

St Ursula's Catholic Primary School

Weekly News Bulletin

Date – 18.09.2026

School Values Winners

EYFS & Key Stage 1

Faith – Ariana
Respect – Adela
Kindness – A'riyah
Honesty - Simeon
Resilience - Kevin

Key Stage 2

Faith – Yimika
Respect – Jason
Kindness – Aiyana
Honesty - Emily
Resilience - Abigail

Whole School

New School Year Mass

Due to a conflict in schedule, we have changed the location of the new school year mass. We will now be holding a prayer service in school hall for pupils from Year 3-Year 6.

Harvest Donations

We are once again collecting non-perishable items for the Harold Hill Foodbank as part of our Harvest charitable activities.

This collection is a wonderful opportunity for our children to put our Catholic Social Teaching values into action – specifically demonstrating Solidarity, Human Dignity, and the Common Good by supporting local families.



Please send donations into school with your child to be collected in their classrooms by **Monday 5th October**.

The following items are always needed:

Tinned goods: Vegetables, fruit, meat, fish, and soup.

Packet foods: Rice, pasta, and instant noodles.

Breakfast essentials: Cereals, porridge oats, long-life milk, and fruit juice.

Thank you for your continued kindness and support!



Rights Respecting : Our rights of the week are: Article 14: Freedom for thoughts and religion and Article 4: making rights real. These both link really well with our Catholic Social Teaching of Subsidiarity.

Sports Day – Friday 25.09.26

Sports Day will be taking place this Friday on the St. Ursula's fields for children from Year 1 to Year 6. Timetable:

Year 1-2: 9am - 10am

Year 3-4: 10am – 11am

Year 5-6: 11am – 12am

Please make sure your child wears the St Ursula's PE kit, brings a water bottle and is wearing sun cream.

Nursery

Starting Nursery is a big step in all children's lives. We want to thank you all for your continued support working alongside the Nursery team to make this transition as smooth as possible. All children are settling well into our routines and enjoying playing and exploring in our well-resourced environment. Throughout the autumn term, we will be encouraging children to take part in activities that will develop their independence, confidence, concentration and social skills.

Please check our **Newsletter** for more information about this term's focus.

A **reminder** for all parents to register with **Cool Milk** to receive free milk in school for your child until they are 5 years old. <https://customers.coolmilk.com/V2/register/>.

SCHOOL MILK

Every child under the age of 5 is entitled to **FREE** school milk. Every child over the age of 5 is entitled to milk at a subsidised price.

Parents must register for their child to receive milk and will need to re-register once the child turns 5.

To find out more go to:

www.coolmilk.com



Reception

We have really enjoyed getting to know all of our wonderful children and seeing how they are now making new friendships, now that they have all started.

Reminders:

Collection: when collecting your child at the end of the day, please line up in a single file line and wait for us to call your child. We need to make sure they are being received safely – please try to avoid being on the phone when collecting your child.

If you need to speak to the class teacher, please wait until the end when all of the children have been released.

Do not be offended if we have to ask you or your family for the password at collection. We are still getting to know everybody and, as always, your child's safety is our top priority. Please also ensure you share the password with anyone collecting your child who we are not familiar with.

Spare Clothes: Please do send in a bag (plastic, not a bag for life, or drawstring) of spare uniform for your child. We never know if and when an accident may occur and they always feel comfortable in their own spare uniform as opposed to ours.

Earrings: Please do not send your child in with earrings – plastic retainers are fine and are available to purchase at our school office.

Grapes: If you are going to put grapes in your child's lunchbag, please cut them in half **lengthways**. This is incredibly important for their safety as whole grapes are a choking hazard for small children.

<https://www.nhs.uk/best-start-in-life/baby/weaning/safe-weaning/preparing-food-safely/> please see the link for more information.

Names: Please label ALL of your child's clothing and water bottles. This supports us when things go missing.

PE: PE day for Reception is on a **Wednesday**. Children should come into school in their PE uniform and trainers every Wednesday.

Milk: A **reminder** for all parents to register with **Cool Milk** to receive free milk in school for your child until they are 5 years old. <https://customers.coolmilk.com/V2/register/>.

If your child is telling you they DO NOT like the milk, please de-register them from the milk list. Thank you.

Year 1

Handwriting – Number Formation

Each child will have a number 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 number (these have been indicated with a green arrow). Children can, very quickly, fall into poor habits when forming their numbers 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 numbers haven't been formed correctly.

Visit to Hildene Library – Thursday, 12th November

The Year 1 classes will be walking to Hildene library during our morning session on Thursday, 12th November. The visit forms part of our Geography work on our local area and gives the children the opportunity to develop their knowledge of significant places within their own locality whilst using simple fieldwork and observational skills to identify human and physical features in the surrounding area.

Please use SchoolComms to give your consent for your child to walk to the library with their class by Thursday, 15th October. The children will be back in time for lunch.

Year 2

Year 2 Harvest Assembly

Our Year 2's will be presenting a Harvest assembly to parents on **Tuesday 6th October at 9am**. Your child has been given some words to learn for the assembly, you will find these in their reading folders. Please help your child to learn these lines and to use their big voices!

EdShed

The children will have received their login details for EdShed and are attached at the back of their homework reading diaries. The activities are set each week for the children to complete and help consolidate our maths learning for the week.

Reading –

The children brought home their reading books today. Every **Friday** they will be changed. Please remember to write into your child's reading record every time you hear them read.

Parent Phonics Meeting

Coats

We have noticed that quite a few children have been coming into school without a jumper and a coat. With the British weather being so interchangeable, please ensure that your child has a jumper and raincoat with them every day.

Year 3

Homework Reminder: Your child's homework has now been set. **All children are expected to complete the weekly homework tasks – these are set on a Friday and due on a Thursday.** The Inspire Curriculum homework is 1 task per half term – please refer to the homework sheet that was emailed out. You can find the homework expectations below and stuck at the back of your child's reading record alongside their Edshed and TTRS logins. If you have any questions regarding homework, please speak to your child's class teacher.

Home Learning	Year 3 Homework Expectations						
	RE	Reading	Spelling	Grammar	Maths	Times tables	Inspire Curriculum
Weekly	RED: Strand based projects 1 piece per half-term	Reading daily for 15 minutes – school library book	Spelling Shed worksheet Spelling Shed – at least 3 games per week	Grammar CGP – 2 pages assigned by the class teacher each week	Maths Shed - at least 1 activity per week	Times tables Rockstars – at least 20 mins per week	Topic based project - Complete 1 piece per half-term
Optional extra	Complete an additional project task.		Weekly Spelling Book - writing Weekly spelling in a sentence Handwriting Pack (Please request a pack from the class teacher)				Complete an additional project task.

D&T – Cooking:

As part of our current D&T unit, we will be planning and cooking a savoury tart. In order to cover the cost of the ingredients, we are asking for a donation of £1.25 per child. Please make the payment via SchoolComms by Monday 28th September.

Year 4

School Trips

If you are able to assist on our school trips this year or are interested in coming please speak to your child's class teacher and they will confirm dates for you.

Collection: Please remember to email the office if there is someone else (other than a parent) collecting your child who is unknown to the teacher. This will enable staff to dismiss children quickly, without delays. Please note that siblings collecting children must be aged 16 or over. If you have a family member or someone who usually collects and has also done so in previous years, it would still be helpful to drop an email to the office so we can keep a record of your wishes.

Thank you.

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 and must be paid by Friday 2nd October. 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.

Reminders:

Homework Expectations

Home Learning	Year 5						
	RE	Reading	Spelling	Grammar	Maths	Times tables	CLC
Weekly	RED: Strand based projects 1 piece per half-term	Reading daily for 15 minutes – school library book	Spelling Shed Spelling Shed worksheet	Grammar CGP – 2 pages to be assigned by the class teacher each week	Maths Shed	Times tables Rockstars	Topic based project - Complete 1 piece per half-term
Optional extra	Complete an additional project task.		Weekly Spelling Book - Writing Weekly spelling in a sentence Handwriting Pack (Please request a pack from the class teacher)				Complete an additional project task.

Collection: Please remember to email the office if there is someone else (other than a parent) collecting your child who is unknown to the teacher. This will enable staff to dismiss children quickly, without delays. Please note that siblings collecting children must be aged 16 or over. Thank you.

Year 6

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>

Year 6 Residential Meeting

Thank you to all the parents and carers who attended the recent Year 6 Residential Meeting. For those who were unable to make it, the presentation PowerPoint will be uploaded to the school website within the next week so you can access all the shared information.

As a summary, the children will be attending the Gilwell Park Scouts Adventure centre. The total cost of the trip is £275 per child. A £50 deposit is required in October to secure your child's place, and a flexible payment plan is currently being set up via SchoolComms to help spread the remaining cost.

International Day Preparations

In the next week or so, children will begin organizing themselves into groups to prepare for our upcoming International Day. This is always a fantastic event where our school community comes together to celebrate our rich culture and diversity.

International Day is also our children's official Enterprise Day. Working in groups, students are fully encouraged to take ownership and plan their own stalls.

Together, they will be deciding:

Food: What cultural dishes or treats they will be making and sharing.

Decorations: How they will design and decorate their stall to represent their chosen theme.

Activities: Any fun competitions, quizzes, or traditional games they want to run.

Please encourage your children to work together, share ideas, and collaborate at home as they start this exciting project.

We cannot wait to see their entrepreneurial spirit and cultural pride shine!



St Joseph's

Core Word of the week

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

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dQbAKQ3rHiQ>



Wow moments

Please bring in or email in any pictures or information about 'wow' moments your children may have had. For example, learning a new skill, getting a certificate, putting their shoes by themselves for the first time or communicating a new want or need. We are going to be using these over the year to create a "Wow Wall" in St Joseph's classroom to celebrate pupil's successes.

Supporting Faith At Home



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.

Forgiveness and Love

In this week's Gospel, Jesus teaches about the importance of forgiveness. In our school assembly, children explored what it means to forgive others, why it matters, and how letting go of mistakes allows us to follow Jesus' teaching to 'love one another'. We talked about how choosing kindness and repairing friendships helps build a warm and supportive school community.

CST- Our assembly theme connects deeply to the CST principles of Solidarity and The Common Good. When we forgive others, we recognize that we are all part of one human family. Choosing forgiveness helps heal broken relationships, brings peace to our playground, and builds a world where everyone can flourish together.



Discuss with your children: Can you think of a time when someone forgave you? How did it feel, and how can we show that same kindness to someone else this week?

You may like to pray together; a prayer focus for this week at school has been the Our Father. Alternatively, you could share the prayer below.



Dear Jesus,
Help us to be quick to forgive and slow to stay angry.
When others make mistakes, give us the strength to show kindness.
When we make mistakes ourselves, help us to say sorry.
Guide us to build a home and school filled with your love.
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.

