



On this Second week of Advent, the school has been filled with echoes of Christmas hymns, laughter and smiles – particularly during enjoying Christmas dinner. The children have been thinking about what is important about Christmas and how we can wait in hopeful expectation for the gift of Jesus to us.

As a school, we are delighted with the Catholic Inspection report, attached to this newsletter. Thank you, parents and families for your continued support of your children in the Catholic faith and school mission.

Mrs A M Black, Head of School

"Do not be afraid of what God asks of you! It is worth saying 'yes' to God. In him we find joy." – Pope Francis

Pupil of the Week: Pupils who gained a certificate this week are:

Year R – Amelia
Year 1 – Lyla
Year 2 – Tyrone
Year 3 – Joe
Year 4 – Raul
Year 5 – Caiden
Year 6 – Lewis



House Points: Well done to St Paul!

St Bernadette – 176 points

St Francis – 146 points

St Paul – 208 points

St Theresa – 159 points

St Thomas More – 171 points

St Anne Line – 154 points



Travelling Crib: Please advise on the gate if you would like to take part in our Travelling Crib and your name will be added to the list.



NSPCC: The theme of these assemblies was "Speak Out, Stay Safe". Children were taught about "Buddy" who is able to help them to understand what is safe and what is not. He encourages children to speak out if they are unhappy or unsafe and the ChildLine phone number- 0800 1111, which they know by memory.

School Performances/Events: We ask that all parents attending a school performance/event complete a Lateral Flow Test and provide proof of this on arrival. We also ask that all parents, unless exempt, wear a face mask throughout and refrain from standing up or moving around once seated. Please note that our upcoming events have been ticketed in consideration of recent instructions from the Government.

Christmas Dinner: On Wednesday we enjoyed a wonderful Christmas dinner. Thank you to Mrs Brady and Mrs Crafton for the lovely meal ...it really was delicious.

Carol Singing: This week children who have been rehearsing in the lunchtime Choir with Miss Linden visited the Leah Manning Centre. They sang lots of lovely carols to everyone there to help them feel festive and really brought a smile to everyone's faces. What a wonderful way to share the Christmas message with our local community, do see the secure area of the [website](#) for photo.

Rainbow Services: Rainbow Services are proud to announce the opening of Harlow's new Community Hub, available to all Harlow residents and runs until April 2022. Please see the flyer for how to contact the Community Hub in person or via the telephone and social media. They offer a range of services for residents affected by crisis situations, as well as information on community and social activities, access to volunteering and regular workshops.

Community Embrace: Community Embrace works within Harlow helping and supporting the local community. Their aim is to promote diversity, advance cohesion, and encourage dialogues by connecting communities. They do this by bringing people of diverse backgrounds together through food and culture. Through the gatherings and activities that they put together they tackle food poverty, reduce loneliness, encourage social inclusion, and support people's mental health. This month they have launched the Harlow Pantry and well-being hub. Based at The GPCA Playbarn in Staple Tye (CM18 6YJ), the Pantry is open to all local residents and has an Annual Membership Scheme of £5 a year per each adult within a household and £2.50 for each weekly visit. The first session will be on Saturday 11th December between 2.30pm and 4pm.

Dinner Menu: Our dinner menu can be located [here](#). Next week (w/c 13th December) we will be on Week 1.

Flu Immunisations: Local clinics are now available for any pupils who missed their vaccination when the immunisation team visited the school. Please see the attached flyer for details.

Winter Reading Challenge: Essex Libraries Services have launched their [Winter Reading Challenge](#). Don't forget to visit the local library and sign up, the aim is to read six books.

CAFOD World Gifts: Can't think of what to buy someone this Christmas? CAFOD has a wonderful range of gifts from only £10 to teach someone to read to providing water for a family for £33 you will be doing a wonderful service to others and sharing it with a friend. Follow the [link](#) to find out more.

Mass Times:

Usual Sunday Mass times are 10am and 6pm
<http://www.catholicchurchoftheassumption.co.uk/>

Our Lady of Fatima Parish Mass times are
STM Church 8.30am

OLF Church: Saturday 6pm

Sunday 10.30am, 12.15pm (Polish)

<https://olfstm.weebly.com/>

HARLOW CATHOLIC CHURCH' CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Church	Location	24th December		25th December
		First Mass of Christmas: For Family / Children	Early-Midnight Mass	Christmas Day
St Thomas More	CM20 1TN		10.30pm	8.30am
Our Lady of Fatima	CM20 2NS	6pm	11.30pm in Polish	10.30am - 12.15pm in Polish
The Assumption of Our Lady	CM17 0HA	5pm	10pm	10am
Holy Cross	CM18 6JJ	6.30pm	11pm	11am

Upcoming Dates:

Tuesdays KS1 and KS2 PE (PE kit reqd)

Mon 13th Dec KS2 Carols & Reading Service (OLOF Church, ticketed)

Weds 15th Dec Year 1 & 2 Christmas Production 2.15pm (ticketed)

Thurs 16th Dec Year 1 & 2 Christmas Production 2.15pm (ticketed)

Fri 17th Dec EYFS Nativity - 9.15am (ticketed)
1pm Finish for End of Term

Tue 4th Jan Inset Day - no school for pupils