



# St John the Baptist Primary School

Friday 8th March 2024

## Diary Dates

**11th & 13th March**

Parents' evening

**12th March @ 2pm**

Learning Together (LJ)

**14th March @ 2pm**

Learning Together

(Infants)

**15th March @ 2pm**

Learning Together (UJ)

**26th March**

SATS meeting for Year 6  
parents 3.20pm



Self-motivation Honesty Imaginative Nurturing Empathy

Collective worship theme: Making good choices

Dear Parents and Carers,

What an amazing end to the week with our World Book Day celebrations. Each class had a day focussed around a book from a different culture. Owls class were immersed in France, and in particular, Paris, creating some amazing models of the Eiffel Tower. Koala class spent the days as Egyptians building pyramids, doing sand art and making papyrus. Panther class ventured into Indian culture by eating different foods, having henna tattoos and learning some Bollywood dancing. There will be lots of photos on ClassDojo and thank you to those who came in after school to share your children's work. Thank you to Mrs Lock for arranging such an amazing day for the children. Also, well done to everyone who took part in our 'Get Caught Reading' competition, we had some absolutely fantastic entries! The winners were announced in assembly this morning. A big well done to Harry P in Uppers, Arlo in Loweres and Willow in Infants. See above and pages 4 & 5 of the newsletter for some more of the pictures that were sent in.

Tomorrow morning (Saturday 9th) at 10.30am, Mrs Lock and Mr Chinnery will be in Waterstones at Sudbury to help you choose a book with your free £1 book voucher that is coming home today. They hope to see lots of you down there.



Unfortunately, the Owl class trip was cancelled by the provider due to unscheduled maintenance works, but do not fear as they will now be joining Panther class at Duxford on the 18th of March. Letters have been circulated regarding this as now the cost of the trip has decreased and refunds will be made via ParentPay.

Because of the change of trip this has altered the forest school dates for two weeks. Monday 11th March is now Forest school for Owls and Monday the 18th March will be for Koala class. Teachers will remind you via ClassDojo also..



FOPS have arranged an Easter Disco for the children which we are all very excited about. This will be held on Friday 22nd March straight from school. Please see more information on page 6 of this newsletter. All money should be handed into the office in an envelope with your child's name and arrangements for collection.

Next week is Science Week and we all have our 'Learning Together' sessions to celebrate the awe and wonder of science with you. The dates of these are on the newsletter and we are looking forward to seeing as many of you there as possible.

Thank you for your continued support.  
Have a wonderful weekend.  
Miss Gage

United we strive for excellence-together we shine

# ATTENDANCE INFORMATION

Our schools attendance target is **96%**

	This Week	YTD
<b>Infants</b>	92.33%	95.38%
<b>Lower Juniors</b>	100%	95.62%
<b>Upper Juniors</b>	100%	95.59%
<b>Whole School</b>	96.52%	95.50%

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 8th March 2024

Pebmarsh Cup – Toby in Loweres

Toby, this week, the Koalas have voted for you to receive the Pebmarsh cup! You have been described by your classmates as caring, imaginative, nurturing, kind and honest. You show all of our school values every single day. You are also engaged in class and answer lots of questions which is fantastic. Well deserved Toby.

Upper Juniors - Harry T for Self-motivation

You have grown so much as a learner this year, and are now a self-motivated superstar. The work you have completed this week has blown us all away. From your amazing nonet, super percentage work and then an amazing science lesson, there really is no stopping you! Keep being amazing and eating Weetos for breakfast every day!

Lower Juniors – Toby for Excellence

Toby, every morning you are so eager to come to school to help out and to crack on with your morning work. You are focussed on all of your work across the curriculum and really apply yourself to your learning, being a true role model for others to follow. Keep up the hard work, Mr Chinnery and Mrs Bain are VERY proud of you.

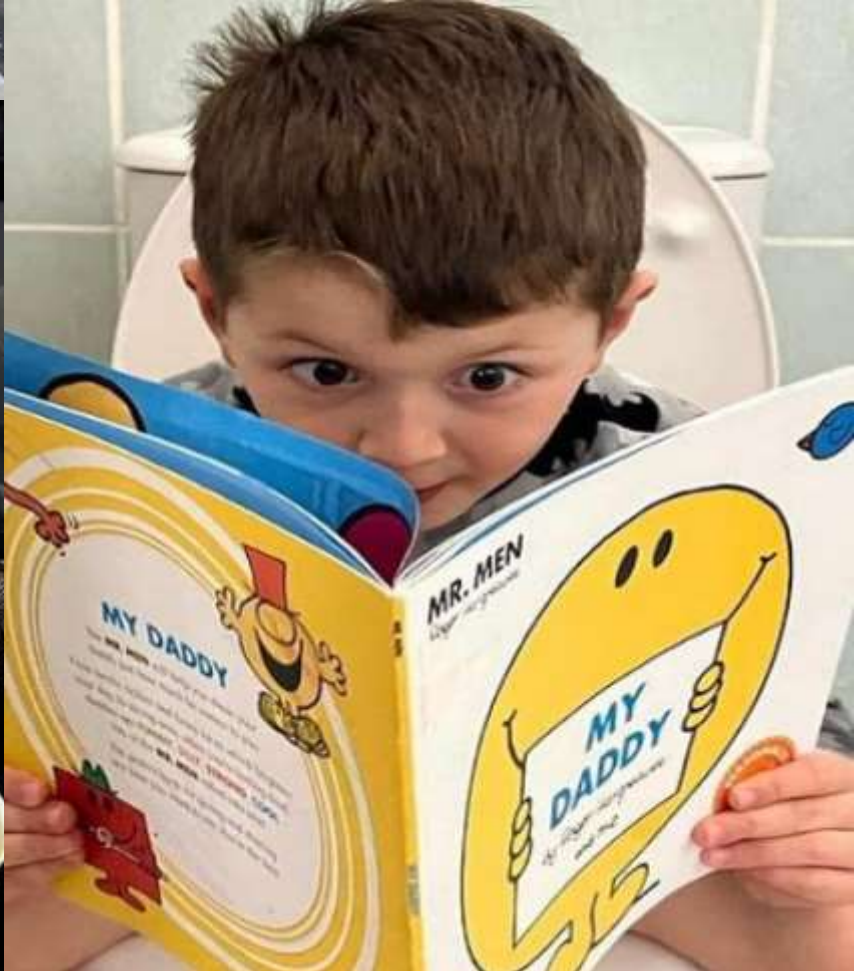
Infants – Herbie for Excellence

Herbie, you are an absolute superstar. You have really been trying hard with all your work and tasks with a really positive and smiley attitude. You are kind and polite to everyone which is wonderful. Keep it up Herbie!

Highest attendance award goes to Lower AND Upper 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 .









OUR WINNING PHOTOS, HUGE WELL DONE AND THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO TOOK PART!





F O P S

**SCHOOL**

**DISCO**

**FRIDAY 22ND MARCH**

**3.30PM - 4.45PM**



**FOR ALL  
PEBMARSH SCHOOL CHILDREN**

**£3 PER CHILD**

**INCLUDES DRINK & CRISPS**

**PLEASE PAY AT SCHOOL OFFICE  
WITH CHILDS NAME, CLASS & PICK UP CONTACT**





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](http://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](mailto:Coral.young@theaimgroup.co.uk)



# St John the Baptist Primary School

## Spring Term January-March 2024

### Parent calendar

Date	Yr Group	Event
12 <sup>th</sup> February	Infants	Forest school
14 <sup>th</sup> February	Whole school	Ash Wednesday service in church 9.10am—all welcome
<b>16<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>Whole school</b>	<b>Break up for half term</b>
<b>26<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>Whole school</b>	<b>Return to school</b>
26 <sup>th</sup> February	Upper Juniors	Forest school
26 <sup>th</sup> February	All welcome	The Great Pebmarsh Bake Off 2.30pm
4 <sup>th</sup> March	Infants	Forest school
7 <sup>th</sup> March	Whole school	World Book Day
8 <sup>th</sup> March	Whole school	Dress up for World Book Day
11 <sup>th</sup> March	Whole school	Parents' evening consultations
11 <sup>th</sup> March	Infants	Forest school
12 <sup>th</sup> March	Lower Juniors	Learning together-Science week
13 <sup>th</sup> March	Whole school	Parents' evening consultations
14 <sup>th</sup> March	Infants	Learning together-Science week
15 <sup>th</sup> March	Upper Juniors	Learning together-Science week
18 <sup>th</sup> March	Lower Juniors	Forest school
18 <sup>th</sup> March	Upper Juniors & Infants	Class trip to Duxford Air Museum
20 <sup>th</sup> March	Whole school	Parent appreciation afternoon tea
22 <sup>nd</sup> March	Whole school	Easter disco
25 <sup>th</sup> March	Upper Juniors	Forest school
26 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 6 parents	SATS meeting for parents at 3.20pm
27 <sup>th</sup> March	Infants	Class trip to Colne Valley Railway—CANCELLED
28 <sup>th</sup> March	Whole school	Easter service in church 9.10am—all welcome
28 <sup>th</sup> March	Whole school	Break up for Easter