St Ursula's Catholic Primary School

Weekly News Bulletin

Date – 23.10.26

Whole School

Individual School Photographs – 4th November

A reminder that individual school photographs will take place on **Wednesday 4 November**.
Sibling photographs will be taken between **7.45am and 8.30am** in the **Key Stage 2 library**. Please enter through the **Key Stage 2 pedestrian gate** and remain with your children at all times. Once the photographs have been taken, please do not wait on the upper playground. We ask that you return to the area outside the gates and wait until they open at **8.35am**.
Please arrive in time, as we will be unable to take sibling photographs after **8.30am**.



Parent Coffee Morning
Come and join us for a coffee and a catch up on the 6th November @ 8.45-9.45am All welcome.

Nursery

Educational workshop –Monday, 23rd November – Early Years Nursery Rhymes
We are pleased to inform you that on Monday 23rd November 2026, we have arranged a visit from Freshwater Theatre for our nursery children. The children will be further developing the familiar Nursery rhymes through active participation, role-play and character embodiment. The cost for this exciting experience will be **£7.60 per child.** Payments should be made via SchoolComms by **Friday 19th of November 2026**. By paying for the school visit you will be providing 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. This visit will be taking place on school grounds. The children will not be going anywhere.
Home Learning Challenge has been added in your child's bookbag. Please choose one of the suggested activities and share with us. Thank you for your continued support.

Reception

Freshwater Theatre Visit
We are pleased to inform you that on Thursday 12th November 2026, we have arranged a visit from Freshwater Theatre for our reception children. The children will be learning about classic stories from Hans Christian Anderson through active participation, role-play and character embodiment. The cost for this exciting experience will be **£5 per child.** Payments should be made via SchoolComms by Friday 6th of November 2026. By paying for the school visit you will be providing 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. This visit will be taking place on school grounds. The children will not be going anywhere.

Year 1

English- My Favourite Teddy
Next half term, children will be writing about their favourite teddy. In order to do this, we ask that every child brings their favourite teddy into school. The children will have their photograph taken with their teddy and then their teddy will be sent home with them on the same day. Please ensure that your child has brought their teddy into school **by Thursday 5th November.**

Visit to Hilldene Library – 12th November

As the weather is very changeable, please remember to send a waterproof coat with a hood into school for our walk to the Library on Thursday, 12th November.

Year 2

Year 2 Spellings

The next spelling test will take place on Friday 6th 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 Thursday 26th November 2026. This visit links to our Autumn 2 Inspire Curriculum 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 £8.75 per child. Payments should be made via SchoolComms by Friday 20th November 2026. 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 3

Trip to Gootopia:

We are pleased to inform you that we have booked a Year 3 visit to Gootopia in Romford for 20th January (St. Jude's) and 21st January (St. John's). This visit will be an opportunity for the pupils to take part in a fun, educational scientific slime workshop that turns chemistry into an exciting hands-on experience.

During the session, pupils will investigate the chemical properties of slime, discover how it relates to materials and their uses and take part in an interactive quiz that reinforces key science concepts learned. They will learn about the fascinating role slime plays in the natural environment with real life weird and wonderful slimes to touch, sniff and explore. They will also have the opportunity to create their own customised slime to take home. We will be travelling to and from the venue via bus.

The cost of this visit is £12.54 per child. Payments should be made via SchoolComms by Monday 2nd November 2026. 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 4

Year 5

Remembrance Assembly for Year 5

This is a reminder that our Year 5 Remembrance Assembly is on Tuesday 10th November – parents are welcome to attend.

If your child attends Cubs or Brownies and would like to wear their uniform for the assembly then please arrive at school wearing it. Please make sure that you bring your school uniform in a bag to change into afterwards. Thank you.

Homework
Please continue to read and practise your times tables on TTRS for 10 minutes every day. You can also start your 'Inspire' homework which has been emailed to all parents. No spelling or grammar homework this week.

Uniform
Please ensure that your child is coming into school wearing the correct school uniform. After the half term holidays, all children should be wearing winter uniform – Polo shirts cannot be worn. Children must wear a shirt / blouse with a tie.

Year 6

Aylesford Trip
On Friday 13th November 2026, Year 6 will be visiting Aylesford Priory for a special day of prayer, reflection and fellowship.
Children should arrive wearing their full school uniform and will need to bring a packed lunch and a water bottle for the day.
As the Priory is in Kent, children must arrive at school no later than 8:15am. The school gates will open from 8:00am for Year 6 children only, and the coach will depart promptly from St Ursula's at 8:30am.
The coach will collect us from Aylesford Priory at approximately 2:15pm, and we expect to return to school by 3:15pm, in time for the usual end-of-day dismissal. Should there be any changes or delays to our journey on the day, parents will be updated via Schoolcomms.
We are asking for a contribution of £14 per child, which can be paid via Schoolcomms.

Homework
Please help support your child's learning by encouraging them to complete their weekly homework and hand it in before the deadline. Consistent homework habits are crucial not only for their current progress but also as excellent practice for the transition to secondary school, where independent study and time management become essential skills.
To best support your child's academic development, we ask that you focus on two key areas every week:
• Daily Reading: Reading every single day unlocks the whole curriculum. Whether it is reading aloud to you, discussing a chapter together, or independent reading, just 15–20 minutes a day drastically improves vocabulary, comprehension, and writing skills.
• TT Rockstars: Fluency in times tables is the foundation for almost all upper-level maths. Spending just 5–10 minutes a day on TT Rockstars builds the quick recall your child needs to tackle more complex mathematical problems with confidence.

St Joseph's

Core word of the week-

Supporting Faith At Home



The Pope's Monthly Prayer Intentions – October

For mental health ministry.

Let us pray that the mental health ministry be established throughout the Church, helping to overcome the stigma and discrimination of persons with mental illnesses.

Pray As You Go offers a wonderful opportunity for you to pray the Pope's monthly intentions alongside Pope Leo - https://prayasyougo.org/pope-prayer/2026-10

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#

SING SING SING!

The daily prayers for the week beginning 19 October are inspired by Psalm 96 - a beautiful prayer of praise. St Augustine reminds us that 'The one who sings, prays twice!', and children are encouraged to bring their praise and thanks to God through song.
You may like to create your own prayer of praise, sing along to our song based on the Psalm in the Parent Portal, or use the lyrics below in your family prayer time:

All the people in the world,
Sing to the Lord.
Tell of His wonders, sing His praise -
Sing a new song!

Sing, sing, sing a new song,
Sing to the Lord.
Sing out loud and sing out strong -
Sing a new song!

October – Rosary Challenge

This October, our school is celebrating the Month of the Holy Rosary. Throughout the month, children across all year groups will be exploring the Rosary—learning some of the key prayers, learning about the meaning behind the beads, exploring the mysteries, and discovering how this special prayer helps us hold Mary's hand as she leads us closer to Jesus.

To support your children at home, you could take part in *The Mark 10 Mission's 2026 Rosary Challenge*.
https://www.themark10mission.co.uk/rosary-challenge
Every weekday in October, there is a short, guided video uploaded to support you in praying a single decade of the Rosary together. This year's daily mystery videos are led by Greg, Fr Paschal Uche, and Fr Toby Lees OP from the Rosary Shrine in London. The little liturgies videos support our younger pupils with the Mark10Mission videos supporting our older pupils.

Church Community

Girls' Club

There won't be Girls' Club on Friday 23rd October or during the school holidays.

Multi-Cultural Gathering

After 11am Mass on Sunday 25th October, there will be a social gathering in St. George's Hall at Most Holy

Redeemer Church. All parishioners of Most Holy Redeemer and St. Dominic's are warmly invited to join us as we celebrate the wonderful diversity of our parish community. Please wear your national costume and, if possible, bring along a dish representing your culture to share. Come along, enjoy some dancing, good food and fellowship, and help us celebrate the many different cultures that make our parishes so special. Everyone is warmly welcome! See Theresa for further information.

Light Party

On Friday 30th October there will be a Light Party at the Most Holy Redeemer Church Hall from 5-7pm. All families welcome. Fancy dress is optional - princesses, super heroes etc- No Halloween costumes please!

Mini Market

The Most Holy Redeemer Church will be hosting a mini-market on Sunday 15th November from 12-2pm. Please pop along if you get the chance.

Christmas Market

The Most Holy Redeemer Church will be hosting the Christmas Market on Sunday 29th November. They are in need of the of the following donations:

New toys, children's books, cuddly teddies, chocolate, bottles of soft drink, bottles of mulled wine.

If you are able to donate any of the above, then please drop them off at the school office by Wednesday 18th November. The church team are very grateful for your support.