

St Ursula's Catholic Primary School

Weekly News Bulletin

Date – 17th April 2026

School Values Winners

EYFS & Key Stage 1

Faith – Lola
Respect – Hanelle
Kindness – Iuliana
Honesty - George
Resilience - Venetia

Key Stage 2

Faith – George
Respect – Vanessa
Kindness – David B
Honesty - Kaia
Resilience - Elizabeth

Whole School



COINS FOR CAFOD!
**FINAL COLLECTION FOR THE
BIG LENT WALK!**

Thank you to everyone for the CAFOD envelopes we received before Easter to support the Big Lent Walk.

If you would still like to donate, the Faith in Action Team will be collecting cash donations at the school gates from **8:15-9am on Friday 24th April** to help those in greatest need, save lives and relieve suffering.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATION!

Nearly New Uniform shop
30th April - 3.30-4.00pm

Sensory Play Coffee Event

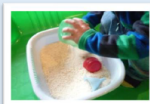
for parents/carers of children and young people with communication and interaction differences

Join us for a relaxed and friendly coffee event where we will explore sensory play and how it can support your child or young person's communication and interaction development.

We will demonstrate simple sensory play activities and show how these can be easily created using everyday items you may already have at home.

The session will take place as follows:

Date	Tuesday 21 st April 2026
Time	1:00pm to 2:30pm
Venue	Collier Row Children's Centre 28 Clockhouse Lane, Romford RM5 3QJ



The session will provide practical ideas and hands on examples of sensory play activities that you can try at home with your child or your young person.

Parents and Carers will also have the opportunity to:

- Ask questions
- Share experiences with other families
- Learn simple strategies to support play and interaction at home

No specialist equipment is needed. Sometimes the best sensory experiences come from simple household items.

Please just turn up on the day – there is no need to book.

We look forward to welcoming you.

Please see the below flyer from Havering regarding a Sensory Play coffee event:

Nursery

We have arranged for 'Wellgate Farm' to visit the Nursery and Reception children in school on **Wednesday, 13th May, 2026**. The 'mobile farm' will bring a wide selection of farm animals, providing a unique hands-on experience!

Groups of children will visit the 'mobile farm' throughout the day, with enough time allocated for them to have a close look at the animals, pet them, feed them and even hold them within the safety of the school environment. The visit will aid children's learning about different animals, their features, what they eat and how they help us. It will also help to them to understand how to care for and be responsible for living creatures. The appropriate Risk Assessments for handling the farm animals will be put in place, and staff will ensure that all children wash their hands thoroughly after the visit.

A contribution of £4.80 per child is requested, to help to cover the cost of the visit. Please pay the £4.80 using the Schoolcomms system. If anyone is having any difficulties signing up to Schoolcomms please contact Mrs Homes in the School Office as soon as possible. The contribution can be paid up to and including **Monday, 11th May, 2026**.



Reception

We have arranged for 'Wellgate Farm' to visit the Nursery and Reception children in school on **Wednesday, 13th May, 2026**. The 'mobile farm' will bring a wide selection of farm animals, providing a unique hands-on experience!

Groups of children will visit the 'mobile farm' throughout the day, with enough time allocated for them to have a close look at the animals, pet them, feed them and even hold them within the safety of the school environment. The visit will aid children's learning about different animals, their features, what they eat and how they help us. It will also help to them to understand how to care for and be responsible for living creatures. The appropriate Risk Assessments for handling the farm animals will be put in place, and staff will ensure that all children wash their hands thoroughly after the visit.

A contribution of £4.80 per child is requested, to help to cover the cost of the visit. Please pay the £4.80 using the Schoolcomms system. If anyone is having any difficulties signing up to Schoolcomms please contact Mrs Homes in the School Office as soon as possible. The contribution can be paid up to and including **Monday, 11th May, 2026**.

Reception would be really grateful for any cardboard boxes or shoe boxes for this week, please.

Phonics Classroom Virtual Links

Your child will come home with a new sheet of QR codes that provides them with access to the RWI phonics videos that supports our phonics scheme. These can be found in your child's reading folder. Please encourage your child to watch these videos which are aligned to the number or colour reading level your child is bringing home.

Year 1

Year 1 Phonics Screening Meeting

A meeting about the Year 1 Phonics Screening will take place on **Friday 1st May 2.30 – 3.00pm**. This meeting will provide you with information about the Year 1 phonics screening test that takes place in June and how you can support your child's phonics development.

Phonics Classroom Virtual Links

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Educational Visit to Thorndon Country Park – Payment reminder

Further to the consent that you gave at the beginning of the school year, we are writing to remind you that we have arranged a trip to Thorndon Country Park for all Year 1 children on 8th May 2026.

Departure: Pupils to be in school at 8:45am

Return to school: 3.10pm approximately

Dress: School uniform, waterproof jacket, school summer hat, sensible footwear (trainers are allowed), a zip-up rucksack.

Lunch: Packed lunch and named water bottle. **Should you require a packed lunch from the school, please inform the school office by 1st May.**

Cost: the cost of the trip is £18 (please pay by Schoolcomms). **Please ensure you have paid by 1st May 2026.**

Please note that if payment has not been 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 still do so via Schoolcomms.

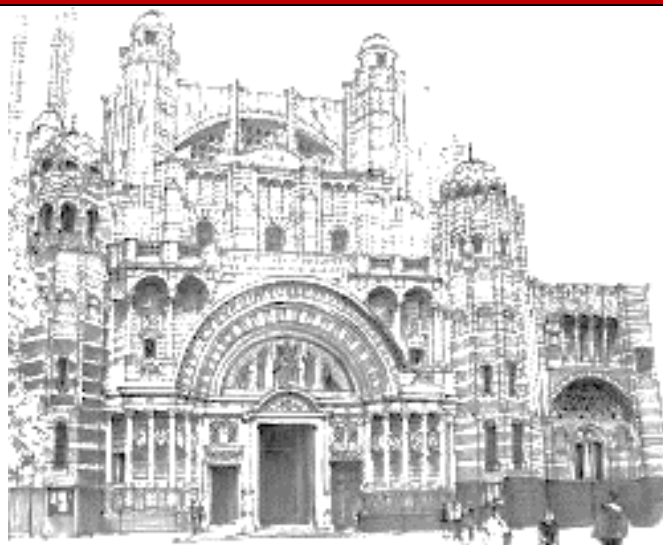
Year 2

Phonics Classroom Virtual Links

If your child is currently accessing phonics lessons linked to the RWI phonics scheme, they will come home with a new sheet of QR codes. This will provide them with access to the RWI phonics videos that supports our phonics scheme. These can be found in your child's reading folder. Please encourage your child to watch these videos which are aligned to the colour reading level your child is bringing home.

Year 3

Year 4



Pilgrimage to Westminster Cathedral

Year 4 will be visiting Westminster Cathedral separately on the following dates:

✚ St Philomena's visit: **Friday 1st May**

✚ St Paul's visit: **Friday 8th May**

This trip will be an excellent opportunity for the children to deepen their understanding of the Catholic faith. We will be travelling by public transport; details of our route will be shared with you closer to the time. During our journey, we will be making time for prayer and reflection. We will be back at school ready for the children to be collected at their usual time.

Lunches:

Your child will need a packed lunch on the day of their trip. If you would like your child to receive a packed lunch provided by the school, these should be booked in advance using School Gateway.

Donations:

There is no official cost to this trip. However, Westminster Cathedral would greatly appreciate any donation you can spare. If you would kindly like to make a **donation of £3** or more, payments can be made via School Comms as of now. You can also give any cash donations to your child's class teacher.

If you have any questions regarding the trip, please do not hesitate to contact us.

The Great Brazilian Bake Off!

This term, the children will be learning all about the country Brazil. As part of their upcoming D&T project, the children will be making Brigadeiros, which are Brazilian chocolate truffles.

To support this, we kindly ask for a contribution of **£3 per child** to go towards the cost of ingredients and decorations for both a test batch and a final batch, allowing each child to explore, taste, and evaluate their work as part of the learning process. Payments can be made via School Comms as of now. You can also give any cash donations to your child's class teacher.

We will adapt the recipe for any children with dairy allergies. We would also like to reassure our parents that this will be a nut free recipe. We really appreciate your support in helping us provide this exciting and hands-on experience.

Year 5

Globe Theatre Trip

Year 5 will be going to the Globe Theatre on Monday. Please ensure that your child has a packed lunch and water bottle for the trip. As the Globe Theatre is open air, please send your child in with a raincoat as we don't know what the weather will be like. If it is a sunny day, then children will need a sun hat.

If you have ordered a packed lunch from the school, then we will give this to your child on Monday.

The coach will be leaving St. Ursula's at 9:20am. Children will need to arrive at school for the normal time of 8:35am when the gates open. We will be unable to wait for any late children in order to make sure we reach the Globe theatre in time for our workshop. We are aiming to return by 3:00pm. If there are any changes to this, a member of school will inform the school who will in turn then alert the parents via schoolcomms.

St. Teresa's Swimming

On Thursday, the children of St Teresa's class will be attending swimming lessons from 23rd April till the 2nd May.

Please provide your child with a towel and swimming kit every Thursday. This must include an appropriate swimming costume or swimming trunks and a swimming hat, as it is the policy of Central Park Leisure Centre that every child must wear one.

Please ensure that your child brings their swimming kit in a rucksack that they can carry, as they will need to carry it to and from lessons.

Children should be wearing their PE kit to school on swimming days and will need to ensure they have **both their PE jumper and a coat** in school.

Please refer to the letter for further information.

Year 6

Havering Primary Futures 2024-25 at St Ursula's

AccessHE will be hosting Havering Primary Futures for our Year 6 Pupils. Over the five-week programme, pupils will learn about Higher Education pathways and careers, hearing from local Higher Education

ambassadors. The programme will also talk about resilience and how pupils can use it to help them at school, and to make decisions when faced with a problem.

We are looking forward to working with AccessHE and hope it will equip our pupils with skills to help them as they move into secondary school.

St. Margaret's PE Days: Monday and Wednesday

St Joseph's

Core Word of the Week:

Next week's core word of the week is 'you'.



Supporting Faith at Home

We are now in the season of Eastertide, a joyful time when the Church celebrates Jesus' Resurrection and the new life He brings. It's a time to rejoice in the Good News that Jesus is alive and present with us, and to reflect on what this means for our everyday lives.

Throughout April, children will explore Gospel stories that help them think about believing in the risen Jesus - the Way, the Truth and the Life who leads us to a closer relationship with God the Father.

BELIEVE AND RECEIVE

In the week beginning 13 April, children focus on the Gospel account of Thomas struggling to believe that Jesus had risen until he saw Him for himself (John 20:19–31). Children explore how questions and doubts can be part of believing, and how Jesus met Thomas with patience and understanding.

Through this assembly, children are encouraged to think about what it means to believe in Jesus even when they cannot see Him. They reflect on how Jesus offers peace to His friends and invites them to trust Him using their "eyes of faith". Children also consider how believing in the risen Jesus can help them feel reassured and supported in their own lives.

With your child/ren, you may also like to...

- Talk together about the story of Thomas and why he found it hard to believe at first.
- Share times when it can feel difficult to trust or believe, and how reassurance and support can help.
- Spend a quiet moment reflecting on how Jesus' message of peace can be shared with others.

Church Community

Girls' Club

Girls' Club re-opens this week (Friday) and they will be celebrating St. George's Day – Girls who attend the club are encouraged to wear Red, White and Blue.

New members are welcome.