



St John the Baptist Primary School

Friday 1st March 2024

Diary Dates

7th March

World Book Day
(not dressing up on 7th)

8th March

Dress up for WBD

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,

What a fantastic first week back after half term. We began the week with our Great Pebmarsh Bake Off and were overwhelmed by the quality and quantity of the cakes we received. Thank you so much to everyone who baked, bought and ate the cakes. We raised a staggering £148 towards our Activall wall installation in the playground. Keep your eyes peeled for our next money raising initiative.

We can also proudly announce that we came 2nd in the Tesco Blue Token scheme and we will be receiving £1000 to continue to develop reading and our library area. A big shout out to Mrs Baldock for arranging this, you are a superstar!



This week we were very happy to finally wear our wellies and enjoy playing on the field, even in the rain. Thank you for your donations so far but we are still low on wellies being available for the infants and lower juniors age groups. Please can you have another rummage and/or ask friends and family if they have wellies they would be happy to donate in the following sizes: Child sizes 11, 12, 13 & 1. It would be wonderful to have everyone able to play on the field at the same time.



Parents 'evening appointments are now available to book so please contact your class teacher after school, via Dojo or through the school office to book an appointment. It is very important that you attend this meeting as you will be able to discuss how your child is progressing at school and talk through any plans for the coming term.

Next week is World Book day, we are celebrating on Friday 8th March. Each class will be focussing on a book from around the world and children will spend the day immersed in the story and the culture from that day. All families are invited into school to see celebrate the learning on the day at 3pm and we hope to see as many of you there as possible.



This week has been SHOW OFF week (assessment week) and I have been overwhelmed at how hard everyone has worked. Year 6 children completed a mock SATS week and took it in their stride. Assessment is an essential part of our teaching as it helps us to plan for areas that children need to work on over the coming term and also celebrate successes with children and parents.

Hope you have a restful weekend after a busy week.
Miss Gage

United we strive for excellence-together we shine

ATTENDANCE INFORMATION

Our schools attendance target is **96%**

| | This Week | YTD |
|----------------------|-----------|--------|
| Infants | 92% | 95.52% |
| Lower Juniors | 96.11% | 95.42% |
| Upper Juniors | 94.44% | 95.38% |
| Whole School | 93.79% | 95.46% |

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 1st March 2024

Pebmarsh Cup – Lottie in Reception

Lottie, you have been chosen by Owl Class because they say you are always ready for learning. You are always kind and helpful and try your hardest at everything you do. The main element of you that everyone said, was about your smile. You smile ALL the time and it lights up the room and lifts anyone near. Keep smiling Lottie, keep lifting, keep being you.

Upper Juniors - Lyra – Nurturing

Lyra, there aren't enough words to describe your wonderful and positive attitude in school. You ALWAYS work hard, you are ALWAYS polite, thoughtful and helpful and we are so lucky to have you in our class! Keep shining, Lyra!

Lower Juniors – Edie – Self-motivation

Edie, every morning you come into school and start your morning work with great enthusiasm and as a result of this, I have seen a vast improvement in your work. You are committed to your work both inside and outside the classroom, contributing well in class. Keep up the hard work and carry on being the curious and willing learner you are.

Infants – Evie C – Self-motivation and Excellence

Evie, you have been focussed and always ready for learning. You independently use all of the skills you have been taught and also try to help others. You are a shining example of a learner. Well done.

Highest attendance award goes to Lower Juniors this week!

And for the month of February, Lower Juniors also win!

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 .



Essex County Council
Libraries



Mother's Day

Craft Event at Halstead Library

9 March

1.00pm

- Create a decorated flower pot for Mother's Day
- £5+ non refundable booking fee
- Suitable for 4+ years
- Scan the code to book a Mother day event



libraries.essex.gov.uk



Colchester Royal Grammar School

Sci-Fest 2024

Saturday 16th March
10am - 4pm

6 Lexden Road, CO3 3ND
Free entry

Families welcome - fun interactive activities



Premium activities will incur a small charge. Refreshments available.



Activities include

Colchester Zoo - Rangers & Wildlife
Coding - Python & Scratch
Dinosaur Escape Room
Dissection Lab
Essex Wildlife Trust
Essex University - Baby Lab & Maths
Face Painting
Mini Monsters
Planetarium

Puzzle Rooms
Sci-High Forensics
Smoothie Bikes
Tech Hub
VR Mini Beasts
VR Oceans
VR Space
VR Wild Beasts
Wipeout

Lunch & refreshments will be available to purchase from Ronnie's Kitchen, the CRGSA and the school's canteen.

Limited parking on site, entrance via Creffield Road or St Mary's Public Car Park, CO3 3AA, a short walk from the school.

 @ColchesterRGS  @colchesterroyalgrammarschool



 **ALL YEAR ROUND**
School's OUT
Activities

Swimming
Everyday during
May and
Summer

Essex's number one premium school holiday activity camp is at CRGS! Whether it's the long Summer Break, Easter, or the shorter Half-Terms, we can't wait to welcome children from all schools in Colchester!

Ofsted

Easter
May Half-Term
Summer Holidays
October Half Term
Christmas

Choose individual days or come for the week for 20% OFF

Scan for info



CREATIVE CREW

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

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 |
| 8 th March | Whole school | Dress up for 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 |
| 13 th March | Whole school | Parents' evening consultations |
| 14 th March | Infants | Learning together-Science week |
| 15 th March | Upper Juniors | Learning together-Science week |
| 18 th March | Infants | Forest school |
| 18 th March | Upper Juniors | Class trip to Duxford Air Museum |
| 20 th March | Whole school | Parent appreciation afternoon tea |
| 22 nd March | Whole school | Easter disco |
| 25 th March | Upper Juniors | Forest school |
| 26 th March | Year 6 parents | SATS meeting for parents at 3.20pm |
| 27 th March | Infants | Class trip to Colne Valley Railway |
| 28 th March | Whole school | Easter service in church 9.10am—all welcome |
| 28 th March | Whole school | Break up for Easter |