



"Come to me" Jesus says to the children. He welcomes them with open arms, even when the disciples try to move them away. Jesus reminds us to be child like (not childish) in all we do. To see the world through a child's eyes, innocent, full of wonder and keen to learn. Your children give me such beautiful insights into their understanding and learning every day. Talking and sharing our love of learning is such an important part of our school. I have challenged them this week to do just that with you at home. I hope you will indeed learn some new and interesting things! - **Mrs A M Kendal, Head of School**

"The rosary is spiritual medicine." - Pope Francis

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

Reception – Pola  
Year 1 – Whole Class  
Year 2 – Aalim  
Year 3 – Aleksander  
Year 4 – Isabelle  
Year 5 – Thomas  
Year 6 – Emery



**House Points:** Well done to St Anne Line this week's winners with 200 points!

St Bernadette – 125  
St Francis – 168  
St Paul – 145  
St Theresa – 126  
St Thomas More – 131  
St Anne Line – 200

**Parent Consultations** An email has gone out this week to give you all the information regarding parent consultations. Do ensure you have made your appointment. We are looking forward to seeing you all either face to face or virtually.

**October is the month of the Rosary.** October starts the month of the Rosary. Last week our chaplaincy team visited each class and explained why the Rosary is important and what prayers we pray. Over the next three weeks all classes will visit our prayer garden to say a decade of the rosary together and remember the life of Mary. Look [here](#) for more information.

**Multiplication Check:** On Wednesday afternoon, Mrs Black our maths lead and head of school at St Albans held an information session on the expectations around multiplication tables. Do see the sway posted [here](#) to find out more.

**Flu Immunisations** I regret to inform you that we have been informed this week that our scheduled flu vaccinations will now take place on 1<sup>st</sup> December due to the pressure on the service to deliver COVID vaccinations.

**Wonderful Words!** As part of our English curriculum this year we have introduced learning, understanding, and using specific academic vocabulary. Broadening vocabulary helps children to understand more challenging texts and helps them to communicate better through writing and speaking. Have a look at the wonderful display (top of the newsletter) the children have created, sharing all the new language we know and can use effectively.

**Year 7 applications:** If you would like further information on how to apply for St Mark's, see the school's [website](#). If you have completed a SIF form for St Mark's please note you must also still apply through the website below. Remember applications for year 7 must be completed by **31<sup>st</sup> October 2021** follow this link to apply: [Admissions - Essex County Council](#)

**Internet Safety:** We are extremely concerned that many of our children are talking about and playing the Squid Game (a Netflix rated 15 programme). This is a matter of grave concern to us. This programme is violent and inappropriate for any child in our school. Children of primary age must not be watching 15/18 rated programmes or 15/18 rated games. We consider this a matter of child protection.

**Covid-19:** Please be reminded that any child presenting one of the stated symptoms will be sent home for you to arrange a PCR test. The government documentation states the following - "If anyone in your school develops COVID-19 symptoms, however mild, you should send them home and they should follow public health advice." Please also note: If you or any member of your family test positive for Covid, there is not a need for your child to isolate. Children only isolate once they test positive. However, NHS Track and Trace could direct a

class or school closure, if the numbers of positive cases rise – please be aware that you may still need to collect your children at short notice. Please do let the school know if you or a family member contract Covid 19, then we can be extra vigilant around the school.

**Uniform:** Please ensure your child is in full school uniform. With the colder weather now approaching you may wish to provide a base layer for them to wear. Extra layers on top, other than a school jumper are not permitted. On PE days pupils should come into school in correct PE kit. A Full list of our school uniform can be found [here](#).

**Harvest Assembly.** Next Friday we will be celebrating Harvest. Mini-Vinnies have shared with us today their request for donations to the local food bank. If you are able to donate any of the following for next Friday 15<sup>th</sup> October, we would be very grateful: Small jars of coffee packs of tea, tinned meat and fish, sponge puddings, long life fruit juices.

**Attending larger school events:** As you will see in the list below, we are allowing parents to join us at some communal events. We would like to see proof of a negative Lateral Flow Test when you attend.

#### Upcoming Dates:

**12<sup>th</sup> October** – Prayer service for the memory of Mrs Kidby

**18<sup>th</sup> October** - St Luke's Feast Day Mass 11am (Parents welcome)

**21<sup>st</sup> October – 2.45pm** – Gruffalo Tea Party (Reception parents only)

**Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October:** 9.05am year 5 class assembly (parents of year 5 only)

**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November:** 11am Mass for All Saints Day (Parents welcome)

**4<sup>th</sup> November** – 2.45pm -3.10pm -Phonics Workshop for Reception, year 1 and year 2 parents

**Friday 12<sup>th</sup> November:** 9.05am year 6 class assembly (Parents of year 6 only)

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> November:** School closed staff training day

