



The Rosary Trust

'With God all things are possible'

Our Lady Immaculate School News



Our Lady Immaculate
Catholic Primary School
A Multi-Academy

1st March 2024

The Holy Month of St Joseph

Issue 23

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

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! I hope you have all had a restful break and are ready for the exciting weeks ahead at Our Lady Immaculate Primary School. As we embark on this very short half-term, with only four weeks to go, let us make the most of our time together.

This week, our focus in school will be on the Virtue of Hope. Hope is a powerful force that enables us to look forward with positivity and anticipation. It encourages us to believe in ourselves and in the limitless possibilities that lie ahead.

Looking ahead, I am thrilled to announce our upcoming Literacy Festival, which will take place next week. This year, our festival will revolve around the enchanting world of Fairy Tales. Our children will have the opportunity to delve into the magical realms of classic stories, explore the beauty of poetry, and even have a special visit from a talented illustrator, paid for by the Friends Association. It promises to be a week filled with creativity, imagination, and a love for literature.

On a personal note, today I am attending the Bishop's Lenten Retreat, alongside other Catholic headteachers. This retreat provides us with a valuable opportunity to step back from our day-to-day responsibilities and engage in moments of reflection and spiritual growth. I am grateful for this time away, as it allows me to return to school with renewed energy and a deeper sense of purpose.

As always, I encourage you to stay connected with us through our school website and regular communication channels. We value your involvement and support in your child's education, and together, we can continue to create a nurturing and inspiring learning environment.

Thank you for your continued trust in Our Lady Immaculate Primary School. I wish you all a wonderful and fulfilling half-term.

Warm regards,

Mrs Lesley Roche
Headteacher

Teaching and Learning Conferences

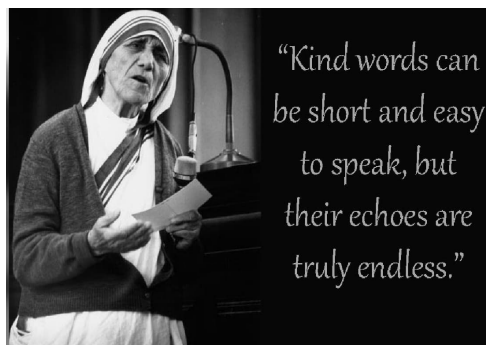
Next week we will be holding our second set of Teaching and Learning Conferences (TLCs). These conferences provide a valuable opportunity for parents to engage in meaningful conversations with their child's class teacher. It's a chance to discuss their progress, strengths, and areas for growth.

I encourage all parents to take advantage of this valuable opportunity to further support your child's education.

I am looking forward to seeing many of you there.



Thought for the weekend!



"Kind words can be short and easy to speak, but their echoes are truly endless."

DATES TO REMEMBER

Please note: new information will be presented in red

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 @ 7.30pm
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
Tuesday, 26th	9.30am - Easter Service in the Church
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	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

MERIT BADGES

WEEK ENDING 1st March 2024

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

Foundation	Oliver B	Aron
Year 1	Milan	Rachel
Year 2	Raine-Esme	Jessica
Year 3	Charlotte	Oscar
Year 4	Kimberley	Johan
Year 5	Maria	Cillian
Year 6	Luke	Scarlett

HOUSE POINTS

WEEK ENDING 1st March 2024

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

BECKET	CAMPION	FISHER	MORE
1st (288)	4th (252)	2nd (296)	3rd (282)

LEARNER OF THE WEEK

WEEK ENDING 1st March 2024

Foundation	Kiyomi	Miriam
Year 1	Tadhg	Kaitlyn
Year 2	Fabian	Rosie
Year 3	Nico	Agatha
Year 4	Tommy	Joselyn
Year 5	David C	Sofia I
Year 6	Isabella	Beatrice

Friends Association News

Talent show

Applications need to be in by Friday next week.

Mother's day sale

This raised just under £600.

Friend's meeting

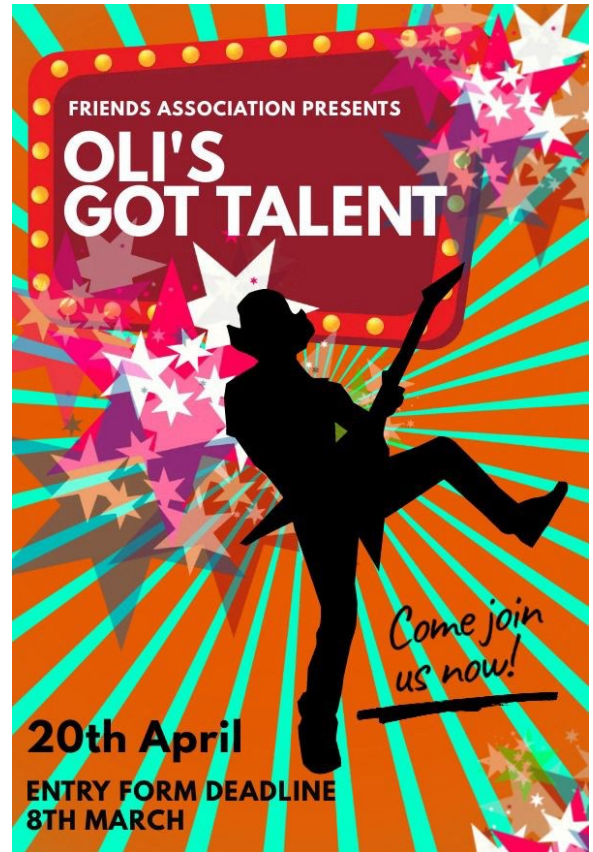
Wednesday 13th March at 7:30pm at the school. Everyone is welcome to attend to give feedback, ideas and support.

Colour run

This will take place at the end of the month in school. More details will come out next week where we will also be asking for volunteers to support.

We hope you all have a lovely half term break.

The Friends



OLI Literary Festival 2024

The 3rd literary festival will be held next week from 4 - 8th March, 2024. The theme for this year's festival is Traditional Tales and each key stage will be exploring this genre through a picture book. Each class will be participating in a variety of exciting activities including the annual poetry festival and dressing up as their favourite traditional tales' character on World Book day. Each child will receive a token that they can use to purchase a book for £1 from a selected list. The details of the books and authors can be found at <https://www.worldbookday.com/books-and-tokens/books/>. This website also has ideas and activities for you to try at home with your children.

The festival culminates on Friday, 8th March, 2024, with a visit by the author, John O'Leary, who will be explaining the importance of illustrations to a text and teaching them how to illustrate their own work. John will be providing most of the necessary resources but has asked that children bring in their own felt-tips and glue sticks that day. We would like to say a huge thank-you to our fabulous Friends Association whose generosity has made this visit possible for all our children.

Mrs McCarthy and Mrs Catchpole

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.

MENU WEEK COMMENCING - 4th March – 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>

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.”

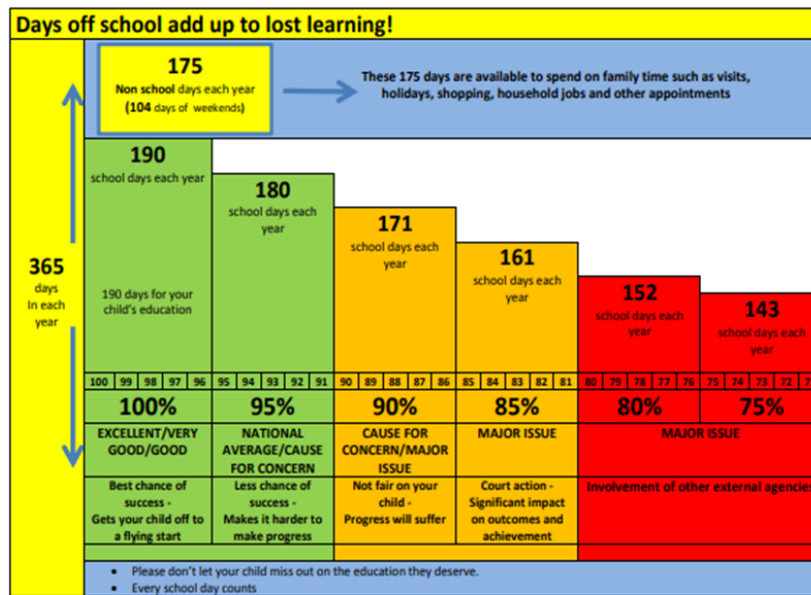
Graham Fawcet



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 % 12.02.24 - 16.02.24	This week % 27.02.24 - 01.03.24
Foundation	95%	96.3%
Year 1	98.3%	95.4%
Year 2	92.5%	98.3%
Year 3	91.9%	94.9%
Year 4	99.4%	95.3%
Year 5	96.8%	96.6%
Year 6	95.7%	97.6%
Whole School Total	95.6%	96.3%

Congratulations to **Years 2 and 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

MARIE CURIE CANCER CARE

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



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



FR
REGISTERED
REGULATOR

Charity Reg. No. 277994 (England & Wales), SC038758 (Scotland)

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.

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

