



The Rosary Trust

With God all things are possible'

Our Lady Immaculate School News



Our Lady Immaculate
Catholic Primary School
A Multi-Academy

8th March 2024

The Holy Month of St Joseph

Issue 24

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 certainly been a busy one here at Our Lady Immaculate school, filled with exciting events and meaningful learning experiences!

Firstly, I would like to express my gratitude to all the parents who attended the teaching and learning conferences on Monday and Wednesday. It was a pleasure to see so many of you taking an active interest in your child's education. These conferences provide a valuable opportunity for parents to gain insight into their child's progress and for teachers to celebrate their achievements. Together, we can work towards further enhancing their learning journey.

This week, our focus has been on the joy of reading. The children have been fully engaged in exploring fairy tales from different characters' perspectives, offering an alternative view to these beloved stories. The highlight of the week was undoubtedly the day when the children came to school dressed as their favorite book characters. The school was a vibrant display of colors and imagination. To add to the excitement, we were honored to have a visit from a talented illustrator on Friday. I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to Mrs. McCarthy and Mrs Catchpole for their dedication in organising this memorable week and to the Friends Association for funding the illustrator visit. It is through initiatives like these that we aim to bring reading alive for our children, fostering a life-long love for literature.

During our prayer and liturgy assembly, we reflected upon the virtue of 'Hope'. The children contemplated the significance of hope in their lives and how they can be ambassadors for a better world. It is heartwarming to witness their understanding and commitment to nurturing hope for the future.

Looking ahead, I am delighted to inform you that next week we have a special visit planned from Fr. Martin, Fr Damien and Fr Paschal, who will be joining us to celebrate the sacrament of reconciliation. This will be an important moment for our children to reflect on forgiveness and the power of reconciliation in their lives.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership in your child's education. Together, we can create a nurturing environment where our children can thrive academically, emotionally, and spiritually.

Wishing you a restful weekend.

Warmest regards,

Mrs Lesley Roche
Headteacher

Virtues to Live By

We are growing in the Virtue of **Hope**.

Virtues to Live by

I am hopeful

when

I believe and trust that God will not give up on me.

I am positive about the future.

I don't give up on myself.

I have hopes and dreams that we can all work for a better world.

I pray to God placing my life in his hands.

I know God has a plan for me.

Thought for the weekend!

*Do You Want to Fast
This Lent?*

Fast from hurting words
and say kind words,
Fast from sadness
and be filled with gratitude,
Fast from pessimism
and be filled with hope,
Fast from worries
and trust in God,
Fast from pressures
and be prayerful,
Fast from bitterness
and fill your heart with joy,
Fast from selfishness
and be compassionate to others,
Fast from grudges
and be reconciled,
Fast from words and be silent, so you can listen.

MichelleDeRusha.com

--Pope Francis

Staffing!



After 14 years of service to the school, Mrs McCarthy has decided that the time has come for her to retire from her post as classroom teacher. I am sure that everyone will wish to join me in thanking Mrs McCarthy for her unwavering service and commitment to the school community.

Sea Cadets!

George (Year 6) spent the weekend away from home with the Sea Cadets. Throughout the weekend, George was expected to organise himself and his equipment.

By all accounts, he did an excellent job!



Congratulations!



Congratulations Ciara on achieving a first in the Essex under 9 grade 1 gymnastics competition.

According to mum, Ciara was surprised and delighted with the result

DATES TO REMEMBER

Please note: new information will be presented in red

MARCH 2024	
Monday, 11th	Reception class assembly @ 2.30pm
Wednesday, 13th	Year 5 Parish Mass @ 9.30am Year 2 trip to Wagamama's Friends Committee meeting @ 7.30pm
Friday, 15th	Year 2 Infant Music Festival
Monday, 18th	Year 4 class assembly @ 2.30pm cancelled
Wednesday, 20th	Year 1 Parish Mass @ 9.30am
Thursday, 21st	Year 1 & 2 assembly @ 2.30pm Year 5 - meeting re. residential trip @ 6pm
Tuesday, 26th	Easter Service in Church @ 9.30am
Wednesday, 27th	Year 4 Parish Mass @ 9.30am Year 1 Phonics Screening meeting @ 3.30pm
Thursday, 28th	LAST DAY OF SPRING TERM - SCHOOL CLOSSES AT 3.15PM - PLEASE NOTE THERE IS NO AFTER SCHOOL ARK CLUB
APRIL 2024	
Monday, 15th	First Day of Summer Term
Thursday, 18th	Year 1 trip to Pizza Express
Saturday, 20th	Friends Talent show
Monday, 29th	Year 3 class assembly @ 2.30pm
MAY 2024	
Saturday, 11th	Friends Bingo
Monday, 27th - Friday, 31st	Half-term
JUNE 2024	
Monday, 3rd	INSET DAY
Tuesday, 4th	Year 2 Mini Games - details coming soon
Monday, 10th - Wednesday, 12th	Year 6 Residential trip to Bawdsey Manor
Monday, 24th	Junior Music Festival (choir)
Tuesday, 25th	Year 5 trip to Writtle College - Food and 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

MERIT BADGES

WEEK ENDING 8th March 2024

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

Foundation	Serin Teresa	Olaedo
Year 1	Alexander	Angel-Ariella
Year 2	Anna	Zerah
Year 3	Ysabella	Kaleb
Year 4	Emilia	Lachlan
Year 5	Rhoda	Florence C
Year 6	Aaron	Erin

HOUSE POINTS

WEEK ENDING 8th March 2024

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

BECKET	CAMPION	FISHER	MORE
2nd (298)	3rd (260)	1st (307)	1st (293)

LEARNER OF THE WEEK

WEEK ENDING 8th March 2024

Foundation	Clara	Tigerlilly
Year 1	Peter	Olivia
Year 2	Philip	Emily
Year 3	Alexander	Pola
Year 4	Daniel	Emily
Year 5	Oliver	Aurora
Year 6	Millie	Teddy

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.

Friends Association News

Friends Meeting

We have a friends meeting on Wednesday, and would love to see some new faces join us. We welcome all ideas and feedback. We have a busy few months coming up with the talent show, bingo and then ending the year with the summer festival so if you are free please do join us.

Talent show

Today is the deadline for the talent show entries. We look forward to putting on a show for our children to showcase their talents.

Mother's day

We hope everyone enjoys their mother's day gifts that the children enjoyed picking last week. We hope you all have a lovely day.

Many thanks



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 and 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 - 11th March – 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).

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>

PATHWAY FOR PARENTS

From time to time, parents and carers may have concerns about their son or daughter's education and/or wellbeing at school. Quite often this is due to a misunderstanding about school policy or practice. Sometimes the pupil may be behaving unusually at home or at school and/or expressing their own concerns. Whatever the situation, we would encourage you, and/or your child, to **talk to us about it at the earliest opportunity** so that we can help sort out the problem.

If it is your child's academic progress that you wish to speak to us about, or if it is an issue around your child's wellbeing (for example, bullying or other anxiety), please ask to see their teacher in the first instance or make an appointment, through the School Office, telephone number 01245 353755, or via our Parent email address: Parents@ourladyimmaculate.essex.sch.uk or in person at Reception.

Our Lady Immaculate School emphasises the partnership between parents, church and school and the majority of concerns can be dealt with through informal contacts, usually with the class teacher and, sometimes, the Headteacher. Most concerns and complaints can be sorted out quickly by speaking with your child's class teacher.

If, having spoken to the class teacher, you still have concerns, you should see the Headteacher who will look into the problem and discuss their findings with you so that we can find a way forward together which serves the best interest of both the school and your child.

Attendance

Attendance Data:

94% and below

94% - 97%

97% and above

	Last week % 27.02.24 - 01.03.24	This week % 04.03.24 - 08.03.24
Foundation	96.3%	97.7%
Year 1	95.4%	94.7%
Year 2	98.3%	95.7%
Year 3	94.9%	97.2%
Year 4	95.3%	94.4%
Year 5	96.6%	97.6%
Year 6	97.6%	97.4%
Whole School Total	95.6%	96.4%

Congratulations to Reception, years 3, 5 & 6 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

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.



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

