

St Ursula's Catholic Primary School

Weekly News Bulletin

Date – 23.10.25

School Values Winners

EYFS & Key Stage 1

Faith – Lola
Respect – Daisy
Kindness – Aurora
Honesty - Pablo
Resilience - Stephanie

Key Stage 2

Faith – Dara
Respect – Emihle
Kindness – Riva-Mae
Honesty - Dylan
Resilience - Rares

Whole School

A quick note about the Reading Records and a new feature in our school bulletin

The "Important Messages" section in the Reading Records is for teachers to share important reminders or information with you. As shared in the Headteacher's welcome back letter, this section is not the best place for urgent or long messages because teachers might not check the records every day. If you have something urgent, please contact the school office directly so the teachers can be informed quickly.

We also want to raise awareness about a new part of our school bulletin called "Supporting Faith at Home." Since our previous reading record provider Redemptorist Publications is no longer publishing reading records anymore, we had to make our own. Unfortunately, there were no other providers that focus on our Catholic Faith. We know how much it means to you to support your child's faith at home and therefore this new column will help you keep connected with what your child is learning at school and support you in nurturing their faith journey.

Nursery

Nursery Amazon wish list: <https://amzn.eu/8xKgIpk>

This term we have been discussing the autumn season and changes by exploring the colourful leaves in our outdoor environment. Time playing and exploring outdoors is a time well spent. Children who play outdoors move more, sleep and eat better, are happier and care about the world around them. Put your wellies on and embrace the autumn weather with your child during this half term break!

Reception

Reception Phonics Meeting

Thank you to those of you who were able to attend the Reception phonics meeting. If you were unable to attend, please click on the line for information shared within the meeting.

<https://stursulascatholicprimary.co.uk/learning/phonics-meeting-reception>

Reception Amazon wish list: <https://amzn.eu/1n9x78D>

Year 1

Year 1 Amazon wish list: <https://amzn.eu/37ceKaN>

Year 2

Year 2 Spellings

There will be no spelling test next week due to the Inset day. The next spelling test will take place on Friday 7th November. You will find your child's spellings in their spelling book.

Great Fire Of London Theatre Workshop

We are pleased to inform you that we have arranged a Year 2 visit from Trunk Theatre on Tuesday 18th November 2025. This visit links to our Autumn 2 CLC topic – The Great Fire of London and will be an excellent opportunity for the children to immerse themselves in the story of what happened.

The educational objectives for the visit are:

1. Learn the story of the fire of London.
2. Understand how we know about the fire of London.
3. Find out what happened after the fire.

The timings for the day are as follows: The Theatre troupe will arrive in school hours. The visit will take place in the afternoon in the school hall and finish well before home time.

The cost of this visit will be £9.62 per child. Payments should be made via SchoolComms by Friday 14th November 2025. By paying for the school visit you will be providing your consent for your child to participate. If payment is not received, then we will take this as you not consenting for your child to participate.

If your child qualifies for Pupil Premium Funding and you would like to contribute towards the cost, you may do so via Schoolcomms. Please contact the School Office to give permission for your child to participate in the visit.

Year 2 Amazon wish list: <https://amzn.eu/bqtw4yV>

Year 3

Year 3 Amazon wish list: <https://amzn.eu/1Lr4vdA>

Weekly Spelling Homework and Test

A reminder that the Spelling Shed homework is used to revise the weekly spelling list – this is in preparation for the weekly spelling test that takes place on Fridays. Children should be **completing at least 3 games per week** to revise the weekly spelling list.

Reading Comprehension at home

When your child is completing their daily reading, it is important that you are also discussing the text with them in order to develop their reading comprehension skills. While fluency in reading is important, in Key Stage 2 there is a much larger focus on inference skills, summarizing and sequencing skills, understanding vocabulary, understanding the author's choices and using evidence from the text to support ideas. Below are some example questions to support your discussions during your child's daily reading time...

Vocabulary Questions

- What does this word/phrase/sentence tell you about the character/setting/mood?
By writing..., what effect has the author created? Do you think they intended to?
- What other words/phrases could the author have used here? Why?
- How has the author made you feel by writing...? Why?

Inference Questions

- What do you think..... means?
Why do you think that?
Could it be anything else?
- I think...; do you agree? Why / why not?
- How do you think...?
- Can you explain why...?
- What do these words mean and why do you think that the author chose them?

Retrieval Questions

- Find the... in this text.
Is it anywhere else?
- When/where is this story set? How do you know?
- Find the part of the story that best describes the setting.
- What do you think is happening here? Why?
- What might this mean?

Prediction Questions

- Can you think of another story with a similar theme? How do their plots differ?
- Which stories have openings like this? Do you think that this story will develop the same way?
- Why did the author choose this setting? Will that influence the story?

Summarising Questions

- What is the main point in this paragraph? Is it mentioned anywhere else?
- Sum up what has happened so far in X words/seconds or less.
- Which is the most important point in these paragraphs? Why?
- Do any sections/paragraphs deal with the same themes?

Compare, Contrast and Comment

- What is similar/different about two characters? Did the author intend that?
- Explain why... did that.
- Describe different characters' reactions to the same event.
- Is this as good as...?
- Which is better and why?

Be an Author

- What does the word... tell you about...? How?
- Find two ways that the author tells you...
 - What do you think the author meant by...?

- Which words do you think are most important? Why?
- Which words do you like the most? Why?
 - How has the author made you feel happy / sad / angry / frustrated?

Year 4

Year 4 Amazon wish list: <https://amzn.eu/2HXorJL>

Grammar Homework: **Pages 78-79** Suffixes 'ation' and 'ous'

Reading at Home

We have noticed that a large number of children's reading records are not being signed by a parent or guardian. Your child's reading record should be signed daily. We understand that many parents have busy working schedules but reading at home with your child is so important for their whole development. Thank you.

Year 5

Year 5 Amazon wish list: <https://amzn.eu/i94ahxk>

IMPORTANT-Remembrance Assembly on Wednesday 5th November and school photos

Please note that **both classes** will need to come to school on this day in **full winter uniform** if they wish to have their photograph taken (There will be individual and sibling photos only). Children who are dressing up for our assembly (evacuees, actors, Brownies and Scouts etc) will need to bring their costumes/uniforms in a bag to change into. All children will also have to bring their PE kit in a bag to change into later on, as they have their lesson in the afternoon. Thank you in advance for your support.

Year 6

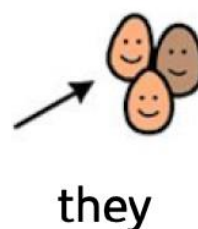
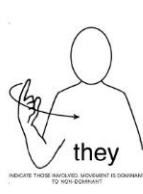
Year 6 Amazon wish list: <https://amzn.eu/bg6JOiC>

St. Matthew's Swimming

Swimming will resume for St. Matthew's on the 6th November. Children who are in groups 2 and 3 (swimming in the deep end) will be beginning their life saving lessons. They will need to bring their usual swimming kit as well as a t-shirt and shorts to wear in the water. It is also advised to bring a carrier bag to put their wet clothes in.

St Joseph's

The next core word of the week is **'they'**.



St Joseph's Amazon Wish List: <https://amzn.eu/5M9lnCZ>

Supporting Faith At Home

Supporting Faith at Home-

In school we use ten:ten to support our Prayer and Liturgy sessions in class. As part of this you have access to the parent portal to continue this Prayer and Liturgy at home should you wish.

To access this go to the following link: <https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/parent-portal/>

Username: parents-st-ursulas-catholic-primary-school

Password: StUrsulas

Prayer and Liturgy – Week beginning 20th October 2025 – Focus: Keep Going

The assembly for the third week of October focuses on persistence, and especially persistence in prayer. Through explorations of the parable of 'The Persistent Widow' and the fable, 'The Tortoise and the Hare', children will discover that prayer leads to a deeper friendship with God.

God longs to hear and answer our prayers! Children are encouraged to keep going with prayer, even when it may seem difficult. With your child/ren, you may also like to ...

- Share a time when you were tempted to give up but were encouraged to keep going. Then together, think of encouraging words that might help others.

Discuss how praying helps us to grow closer in our friendship with God. You may also like to talk about what may prevent us from praying, and how we always have the Holy Spirit to encourage us and remind us to pray!

Church Community

Christmas Market

The church are having a **Christmas Market on Sunday 30th November from 12 – 3pm**. They are in need of the following donations:

Sweets, Chocolates, Bottles of soft drinks and cans, Teddy bears and soft toys.

If you are able to donate any of the above, then please drop them off at the School Office and we will arrange for them to be taken to the church.

Many thanks for your support.