



# St John the Baptist Primary School

Friday 20th March 2026



Self-motivation Honesty Imaginative Nurturing Empathy

Dear Parents and Carers,

I cannot believe we are breaking up again next week! This half term has whizzed by, and Spring is well and truly on its way—just one more week, and we can put the clocks forward to enjoy longer, lighter (and hopefully warmer) evenings!

A huge thank you to the Holmes family for their pizza making skills on Monday afternoon. They tasted and smelt delicious. We are very lucky to have you in our school community.

A heartfelt thank you to all our parents and carers who attended the parents' consultation meetings this week. We loved sharing your child's progress with you and appreciate your ongoing support.

Next week, our Owls and Panthers are off to IWM Duxford, and we are all so excited for them! We can't wait to hear all about their day out and the wonderful experiences they will have.

We would like to invite everyone to our Easter service in church on Thursday at 9.15 am. This is a significant date in the Church year where we learn about and reflect on new life. The children have also been invited to visit the baby lambs after the service, which is always a highlight of the year!

## Diary Dates

### **25th March**

Panthers and Owls to  
IWM, Duxford

### **26th March**

Easter Service in church  
9.15am—all welcome

### **27th March**

Break up for Easter

### **13th April**

Return to school

Club letters have gone out today, and clubs will start in the first week back after Easter. As always, please return your forms as soon as possible to secure a place, as they will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. Look out for some exciting new clubs that will be starting!

Changes are coming to our wrap-around care, and we would love to hear your thoughts on this. Please complete this form if you currently use the provision or even if you think you might one day. We want to ensure we provide the best offer for our school community. [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdUx8EM7X9DbK\\_zvYUDQI-4P0r8TuxoVLUovYnKweAKHbH0Cw/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdUx8EM7X9DbK_zvYUDQI-4P0r8TuxoVLUovYnKweAKHbH0Cw/viewform)

We are also pleased to welcome Ms Keeble to our team! She will be part of our midday team, looking after the children at lunchtime. We are thrilled to have her as part of our school community and know she will be a true asset.

Lastly, we are excited to announce parent tours for current parents to view the school and learn about different subjects. More information will be available on Class Dojo, and you can contact the school office to book your place. This is an exciting opportunity to come and see what learning looks like at St John the Baptist and is from feedback received from the parent survey, earlier in the term. Please think about the wellbeing of your child and booking a tour, if it is going to upset their day, then please do not book it.

Wishing you all 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	87.86%	92.96%
Infants	96.79%	94.06%
Lower Juniors	95.67%	95.97%
Upper Juniors	96.80%	94.99%
Whole School	95.15%	94.72%

Congratulations to KOALA CLASS for the highest attendance in February!

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 permitted but they must be black with no other colours. Otherwise, black shoes must be worn.

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 - parents will be informed via email and Class Dojo

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 20<sup>th</sup> March 2026

### Pebmarsh Cup – Georgia

You have been chosen to receive the Pebmarsh cup this week! Your class friends say it is because you are always nice and play with everyone, you work hard, and when people are hurt, you help them. They also say you are kind, and fun to play with. How lucky we are to have you in our class, Georgia!

### **Panthers -Edie – Self-motivation**

Since joining Panther class, you have fully embraced what it means to be a Year Five learner and have taken it upon yourself to always produce the best work possible. Earlier in the year this willingness to succeed led to you being reluctant to ask questions as you wanted to be as independent as possible! However, recently (After a few chats with myself and Mrs Lincoln) you have realised that it is okay to ask for help and in fact it is the best way to succeed! Myself and Mrs Lincoln have both noticed the impact that this has already made, and we hope that you continue to be reflective and seek support with your learning, as that is what makes the best learners! Well done for being honest and reflective Edi, keep being your fantastic self!

### **Koalas – Olivia – Nurturing**

Olivia, you are always kind and caring to others. You are a great friend who helps the class when they need it and makes sure no one feels left out. You use kind words, listen to others, and always try to make people feel happy and safe. Your caring nature makes our classroom a better place, and you are a fantastic role model for everyone. Keep being the wonderful and caring friend you really are.

### **Owls – Idris – Self-motivation**

Idris, you have been amazing this week at absolutely everything. You have a fantastic imagination and creativity and you have a developing ability to think outside of the box. You have grown in confidence and love a good joke. You are also a fountain of general knowledge and every day can be a learning day with you. Keep being you Idris - because you are awesome.

### **Owlets – Isobel – Self motivation**

You have wowed us with your independence and fantastic phonics knowledge which has been showing in drawing club. Your ideas and imagination have not gone unnoticed. You have been extra kind to everyone in the class whenever they need help.

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

**Dave, Kate and Robin Holmes**

**Thank you for giving your time, energy, money and LOTS of patience on Monday for the pizza making with Koalas. They loved it and so did we. Please collect your stars from me and send me a family photo for my door!**



# St John Baptist School Pebmarsh



**Mr Nichols is  
running the marathon.**

Halstead Marathon – 10<sup>th</sup> May

Follow the website to  
donate towards his efforts  
and our new climbing frame.



**PLEASE DONATE:** [www.justgiving.com/crowdfundig/mer8onrfl0s](http://www.justgiving.com/crowdfundig/mer8onrfl0s)

# ADHD INFORMATION EVENING



Thursday, 16<sup>th</sup> April, 5 – 6.30 pm

Venue: St Peter's Primary School, Sible Hedingham

**Led by Steve Challen from ADHD+ and Sally Grainger from  
SEND IASS**

ADHD+ Support are based in Chelmsford, Essex. They are a charitable organisation, with a primary aim of providing information, support and services to those with ADHD and its many associated and co-existing conditions. They are primarily run by volunteers with a personal connection to these conditions.

Their work is with those who have or are in the process of obtaining a diagnosis of ADHD, their families, parents/guardians, and professionals, to help find and provide better ways to cope with the day-to-day struggles.

**This is an adult-only event.**

The school will be running a childcare facility for school-aged children. This will take place in the school library and will include some colouring and a film. Please email the address below to book a space for your child/children. Spaces will be limited to 12 children on a first come first served basis.

**All welcome, including family and friends. To book a space, please email**

**Sue Craig at**

**[scraig@st-peters.essex.sch.uk](mailto:scraig@st-peters.essex.sch.uk)**

**with the number of people in your party.**



# The holidays are fast-approaching

Are you *looking* for something for your child to do during this time?

Why not sign them up to one of our Bikeability Courses.

- Chelmsford
- Harlow
- Witham
- Colchester
- Uttlesford



Please see below the link to book Easter holiday courses:  
<https://essex.cycleready.co.uk/publicbooking>



PRIMARY EDUCATION

# EASTER MULTISPORTS CAMP

30th March - 7th April

**BRAINTREE**  
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PRIMARY SCHOOL

**DUNMOW**  
DUNMOW LEISURE  
CENTRE

**HEDINGHAM**  
ST PETER'S  
PRIMARY SCHOOL

**DISCOUNT CODE: EARLYBIRD25**

25% OFF WHEN YOU BOOK BEFORE 15<sup>TH</sup> MARCH

SCAN  
ME!



**AGES 5-11 YEARS**  
8:00AM - 5:00PM



## ACTIVITIES

- LASER TAG
- ARTS AND CRAFTS
- EASTER THEMED BAKING
- EGG HUNT
- GLOW DODGEBALL
- RACKET SPORTS
- INVASION GAMES
- AND MUCH MORE .....

GIVE YOUR CHILD AN EASTER PACKED  
WITH FUN,  
FRIENDSHIPS AND ACTIVITY!

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PARENT FEEDBACK - FEB 26

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VOUCHERS WHEN BOOKING

EGG HUNT



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