



In this first week of Advent, the advent candle reminds us to have Hope. One of our Mini Vinnies shared a lovely prayer they made in assembly on hoping that others have enough food to eat and hoping that we can help them where we can.

Representatives of the Mini Vinnies delivered the food bank donations to the warehouse. We collected enough items for 198 meals – well done and thank you everyone.

Mrs A M Black, Head of School

"Being a disciple means being constantly ready to bring the love of Jesus to others ..."

Pope Francis

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

- Year R – Thobith
- Year 1 – Olivia
- Year 2 – Jaxon
- Year 3 – Noreen
- Year 4 – Indie-Rees
- Year 5 – Vanessa
- Year 6 - Wiktoria



House Points: Well done to **St Thomas More** this week!

- St Bernadette** – 210 points
- St Francis** – 137 points
- St Paul** – 208 points
- St Theresa** – 149 points
- St Thomas More** – 234 points
- St Anne Line** – 158 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.



Diocese of Brentwood: The Diocese have shared a free Jesse Tree package, available for download from the [Diocesan Website](#). Please do share your pictures of these to the office email if you do make a Jesse tree.

The Winter Reading Challenge themed around the journey of Lyra the penguin has been launched by Essex Libraries. Make sure to visit the local library and sign up, the aim is to complete 6 of the 12 challenges in their interactive booklet.

Children should also share their completed challenges with their class teacher at school to earn house points!

Clubs: Please be advised that all staff led clubs for KS2 on a Tuesday have now finished for the term.

Christmas Jumper day – Wednesday 7th December is our Christmas jumper (and Christmas dinner) Day. On this day the students are invited to wear non-uniform and may wear a Christmas jumper if they wish (they do not have to). They can choose to add a Christmas sticker or badge they have drawn to their clothes if they prefer, also.

Year 1 & 2 Christmas Nativity: Tickets are required for the performance on Wednesday 14th December and will be available from outside the classroom door on Monday 5th December at 8.45am and 3.15pm.

Christmas event dates:

Do note the dates of the EYFS, y1&2 and y3-6 Christmas events given on the Key Dates link in this newsletter (Upcoming Dates section).

Your Essex Please find a [special newsletter](#) which gives information on help and support available for families across Essex who are struggling with the rise in the cost of living. Further information can also be found at [Helping you with the cost of living - Essex County Council](#)

Reception School Admissions: Applications for Reception 2023 school places opened on 7th November and must be completed by **15th January 2023**. Applications can be made online via [Primary school places - Essex County Council](#). **All applications to St Alban's will additionally require a SIF form to be completed which can be found [here](#) on our website or requested from the school office.**

Dinner Menu: Our school dinner menu can be located [here](#) on our website. Next week we will be on week 3 (Monday 5th December).

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 - **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:
[Click here for St Alban's Key Dates 22-23](#)

