



St John the Baptist Primary School

Friday 16th February 2024

Diary Dates

26th February

The Great Pebmarsh

Bake Off

7th March

World Book Day

(not dressing up on 7th)

8th March

Dress up for WBD on 8th

11th & 13th March

Parents' evening

26th March

SATS meeting for Year 6
parents 3.20pm



Self-motivation Honesty Imaginative Nurturing Empathy

Collective worship theme: The beginning of Lent

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you all very much for your continued support and hard work over the last half term. Can I please remind you to pay for trips, swimming, Kingswood and clubs that are happening after half term.

World Book day dates have changed for after half term due to staffing and will now be the following day, Friday 8th March. Mrs Lock will be sharing more details on this over the coming weeks.

Over the half term there are many events in our surrounding areas. Further details of these can be found on pages 6, 7 & 8. They are often free and if you have any questions about these please do not hesitate to ask.

Art club have been busy this half term with Sarah Wells. They have been completing these collages (see above), which began with mono printing for texture. Then they created a pastel sky background and cut or tore shapes for winter trees and animals which they stuck on top with other textured papers as the ground. They also learnt how to blend the pastels, print using recycled materials, to cut and to tear collage and to lay out composition. Art Club starts again after half term.



This week is an important week in Christianity as we have begun the period of Lent. We celebrated in school on Shrove Tuesday by all eating pancakes during collective worship. We then visited the church on Ash Wednesday to take part in the ashing service. Thank you to those parents who attended. We hope to see you again at our Easter service in March.

Drop off in the morning is a busy time in school. Teachers are trying to take registers and sort lunch arrangements as well as creating a calm and settled start to the school day. Support staff are busy completing interventions during the much needed 20 minutes before the school day begins. Because of this, we only allow Reception children to be walked to class as these children are still getting used to the morning routine, although many of our Reception children walk in from the gate completely independently which is wonderful to see. If you have a message for the class teacher then please give it to the adult on the gate or alternatively message using Class Dojo. Teachers will not be available to speak at the beginning of the day. Thank you for your support with this, our aim is to make every minute of the school day count with a calm and purposeful start to the day.

Over the half term I am still available if there is an urgent issue or safeguarding concern you may have. Please email Teresa.gage@st-john.essex.sch.uk and I will help and support in any way that I can.

Have a restful half term and we will see you in school on Monday 26th February for Our Great Pebmarsh Bake off where you are invited to enter a cake into a competition. All cakes will be available to buy after school. Please see page 5 for more information.

Miss Gage

United we strive for excellence-together we shine

ATTENDANCE INFORMATION

Our schools attendance target is **96%**

	This Week	YTD
Infants	92.33%	95.70%
Lower Juniors	98.89%	95.39%
Upper Juniors	97.22%	95.43%
Whole School	95.45%	95.54%

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.



Gold awards 16th February 2024

Pebmarsh Cup – Bobbie

Bobbie, this week you have been nominated by the rest of your class for SO many reasons!

You are always kind and caring.

You are a hard worker.

You show good self-motivation

You are honest and nurturing.

You are a good friend.

You push yourself to your limits.

You always try to be the best you can be.

Well done Bobbie, you should be very proud of yourself!

Upper Juniors - Eli

Eli, you show great curiosity in our history topic and have some wonderful questions and insights. It is a pleasure to have you in the class, enquiring about the theories and ideas as well as challenging your peers with their theories. Never stop being curious and asking the big questions!

Lower Juniors – Lana – Imaginative

Lana, Mr Chinnery and Mrs Bain have been really impressed with your positive attitude towards your learning. Not only do you take on tasks well, but you take the time to make them your own, by using your ideas and imagination. Your creativity is a gift and you use this so well across the curriculum, creating marvellous art pieces and persuasive writing. Keep up the hard work.

Infants –Evie W – Excellence

Evie, you are such a superstar in class. You always come to school with a big smile on your face and you try your hardest at absolutely everything! Keep up the fantastic work!

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 .

We have been contacted by The AIM Group who deliver **Free Online Level 2 Accredited Courses** to help better understand some key issues around young people's mental health and wellbeing, along with a range of other qualifications that may help with developing your own careers.

Here's some of the most popular subjects available:

- Neuroscience in the Early Years**
- Children and Young Peoples Mental Health**
- Understanding Autism**
- Specific Learning Difficulties**
- Nutrition and Health**
- Adverse Childhood Experiences**
- Bullying in Children and Young People**
- Distressed Behaviour in Children**
- Mental Health Awareness**
- Counselling**
- Team Leading**
- Business Administration**
- Customer Service**

These are just the popular qualifications, but they have over 30 available!

The qualifications are completed within a 6–12 week period in your own leisure. They are equivalent to a GCSE Grade C. You can do as many as you like, however you can only do one at a time.

The only criteria you must meet to be eligible, is:

Aged 19 or over on or before 31st August 2023

Have lived in the UK/EU for 3+ years

Not already on a Government funded course

Access to a laptop, tablet or computer

If you are interested in undertaking one of these free online courses or would like further information, then please complete the following link **ASAP**. This will then allow The AIM Group to contact you to discuss and get you started on your chosen course:

<https://theaimgroup.co.uk/booking-form/001Q500000525ac>

If you have any questions prior to expressing interest, call **Coral Young on 0203 8145 2015/01245 904827** or drop her an email at Coral.young@theaimgroup.co.uk



The Great Pebmarsh



Bake Off

Monday 26th February 2:30pm in the hall

Prizes awarded for presentation, uniqueness and taste

£1 Entry (please bring entries to hall at
time and date above)

Open for students and parents

Cakes to go on sale at the end of the day!

Life is what you bake it!

Do you like drawing?

Want to try something new this half term?

Join us for **Zentangle** a FREE 90-minute mindful drawing session where participants can enjoy creating a unique and beautiful piece of art.

Fri / 23 / Feb
4.30pm to 6pm

No artistic ability needed!

You only need a scrap of paper and pencil and can join from your phone!

Online via Zoom
FREE

To book visit:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/818208763437?aff=oddtcreator>

 Essex County Council



Essex Music School Braintree Community Music Centre

Saturdays 9am - 1pm

Come and join us in making and learning music together in Braintree!

We offer 10 weeks per term across the school year including groups and ensembles such as our All-in-Band and our Young Voices Club!

We also offer 1 to 1 lessons in Drums, Guitars, Piano, Violin and Voice.



Braintree Community Music Centre
iConstruct, Braintree Enterprise Centre, Enterprise Drive,
Braintree CM7 2DP



Scan for further details and to register your interest
Website: www.essexmusichub.org.uk
Phone: 0333 013 8953

Supported using public funding by



**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**

Half Term Trampoline Taster Session at Earls Colne Rec Club

Friday 23rd February, 1-2pm
£8.75 / £8.25 for ECRC members



Visit our website to book:

www.dimensionstrampolineclub.org.uk/tastersessions



Ages 3+. Limited spaces.

Contact Becky:

eventsadmin@dimensionstrampolineclub.org.uk



ACL

FAMILY LEARNING

ADHD or Anxiety

A choice of FREE sessions to support you to understand
ADHD in children, teens and/or anxiety in adults

@Halstead Library



Understand ADHD (EYFS/KS1)	26/02/24	12:30
Understand ADHD (Teen Edition)	04/03/24	12:30
Understand ADHD (Adult Late Diagnosis)	11/03/24	12:30
Understand Anxiety (Adults)	18/02/24	12:30

TWO WAYS TO SIGN UP TO A FREE COURSE TODAY!



call our friendly team on
03330 321 017



Search 'Family Learning' at
aclessex



Essex County Council

St John the Baptist Primary School

Spring Term January-March 2024

Parent calendar

Date	Yr Group	Event
12 th February	Infants	Forest school
14 th February	Whole school	Ash Wednesday service in church 9.10am—all welcome
16th February	Whole school	Break up for half term
26th February	Whole school	Return to school
26 th February	Upper Juniors	Forest school
26 th February	All welcome	The Great Pebmarsh Bake Off 2.30pm
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
26 th March	Year 6 parents	SATS meeting for parents at 3.20pm
28 th March	Whole school	Easter service in church 9.10am—all welcome
28 th March	Whole school	Break up for Easter