



Hearing the Gospel, where the disciples were called by Jesus from their fishing boats to follow him, invited us to think about ways we can follow Jesus and encourage each other to love one another. We have also been thinking about the gifts we each have and how we can use our gifts to bring happiness to each other and to encourage each other in this sharing.

Well done to our Junior Mission Team and Reading Champions who have been talking with others, this week, about the activities they are doing and why they are doing them. They have all shown good manners, enthusiasm and encouragement.

Mrs A M Black, Head of School

"The word of God nurtures and renews faith: let us put it back at the centre of our prayer and our spiritual life!"

Pope Francis

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

Year R – Dominic

Year 1 – Francesca

Year 2 – Tre

Year 3 – JJ

Year 4 - Tommy

Year 5 – Ronald

Year 6 – Daniel



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

St Bernadette – 155 points

St Francis – 137 points

St Paul – 162 points

St Theresa – 115 points

St Thomas More – 92 points

St Anne Line – 121 points



Aspirations Week 30th January: You will have received full details on events this week via Arbor on 12th 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 2nd Feb.**

The Big Garden Birdwatch:

This finishes this weekend, so if you want to take part but haven't yet, please do fill out the survey forms this weekend and return them next week.

Simply count the birds you see for **one hour**. 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 next week.**

The Winter Reading Challenge also closes this week but there is still time to visit your local library to take part. We are collecting completed cards at school and some have already come in.

Parent meeting: All parents interested in exploring a Summer Term community event for our school are invited to a meeting at school on Thursday 9th 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)

Regular reminders

Uniform: It is warm in class, so if your child has under layers on they may feel too warm in school. Wearing a hat is a good way to stop heat loss through the head and to keep warm. Putting on a hat and gloves (labelled) for playtime is an easy way for children to add extra layers to keep warm outside.

Should you wish to purchase any items from our Nearly New uniform supplies, please contact the Office with your requirements.

adminstalban@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.

Local Community News

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 **30th January to 5th 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 2nd 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.

Key Information

Dinner Menu: Our school dinner menu can be located [here](#) on our website. Next week we will be on week 1 (Monday 30th 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:** 10am and 6pm

<http://www.catholicchurchoftheassumption.co.uk/>

Our Lady of Fatima Parish Masses:

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](#)