



What a wonderful week we have had! From the Gospel message to 'Be like Children' we considered how this can be through: trust, honesty, simplicity, loving and learning. We can be open to God's word more through these qualities.

We watched a great performance of Porridge! from y5 & 6 - they gave such a good delivery, learnt their lines and songs so quickly and sung beautifully. It was a real treat. Well done!!

Years 1, 5 and Reception have all been out on enjoyable trips and visits, representing the school so well with good listening skills, manners and respect.

A special moment for myself was when I was walking in to school past the Church on Tuesday morning, having attended a meeting elsewhere. As I turned in front of the Church, 6 of our students were on their knees saying a pray to Our Lady (looking at the statue in the prayer garden).

I joined behind them and was touched by their moment of devotion - which brought me back to that Gospel message of 'Be more like children'.

Mrs A M Black, Head of School

"Marvel like a child at the good that silently changes the world"

Pope Francis

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

Year R – (next week)

Year 1 – Kishan and Kaira

Year 2 – David

Year 3 – Sophia

Year 4 – Mia

Year 5 – The Whole Class

Year 6 – Adam and the Whole Class

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

St Bernadette – 167 points

St Francis – 104 points

St Paul – 190 points

St Theresa – 137 points

St Thomas More – 134 points

St Anne Line – 191 points

Latest

Pupil Items: Pupil items will be going home on Thursday; please could you send in a bag for these with your child beforehand. Thank-you.

School Finish: School finishes for the summer holidays on **Friday 21st July at 1pm for YR-Y6**. Please be advised there is no pm session for **Pre-School and children will finish at 11.45am**.

Summer Reading Challenge 2023: Ready, Set, Read! Running from 15th July to 2nd September and open to children of all ages. This year children will be helping a superstar team and their mascots complete an obstacle course. They will earn stickers for every book they read and a medal and certificate if they complete the challenge by reading 6 books. A free book for every child aged 7+ who signs up (while stocks last). Visit the [website](#) for further details.

Arbor: Please can all parents review their child's Arbor account to make sure the school has the most update to date contact details and emergency numbers. You may also want to check medical conditions and allergies are up to date at the same time. This ensures we are able to support your child within school. Please ensure all meal arrears are settled before the end of term.

Free School Meals: Automatic entitlement to free school meals finishes at the end of Year 2 and only children from low income families are eligible from Year 3. An application for your child to receive a free school meal must be made [here](#) or by calling 0345 603 2200.

Gibberd Gallery: Children at St Alban's participated in workshops as part of the 'Our Community Our Environment' programme with Harlow Creates. **Work is on exhibition at the gallery until Saturday 15th July**. Admission is Free, please do go along and visit. Additionally, there will be below free event.

Saturday 15th July 11.30am-1pm & 2-3.30pm
Join artist Sarah Bracey to create your own mini artworks inspired by the sculpture 'Chiron'.

Tech Tips

Fake News: Digital platforms have made it easier for anyone to share information online, and it can be difficult to determine whether something is real or false. What a young person sees online can shape how they view the world and impact their overall wellbeing. It's important to talk to them about how misinformation spreads and how to look out for it. This [guide from The Two Johns](#) may help.

Community

Harlow Multi Agency Centre: Please see attached poster with upcoming dates.

Medical

Illness & Related Absences: We have many vulnerable members within our school community and ask parents to ensure they appropriately keep children who are unwell at home until they are well enough to return to school. Please ensure that the office is kept up to date with accurate details of any symptoms when leaving messages on the absence line (only advising unwell is not enough information).

School Life

Parent Handbook: Do see the NEW [Parent Handbook](#) posted on our website here so that you can be ready for the new year.

Term Dates: School term 2023-2024 dates are available on the [school website](#).

Dinner Menu: Our school dinner menu can be located [here](#) on the website. Next week we will be on week 1 (w/c Monday 17th July).

Key Dates: Please remember to keep check of the upcoming dates link in this newsletter which advises dates for all the key events we have planned for this academic year.
[Click here for St Alban's Key Dates 22-23](#)

Gate Opening Times:

8:40am – 8.55am - After this time, your child will be marked as late.

3.05pm – Pre School sessions finish

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/>