



In St John's Gospel this week we heard John call Jesus the "Lamb of God" and we thought about those words and where they are said in Mass.

The children met in their House groups this week which was a good opportunity for them to focus on Faith in Action and consider how they can support their House-linked charities.

The Big School's Birdwatch and the Winter Reading Challenge are both still on for the next two weeks and we do hope the children will be able to participate, where possible.

Mrs A M Black, Head of School

"Dear young people, never get tired of being instruments of peace and joy among your peers!"

Pope Francis

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

St Bernadette – 110 points

St Francis - 116 points

St Paul – 91 points

St Theresa – 75 points

St Thomas More – 63 points

St Anne Line – 95 points



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

Year R – Jayden

Year 1 – Jasmine

Year 2 – Gionni

Year 3 – Willow Year 5 – Jason

Year 4 – Sophia C Year 6 – Isla



Latest


Aspirations Week: Last week we informed parents about this year's Aspirations Week. We are asking if any parents can support us by giving up their time **week commencing 29th January to come into school** and share their work with the children. If you are able to support us please complete [Aspirations Week Parents Form](#).

Aspirations Take Over Day will be Thursday 1st February when the whole school will celebrate their aspiration with a dress up and take over. Children are invited to wear clothes and costumes related to jobs and careers (however creative!).

CAFOD Card Recycling: **Monday 22nd January 2024 is the last day** we will be collecting card recycling. These can be any cards – Christmas, Birthday, Thank you as well as white envelopes. Please drop them in the bin located in the school foyer.

New dates for new year: On our [website](#) you can find this year's term dates and next years (Sept 2024-Aug 2025). Please take the time to look at these and plan your family holidays around them.

Big School's Birdwatch: Simply count the birds you see in your garden, from your balcony or in your local park for **one hour between now and the 5th February**. 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/>
 Happy Birdwatching!

Presentation of Children: Nail polish is not permitted at school as noted in our [School Handbook](#) and we ask that this is removed following a school holiday or weekend before children return back to school.

Parking 

The Church kindly allows our parents to use their carpark at the start and end of the school day. They also have an overflow carpark that can be accessed just before the exit of the main carpark by the Parish hall. **Please be respectful of our school neighbours when parking; do not park inappropriately, blocking driveways or school entrances.**



Medical

A parents guide to keeping kids health this term Please find information shared by the UK Health Security Agency [here](#).

Public Health: Please see attached letter from Public Health regarding measles.



E-Safety: The NSPCC is holding a workshop about keeping children safe while gaming online as part of the NSPCC Game Safe Festival in February 2024. The workshop, for families and professionals working with children, takes place on 07 February 2024. Full details available [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.

Community

Rare Productions: Please see attached poster regarding open auditions for **8yrs+**

Livewire: Offer free weekly sessions in Drama, Dance, Music and Singing and love to see new pupils join them, you just need to turn up!

Dance Wednesday at The Playhouse

4-5pm for years 1,2,3

5-6pm for years 4,5,6

Music Wednesdays at Studio 2 The Playhouse

5-6pm for years 3, 4

6-7pm for years 5, 6

Drama Mondays at Pemberley Academy

4-5pm for years 3, 4, 5 & 6

Choir Thursday at Studio 2 The Playhouse

4-5pm for years 3, 4, 5 & 6

Butterfly Effect Wellbeing Hub, The Bungalow,

Latton Bush Centre: Offer parent and social support groups, mindfulness sessions and many more services including food donations. Please have a look at their [website](#).

Healthwatch Essex: A Essex-wide Carers Voices project has been launched to engage with people of all ages who help a family member, friend or neighbour with day to day tasks. Many of these people do not identify as a carer, and so do not have their voices heard in relation to health, care and wellbeing services.

[Hearing Carers' Voices | Healthwatch Essex](#)

School Life

Dinner Menu: Next week (w/c Monday 22nd January 2024) we will be on Week 3 of the Winter Menu, located [here](#) on the school website.

Facebook: [St Alban's Catholic Academy](#) has its own official Facebook page.

Key Dates: Please remember to keep check of the upcoming dates which advises dates for all the key events we have planned for this academic year. [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

