



St John the Baptist Primary School

Friday 19th September
2025



Self-motivation Honesty Imaginative Nurturing Empathy

Dear Parents and Carers,

Another great week of learning this week! It has been absolutely lovely to see lots of yoga and relaxing breathing exercises incorporated into our daily routines, helping to keep both the minds and the spirits of our children calm and focused.

The week kicked off splendidly with a delightful lesson centred around the book *Dot*. All classes engaged in reading this charming story and then expressed their creativity by crafting their own dot creations. A massive thank you goes out to Miss King for arranging this fabulous activity; I know the children truly enjoyed it and the results were wonderfully imaginative!

A quick reminder for parents: If you receive a letter that includes a permission slip, please do not just drop it into your child's bag. Instead, we kindly ask that you hand it directly to the adult at the gate. This helps ensure that everything is collected and processed efficiently.

Also, if your child is unwell and unable to attend school, please remember to call or email the school office by no later than 9.20 am. Your cooperation with this helps us keep accurate attendance records.

Please take a moment to familiarise yourselves with the important dates listed on the back of this newsletter; it is constantly being updated to reflect our school events and activities.

We have also begun our Reception tours today, and it has been a joy to meet the new children who may soon be part of our school community. If you know anyone considering starting Reception in 2026, please do share our contact details! Or if your child has a sibling due to start, they are welcome too!

Looking ahead, next week Year 6 will be attending an exciting festival called *Let's Talk Trash*, where they will be learning about the vital topics of recycling, sustainability, and waste. It promises to be an enlightening experience!

Have a lovely weekend, Miss Gage

Diary Dates

23rd September

Let's Talk Trash day at Braxted Hall Park (Year 6)

25th September

Open Evening at Ramsey Academy 5.30pm-7.30pm for Year 7 intake 2026

2nd October

Open Evening at Hedingham & Honeywood Schools Year 7 intake 2026

7th & 8th October

Individual class photos

31st October

Year 7 applications close

United we strive for excellence-together we shine

ATTENDANCE INFORMATION

Our schools attendance target is 96%

	This Week Fri-Thurs	Year to date
EYFS	91.43%	93.37%
Infants	96.21%	98.14%
Lower Juniors	93.10%	94.83%
Upper Juniors	95%	94.94%
Whole School	93.30%	94.66%

Who will win the highest attendance this month?

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.



Panthers –Toby - Honesty

Toby, we have had a real handwriting drive since starting a few weeks ago and all the adults in Panther class have noticed the fantastic improvements you have made. This has only been possible due to your ability to reflect honestly on your previous work and make the correct adjustments to improve your handwriting. This level of honesty demonstrates who you are as a person and a learner. Keep being a fantastic role model, well done Toby!

Koalas – Theo Digby for self-motivation.

Theo, each morning you come into school with a big smile, full of positivity ready to start your day. **You always follow our school rules, constantly showing me you're ready to learn.** Mrs Bain and I have been overwhelmed with your presentation of your hard work. Keep up the hard work, we are looking forward to seeing you progress even further.

Owls –Lara – Self-motivation

Lara you have started Year 2 on a high. You are kind, polite and try your hardest at absolutely everything. You see a problem and you solution solve it without being asked. You may think that your hard work and actions go unnoticed, but Mrs Watkins and I can assure you they do not. If the world was full of Laras - what a truly beautiful place it would be.

Miss Gage's Shining Star of the week is:

Olivia H-Panther Class



It has been lovely to see you develop confidence in the morning and taking on the most important job in the world-feeding Fitz! I know he enjoys the delicious salads you have been preparing and I have heard you have been trying them too. Keep up the great and important work.





The Ramsey Academy, Halstead

Open Evening

Aspiration • Diversity • Ambition

Thursday 25 September 2025
from 5.30pm - 7.30 pm

Headteacher's talks at 5.30pm & 6.30pm

The teachers here at Ramsey continually work to learn with the knowledge that they teach us. They pour themselves into their specialised subjects and are always looking to help us achieve excellence together. - Ramsey Academy Student

Essex Fire Museum Open Days

2025



28th Of September

10:30AM To 4:00PM

Fire Station, Hogg Lane, Grays
RM17 5QS



Book Now >



Museum@essex-fire.gov.uk

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We are looking to fill 150+ School Support vacancies in local schools (e.g. SEN Support, Behaviour Mentors, 1-1 Classroom Support, Cover Supervisors etc). These roles are available in both full time and part time positions.

Please go to our website address given above, or scan the QR code for more information.

This is a 6 week course, full time, intensive course, with online guided learning sessions within school hours.

If you are earning less than £23,500 per annum or are in receipt of any benefits, you will be eligible for a fully funded place with us.



St John the Baptist Primary School

Autumn term 2025-2026

Date	Yr Group	Event
2nd September	Whole school	Back to school for Autumn Term
4 th September	Koalas	Forest School
11 th September	Owls	Forest School
17th September	Panthers	Meeting regarding residential trip 3.20pm
18 th September	Panthers	Forest School
23rd September	Year 6	Let' Talk Trash day at Braxted Hall Park
25 th September	Owls	Forest School
1st October	Panthers	Residential to PGL
2nd October	Koalas	Forest School
7 th & 8 th October	Whole school	Individual class photographs
8th October	Whole school	9.15am -Harvest Festival in church –all welcome
9 th October	Owls	Forest School
16 th October	Panthers	Forest School
20 th & 21 st October	Panthers	Bikeability course (for children who have already signed up)
23 rd October	Owls	Forest School
24 th October	Whole school	Break up for half term
31st October	Year 6	Secondary school applications close
		Half Term
3 rd November	Whole school	Non pupil day
6 th November	Koalas	Forest School
12 th November	Owlets	Road safety presentation (parents welcome) 8.55am
13 th November	Owls	Forest School
14th November	Whole school	World Diabetes Day—sponsored walk
17th November	Owls	Parents' consultations 8.40am-12.00pm & 1pm-3pm
18th November	Owlets	Parents' consultations 8.40am-12.00pm
19th November	Koalas	Parents' consultations 8.40am-12.00pm & 1pm-3pm
20th November	Panthers	Parents' consultations 8.40am-12.00pm & 1.00pm-3pm
20 th November	Panthers	Forest School
27 th November	Owls	Forest School
28th November	Whole school	Pantomime Trip to Theatre Royal, Bury St Edmunds
4 th December	Koalas	Forest School
8th December	EYFS & KS1	9.00am Nativity dress rehearsal
9th December	EYFS & KS1	Nativity performance in church at 2pm
10th December	EYFS & KS1	Nativity performance in church at 9.30am
11 th December	Owls	Forest School
17th December	KS2	9.15am—Carol concert in church—all welcome