



# St John the Baptist Primary School

Friday 8th December '23

## Diary Dates

### **Saturday 9th December**

FoPS Christmas fayre  
12-2pm

### **Monday 11th December**

KS1 Nativity in church at 2pm

### **Tuesday 12th December**

KS1 Nativity in church at  
5.30pm

### **Thursday 14th December**

Christmas dinner day—wear  
a Christmas jumper



Collective Worship theme: *'Advent'*

Self-motivation Honesty Imaginative Nurturing Empathy

Dear Parents and Carers,

Another busy week at St John's this week. On Tuesday we invited our parents in to Owl class for a very festive learning together. You all worked hard to make pom poms to brighten the Owl Book Burrow and what you created was brilliant. It is so lovely to see parents engaged in children's learning. Look out for the next learning together dates which we will share after Christmas.

The children in Owl class have been busy rehearsing for the Nativity this year and we are very excited to invite you all to come and watch it in the church. This is the first time we have performed in the church and we are all very excited. Everyone is invited to watch the show next week and no tickets are required. The performances are Monday at 2pm and Tuesday at 5.30pm. We look forward to seeing you all there.

This week we were given the total raised by the poppy appeal—£177.87 and a big thank you from the Royal British Legion for your generosity.

A big thank you to Oliver's plants for donating our wonderful Christmas tree that the children decorated this week and has pride of place in our school hall. See leaflet attached for details of their Christmas market. The children then all decorated the tree on Monday during collective worship and now it looks amazing. We also decorated the tree in the church with our handmade decorations and it looks brilliant.

We look forward to seeing as many families at the Christmas fayre tomorrow from 12-2pm. There are lots of exciting events including a present station, craft stall, Santa's grotto and also a stall selling the items the children have made. Everyone has worked very hard to make items that can be sold to raise money for a school project (currently a zip line or something big for the playground) Panther class have made 100 corner bookmarks which you can see in the photo above. We look forward to seeing you all there.

As always, your children's safety is our number one priority and our safeguarding duties extend outside of the school day. Mrs Lock will be sharing regular items on Class Dojo and there is also more information on page 4.

As we continue to count down the weeks until Christmas remember to check on your community and anyone that is vulnerable as we must remember to look after those in need.

Looking forward to seeing you all tomorrow at the Christmas Fayre.

Miss Gage



# ATTENDANCE INFORMATION

Our schools attendance target is **96%**

	This Week	YTD
<b>Infants</b>	93.33%	95.92%
<b>Lower Juniors</b>	84.21%	95.42%
<b>Upper Juniors</b>	84.44%	94.82%
<b>Whole School</b>	88.36%	95.47%

If your child is off sick from school, please notify the school office no later than 9.20am—school policy states we need to be notified every day of absence. Please either email [admin@st-john.essex.sch.uk](mailto:admin@st-john.essex.sch.uk) or phone and leave a message if no answer.

**Please Note:** Trainers are not permitted. Black shoes for boys and girls only. Children can bring trainers into school to change into at breaktime if they wish to.

Long hair needs to be tied back safely, no jewellery to be worn in school apart from small stud earrings and a watch. No nail varnish.

Feel free to pack a healthy snack for your child to have a breaktime, crisps, sweets and fizzy drinks are not permitted.

## **Unexpected School Closures**

If we have to close school unexpectedly - information will be posted on the Home Page of the school website:

<https://www.st-john.essex.sch.uk/>

Alternatively, information can be found on the Essex School

**Closures page at:**

<https://www.essex.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools/emergency-school-closures>

**The decision to close the school is never taken lightly.**

**Please select your child's school meals as far in advance as you can—but no later than 9am on Thursday for the following week. Any orders placed after this time will not be processed .Thank you.**



### Gold awards 8<sup>th</sup> December 2023

#### Pebmarsh Cup – Arlo

Arlo, your class have voted you to win the Pebmarsh cup this week.

**“Helpful and kind, good at sports, a team player, always trying hard and a good friend and helpful” were the comments that the Koalas made about you. One student mentioned** how well you contribute to lessons and share your knowledge of maths and science with the class. Reading these comments has really highlighted your characteristics and qualities of the kind and caring friend you are. Well done Arlo.

#### Upper Juniors - Lyra – Self-motivation and Empathy

Lyra, you always do the right thing! You quietly get on with things in the background without any fuss and you always make good choices. You show empathy to other children by helping them when they need it. You see something needs doing and you just get the job done without waiting to be asked.

#### Lower Juniors – Indie – Self-motivation

Indie, you have worked so hard in the first term as a Year 3 student. Mr Chinnery and Mrs Bain are constantly seeing you trying your best and aiming to please. You independently look back over your work and admire how far your presentation and efforts have improved over time, which is great to see. Keep up the hard work!

#### Infants – Harriet – Self-motivation

Harriet, you have been amazing at learning your lines for your role as Babushka in our Nativity, You were so confident to offer yourself for the part and have worked hard at both home and school to be Babushka ready. Well done. You make a mean magician too!

**Highest attendance award goes to Infants this week!**

**If you intend to take your child out of school for any reason other than illness or medical appointments, please complete a leave of absence form. These are available from the school office .**

Please find below some information you may find useful in safeguarding your children online.

The 2 Johns Online Safety session – Sunday 10 December 7pm

The 2 Johns are running a session on Sunday evening (10 December) at 7pm to launch the ESCB online safety week. The virtual session and Q&A will be hosted on Zoom and also The 2 Johns Facebook page. This will be followed by a week of online safety messages and advice on the ESCB social media accounts. Find out more about the campaign. The Zoom link is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87837710415#success>

WhatsApp - Locked Chats

Did you know that you can hide conversations and lock them away in WhatsApp? This was a feature introduced in May 2023 and was easy to spot (if you knew how), but WhatsApp have updated the feature which makes it much more difficult to find.

In the original update you had to swipe down in the 'Chats' window to see locked chats, then input a code, fingerprint or Face ID to unlock (see THIS 1 minute video on YouTube). However, this meant that other people (parents, teachers, partners) would be able to see that you have got locked chats, even if you can't see the content. WhatsApp have just updated this (being rolled out worldwide from the beginning of December) and locked chats can now only be viewed by entering a secret code into the search bar, meaning that you will not be able to tell if there are any locked chats without knowing the code which WhatsApp briefly explains HERE. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RVFsS-PeJm8>

Why do Children use Anonymous Apps?

Note: the article refers to Omegle which no longer exists but it explores the wider use of anonymous apps. Also, the article refers to teens but younger children use anonymous apps.

This is an interesting article from Internet Matters where young people talk about why they use anonymous apps, which ones they use, the risks and how they stay safe. You can find the full article HERE. <https://www.internetmatters.org/hub/news-blogs/why-teens-use-anonymous-apps-like-omegle/>



# **Olivers Plants**

Earls Colne

## **Christmas Tree Maze**

Open Every Day Until 7th December

## **Christmas Market**

Open Every Day Until 24th December

## **Christmas Trees**

 Quality Real Trees



**THE PLANT SPECIALISTS**

DEDICATED GROWER RETAILER

Coggeshall Road, Earls Colne, CO6 2JX

01787 220281 [www.oliversplants.co.uk](http://www.oliversplants.co.uk)



To: Parents/guardians of school aged children  
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29<sup>th</sup> November 2023

Dear Parent,

### **Children's Flu Vaccine**

The Community School Aged Immunisation Service have already visited your child's school to deliver the flu vaccine. However, we know that some children have missed out and may remain vulnerable to serious or even fatal illness that could have been prevented by the vaccine.

**The programme for vaccinating children is due to end mid-December. If you would like your child/the child in your care to be vaccinated against flu, this can still be arranged by contacting the service directly.**

There are community clinics available for children or young people who have missed any of the school-based sessions. Details of the community clinic dates, times and venues can be obtained by calling your local Immunisation Team office **on 0300 790 0597**.

More information about flu immunisations in England can be found here: [Protecting your child against flu; Information for parents and carers \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://www.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/115444/protecting-your-child-against-flu-information-for-parents-and-carers.pdf)

Yours Sincerely

**NHS England – East of England**

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# PEB MARSH SCHOOL CHRISTMAS FAYRE



RAFFLE, TOMBOLAS & GAMES

CRAFTS, MULLED WINE & SWEET TREATS


JOIN US FOR AN AFTERNOON FULL OF FUN,  
PLUS A CHANCE TO MEET FATHER CHRISTMAS



SATURDAY 9TH DECEMBER



1200 - 1400



FREE ENTRY



*St John the Baptist Church Pebmarsh*



# CAROL CONCERT

*Sunday 17th December 2023*



4pm

*With the Long Melford Silver Band*



**St John the Baptist Primary School**  
**Autumn Term September-December 2023**  
**Parent Calendar**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Yr Group</b>	<b>Event</b>
6 <sup>th</sup> September	Whole School	Back to school for Autumn Term – Meet the Teachers
19 <sup>th</sup> & 20 <sup>th</sup> September	Whole School	Individual school photographs
28 <sup>th</sup> September	Whole School	Harvest Festival at church at 9.30am – all welcome
5 <sup>th</sup> October	Whole School	Times Table Rock Stars Day
13 <sup>th</sup> & 16 <sup>th</sup> October	Year 5 & 6	Bikeability
20 <sup>th</sup> October	Whole School	Break up for half term
		<b>Half Term</b>
30 <sup>th</sup> October	Whole School	Non pupil day
31 <sup>st</sup> October	Year 6	Closing day for secondary school places
9 <sup>th</sup> November	Whole School	Perform workshop in school
10 <sup>th</sup> November	Upper Juniors	Learning Together 2.00pm-3.00pm
10 <sup>th</sup> November	Whole School	Scholastic book fair for one week
10 <sup>th</sup> November	Whole School	Get Creative for Climate change exhibition
<u>13<sup>th</sup> November</u>	Whole School	Parents' consultation evenings
16 <sup>th</sup> November	Whole School	Parents' consultation evenings
17 <sup>th</sup> November	Whole School	Children in Need Day – wear something spotty
17 <sup>th</sup> November	Whole School	Christmas jumper swap day at 3pm
17 <sup>th</sup> November	Whole School	Scholastic book orders to be in
21 <sup>st</sup> November	Whole School	Flu jabs in school
24 <sup>th</sup> November	Lower Juniors	Learning Together 2.00pm-3.00pm
24 <sup>th</sup> November	EYFS & Year 6	Weight and height checks
30 <sup>th</sup> November	Whole School	Pantomime Day
30 <sup>th</sup> November	All welcome	FoPS AGM 2.30pm
5 <sup>th</sup> December	Infants	Learning Together 2.00pm-3.00pm
8 <sup>th</sup> December	Whole School	Bring a bottle for non uniform day
9 <sup>th</sup> December	Whole School	FoPS Christmas Fair 12-2pm
11 <sup>th</sup> December	Infants	Nativity performance 2.00pm
12 <sup>th</sup> December	Infants	Nativity performance 5.30pm
14 <sup>th</sup> December	Whole School	Christmas meal day & wear a Christmas jumper
18 <sup>th</sup> December	Whole School	Christmas carol concert at church
20 <sup>th</sup> December	Whole School	Break up for Christmas return on Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> Jan