

St Ursula's Catholic Primary School

Weekly News Bulletin

Date – 11.9.26

School Values Winners

EYFS & Key Stage 1

Faith –
Respect – Chimamanda
Kindness – Venetia
Honesty -
Resilience - Raiden

Key Stage 2

Faith –
Respect –
Kindness –
Honesty - Ethan
Resilience -

Whole School

Messages

We are receiving a high number of calls from parents late in the day informing us of who is collecting their child. Please ensure that you have called the school office before 2:20pm so that the message can be relayed to teachers in time.

Additionally, if your child is in Year 5 or 6 and has permission to walk home, then please let them know in the morning if you are meeting them at a specific point on their way home. We have had numerous calls about meeting points – please liaise directly with your child.

Homework

The year-group newsletter sent out last week set out weekly homework and optional extras; please refer to these for details. KS2 pupils should now have their reading books; KS1 books will be sent home from Friday 18th – more info is provided below in the year group columns. KS2 children will be bringing home two folders: a zip-lock folder for the reading record, library book and spelling book, and an A4 folder for any loose homework sheets. Please ensure the zip-lock folder returns to school each day so books are kept safe and available for use.

Bouncy Castle Day

We are delighted to invite pupils in Years 1–6 to a Bouncy Castle Day at St Ursula's on Thursday 17 September. During the day each class will have a turn enjoying inflatable games and bouncy castles. The event will take place indoors and will go ahead whatever the weather. Children will attend school wearing their PE kit on the day. Tickets can be purchased via SchoolComms.

Coffee Mornings

Coffee Morning



Come and have a chat and a cup of tea or coffee with other parents of Neurodivergent children. Everyone is welcome, and it will be lovely to see you all.

DATE **Friday 18th September**

TIME **9:00am**

WHERE **Key Stage 2 Library**

No need to book — just drop in.

Hosted for parents and carers of children with SEND - All welcome



SEND Coffee Morning

Friday 18th September- all welcome!!



Come and join us for our first coffee morning of the new school year!
2nd October @ 8.45am.
All welcome.

Nursery

It has been lovely to meet our Nursery children and families for the first 'Stay & Play' sessions. For further details and information about transition to Nursery, please refer to the letter sent via email 15.06.2026.

All Nursery children will commence their usual morning / full day sessions as per Thursday, 17th September, 2026. We look forward to an amazing year together!

Reception

Year 1

Bouncy Castle Day- Thursday 17th September

Please ensure that all Year 1 children come to school in their **PE kit** on **Thursday**, so that they can take part in the Bouncy Castle Day. Children will also need to wear their PE kit on Monday and Tuesday as usual for their PE lessons.

Snack time

Children do not need to bring any snacks to school for our morning Snack time. Fruit is provided by the Local Authority and it made available to the children.

Handwriting – letter formation

Each child will have a letter formation sheet in their bag today. These sheets should not be sent into school, but should be used for reference when the children are doing any writing at home. Please draw the child's attention to the correct starting points for each letter (these have been indicated with a green arrow). Children can, very quickly, fall into poor habits when forming their letters, and it later becomes very difficult to change these habits. This then has a direct impact on the neatness of their work. Please refer the child to the correct formation if you notice that letters haven't been formed correctly.

Reading Books

Children will receive their first reading books on **Friday 18th September**. Next week the children will resume their phonics group lessons. Throughout the week the children will become familiar with their new reading books and they will bring these home on the Friday. Please remember to write into your child's reading record every time you hear them read. A letter reminding you of the certificates and reward system is in your child's reading folder and information about the Bedtime Bear.

Gruffalo Granny

Julia Donaldson's new story **Gruffalo Granny** was published yesterday and today the children were able to listen to her read the story. What an exciting way to end our week!



Year 2

Reading Books

Children will receive their first reading books on **Friday 18th September**. Next week the children will resume their phonics group lessons. Throughout the week the children will become familiar with their new reading books and they will bring these home on the Friday. Please remember to write into your child's reading record every time you hear them read. A letter reminding you of the certificates and reward system is in your child's reading folder and information about the Bedtime Bear.

Spellings

Children will receive their first set of spellings today in their spelling book. Please support your child to learn their spellings. The first spelling test will take place on **Friday 18th September**.

Please do not practice the spellings in the spelling book.

Bouncy Castle Day- Thursday 17th September

Please ensure that all Year 2 children come to school in their **PE kit** on **Thursday**, so that they can take part in the Bouncy Castle Day. Children will also need their PE kit on Tuesday as usual for their PE lesson.

Gruffalo Granny

Julia Donaldson's new story **Gruffalo Granny** was published yesterday and today the children were able to listen to her read the story. What an exciting way to end our week!



Year 3

Snacks for break time

A reminder that when children move to KS2, snacks are no longer provided for break time. If you would like your child to have a snack, please provide them with one each day. This must be a healthy snack, such as a piece of fruit, vegetables, dried fruit or a healthy cereal bar (e.g. malt loaves, breakfast bars without chocolate etc.). *Crisps, biscuits, chocolate bars and foods containing nuts are not allowed.*

PE days

As seen in the Year 3 newsletter, Year 3's PE days are **Tuesdays and Thursdays**.

Please make sure that all uniform, especially jumpers and cardigans are clearly named.

Year 4

Homework folder

Your children will be bringing home their homework folder. In this they should keep their homework diary, library book and spelling book (when sent home).

Please ensure children bring this folder in every day and keep the library book safe inside so it does not get lost or damaged.

Home time Collection

If your child goes home with someone other than their parents, please email the office to confirm the arrangements or speak to the class teacher directly to let them know.

Year 5

Egyptian Workshop – Year 5

On Friday 9th October, all children are welcomed to take part in our immersive Egyptian workshop at St. Ursula's Catholic Primary School. The school hall will be transformed into an Egyptian workshop with the morning involving crafting, acting and storytelling and ending in a performance and an Egyptian style banquet. **The cost of the experience is £13.50 per pupil. This can be paid via schoolcomms.**

We also ask the pupils to dress-up as an Egyptian for the day (along with the adults) in order to get into the spirit of the workshop. These outfits can be very simple (tunic and sandals) and made from items at home. For the tunic an oversized XL men's t-shirt or an old bedsheet with some string as a belt will suffice. As this workshop is occurring during October and the weather will be colder, it is acceptable for children to wear suitable footwear such as trainers or plimsols.

Walking Home

A Google Form for permission to walk home has been sent out to Years 5 & 6 ONLY. Please only complete this if you give permission for your child to walk home. This **should not** be completed for children to walk to the Infant playground – we do not allow the children to walk to the Infant playground alone. If you want your child to walk home by themselves, then please ensure that they are confident enough to do so. They should know their route home and be aware of dangers. Your child and the school need to know what days you would like them to walk home – this should be emailed to the school office if you only want them to walk home on specific days.

We have had a number of parents completing this form but when checks have been done, they do not want their child to walk home alone. Please discuss this as a family before completing the form.

Year 6

Welcome back, we hope you had a wonderful Summer!

Year 6 Residential Meeting

A date for your diary: On **Friday 18th September** we will be hosting a Year 6 Residential meeting @ 3:30pm in the Key Stage 2 Hall. During this meeting we will be sharing information about our 3-day school trip that will be taking place in June 2027. Information regarding the venue and costings will also be shared.

Apply for a secondary school place for September 2027

Important dates

Secondary school applications open on 1 September 2026

Secondary school applications close on 31 October 2026

Secondary National offer day is 1 March 2027

If your child is born between 1 September 2015 and 31 August 2016, they are due to start secondary school in September 2027. <https://www.havering.gov.uk/school-admissions-1/apply-secondary-school-place>

St. Matthew's Swimming

As mentioned in our Year Group Newsletter sent out last week, the Year 6 Swimming Programme started on **Thursday 10th September 2026** for St. Matthew's class. These lessons will continue **until the Christmas** holidays. 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. Swimming hats can be purchased from leisure centres, Amazon or sports stores and they can be any colour. Please check at home that your child knows how to put on their swimming hat, and that it fits. 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 do not need to bring talcum powder, deodorant, soaps or snacks with them; however, they may need a comb or hairbrush if they have long hair. All medication will be taken to the swimming pool for children with medical needs.

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.

Walking Home

A Google Form for permission to walk home has been sent out to Years 5 & 6 ONLY. Please only complete this if you give permission for your child to walk home. This **should not** be completed for children to walk to the Infant playground – we do not allow the children to walk to the Infant playground alone. If you want your child to walk home by themselves, then please ensure that they are confident enough to do so. They should know their route home and be aware of dangers. Your child and the school need to know what days you

would like them to walk home – this should be emailed to the school office if you only want them to walk home on specific days.

We have had a number of parents completing this form but when checks have been done, they do not want their child to walk home alone. Please discuss this as a family before completing the form.

St Joseph's

Welcome back

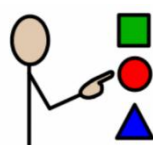
It has been so lovely to see all of the children return to school this week. They have settled well and enjoyed being back in their routines.

Clothes

Please can all children who attend St. Joseph's in the afternoon have a bag of spare clothes that we keep at school in case they are needed after our exciting learning activities. Please ensure the bag and clothes are named. Many thanks.

Core Word of the Week

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



choose



choose

PARENT AND CARER WORKSHOPS

for parents and carers of primary aged children with communication and interaction differences

We are pleased to invite parents and carers of primary aged children in Havering to a series of workshops, where our Communication and Interaction Advisors will be available to share ideas, resources and knowledge in an informal setting.

Introduction to Autism

This session will explore the way children and young people communicate, interact and build relationships.

It will offer practical strategies to support communication at home and in everyday situations.

Monday 7th September 2026
9:30am - 11:30am

Speech and Language

Hosted by a specialist speech and language therapist, this session will look at how speech and language develops, common challenges, and when to seek further support.

It will also offer tips and tools to support speech and language at home.

Monday 14th September 2026
9:30am - 11:30am

Communication

This workshop will focus on the different ways children communicate, including non-speaking communication, and how we can support their understanding and communication.

It will include practical ideas and resources that can be used in daily routines.

Monday 21st September 2026
9:30am - 11:30am

Emotional Regulation

This session will look at how children experience and express a range of emotions and how this can affect their behaviour and wellbeing.

We explore ways to help children recognise and share their feelings - whatever they may be - in a safe and supportive way. The session will include practical tools to help children express their emotions and develop healthy ways to manage them.

Monday 28th September 2026
9:30am - 11:30am

Safety Awareness

Focusing on personal safety, this session will cover strategies to support children in understanding boundaries, recognising danger and developing independence while staying safe at home and in the community.

Monday 5th October 2026
1:00pm - 2:30pm

Toileting

Our toileting workshop is for parents and carers who wish to support their child towards confident and independent toileting.

For some children, particularly those with communication and interaction differences, toileting can feel overwhelming. This session offers practical strategies and visual support approaches to reduce anxiety and build success step by step.

Monday 12th October 2026
1:00pm - 2:30pm

All sessions will take place at:

 Scargill Infant School Community Hub
Mungo Park Road, Rainham RM13 7PL

For further information, please contact:

 SENDEducation@havering.gov.uk

Please be aware there are a maximum of 15 places per session and places will be allocated on a first come first served basis

Sign up to any or all of these sessions
via the QR code or link below

<https://forms.office.com/e/3525UsjW8f>



Supporting Faith At Home

September 2026

September is a time for beginning again as children settle in to new classes — it's a time for us all to look forward with renewed hopes and expectations.



The Pope's Monthly Prayer Intentions – September

For the care of water

Let us pray for a just and sustainable management of water, a vital resource, so that everyone may have equal access to it.

TOGETHER WITH JESUS

The daily prayers for the second week of September focus on asking Jesus to bless the whole school community, including children, staff and families. Children will hear Jesus' invitation to be a part of making their school community a place of togetherness, filled with faith, hope and love. They will remember that they are not alone in their efforts — Jesus is always with us, guiding and encouraging us.

You may like to use this prayer in your family prayer time:

Lord Jesus,
Bless our school community
as we start our new term.
Help us to make this
a community of learning, peace,
care and understanding,
where we can grow in faith and love,
together with you.

Amen

Church Community

Christmas Stable – Can you help?

Father Joseph and his team are looking for a skilled carpenter to make a new, larger Christmas stable for St. Dominic's Church. If you are able to help make the new stable, then please speak to Father Joseph.

Girls Club

Girls Club starts back tomorrow Friday 11 September, at Most Holy Redeemer church hall. 6pm-7:30, £2 cash entry.

There will be no girls club the following week, Friday 18 September.