



St John the Baptist Primary School

Friday 26th September
2025



Self-motivation Honesty Imaginative Nurturing Empathy

Dear Parents and Carers,

Another busy week has whizzed by at our lovely school, and it's fantastic to see so many happy faces! This past Tuesday, Mrs Lincoln and I were privileged to take our Year 6 children to Braxted Park Hall for 'Let's Talk Trash Day.' Panthers truly shone as role models, showcasing their commitment to environmental awareness. We have already signed up for next year so let's hope we have a great time again!

Today, Captain America visited Owlets for a birthday party. The children have been working incredibly hard all day baking food for him to eat, I hope he returns next year (Can you please bring Thor next time as well?)

Next week promises to be just as exciting, as Panther class embarks on their much-anticipated residential trip to PGL in Bawdsey Manor. We can hardly wait to hear all about their adventures and experiences with the various activities they will undertake. I am particularly excited, as I will be joining them on Thursday alongside Mrs Jinks. It's always a joy to participate in these experiences and see the children thrive in a different setting!

As we continue to encourage punctuality, please remember that the school gates close promptly at 8.55am. We truly appreciate your support in ensuring that all children arrive on time, as late arrivals can disrupt the whole class and aren't the best start to anyone's day—emergencies aside, of course!

Lastly, a gentle reminder to keep an eye on your Dojo messages regarding PE days and Forest School days, so your child is prepared and ready for each exciting day ahead. If they do not have the correct kit then they will not participate in the lesson.

I have been lucky enough to host a number of parent tours this week and it has been lovely to see the learning going on in the classroom. A particular delightful moment was when Mrs Lock was reading aloud a sentence that said this, 'I like bogey soup because it is green!' Our prospective parents found it hilarious! Another highlight was in Koala class seeing the children film their BREAKING NEWS storied as real life news presenters. Everyone was enthralled by their learning. If you have a child due to start primary school in September 2026, we would love to hear from you! Please contact the school office, and we can arrange a delightful tour for your little one.

Wishing you all a fantastic weekend!
Miss Gage

Diary Dates

1st-3rd October

Panther class residential

2nd October

Open Evening at Hedingham &
Honywood Schools Year 7 intake
2026

7th & 8th October

Individual class photos

31st October

Year 7 applications close

10th November

Applications for primary school
place September 2026 open

United we strive for excellence-together we shine

ATTENDANCE INFORMATION

Our schools attendance target is 96%

	This Week Fri-Thurs	Year to date
EYFS	98.46%	94.72%
Infants	94%	94.63%
Lower Juniors	99.31%	95.98%
Upper Juniors	92%	93.26%
Whole School	94.69%	93.73%

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.



Gold awards 26th September 2025

Pebmarsh cup - Pebmarsh cup - Freya

This week the Koala class have nominated you Freya to receive the Pebmarsh Cup. Your friends have described you as a nurturing, kind and loving individual who goes out of her way to help others, making sure everyone is included and no one is left out. The children believe that you have a real grown up side to you, making you a great role model for others to follow. Your class wants to thank you for all the help you have given them in the classroom and for all the fun times you have shared in the playground.

Panthers –Indie for self-motivation

Indie, since joining Panther class you have taken full responsibility for your learning, and it has shown. You have made fantastic progress due to your hard work at school and at home. This has shown not only in your work but also in your confidence and it is fantastic to see you embrace challenges. Well done on a fantastic start to life in Panther class! Keep it going!

Koalas – Sam for being self-motivation

Sam, since joining the Koala class you have been eager and curious to deepen your learning. You are constantly sharing your knowledge and experiences, contributing well to our lessons in a confident and interesting way. You have come a long way since joining Koala class, impressing not only your friends but also the adults. Keep up the hard work.

Owls –Phoebe – self motivation

Phoebe you light up any classroom. You are a happy, focussed, self-motivated learner with a love of learning. It is a real pleasure to have you in our class. This week you have absolutely smashed the Curious Quest challenge from the Faithful Friends to put spaces between your words. WOW. Well done Phoebe.

Miss Gage's Shining Star of the week is:

Teddie-Owlets



You have been very brave walking in by yourself this week and leaving Mum at the gate. It is lovely to see your confidence so early in the term. Maybe next week you can carry your things as well, poor Mummy follows you like a personal butler! Keep up the great work Teddie!





HEDINGHAM SCHOOL
AND SIXTH FORM

Join us at our **Open Evening** on
Thursday 2 October 2025
5.00 - 8.00PM

Our Open Evening is rapidly approaching and we are really excited to show you what we can offer here at Hedingham School

Choosing a secondary school is a big decision, and our Open Evening is a fantastic way to meet our staff and students

Join us for one of the Headteacher's presentations at either 5.30pm or 6.30pm in the Main Hall

School tours will commence on Monday 6 October
Tours can be booked via our website from Monday 29 September



www.hedingham.essex.sch.uk

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