



St John the Baptist Primary School

Friday 23rd January 2026

Diary Dates

13th February

Break up for half term

23rd February

Back to school-

ALL CHILDREN WILL NEED

A PACKED LUNCH



Self-motivation Honesty Imaginative Nurturing Empathy

Dear Parents and Cares,

What a brilliant time our school choir had at the O2 on Wednesday, when they performed in the Young Voices concert! We made some fabulous memories that will last a lifetime. Thank you to every single adult that made it happen. Shall we go again next year?

Eco club held a protest on Thursday 'Engine off, when you drop off!' please follow this link to pledge to turn your engine off. <http://www.braintree.gov.uk/dropoffpledge> How many people can we get to sign up?

You may have seen on the diary dates that all children will need a packed lunch on Monday 23rd February—this is the first day back after the February half term break. Parentpay will not let you order a meal but please don't think it's a non-pupil day!

Please see page 4 for details of Pebmarsh Youth club that takes place in the village hall every other Tuesday. This is a provision run by our local community and if numbers do not increase it is at risk of closing.

If you are looking for childcare, or just something for the children to do during half term, please page 5—our wraparound care provider, Little Oaks are running a holiday club.

Parents evening consultations will take place after the half term break, please see the back page for dates for your child's class. Appointment slots will be released when we return to school after the half term break.

Next week is set to be an exciting week as we have a car show being held at the King's Head. This is going to be a great day for the children, thank you to people in the community who may be bringing along an amazing vehicle to support the learning of our children.

Have a lovely weekend

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 | 88.57% | 95.11% |
| Infants | 95.64% | 94.27% |
| Lower Juniors | 97.59% | 96.03% |
| Upper Juniors | 98.40% | 95.07% |
| Whole School | 95.91% | 95.12% |

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 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 23rd January 2026

Pebmarsh Cup – Frankie W

Frankie you have been chosen by your class mates to be Owl Class Pebmarsh Cup winner this week. Your friends say you are kind, that you make them laugh and that you are always looking out for them. They have also noticed that you are really trying with your work and they are impressed at this. Well done Frankie.

Panthers – Young Voices Choir

Well done to each and every one of our Choir members, how beautifully you all behaved and performed at the O2 on Wednesday! You made us so proud with your passion for singing, dancing and performing and you nearly blew the roof off the O2! Well done!

Koalas – Delilah for Honesty

Delilah, you have settled into the Koala class beautifully. Whenever you are unsure about something or face a challenge, you always give it a go and then confidently ask for help when needed. You have handled changes in your life extremely well and have shown wonderful communication skills by sharing your feelings, talking through any concerns, and working to find positive solutions. Keep up the fantastic effort and continue nurturing the positive mindset you've been developing. Well done!

Owls – Beatrice – Self-motivation

Beatrice, you have been trying hard in SO many areas of your learning. It has been really noticeable in your sessions with Mrs Watkins, and I was really impressed this week with your writing about Sir William Fitzralph and the precise and accurate verbs you used. In Maths you organised your working out and thinking in a fantastic way when dividing by 2, 5 and 10. Your hard work has not gone unnoticed. Keep shining brightly.

Owlets – Georgia for Self-motivation.

You consistently try your best and always ask for extra challenges and never give up. You are always there as a helping hand ready to put Miss Bush and Mrs Stacey out of a job! Keep being you Georgia, you are an incredible role model and learner. Well done

Miss Gage's Shining Star of the week is:

Wendy (Oliver's Mum)



Thank you for all of the hours of choir teaching you have put into our lovely choir and then coming along to the O2 with us. I really could not have done it without you!



JOIN THE PEBMARSH YOUTH CLUB!

COME AND JOIN THE FUN

LET KIDS BE KIDS, PLAYING, CHATTING, AND HAVING
FUN IN A SAFE, WELCOMING SPACE.

IT'S TIME FOR FUN, LAUGHTER, AND REAL FRIENDSHIPS. OUR YOUTH
CLUB GIVES CHILDREN AGES 8 - 13 A CHANCE TO STEP AWAY FROM
MOBILE PHONES, MAKE NEW FRIENDS, AND ENJOY ACTIVITIES
TOGETHER.



LOCATED AT PEBMARSH VILLAGE HALL (NEXT TO THE PRIMARY SCHOOL)

EVERY OTHER THURSDAY

THE 4:30 - 8:30 PM

CONTACT: CAROL PARSONS

VIA THE PEBMARSH YOUTH CLUB PAGE ON FACEBOOK



FEBRUARY HALF TERM 2026

Little Oaks Holiday Club



**Action packed
holiday club**

Mon 16th Feb
Tues 17th Feb
Wed 18th Feb
Thurs 19th Feb

Whacky STEM
Outdoor adventures
Arts & Craft
Baking fun
Engineering challenges

**Belchamp St Paul Primary
School, CO10 7BP**

8.30am-3.30pm

Open to all local children
aged 3-11 years old.

BOOK NOW

belchamp@littleoakskids.com

Fun activities each day including:
Arts & Crafts, Baking, Whacky Science, Exploring Nature,
Engineering fun, Forest School and more!

littleoakskids.com/holiday-clubs | 07704 296484

