

**Beata was worried that her daughter would struggle with school transition, but St Ursula's Catholic Junior School showed her how to find her wings and fly**



### **Recognising potential**

It would be difficult to find a parent who was happier with her children's school than Beata, who describes St Ursula's Catholic Junior School as 'The Best in the World'! Passionate about education, Beata is delighted to have found a school which so closely shares her views.

"Two years on from starting at St Ursula's Catholic Junior school, Melita is now right at the top of her classes, doing incredibly well and making us very proud. I am certain that it is because the school recognises children's potential and does everything possible to help them to make the most of their abilities."

*Beata and Vaidas live in Harold Hill with their daughters Melita, eight and Minela, five.*



**ST URSULA'S CATHOLIC  
JUNIOR SCHOOL**  
*Diocese of Brentwood*

*We celebrate God in all we do!*

## First steps to independence

Melita settled in to school fairly quickly, making friends and enjoying her lessons. However, when the time came to transfer from infants to St Ursula's Catholic Junior school it was Beata who appreciated the support which St Ursula's Junior school willingly provided. "My husband and I have no extended family in the UK so there are only the four of us and we are a very close unit," she says. "As a very shy child, I was so worried that Melita would feel overwhelmed and unable to cope without me, and I almost felt that I would be losing her when she went into her junior year."

Realising her concerns, Melita's headteacher and teachers took care to reassure Beata that these first steps towards independence could only benefit her daughter and this has proved to be the case. "The Headteacher explained to me that children are like butterflies and need to use their wings, which was a lovely thing to say. My fears for Melita were unfounded and she has absolutely flourished. In fact, it took me much longer than Melita to adjust! The headteacher made a point of ringing me to reassure me that everything was fine and their kindness and sensible approach helped me a great deal."

## Provision for gifted and talented children

Melita is now an enthusiastic member of the various clubs offered by the school to further encourage gifted and talented children, taking extra tuition in literacy and verbal reasoning amongst other subjects. "I am so pleased that the school believes in pushing the children as far as they can go," says Beata. "I believe that if a child has potential then that should be recognised and capitalised on; that is what happens at St Ursula's Catholic Junior School"

## Even more than a parent could wish for

With Minela shortly to join the junior school from infants, Beata is more relaxed that she had been with Melita. "Now I know what an excellent school St Ursula's Catholic Junior School is I have nothing to worry about. What this school has achieved for my daughter within such a relatively short time is more than even I could have hoped for. The standards are high and the children are given every chance to achieve the best they possibly can. St Ursula's Catholic Junior School really is amazing."



## Children say:

Melita says: "I am very proud to be part of St. Ursula's Junior School. My school is one big family with the Headteacher, teachers, teaching assistants, all staff and all children. I love my school so much; it really is the best ever. If something is wrong you always can go talk to the teacher or Headteacher and they will listen to you. My school helps me to learn how to be kind and care for others and it teaches me how to love your friends, family and God."

Minela says: "My school is amazing! We have so many clubs - Lego, art, gardening, drama, literacy and so many sport clubs. We even have a pet gerbil and we grow our own vegetables. Our school has so many music lessons; you can learn to play violin, piano, flute, recorder and more. I enjoy reading and my school has so many good books. I always can't wait to get there in the morning, it is just so nice!"



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