



Jesus is the Good Shepherd, he knows us and loves us - we heard in the Gospel this week. We considered how we are called to help and care for others like Jesus does. The children shared lots of ideas that also link well with our Caritas theme this term of The Common Good - we are called to work for the good of each and all..

Some of our Minnie Vinnies joined with those from St Luke's and Holy Cross this week to celebrate St Vincent de Paul's birthday. They wrote prayers together and shared ideas for what actions they would like to do next. Thank you and well done!

Mrs A M Black, Head of School

"Humility, gentleness and patience lead to peace."

Pope Francis

House Points: Well done to our winners this week!

St Bernadette – 154 points

St Francis – 161 points

St Paul – 159 points

St Theresa – 135 points

St Thomas More – 101 points

St Anne Line – 173 points



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

Year R – Starr

Year 1 – Grayson

Year 2 – Kuba

Year 3 – Sophia & Elizabeth

Year 4 – Harry

Year 5 – Davina

Year 6 – Krupa



Latest

Summer Term Clubs: Club places have all been sent out for KS2. Please check and read your emails in full.

Nursery Applications: If your child turns 3 before September 2024, January 2025 or April 2025 and you would like them to attend the Nursery next academic year please make an application to secure a place on the interest list. [Nursery Admissions](#)

Bike to School Day: Friday 3rd May
Students are encouraged to cycle or scooter to school on Friday to support Bike to School Day. It is a good form of exercise and eco-friendly. We will keep a tally and hope to beat last year's percentage. Of course, students are welcome to cycle or scooter on other school days too!



Book Donations: Thank you for the wonderful book donations we have received so far. We are still collecting so please do continue sending in.



Presentation of Children: Please ensure children with longer hair have it kept tied back and that hair bands reflect the school colours. Hair extensions and coloured braiding is not permitted in line with our school policy. Jewellery (other than one pair of stud earrings) is not permitted in school. Socks should be worn with summer dress option. Please find all and further information in our [Parent Handbook](#).

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

School News: Please do remember to regularly check your [child's class page](#) and the school official [St Alban's Catholic Academy](#) Facebook for all the latest news on what our children have been up to.

Text Messages: Please do not respond or send text messages to the school as these are not received. Please communicate with the school office via email, phone, or voicemail. Thank-you.

Attendance: The Academy is continuously focusing on attendance and punctuality. We expect children's attendance to be above 97% for the academic year. You can check your child's attendance on their Arbor profile, and we've attached a useful poster for reference.

Tech Tips

E-Safety: Chats If your child uses chat enabled games or apps, do you know who are they chatting with online? It is important to have regular conversations with your children about this. If they refer to a friend, you can check who this is and have you met them. There is further signposting support on this on our website [St Alban's Catholic Academy - Supporting your child \(st-albans.essex.sch.uk\)](#). Chat function can also be turned off. Do speak to the Head of School if you would like more information on this.



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

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 Mondays at Pemberley Academy
5-6pm for years 3, 4, 5 & 6

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/>

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 29th April).

Key Dates: Please remember to keep check of the upcoming dates planned for this academic year. [St Alban's Key Dates 23-24](#)

School Term Dates: Please find these on our [website](#).

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

