



The students gave very thoughtful responses to this week's Gospel from John, thinking about the words 'Behold the Lamb of God' and where we hear this in Mass. Sunday was also the Day of Prayer for Peace and we thought importance of sharing forgiveness in peace-making.

The hall displays are reflecting the words from the hymn 'All things bright and beautiful' – to complement our Caritas Curriculum focus area of 'Happiness is...' and the beauty of nature as Spring begins. Alongside this, we have registered for the RSPB Big Schools Birdwatch and the students are invited to take part from home to see how many birds they can spot and return the survey back to us at school by the end of January.

The Winter Reading Challenge is still open until the end of January and we are collecting completed cards at school too.

**Mrs A M Black, Head of School**

*"Let us pray for peace and let us bring it about, starting in our own homes"*

**Pope Francis**

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

Year R – Chris

Year 1 – Patricia

Year 2 – Sophia

Year 3 – Whole Class

Year 4 – Franciszek

Year 5 – Raul

Year 6 – Rose

**House Points:** Well done to **St Anne Line** this week's winners!

**St Bernadette** – 118 points

**St Francis** – 118 points

**St Paul** – 111 points

**St Theresa** – 107 points

**St Thomas More** – 104 points

**St Anne Line** – 203 points

**Aspirations Week 30th January:** You will have received full details on events this week via Arbor on 12<sup>th</sup> January. **Please contact Mrs Black if you are able to support by coming into school to share your work with the children.** Reminder Dress Up/Take Over Day Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb.

**The Big Garden Birdwatch:** Simply count the birds you see in your garden, from your balcony or in your local park for **one hour between 16<sup>th</sup> and 29th January 2023**. You are all invited to take part and students will have brought forms home to assist with counting. For help identifying a bird you can use the following link <https://www.rspb.org.uk/birds-and-wildlife/wildlife-guides/identify-a-bird/> **Please return forms during the first week of February.**

**Oral Health:** We are holding an Oral Health Workshop on **Weds 25<sup>th</sup> January from 2.30-3.10pm** in the School Hall. Please see attached poster and advise your Class Teacher if your able to attend. We look forward to seeing you there.

**Parent meeting:** All parents interested in exploring a Summer Term community event for our school are invited to a meeting at school on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> February at 2.30pm. Please let Mrs Black or the office know if you would like to attend (including if you are interested but cannot make this time)

**Punctuality:** It is important that your child attends school on time every day, unless there are exceptional circumstances, every school day counts. Children's learning starts at 8.55am, please ensure you allow plenty of time for your morning school journeys to ensure your child arrives on time.

**Uniform:** Please do ensure extra warm items like scarves and gloves have your child's name in. **Boots (labelled) may be worn to school, then school shoes changed into at the classroom door. This includes patent boots.** Should you wish to purchase any items from our Nearly New uniform supplies, please contact the Office with your requirements. [adminstalbands@ourladyoffatimatrust.essex.sch.uk](mailto:adminstalbands@ourladyoffatimatrust.essex.sch.uk)

**School Website:** Please do remember to regularly check your [child's class page](#) and the [school website](#) for all the latest news on what our children have been up to.

**Breakfast & Afterschool Club:** Please be reminded that full session rates will apply if less than 24 hours' notice is given for cancellations. Bookings and payments are required in advance.

**Meals Accounts:** Please check your child's meals account to ensure it is in a credit or zero balance. School dinners are charged at £2.20 per day for children in KS2.

**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 can also be found [here](#) on the NHS website.

**National Storytelling Week:** Why not enjoy an online Storytime from the Essex Library website with their [Story of the Month](#) for National Storytelling week which runs from 30<sup>th</sup> January to 5<sup>th</sup> February.

**Essex Family Support Service:** Available to offer help and advice to families with children and young people providing information about local support or services, help finding local groups, activities or organisations supporting referrals to professional services. **Next event will be held 2<sup>nd</sup> February at Harlow Library from 12 noon to 2pm.**

**Help with the cost of living:** We know it is a difficult time for everyone with the rise in the cost of living. Find information [here](#) on useful websites, organisations and advice to help you with rising costs.

**Dinner Menu:** Our school dinner menu can be located [here](#) on our website. Next week we will be on week 3 (Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> January).

**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](#)