of the Author visit and the maths workshops on the day it was planned for. Each gift will be £2.50 so please ensure your child has money if they would like to buy a gift for that special person/people in their lives

OLI's got talent - 20/4/24

We are looking forward to seeing all the wonderfully talented children from our school perform their chosen act at our talent show. An email was sent out from the school office this week with instructions and a entry form, please ensure these are in by the 8th March.

We hope you all have a lovely half term break.

The friends



MERIT BADGES

WEEK ENDING 16th February 2024

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

Foundation	Odhran	Tigerlilly
Year 1	Neve	Theodora
Year 2	Sienna	Savio
Year 3	Heavenly	Leo
Year 4	Keva	Anna
Year 5	Natalia	Lillie-Mae
Year 6	Sophie	Agnese

HOUSE POINTS

WEEK ENDING 16th February 2024

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

BECKET	CAMPION	FISHER	MORE
2nd (269)	3rd (242)	1st (280)	3rd (268)

LEARNER OF THE WEEK

WEEK ENDING 16th February 2024

Foundation	Serin Teresa	Helena
Year 1	Adam	Naia
Year 2	Amari	Kallie
Year 3	Jaelan	Esmé
Year 4	Max	Russell
Year 5	Joseph	Akosua
Year 6	Maks	Mayah

PE lessons after February half-term

Reception: Wednesday

Year 1: Tuesday

Year 2: Tuesday

Year 3: Monday

Year 4: Wednesday

Year 5: Tuesday

Year 6: Monday



MENU WEEK COMMENCING - 26th February – 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>

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!

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.”

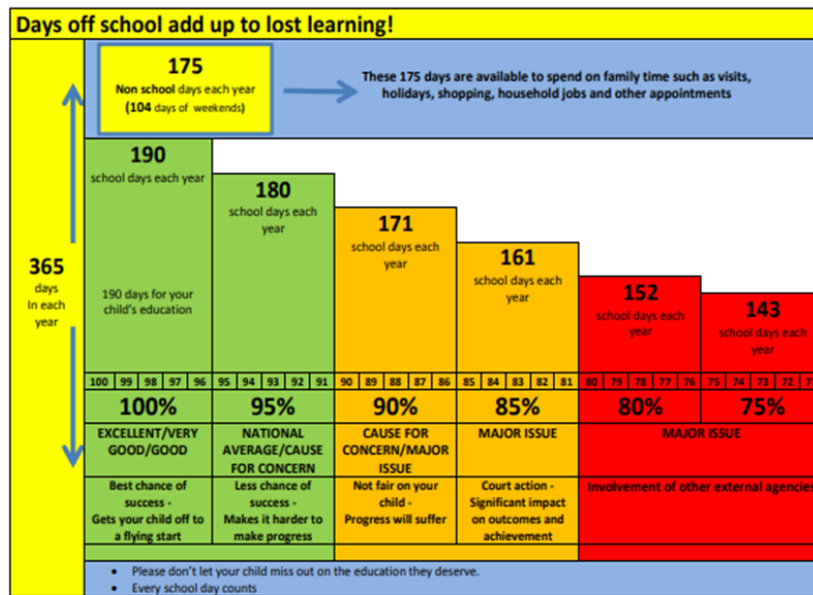
Graham Fawcet



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 % 05.02.24 - 09.02.24	This week % 12.02.24 - 16.02.24
Foundation	98.3%	95%
Year 1	98.3%	98.3%
Year 2	95.3%	92.5%
Year 3	96.3%	91.9%
Year 4	92.8%	99.4%
Year 5	99.4%	96.8%
Year 6	94.5%	95.7%
Whole School Total	96.4%	95.6%

Congratulations to **Years 1 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) under 'Key Information/GDPR and Privacy

MARIE CURIE CANCER CARE

We will again be supporting this charity in school next week by selling the daffodil brooches. The recommended donation is £1 each. Thank you for your support.

A yellow poster for the Marie Curie Great Daffodil Appeal. It features a circular photograph of a young boy and an elderly woman embracing. The text on the poster reads: "Your daffodil will help end of life care reach every nan, every friend, every auntie, everyone." Below this is the text "Great Daffodil Appeal" and a blue button that says "Donate to get your daffodil today". There is a QR code with the text "Scanning this QR code will take you to donate.mariecurie.org.uk". The Marie Curie logo is in the bottom right corner. At the bottom left, there is a small logo for the Charity Commission and the text "Charity No. 27994 (England & Wales) 200878 (Charities Act 2006)".

Your daffodil will help
end of life care reach
**every nan,
every friend,
every auntie,
everyone.**

Great Daffodil Appeal

Donate to get your daffodil today

Scanning this
QR code will take you to
donate.mariecurie.org.uk

Marie Curie

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.

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.**

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 - 21st March = 4 sessions)

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

(11th January - 15th February & 29th February - 21st March

= 10 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.