



# St John the Baptist Primary School

Friday 9th January 2026

## Diary Dates

**W/C 12th January**

After school clubs start

**21st January**

Young Voices concert at the O2



Self-motivation Honesty Imaginative Nurturing Empathy

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year to each and every one of you! I hope 2026 brings you all peace and happiness. It has been lovely seeing everyone back in school and hearing all about the children's Christmas and New Year celebrations.

This week, Koala class were lucky enough to jet off on a Jet2 holiday on Thursday, exploring all around Europe. They enjoyed inflight snacks and had a great time! I am eagerly awaiting a postcard from their trip to share with you all.

Looking ahead, Thursday next week is Times Table Rockstar Day! We are looking forward to seeing everyone dress up and show off their rockstar spirit. It promises to be a fun-filled day!

We started the week with swimming lessons for the Koalas, and we are ending it with some very exciting news to share with you. Miss Batten-Jones is expecting a baby later on in the year! We are all so excited to welcome her new arrival in the summer term.

Please take a moment to look at page 4 for advice on childhood illnesses. This information should help you determine whether or not to send your child to school, but please do always contact the school office if you are in any doubt.

Club letters were sent out this week, and if you haven't done so already, please sign your child up as spaces are limited and we operate on a first come, first served basis.

On page 5, you will find an advert from the Elizabeth School of Dance, who are running a dance club on the Monday of the February half term. It's a fantastic opportunity for our budding dancers!

Finally, on the last page of this newsletter, you will find the dates for parents' evening consultations. These will be held during the school day, with one early evening date available. Please make a note of your child's class allocated date, as time slots will be allocated closer to the day.

Wishing you all a wonderful week ahead!

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	92.86%	95.76%
Infants	88.79%	94.53%
Lower Juniors	91.81%	95.94%
Upper Juniors	94.06%	94.87%
Whole School	91.65%	95.21%

Congratulations to KOALA CLASS for the highest attendance in December!

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.



## Gold awards 9<sup>th</sup> January 2026

### Pebmarsh Cup - Mariella

Mariella, your class have nominated you for the Pebmarsh cup. They have said that you are kind and a great friend who is always fun to play with and very welcoming. Your classmates say that you are a lovely person to be around who is always willing to help others with their work whilst setting a great example with your own work. Your class also think you are very funny and say that you brighten their day! Well done Mariella!

### **Panthers - Stan: Self-motivation.**

Stan, you have had a fantastic start to the new year! You have applied yourself brilliantly in lessons showing great focus and making mature decisions to help your learning. This has shown in your work as the great care you have taken has produced some incredible results, especially when writing your Cinquain. Well done Stan, keep this brilliant start to the new year going!

### **Koalas – Amber for Self-motivation.**

Amber, you have fostered such a positive and enthusiastic attitude towards your learning, and it truly shows each and every day. You come into the classroom eager to learn, ready to take on new challenges, and excited to share your knowledge and ideas with the rest of the class in such a thoughtful and articulate way. Your confidence allows you to express yourself clearly and respectfully, and it encourages others to do the same. You are a confident and capable individual who brings a wonderful spark to our classroom, lighting it up with your energy, curiosity, and positive mindset.

### **Owls – Herbie for Self-motivation and imaginative**

Herbie you have come back after the Christmas holidays absolutely on fire with your learning. Your imagination knows no bounds and we have given you a challenge too about capital letters and you are absolutely determined to meet it. You have been eager to share your knowledge with us all about any topic we have touched on and have had a smile on your face that beams from ear to ear which is infectious! You are a superstar. Well done

### **Owlets – Albie for Self-motivation**

Albie, you have come back to school after Christmas and are making all the right choices. You are sitting beautifully and you have an amazing attitude towards your learning. You are a good friend to everyone in the class and an even greater role model.

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

### **Amber-Koala class**



**You have blown me away this week with your dedication to your times tables. I have seen so much progress in only a week! I hope that on TTRS you become a Rock Legend and one day you may even be the fastest one in the school!**



# What to do

## Advice on childhood illnesses



Go to school; if needed, get treatment as required



Some restrictions for school attendance



Don't go to school and see the GP

What it's called?	What it's like	Going to school	Getting treatment	More advice
<b>Asthma flare up</b>	Worsening of usual symptoms		Follow your care plan	Stay off school if feeling too unwell
<b>Chicken pox</b>	Rash begins as small, red, flat spots that develop into itchy fluid-filled blisters		Pharmacy	Back to school five days after on-set of the rash, or when all lesions are crusted over
<b>Common cold</b>	Runny nose, sneezing, sore throat		Pharmacy	Ensure good hand hygiene
<b>Conjunctivitis</b>	Teary, red, itchy, painful eye(s)		Pharmacy	Try not to touch eye to avoid spreading*
<b>Flu</b>	Fever, cough, sneezing, runny nose, headache, body aches and pain, exhaustion, sore throat		Pharmacy	Ensure good hand hygiene*
<b>German measles/ Rubella</b>	Fever, tiredness. Raised, red, rash that starts on the face and spreads downwards		GP	Back to school four days after the rash has started, if feeling well enough. Please let the school know, as pregnant members of staff may be affected.
<b>Glandular fever</b>	High temperature, swollen glands, sore throat; usually more painful than any before		GP	*
<b>Hand, foot &amp; mouth disease</b>	Fever, sore throat, headache, small painful blisters inside the mouth on tongue and gums (may appear on hands and feet)		GP	Attend school while monitoring symptoms
<b>Head lice</b>	Itchy scalp (may be worse at night)		Pharmacy	
<b>Impetigo</b>	Clusters of red bumps or blisters surrounded by area of redness		GP	Back to school when lesions crust or 48 hours after start of antibiotics
<b>Measles</b>	Fever, cough, runny nose, watery inflamed eyes, rash		GP	Back to school four days from on-set of rash, and if feeling well enough
<b>Ringworm</b>	Red ring shaped rash, may be itchy, rash may be dry and scaly or wet and crusty		Pharmacy	
<b>Scabies</b>	Itching rash, commonly between fingers, wrists, elbows, arm		GP	Back to school after first treatment
<b>Scarlet fever</b>	Fever, unwell, red tongue, sandpaper rash		GP	Exclusion period during first 24 hours of antibiotics*
<b>Shingles</b>	Pain, itching, or tingling along the affected nerve pathway. Blister-type rash		GP	Only stay off school if rash is weeping and cannot be covered
<b>Sickness bug/ diarrhoea</b>	Stomach cramps, nausea, vomiting and diarrhoea		Pharmacy	Contact GP if symptoms persist after 48 hours
<b>Threadworms</b>	Intense itchiness around anus		Pharmacy	Ensure good hand hygiene
<b>Tonsillitis/ Strep throat</b>	Intense sore throat for more than 1 day		Pharmacy	See GP if temperature lasts more than 48 hours or cannot swallow. Only need to stay off school if feeling too unwell
<b>Whooping cough</b>	Violent coughing, with a 'whoop'		GP	Exclusion period during first five days of antibiotics
<b>Covid</b>				Visit <a href="https://www.nhs.uk">www.nhs.uk</a> for latest guidance

\*Attend school while monitoring symptoms.

This information is a guide and has been checked by health professionals. If you are unsure about your child's wellbeing, we recommend you contact your pharmacy or GP to check.

Working in partnership with

Should my child go to school/nursery today?

Hertfordshire and West Essex Healthier Together for further information

<https://www.hwehealthiertogether.nhs.uk/parents/carers>



Essex County Council

# KPOP DEMON HUNTERS

BOOK NOW!

DANCE CAMP



MONDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY

COLNE ENGAINE VILLAGE HALL

9AM - 3PM

4 - 11 YEARS

£26

PERFORMANCE AT 2:45PM

DANCING

ARTS & CRAFTS

GAMES

To book or enquire please email  
[info@elizabethschoolofdance.com](mailto:info@elizabethschoolofdance.com)

Elizabeth  
School of  
Dance



Course Code	Course Name	Start Date	End Date	Venue	Start Time	End Time
HO5C40OL25	FL Sibling Rivalry	12/01/2026	19/01/2026	Online Live	09:30	11:30
HO2C40OL25	FL Managing Big Emotions	13/01/2026	20/01/2026	Online Live	19:00	21:00
HO2A40OL25	FL About Boys Course 5-11	13/01/2026	03/02/2026	Online Live	09:45	11:45
HO2C44OL25	FL Sibling Rivalry	13/01/2026	13/01/2026	Online Live	19:00	21:00
HO2C42OL25	FL About Boys Course 5-11	14/01/2026	04/02/2026	Online Live	19:00	21:00
HO3A43OL25	FL ESOL for Parents	14/01/2026	11/02/2026	Online Live	09:30	11:30
HO4B41OL25	FL Setting Boundaries	15/01/2026	22/01/2026	Online Live	13:00	15:00
HO4C42OL25	FL Zones of Regulation	15/01/2026	15/01/2026	Online Live	19:00	21:00
HO4C52OL25	FL Praise, Rewards and Limit Setting	15/01/2026	15/01/2026	Online Live	19:00	21:00
HO5C41OL25	FL Understanding Neurodivergent Children	16/01/2026	27/02/2026	Online Live	18:00	20:00
HO1A40OL25	FL ESOL for Parents	19/01/2026	09/02/2026	Online Live	10:00	12:00
HO1B40OL25	FL ESOL for Parents	19/01/2026	09/02/2026	Online Live	13:00	15:00
HO2A42OL25	FL ESOL for Parents	20/01/2026	10/02/2026	Online Live	10:00	12:00
HO2B42OL25	FL ESOL for Parents	20/01/2026	10/02/2026	Online Live	13:00	15:00
HO3C40OL25	FL ESOL for Families	21/01/2026	04/03/2026	Online Live	18:00	20:00
HO4C53OL25	FL Talking So Your Children Will Listen	22/01/2026	29/01/2026	Online Live	19:00	21:00
HO4C44OL25	FL Fussy Eaters	22/01/2026	22/01/2026	Online Live	19:00	21:00
HO4A45OL25	FL SEND Support for Families	22/01/2026	12/02/2026	Online Live	09:45	11:45
HO4A50OL25	FL ESOL for Parents	22/01/2026	12/02/2026	Online Live	10:00	12:00
HO4B42OL25	FL ESOL for Parents	22/01/2026	12/02/2026	Online Live	13:00	15:00
HO5B40OL25	FL Zones of Regulation	23/01/2026	23/01/2026	Online Live	12:30	14:30
HO5A44OL25	FL ESOL for Parents	23/01/2026	13/02/2026	Online Live	10:00	12:00
HO5B46OL25	FL ESOL for Parents	23/01/2026	13/02/2026	Online Live	13:00	15:00
HO2C45OL25	FL Managing Anger in Young People	27/01/2026	03/02/2026	Online Live	19:00	21:00
HO5B48OL25	FL Sibling Rivalry	30/01/2026	30/01/2026	Online Live	12:30	14:30

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