



Through the Gospel of Matthew this week we learned how important forgiveness is. Jesus taught us that God forgives us so we should forgive each other. We learnt that forgiveness means to give up, or let go, of feeling cross towards someone because of what you feel they have done to you. We can show others we are sorry too by not doing the same action again as it caused upset. Forgiveness is a value we feel is so important it is a School Value.

Parents of Year 3-6, do note that the First Holy Communion enrolment register will close at the end of September 2023. If you do wish to enrol your child to follow the programme this year, do see or contact Fr Bogdan.

Mrs A M Black, Head of School

“Forgiveness is the cure that heals”  
Pope Francis

**Final House Points:** Well done **St Thomas More!**

**St Bernadette** – 112 points

**St Francis** – 109 points

**St Paul** – 123 points

**St Theresa** – 101 points

**St Thomas More** – 131 points

**St Anne Line** – 96 points



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

Year R – Mikayla

Year 1 – Harley

Year 2 – Chris

Year 3 – Jaxon

Year 5 – Indie-Reese

Year 4 – Tyrone

Year 6 – Soraia



**Latest**

**Packed Lunches:** While encouraging our students to make health choices we expect children who have packed lunches to reflect this. Therefore, chocolate bars, sweets and fizzy drinks must not be brought into school for lunch or as a snack. Please remember we are a nut-free school, (Peanut butter and Nutella contain nut extract).

**Vacancies:** Please see attached information on current vacancies, which The Trustees of Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Multi Academy Trust wish to appoint, and details on requesting further information for these.

**Governors:** If you are interested in becoming a Governor, within any of our schools, please email me via the School Office. We are particularly seeking governors/trustees with a financial or legal background.

**Secondary Admission for September 2024:** Applications for secondary places are open for parents of current Year 6 children to apply for a secondary school (Year 7) place for September 2024. Applications can be made at [www.essex.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.essex.gov.uk/admissions) and will close on 31st October 2023.

**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.

**Please also note that if your child is in Reception-2, you may also apply on the same link for Free school meals as if you are eligible, it does then give you access to HAF which provides extra support during the main holidays.**

**Book Swap:** Our free book exchange is still in use. You can take or place any of your own books in the Book Swap Cupboard on your way out of school.



**Parking**

Please do not pull in or ask taxis to drop across the school front gate.

Please do park (or get dropped off) at the Church car park (you may give your registration number to our school office) where there is also an additional car park behind the Church hall.



**Medical**

**Illness:** In regard to temperatures the NHS advise “If your child has a high temperature, keep them off school until it goes away” With a high temperature being given as 38c or more. If your child has a sickness bug (vomiting/diarrhoea), please ensure they have a period of 48hrs without an episode before returning to school.

**Community**

**Essex Activate Holiday Activity and Food (HAF)** programme is run by Active Essex. The October Half Term holiday is funded by Essex County Council. This programme supports the delivery of FREE holiday activity and food clubs for young people who are eligible for benefits based free school meals and working families. The October provision is now launching with bookings going LIVE on **Monday 25 September** at midday. Please see attached poster.



**Catholic Community**

**Church Welcome:** Fr Bogdan invites the children and their families to come into Church, on any morning, when the door is unlocked. You may want to say a prayer or simply sit quietly for a moment on your journey towards school. You are most welcome.

**First Holy Communion 2024:** A message for Our Lady of Fatima and St Thomas More Parish: Practising Catholic parents who wish to enrol their children (Year 3 or above) in next year's First Communion programme can contact Fr. Bogdan at Our Lady of Fatima Church. Parents have until the end of September to register their interest.



**Tech Tips**

**E-Safety:** The ‘2 Johns’ from E-Safety Training have been sharing a concern about an app designed for adults that is inappropriate for children to use though there seems to be an increase in children using it. To find out more about this app and the risks it poses, please follow this [link](#).

**School Life**

**Dinner Menu:** Our school dinner menu can be located [here](#) on the website. Next week we will be on week 2 (w/c Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> September).

**Facebook:** [St Alban's Catholic Academy](#) now has its own official Facebook page. This will be updated weekly with events and school news including children's school activities and photos.

**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 23-24](#)

**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

