



St John the Baptist Primary School

Friday 11th July 2025

Diary Dates

15th July

9am—Headteacher cuppa
and chat

18th July

9.15am—Leavers' assembly
in church—all welcome

3.30pm—Leavers' disco

1st September

Non pupil day



Self-motivation Honesty Imaginative Nurturing Empathy

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a fantastic week it has been at our school! We couldn't be prouder of our Key Stage 2 children who put on three amazing performances of Hairspray this week. The energy and enthusiasm on stage truly captivated our audience, and we are so proud of all involved for their hard work and dedication. A huge thank you to Jess Soper as well who took some beautiful photos at the Hairspray dress rehearsal!

On Wednesday, we had a special visit from our local library, who engaged the children in an assembly about the Summer Reading Challenge. Please do sign up for this wonderful opportunity, as it's an excellent way to encourage your children to keep reading throughout the summer months.

Additionally, we warmly welcomed our new Owlets, and what a delight it was to spend time with our newest members ahead of September! Their smiles and excitement are sure to bring even more joy to our school community.

Our Key Stage 2 children also represented the school today at District Sports at Hedingham School. A huge well done to everyone who participated – you were all fantastic!

Lastly, a massive thank you to Friends of the Primary School (FOPs) for organising our best summer fair yet! We raised an astonishing total of £3,339.30, and our heartfelt gratitude goes out to the team who stepped in at the last minute to ensure everything went smoothly. We truly appreciate your effort!

Don't forget, next Friday is the Year 6 leavers' assembly, which will begin at 9:15am. Everyone is welcome to join us in celebrating this special occasion!

Have a lovely weekend. It is set to be a scorcher!

Miss Gage

United we strive for excellence-together we shine



ATTENDANCE INFORMATION

Our schools attendance target is **96%**

	This Week Fri-Thurs	Year to date
EYFS	90%	90.80%
Infants	96.55%	94.23%
Lower Juniors	99.33%	95.91%
Upper Juniors	93.81%	94.50%
Whole School	95.79%	94.17%

Well done to Panthers who won the highest attendance award for the month of June 2025

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 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.



Gold awards 11th July 2025

Pebmarsh Cup – Foxx

Foxx, the Owlets class have nominated you to receive the Pebmarsh cup this week! They said you are really good fun to play with, you always say sorry if you accidentally hurt someone and you join in with everything. We love having you in our class Foxx!

Panthers and Koalas— The whole cast of Hairspray

Key Stage 2 - over the past few weeks every one of you have sang and danced your socks off, helping make our school show the amazing show it is. Your outfits nearly shined as much as you did! Your confidence in your performances progressed so well, the audience couldn't take their **eyes off you. We have received fantastic feedback from the audiences and we couldn't be prouder!!**

Owls – Sam – Self-motivation

Sam, you are someone who shows all of our school values all of the time. Your enthusiasm for learning is infectious and you always try your hardest. You are kind, polite and are always helping others whenever you see a need. Thank you for being you and never stop being you.

Owlets – Foxx – Self-motivation

You have been incredible with all the changes lately, and Mrs Lock was blown away with your imagination in Curious Quests. You were a superstar at sports day and have worked so hard in drawing club. Well done Foxx, we are all so proud of how far you have come this year.

Miss Gage's Shining Star of the week is:

Charlotte Hubbard and Alisha Abbott

The way you came together to support the FOPS to create the best summer fair yet! Thank you for your hard work. I am overly grateful and forever in your debt!

We're excited to invite you to our Charity Family Fun Day on Saturday, August 30th, from 11:00 AM to 4:30 PM at Rayne Village Hall & Playing Field CM77 6TX

FAMILY FUN DAY

Get ready for a day of fun, games, and excitement at our family fun day! This event is perfect for families with children of all ages and is sure to provide hours of entertainment.

In aid of locally based leading national children's heart charity



CHILDREN'S HEARTS UK

PERFORMANCES

TRADITIONAL
CARNIVAL GAMES

STEVE'S ICES

TAROT READINGS

REFRESHMENTS

RAFFLE

BOUNGY CASTLE

&
BBQ

CRAFTS

SATURDAY 30TH
AUGUST 2025

11:00 AM -
4.30 PM

RAYNE VILLAGE
HALL CM77 6TX

PROUDLY SPONSORED BY
FRIENDS OF CHILDREN'S HEARTS UK



Kemp
Co

KEYSTONE
CONSTRUCTION



£5

ENTRY PP

Includes Unlimited
Inflatable Wristband

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

There is a £15 non-refundable booking fee

**SAFER
GREENER
HEALTHIER**




Essex County Council

Essex Wildlife Trust will soon be welcoming entries to our annual art competition, **Coastal Creations**, in celebration of Essex's coastal landscapes, habitats, and species.

This competition is **open to anyone living in Essex**, and this year we will be adding a '16 and under' category. We hope that you will encourage your students to enter. They can do so individually, or you are welcome to submit group entries if you'd like to create something as a whole class or school.

The theme for the competition is 'Coastal Essex' - think orange seals, stretches of beach huts, curious crabs, soaring seabirds, sailing adventures, seagrass meadows, exquisite jellyfish and more! Artwork can be created in any manner, whether it's drawn, painted, sculpted, collaged, or sewn.

Last year, one of our winners was Abba, aged 11, from Braintree, with her painting 'Joel the hermit crab'. We have attached our poster (featuring Abba's winning artwork) for you to share with your students.

Coastal Creations

14 July - 31 August

Celebrate the magnificent marine life we have in Essex and around the UK by entering our art competition. All ages welcome.



For competition categories and prizes, visit
www.essexwt.org/coastal-creations
or scan the QR code.



Love **Essex** • Love **Wildlife**

Registered Charity No. 210065 Crab painting: Abba Ruston



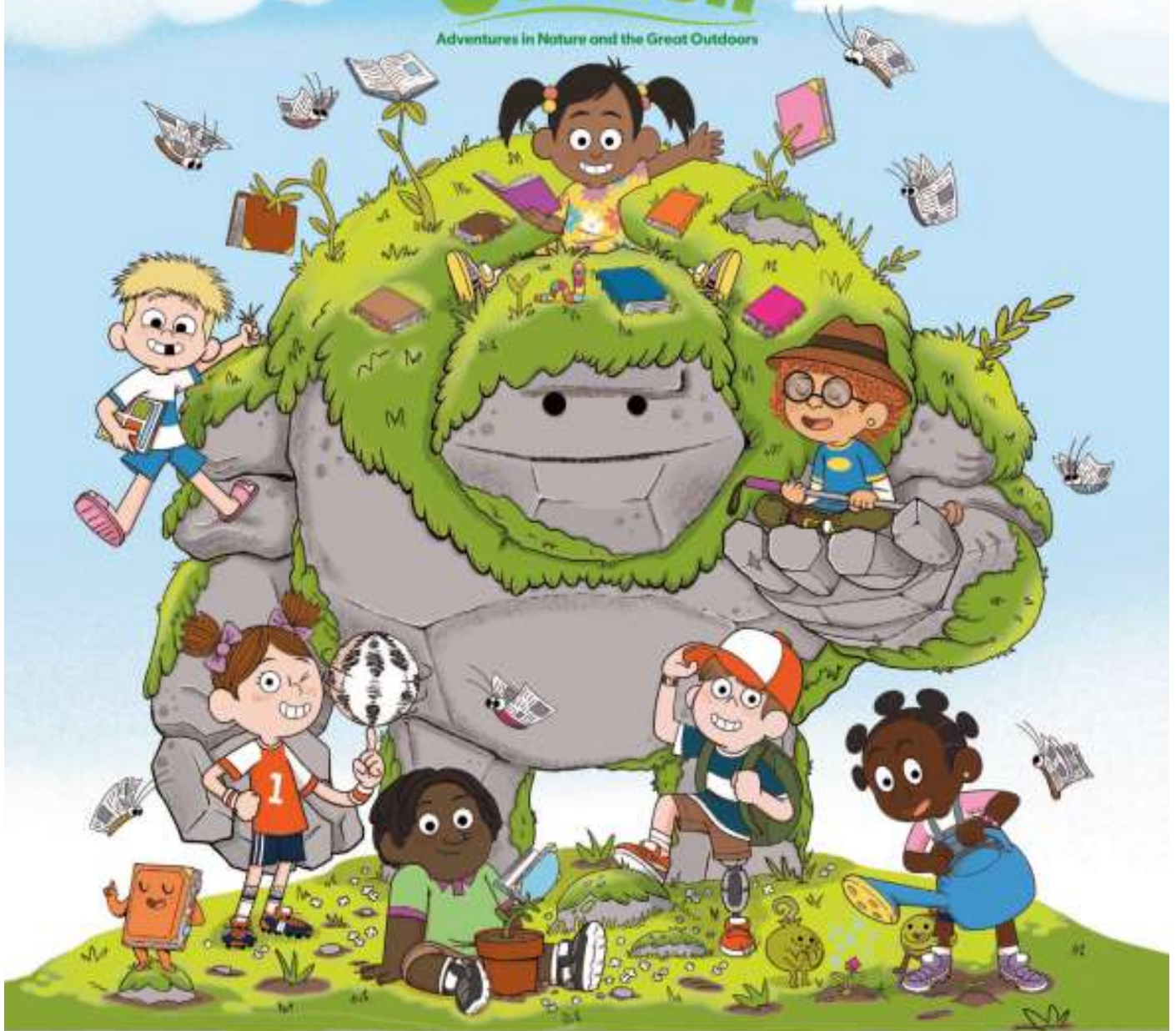
Essex
Wildlife Trust

Delivered in partnership with libraries

2025

Story Garden

Adventures in Nature and the Great Outdoors



summerreadingchallenge.org.uk

Saturday 19 July to Saturday 6 September
At your local Essex library or mobile library -
see libraries.essex.gov.uk for library opening times



Supported through public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**

Want to know more?

Visit the [official Summer Reading Challenge website](#) for free activities, videos, book recommendations and more.

Keep up-to-date! Follow @EssexLibraries on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [X](#).

What do families think?

“I never liked reading before because of this challenge I got the **courage** to read more books and I have more interest in books. This has been the **greatest experience** ever in my life to read more books than before thanks.”

“My daughter has **moved up a reading level** at school thanks to the Summer Reading Challenge!”

“As a mother of a five-year-old boy I am so happy and thankful for this free summer reading challenge. My boy was putting in effort to read the books so that he will be rewarded with a medal and certificate at the end of the reading challenge. This has **motivated** him to get reading and he was so **excited** to read more.”

“My children are reluctant to read during school holidays but the structured Summer Reading Challenge helps **overcome their reluctance**.”

“We have taken part for the last 10 years with all of my children. It’s almost a tradition to do it. **Staff were brilliant** with my autistic child.”

Dear Parent / Carer

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

What is the Summer Reading Challenge?

The Summer Reading Challenge encourages children to keep reading during the school summer holidays – and to enjoy reading anything they like! All children are invited to read books and/or complete reading-related activities, and collect rewards. It's completely **FREE** to take part.

It is an amazing way to boost children's confidence – last year 72% of children taking part felt more confident reading.

Why should my child sign up?

They will be **better prepared to return to school** in the autumn.

The Challenge **supports the move into a new year group**.

Becoming more independent in their reading boosts children's **confidence and self-esteem**.

The library provides **free access** to books and fun family activities all through the summer.

Library staff are on hand to offer support and book recommendations.

Your child will be part of a UK-wide programme developed by [The Reading Agency](#) and delivered in partnership with the [public library network](#).

How can my child take part? (Library OR online)

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

Aim to borrow and read six books (any combination of books, eBooks and audiobooks) and/or complete a range of reading-related activities.

Receive a Challenge folder and collect special stickers and rewards for reading.

OR

If you can't get to the library, take part in the **Online challenge** at: summerreadingchallenge.org.uk

Sign up on the [official Challenge website](#).

Set a reading goal and get book recommendations and tips.

Unlock digital badges and online rewards, including a printable certificate.

When?

Throughout the summer holidays from 19 July to 6 September. Unsure where your closest library is? Use the Essex Library Service [website](#) to check.

Head to your local library this summer and sign up! If you have any questions, please ask staff in the library.

We look forward to seeing you!

Best wishes

Essex Library Service

Forest School Holiday Club

Spaces are now available at the following events:

What's On at Holly's Forest Sessions 2025?

Wild Bushcraft Holiday Club - day 27/May 25

Wild Bushcraft Holiday Club - day 23/Jul 25

Wild Bushcraft Holiday Club - day 27/Aug 25

Home Ed Families - morning 22/Jul 25

Family Fun Session - morning 24/Jul 25

Birthday Parties year round: <http://www.hollysforestsessions.com/parties>

Bookings: <http://www.hollysforestsessions.com/payment>

All are welcome to book in advance onto the children's holiday club and family mornings, spaces are limited.

Holly Hilder | Forest School Leader | Holly's Forest Sessions

WEB [hollysforestsessions.com](http://www.hollysforestsessions.com)

EVENTS [facebook.com/hollysforestsessions/events](https://www.facebook.com/hollysforestsessions/events)

BOOK/PAY [hollysforestsessions.com/payment](http://www.hollysforestsessions.com/payment)

JOIN EVENTS MAILING LIST



Summer Open Days (Open 11am - 4pm)

Sunday 27th July
Tuesday 29th July
Wednesday 30th July
Sunday 3rd August
Wednesday 6th August
Thursday 7th August
Wednesday 13th August
Thursday 14th August
Sunday 17th August
Monday 18th August
Tuesday 19th August

Special Summer Events

Sunday 27th July - Outdoor Theatre: Most Perilous Comedie of Elizabeth I
Wednesday 6th August - Outdoor Theatre: Pantaloons presents Hamlet
Sunday 10th August - Classic & Vintage Car Show
Monday 18th August - Wonderland Puppet Show
Sunday 24th & Monday 25th August - Knight of Albion Joust
Friday 29th August - Fairytale Fest Suffolk

