



# St John the Baptist Primary School

Friday 27th September

## Diary Dates

### **2nd October**

Harvest Festival in church  
at 9am

### **3rd October**

Times Table  
Rock Stars Day

### **8th October**

Individual school photos

### **10th October**

Hedingham School  
open evening

### **31st October**

Year 7 applications close



Self-motivation Honesty Imaginative Nurturing Empathy

Dear Parents and Carers,

It definitely feels that autumn is upon us and the wetter weather is setting in. In our school we believe 'There is no such thing as bad weather, just bad clothing!' with this in mind, can you please send your child into school with appropriate clothing including a coat. If the rain is not heavy, children will still get the opportunity to play outside. If you have not sent them in with a coat, they will miss out and stay inside for their own safety. Owllet parents in Reception, your children will continue to use the outdoor provision come rain or shine and will need to be appropriately dressed. Please send in a puddle suit, coats/macs and wellies to be stored in school. If you are having trouble sourcing these, please contact the school office and we can help.

On Wednesday, you are all invited to our Harvest festival at the church, please arrive for 9am and we expect to start at about 9.10am. As part of the celebration, we are asking families to donate any of the items on this list for the food bank.

The class who has the most items will win an extra playtime. We look forward to seeing you all there.

On Thursday this week, we have Times Table Rockstar Day, where everyone is invited to dress like a Rockstar! There will be a certificate for the best dressed and children will get a chance to improve their times tables. We will also have a 'rock out' in the hall to end the day!

Please see page 3 if you would like to attend speech and language sessions to help support your child. If your child struggles with anything associated with speech and language this would be a great course for you to attend.

I have noticed an increase in parents pulling up onto the yellow lines outside of school. These should not be stopped on at all, not to drop off your child or to talk to an adult on the gate. It is dangerous and you are putting your life at risk, cars come zooming around the corner and I fear that one day this could result in an accident.



Have a wonderful weekend and we will see you all on Monday. Miss Gage

United we strive for excellence-together we shine

# ATTENDANCE INFORMATION

Our schools attendance target is **96%**

	<b>This Week</b> <b>Fri-Thurs</b>	<b>Year to date</b>
<b>EYFS</b>	87.34%	90.42%
<b>Infants</b>	91.54%	96.26%
<b>Lower Juniors</b>	95.71%	96.16%
<b>Upper Juniors</b>	94.29%	96.43%
<b>Whole School</b>	92.32%	95.05%

Highest attendance award goes to Lower Juniors this week

**PLEASE ENSURE YOU INFORM THE SCHOOL OFFICE BY TELEPHONE OR EMAIL (NOT CLASS DOJO ) IF YOUR CHILD IS OFF SICK OR WILL BE COLLECTED BY A DIFFERENT ADULT - THANK YOU.**

If your child is off sick from school, please notify the school office no later than 9.25am—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.

If your child needs to attend a medical appointment during school hours, please complete a Medical Leave of Absence form which are available in the school office.

**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.

## **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.**



## Speech and Language UK

It is not easy learning to understand and manage your child's speech and language challenges. Getting the right information and support can be hard work. We have created two workshops just for parents and carers. These sessions will help you to think about how you can best understand and support your child and how you can share this knowledge with others who are involved with your child. Here is your opportunity to hear other parents' experiences, learn new strategies and share as much or as little of your story as you wish.

### Wednesday 23rd October 10-12pm **Introduction to speech and language challenges** – supporting your child via Zoom

*Learn about how and why children learn to communicate, strategies that you can put into place at home to help your child if they have any type of speech and language challenge, resources to help you and your child, and working with others to support your child.*

### and Wednesday 30th October 10-12pm **Supporting your child with social communication challenges** via Zoom

*This workshop is for you if your child has a social communication challenge (with or without a diagnosis). Learn more about social communication skills in young children and how they develop, how to help your child if they are at very early (or preverbal) stage of development, strategies that work well to support social communication skills at home and resources you can access.*

If you are interested in joining one or both of these sessions, please email [tlc@essex.gov.uk](mailto:tlc@essex.gov.uk) Please include the name of the session you would like to join. We will then send you the Zoom link nearer to the time.

You are welcome to attend just one or both workshops, start with the one that sounds right for you and your child.

Written and delivered by a very experienced speech and language therapists and advisors for the children's communication charity, Speech & Language UK.

If your child is older than 5 years much of the content of this workshop will not be relevant and you may find it more useful to contact Speech and Language UK's advice line or visit their website: [Home - Speech and Language UK: Changing young lives](#)



# **HARVEST** *Festival*

## **SHOPPING LIST**

**Coffee**

**Cereal (small box)**

**UHT Milk or milk alternative**

**Tinned Hot Snack (Ravioli, Macaroni  
Cheese etc)**

**Tinned Hot Meat (Stew, curry etc)**

**Tinned vegetables**

**Packet of instant mash**

**Tinned rice pudding**

We ask for small packs as larger packs do not fit in our boxes making it difficult for our clients to carry home. Also, we are unable (for hygiene reasons) to split large size or catering packs.

We follow the standards set by the Food Standards Agency. We can only accept donations of unopened and undamaged goods that are still well within their "use by" date (no less than six months if possible). Items which do not meet these requirements cannot be used and your donation may be wasted.



01376 330694



[info@bintreearea.foodbank.org.uk](mailto:info@bintreearea.foodbank.org.uk)

Registered Charity No. 1146782. Registered in England and Wales. Registered Company No. 8183628





# OPEN EVENING

THURS 10TH OCT

5-8PM

**HEDINGHAM SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM**

SIBLE HEDINGHAM, ESSEX

01787 460470

[HEDINGHAM.ESSEX.SCH.UK](http://HEDINGHAM.ESSEX.SCH.UK)



St Mary's  
Colchester

ATTEND A  
SENIOR SCHOOL

*open day*

11&12  
OCT | 9.30-11.30am  
St Mary's Senior School

Reserve your place at [stmaryscolchester.org.uk/open-days](http://stmaryscolchester.org.uk/open-days)

*empowering  
girls*

TO BE TOMORROW'S LEADERS



St Mary's  
Colchester

*free* event aimed at  
parents and daughters

Join us at our Empowering Girls Leadership event, following refreshments at the Senior School open day, where inspiring female leaders will tell their stories, share their learnings and provide advice on leadership. There will also be the opportunity to take part in a Q&A session with the guest speakers on the topic of leadership.

12  
OCT | 12.30-1.30pm  
St Mary's Senior School

Reserve your place at [stmaryscolchester.org.uk/empowering-girls](http://stmaryscolchester.org.uk/empowering-girls)



## HOLIDAY COURSES

### Bikeability Level 1, Level 1 & 2 and 3 and Learn to ride courses

To book, please visit link  
[essex.cycleready.co.uk/publicbooking](https://essex.cycleready.co.uk/publicbooking)

There is a £15 non-refundable booking fee

**SAFER**  
**GREENER**  
**HEALTHIER**



  
Essex County Council

October half-term is fast-approaching. Are you looking for something for your child to do during this time? Why not sign them up to one of our Bikeability Courses.

Various levels are available as well as our beginner course called Learn to Ride.

The courses are being held in the following locations and more may be added:

- **Colchester – Learn to Ride and Level 1&2**
- **Harlow – Learn to Ride, Level 1&2 and Level 3**
- **Chelmsford – available soon**  
**Braintree – available soon**

Please see below the link for parents/ guardians to book October half-term holiday courses.

<https://essex.cycleready.co.uk/publicbooking>

## Gold awards 27<sup>th</sup> September 2024

### **Pebmarsh Cup – Fleur in Koalas**

Fleur, our class have voted for you to win the Pebmarsh cup this week due to your kind and caring nature. Some have described you as being such a loyal friend who picks them up and makes them laugh whenever they are feeling a bit down. You have **showed your nurturing nature this year by helping our Year 3's settle in so well to our class**, a transition that can be difficult and daunting for some. Continue being the amazing person you are, you are truly cherished by your friends here at St John's.

### Upper Juniors - Harry T – Imaginative

Harry, this week we have been writing multiple narrator stories. Your imagination, depth and quality of writing has been amazing! Mr Nichols was very impressed at the amount of writing you have produced too. Well done Harry, keep up this fantastic work.

### Lower Juniors – Alfie – Self-motivation

Alfie, you have really impressed the staff in our classroom this week with your positive and eager attitude towards your learning. Not only do you crack on and try your hardest, but you use your kind and caring nature to help those who really need it. Alfie, you are such a fantastic role model for others in our class, keep up the hard work.

### Infants -Theo—Self-motivation

Theo, you are always ready for learning and are a shining example to others. Your writing in Drawing club has been fantastic. You are always trying your best, challenging yourself with spellings and thinking outside of the box. Keep it up.

## **Miss Gage's Shining Star of the week is:**

**Mrs Stacey (and Mr Stacey)**

For giving us a sail and fitting it as a temporary protection for our Owlets! Also staying and helping out when we needed you out of the kindness of your heart!





