



This week was the feast of Christ the King. We celebrated this on our Gospel assembly and heard the parable of the Sheep and Goats which reminds us that 'in so far as you did this to one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it to me'. We considered how we can help others through donations for the foodbank and Christmas boxes (Streets to homes) as well as other ways.

Mrs A M Black, Head of School

"Prayer unites us; it makes us brothers and sisters. It is in prayer that our hearts find the strength not to be cold and insensitive in the face of injustice. In prayer, God keeps calling us, opening our hearts to charity." Pope Francis

House Points: Well done to **St Bernadette** our winners this week!

St Bernadette – 142 points

St Francis - 124 points

St Paul – 124 points

St Theresa – 95 points

St Thomas More – 118 points

St Anne Line – 82 points



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

Year R – Jaxon

Year 1 – Saffron

Year 2 – Josiah

Year 3 – Ella

Year 4 – Whole Class

Year 5 – Next Week

Year 6 – Blessy



Latest

Travelling Crib: We are pleased to be able to invite you again to take our nativity crib into your home for one night. As a family, you can unpack the box and set up the crib scene. There will be a candle, song, prayer and a book of the Nativity story, which can be read to the children, telling the Christmas story. The children can also draw a picture or write a prayer inspired by the night your family had the travelling crib (these may be displayed in our school too). The crib scene will then need to be carefully packed away and taken back to the school office the next day so that it can visit another family's house. If you would like to take part, **please email the school office and your name will be added to the list.**



Clubs: All clubs have now finished for the term, please collect children at normal school finish unless booked into a paid Afterschool Club session. Afterschool club must be booked by 3pm the day before.

Dinner Menu: Next week (w/c Monday 4th December) we will be on Week 3 of the Winter Menu, located [here](#) on the school website. **Wednesday 7th is Non-Uniform and Christmas Dinner Day.** All meals were pre-ordered for this, and no other school meals will be available on this day.

Foodbank and Donation Box Collections:

If you wish to make a donation of food or items for the Donation Boxes, please hand it in at the school gate or office. We are collecting until **Monday 11th December.**

Y1 & Y2 Christmas Performance: This is a ticketed event and tickets will be available outside the classroom doors on Monday morning from Mrs Wood and Mrs Minihane.

KS2 Carols and Reading Service: This will be on Monday 11th December in the school hall at 2pm, parents are welcomed.

Christmas Fete: You will have received an email yesterday about our Christmas Fete in the school hall from 3.20pm-4.15pm on Friday 8th December. 'Christmas Teddy' has been in to have a meet and greet with Mrs Black and is looking forward to a new home for Christmas! If you are able volunteer as this event or make a donation, please do get in touch. Remember competition and raffle tickets will be on sale afterschool next week by Miss Keen outside the school library.

Hot drinks: No hot drinks (water, hot juice, milk etc) are to be brought into school by children in their bottles, thank-you.

Cold Weather: With the icy and cold weather arriving please ensure you allow plenty of time for your school journeys. Children should have hats, gloves, and scarfs to keep them warm as they are outside at periods throughout the day.

Children in Need: Thank-you for everyone that supported us with our non-uniform day, together we raised an incredible **£130.95** for MacMillan.

Winter Reading Challenge: Find out more on the [Essex Libraries](#) website.

Pet Therapy: Next week we will be inviting in "Woody" a trained working with children dog to listen to a few of our children read. We are hoping this will become a regular visit. Woody is a Cockapoo, which means he is allergy friendly.

PACT Coffee Morning: We are pleased to invite you to a coffee morning at **9.30am, on Tuesday 5th December.** This is being led by PACT who do amazing work with children who are experiencing social communication difficulties and/or neurodiversity (e.g. Autism/ADHD). They will explain more and welcome any questions or advice. Please come along – no diagnosis required.

Facebook: [St Alban's Catholic Academy](#)



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.



Tech Tips

E-Safety: This week the information share is just for parents! We have been asked to share information on how to stay secure online - for example when shopping. There are a lot of different areas you can click on to find out more here: [Cyber Aware - NCSC.GOV.UK](#)



Medical

Flu Clinics: Please see attached letter.

Community

Essex SEND Roadshow: These are in person event for parents and carers of children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities. You do not need any diagnosis to come and get help at the roadshow. The next local event will be Tuesday 19th March at The Harlow Hotel. Further information [here](#).

School Life

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](#)

