



As we gathered for our final week in school this term we recalled the story of John The Baptist spreading his message to all. The children thought about the way we communicate messages and the importance of being clear and bringing joy. Throughout this week our children have communicated beautifully to you about Christmas message through their nativities and carol services. Thank you children for reminding us how to prepare for Jesus' coming. - **Mrs A M Kendal, Head of School**

"Confession: Jesus is there ... and He receives you with so much love." **Pope Francis**

#### **Pupil of the Week:**

Pupils who gained a certificate this week are:

Reception – Ife

Year 1 – Honor

Year 3 – Olivier

Year 5 – Amenze

Year 2 – Whole Class

Year 4 – Ryan

Year 6 – Miley

**House Points:** Well done to **St Bernadette** this week's winners with 100 points!

St Bernadette - 100

St Francis – 89

St Paul – 89

St Theresa – 66

St Thomas More – 79

St Anne Line – 88

**School Uniform:** Uniform is an integral part in helping our students feel part of our school community. Please ensure your child has all the correct uniform including the correct footwear (no boots or trainers). See [Uniform Regulations](#).

If the cost of uniform is a barrier for you, please don't hesitate to contact the school office who may be able to help.

#### **Robert Halfon's Christmas Card**

**Competition:** We are very pleased to announce that some of our children are runners up for the Christmas Card competition this year and have been invited to visit Rob Halfon MP at Westminster. Congratulations to Eros Y6, Naomi Y5 and Eryka Y3 for making the effort to take part and share your brilliant art skills with others. [Your Harlow: Christmas card competition](#)

**OFSTED Inspection:** As you know this week the school has undergone a section 5 Ofsted inspection. Thank you to those parents who completed the survey. We will inform you of outcomes as soon as we are able.

**Year 4 Saxon Workshop:** On Wednesday Year 4 enjoyed a visit from Portals of the Past with a fantastic Anglo-Saxon workshop. We learnt all about the etiquette of a Lord's banquet, the story of Beowulf and the invasion of the Anglo-Saxons on Britain. We were able to look at replicas of Anglo-Saxon weapons and armour including helmets shields and chainmail. We had lots of fun and it is a day we will remember for a long time!

**Disco:** Thank you to the PTA and many additional volunteers, including teachers from St Albans, who came to support our children so that they could have a brilliant time celebrating and dancing together.

**PTA Raffle:** The PTA will be drawing the raffle on MONDAY morning.

**Caritas Curriculum:** As we close for this term the children have all been looking back on their marvellous learning through their Caritas Topics this term. They have completed some wonderful work, learnt new facts and developed new skills. Do look back on their [learning](#) pages to see what they have been learning and encourage them to tell you all about it, this really helps them remember and recall things when they have the opportunity to teach others.

**Free School Meals:** If you would like us to check eligibility for free school meals, please contact the school office as there is an instant check system we can use. Please also contact the office if you have No Recourse to Public Funds.

**After School Club:** Our After School Club launches on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January. Do see the e-mail sent on the 4<sup>th</sup> December for more details, alternatively the School Office have paper flyers on how to sign your child up.

**E-Safety:** Are you planning on giving your child a new games console, mobile phone, tablet, or computer game this Christmas? Or do you have friends or family who are? Visit [Essex Police- sort your settings](#) for practical things you can do to help make your child's new device safer when they are online.

**Reception 2024/2025 Applications:** You can now apply online for your child's Reception school place. Information on this can be found [here](#) on the Essex website. Closing date for applications is 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024.

**Dinner Menu:** Our school dinner menu can be located [here](#). W/C 18<sup>th</sup> December will be week 2. On Wednesday the lunch options will be:

Beefburgers or Veggie Burgers

#### **Next 2 weeks:**

Tue 19<sup>th</sup> Dec: Reception Parents Road Safety Talk 9am

Wed 20<sup>th</sup> Dec: [Reception-Y6 1pm finish](#)  
[Nursery 11.45am finish](#)

[Children return to school: Friday 5<sup>th</sup> January.](#)

**Key Dates:** Please see the link for [class assemblies, performance, and other school events](#) [Key Dates: 2023-2024](#)

#### **Mass Times:**

Holy Cross Parish Mass Times are:

**Saturday** 5.30pm **Sunday** 9am and 11am

[holycrosschurchharlow.co.uk](http://holycrosschurchharlow.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/>

