



In the parable of Lazarus and the rich man – shared in the Gospel this week – we reflected on the need not just to listen to God's word but also to try our best to follow His way. We can do this by trying to help others in need around us – helping our neighbour.

Our Junior Mission Teams – CAFOD club, Mini Vinnies and Chaplaincy Team – work to help our neighbours during the year. Cafod club will be leading Harvest Assembly in a few weeks. Do look out for Mini Vinnie's posters coming to classrooms soon, inviting us to give donations for the Foodbank appeal as part of our Harvest celebration.

Mrs A M Black, Head of School

"Accumulating material goods is not enough to live well, for Jesus says that life does not consist in what one possesses (Lk 12:15). It depends, instead, on good relationships – with God, with others, and even with those who have less."

Pope Francis

Next week there will be a special assembly with two Pupils of the Week and double House points!

School Governor: Our school is seeking to appoint a Local Governor to support the ongoing improvement in our school. We are particularly looking for people with skills in strategic leadership and business support. If you feel you can help, please speak with our Head of School, who can give you a little more information and who will then arrange a meeting with Mr Kendal.

Illness: If your child has a sickness bug (vomiting/diarrhoea), please ensure they have a period of 48hrs without an episode before sending them back to school. Further guidance on if your child is too ill for school can be found [here](#) on the NHS website.

Dinner Menu: Our school dinner menu can be located [here](#) on our website. Next week we will be on Week 3 (Monday 3rd October).

Please note there will be a special children's choice menu on Thursday 6th October as below. Every child from YR-Y6 will be given a school dinner to sample (with no charge to parents). If your child would still prefer to bring a packed lunch they are welcome to have alongside their sample dinner.

*Beef Burger or Quorn Burger & Chips
served with baked beans or sweetcorn*

*Jacket Potato
served with Cheese, Beans or Tuna toppings*

Salad Bar also available

Frozen Yoghurt or Fresh Fruit

Mini Vinnies: Please see the attached poster from our Mini Vinnies regarding Harvest Foodbank donations.

Year 6 Residential: This week our year 6 have been away on their outdoor and adventurous activity week. They have had a wonderful time swinging from high ropes and climbing very high walls. They have been a pleasure to be with. If your child is in year 5 do find time to speak with our year 6 parents and children to see how brilliant this trip is. It really develops the children team building and resilience skills. **A special thank-you to all our staff who gave up their time to make the school journey possible.**

Jigsaw Theme -Being Me in my World
Each half term in our Personal Social and Health education lessons we have a set theme. The current topic is: Being Me in my World. Each week all the children throughout the school reflect on an area that they can see in their everyday behaviours. Our focus this week we are celebrating people who: Care about other people's feelings.

Free School Meals: Automatic entitlement to a free school meal finishes at the end of Year 2 and only children from low income families are eligible from Year 3. If your household income is less than £16,190 per year, or you receive Income Support or an equivalent benefit, you will need to make an application if you want your child to receive a free school meal from September. Applications can be made at www.essex.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals or by calling 0345 603 2200.

Arbor Accounts: Please can you ensure that all payments on your Arbor accounts are up to date. All accounts should be in either a clear or positive balance.

Uniform: Please ensure **all items** of school uniform including PE kits are clearly labelled with your child's name.

Secondary Admission for September 2023: Applications for secondary places opened on Monday 12th September. This is for parents of current Year 6 children to apply for a secondary school (Year 7) place for September 2023. Applications can be made at www.essex.gov.uk/admissions and close on 31st October 2022. **Please note that St Mark's also additionally require a SIF form to be completed and submitted direct.**

ACL Community and Family Learning: Please see attached upcoming courses. Further information on all the latest courses can also be found [here](#).

Harlow Survey: The Quality of Life Foundation, an independent research charity, have teamed up with Harlow and Gilston Garden Town to provide opportunities for residents to give feedback about their local area. Please see attached relating poster.

Term Dates: School term 2022-2023 dates are available on the [school website](#).

Gate Opening Times:
8:40am – 8.55am - after this time your child will be marked as late.
3.15pm – End of the school day

Mass Times:
Old Harlow - Usual Sunday Mass times are 10am and 6pm
<http://www.catholicchurchoftheassumption.co.uk/>
Our Lady of Fatima Parish Mass times are STM Church Sunday 8.30am
OLF Church: Saturday 6pm
Sunday 10.30am, 12.15pm (Polish)
<https://olfstm.weebly.com/>

Upcoming Dates:
Tuesday 1st Nov: All Saints Day Mass
[Click here for St Alban's Key Dates 22-23](#)

