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A challenge was set for the children to be observant and find three people who deserve to be congratulated because they have achieved something – and congratulate them! It didn't matter how great or small the achievement might be. This morning in assembly they shared if they had completed their 3 congratulations to others. I wonder if you received congratulations – I do hope so!

Mrs A M Black, Head of School

“God excludes no one and wants each of us to achieve his or her fullness. This is the love of our God, of our God who is Father.”

Pope Francis

Final House Points: Well done **St Bernadette!**

St Bernadette – 156 points

St Francis – 146 points

St Paul – 137 points

St Theresa – 115 points

St Thomas More – 115 points

St Anne Line – 128 points



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

Year R – Nael

Year 1 – Dona

Year 2 – Alicia

Year 3 – Daniel P

Year 4 – Elaina

Year 5 – Joe

Year 6 – Lara



Latest

E-Safety Parent Meeting: “The 2 Johns” will be running a virtual online safety session for our parents on **Wednesday 4th October at 8pm.**

John and John spent many years working as Police Detectives in various covert roles tackling Online and Offline Child Exploitation. The ‘2 Johns’ are regarded as experts in their field.

Please save the date to attend this crucial parent support event. They will open your eyes to a world we, as adults, didn't grow up in. The parents' workshops will look at the online world and how our young people are using it and will look at solutions that parents can adopt to help keep their children safe.

Please see attached document for links and joining instructions and note this is a parent only event and children should not be watching.

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.

Essex Music Service run a Harlow Juniors programme for children in KS2, includes group musicianship sessions in ukulele, toots, and steel pans as well as singing. They're based at St Luke's Catholic Academy on Pyenest Road and run from 3.30pm for two hours on a Tuesday during term time (for 10 weeks). **A free open evening event is being held on Tuesday 3rd October.** Please see attached poster.

Try a Dinner Day: Thursday 5th October is “Try a Dinner Day”. Please encourage your child to try a school dinner on this day, remember, school meals are delicious and nutritious at just £2.50 for KS2 children. Children in KS1 with a packed lunch will be encouraged to try something on this day. Our menu this day is:

**Beef Burger in a Bun served with
Potato Wedges and Baked Beans
(Meat Free Burger option also available)
or**

**Jacket potato served with Cheese, Baked Beans
or Tuna toppings
Salad Bar also available**

Iced Chocolate Cake / Fresh Fruit

Parent Consultations: Parent consultations for Yr1-Yr6 are being held on Tuesday 17th October (virtual) and Wednesday 18th October (face to face). Bookings are to be made through your Arbor account and will open at 7pm on Monday 2nd October.

Reception parents can check/view your scheduled appointment date and time on your child's Arbor account.

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.

Tours for Reception Intake 2024: If your child will be Reception age for September 2024, we are running tours of the school on the following dates and times:

Tuesday 17th October at 9.15am

Monday 6th November at 2.30pm

Wednesday 29th November at 9.15am

Thursday 7th December at 9.15am

Thursday 11th January at 2.30pm

Do contact the office on 01279 425383 if you would like to book a place.

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 and will close on 31st October 2023.

Free School Meals: Please contact the school office if you would like us to check whether you may be entitled to Free School Meals.

Free school meals are provided to eligible low income families.



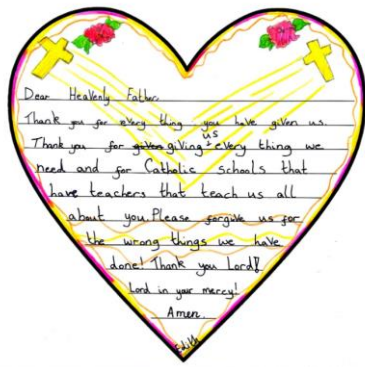
E-Safety: Do visit the 5-a-day guide from the [children's commissioner](http://childrenscommissioner.gov.uk) which has suggestions for a healthy digital life.



Flu Immunisations: If your child didn't receive the immunisation in school and you would like them to be vaccinated, please contact the main immunisation hub on 0300 7900597 to book into a clinic session.

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.





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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.

Community

Harlow Homework Club: Taking place at **Harlow Library on Wednesday 4th October 2023 3.30-5.15pm** this is a free tutor led session the whole family can get involved in. For more information and to book [click here](#).

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 LIVE to book.

Multiply: A fully funded (FREE) program that helps to support Essex residents to improve their numeracy skills. The workshops can help give you the confidence you need to improve your everyday life in a friendly, relaxed environment with experienced tutors for FREE! More information [can be found here](#).

ACL Children & Families Courses: The latest free courses to support parents, grandparents, carers and anyone supporting young people in Essex can be found [here](#).

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.

School Life

Dinner Menu: Our school dinner menu can be located [here](#) on the website. Next week we will be on week 3 (w/c Monday 2nd October).

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