



St John the Baptist Primary School

Friday 12th January 2023

Diary Dates

15th January

Applications for primary school places for Sept 2024 deadline

18th January

National Thesaurus Day—
Come dressed as a word!

19th January at 2.00pm

FoPS meeting—all welcome



Self-motivation Honesty Imaginative Nurturing Empathy

Collective worship theme: Self-motivation and Noah's ark

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to school and the start of our Spring term. It was really lovely to see lots of children completing their curiosity envelopes over the Christmas break and their work is now proudly displayed in class.



As we enter the Spring term the weather is very cold and I would like to remind you to send your child to school with a coat. If they do not have a coat then we may have to keep them inside for some of their lunchtime.

The village hall car park is very congested at the end of the day and this has caused some problems over the past few weeks. Can I please ask you to be cautious when entering and



leaving the car park as there are some of our older children who walk to the car park alone. We are in talks with the Parish council about filling the holes to support with the surface in the car park. Ryan and Abigail, the managers of the Kings Head have offered their car park for anyone who would like to park there and take a short walk to school. Thank you very much for the offer and hopefully this will help with some of the congestion.

We still have some spaces in our clubs and if uptake remains low then we will not be able to sustain clubs into the summer term. If you have any clubs that you would like held at our school, please do speak to us and we can help. Also, if you are eligible for free school meals we can cover the cost of some of the clubs for your child.

Well done to our amazing performers at the Talent Show on Friday, you were all absolutely amazing. Thank you to the parents and children who came and supported. We raised a whopping £109 towards our goal to buy an Activall wall for the playground. Pebmarsh Parliament are busy planning our



next fundraising event to take us to the target of £700. Thursday is National Thesaurus day and everyone is invited to dress as a word. We cannot wait to see what wonderful words you come into school as.

Monday is the deadline for Primary school admissions applications. Please make sure you have submitted your application by then.

There is a FOPS meeting next Friday at 2pm and it would be great to see as many of you there as possible to help our school to raise money for more amazing opportunities.

Have a lovely weekend, Miss Gage

United we strive for excellence-together we shine

ATTENDANCE INFORMATION

Our schools attendance target is **96%**

	This Week	YTD
Infants	98%	96.12%
Lower Juniors	100%	94.95%
Upper Juniors	98.89%	95.46%
Whole School	98.81%	95.60%

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 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.





Essex County Council
Libraries



Essex Library Service

Winter Reading Challenge



Travel around the world with Lyra this winter and meet lots of new animal friends!

Collect your booklet from any Essex library.



@essexlibraries



Dear Parent/Carer,

Your child is invited to sign up for this year's [Winter Reading Challenge](#) at your local library!

What is the Winter Reading Challenge?

The Winter Reading Challenge is a fun activity put together by Essex Library Service for children aged 0-11. It encourages children and families to keep reading over the winter and to visit their local library.

They will join Lyra the penguin as she travels around the world with her magic book to find out more about endangered animals.

Children will complete 6 challenges (from a list of 12), and it's **FREE** to take part.

How can my child take part?

Visit your [local library](#) to sign up. Your child will:

- Receive their Challenge folder
- Choose 6 challenges to complete (from a list of 12)
- Earn a sticker for each challenge they complete
- When they've complete 6 challenges they will receive a certificate and, whilst stocks last, they will also receive a packet of seeds and a free book from Penguin Books.
- Over the winter we will also be releasing videos about Lyra's journey so keep an eye on our YouTube Channel ([Youtube.com/essexlibraries](https://www.youtube.com/essexlibraries)) and social media channels (@EssexLibraries).

When?

Throughout the winter from **25 November to 3 February**. Unsure where your closest library is - use the Essex Library Service [website](#) to check.

Head to your local library this winter and sign up! You can find out more about the challenge on the [library website](#) and if you have any questions, please ask staff in the library.

We look forward to seeing you!

Best wishes

Essex Library Service

Gold awards 12th January 2024

Pebmarsh Cup – Paisley in Infants

Paisley, you have been chosen by your class to receive the Pebmarsh Cup this week. Lots of the children talked about you being kind or 'super' kind. They have noticed that you do brilliant work and that you are good at writing. You make them feel happy (particularly when they are sad) and you check on them to make sure they are ok. You are always ready to learn and they class you as a really good friend.

WOW! Thank you for being you.

Upper Juniors - Bobbie

Bobbie, you show fantastic self-motivation towards your learning and always strive to be the best that you can be. **Nothing can distract you when you're focussed on your goal and your are a fantastic learner. Keep up the great work.**

Lower Juniors – Louis

Louis, you have shown how motivated you are in your learning this week by not only being focussed and **determined in school but also in your free time. This week's spellings were challenging but you took them on well, and after plenty of practise, you scored 100%** Keep up the hard work and continue to have that positive mindset that you have.

Infants – Lottie

Lottie, you always try your best at absolutely everything you do and this week you really impressed Miss Bush when you persevered in cutting out your butterfly life cycle pictures. You were motivated to achieve and try on your own and you succeeded. Well done. Thank you for being you. You are simply amazing.

Highest attendance award goes to Lower Juniors 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 .

St John the Baptist Primary School

Spring Term January-March 2024

Parent calendar

Date	Yr Group	Event
4 th January	Whole school	Back to school
5 th January	Whole School	St John's got Talent
8 th January	Lower Juniors	Forest school
8 th January	Whole School	Clubs start
15 th January		Applications for primary school places September 2024 closing date
15 th January	Infants	Forest school
18 th January	Whole School	National Thesaurus Day- Come dressed as a word!
19 th January	Parents	FOPS meeting- come and we what we are all about
19 th January	KS2	A lesson in Spanish guitar and Violin
22 nd January	Upper Juniors	Forest school
22 nd January	Whole School	Energy saving week
29 th January	Infants	Forest school
5 th February	Lower Juniors	Forest school
6 th February	Whole school	Safer internet day
12 th February	Infants	Forest school
16th February	Whole school	Break up for half term
26th February	Whole school	Return to school
26 th February	Upper Juniors	Forest school
4 th March	Infants	Forest school
7 th March	Whole school	World book day
11 th March	Whole school	Parents' evening consultations
11 th March	Lower Juniors	Forest school
12 th March	Lower Juniors	Learning together-Science week
14 th March	Infants	Learning together-Science week
15 th March	Upper Juniors	Learning together-Science week
13 th March	Whole school	Parents' evening consultations
18 th March	Infants	Forest school
25 th March	Upper Juniors	Forest school
28 th March	Whole school	Break up for Easter