



# St John the Baptist Primary School

Friday 17th April 2026

## Diary Dates

**30th April**

Koalas trip to the  
British Museum

**10th May**

Halstead marathon  
(Mr Nichols is partici-  
pating!)



Self-motivation Honesty Imaginative Nurturing Empathy

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you all had a wonderful first week back at school! It has been an exciting time as we celebrated British Science Week, with the theme of curiosity sparking lots of questions and enthusiasm among our students. It's heartening to see their inquisitive minds at work!

Our Eco Club had a fantastic outing to Cressing Temple Barns today, where they presented their project to support birds and nature in our school. They had to present in front of ten other schools, which was quite a challenge! We are so proud to announce they secured £115 for their project!

On a different note, we've received feedback from villagers regarding parking issues, particularly near the war memorial. We want to ensure the safety of our community and keep our neighbours happy, so we kindly ask all parents to avoid parking in these areas. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated!

Exciting news! Our very own Mr Nichols is gearing up to run a marathon soon. We encourage everyone to support him by donating through the link provided. All funds raised will go towards our new climbing equipment, which we know the children will love!

Lastly, we're thrilled to announce that our kitchen renovations are complete! We will soon be appointing a new Catering Manager, and we look forward to sharing more about our improved meal offerings.

If you're looking for something fun to do over the upcoming bank holiday weekend, don't forget to check page 5 for an exciting event hosted by Hedingham Castle.

Thank you for your continued support!

Warm regards,

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	87.67%	91.8%
Infants	95.28%	93.86%
Lower Juniors	95.04%	95.85%
Upper Juniors	98.40%	95.19%
Whole School	91.95%	94.17%

Congratulations to OWLS CLASS for the highest attendance in March!

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 17<sup>th</sup> April 2026

### **Pebmarsh Cup – Daisy in Koalas**

Daisy, you have been chosen by the Koala Class to win the Pebmarsh cup this week! They say you represent all our school values, especially empathy, nurturing, imaginative and honesty. You are also kind and caring. You have determination, and when we tried Origami, you just kept going and tried your hardest. We love having you in our class Daisy!

### **Panthers -Jonty Self-motivation**

Jonty, you have had a fantastic start to this half term. Not only have you come into school with a positive attitude you are also embracing the learning in Panther class and making fantastic progress because of this. Despite it being a term away, you have shown the maturity and determination of a Year Six learner. This is fantastic to witness and will benefit you greatly come September. Well done Jonty, keep up this fantastic attitude towards school and learning!

### **Koalas – George - Self-motivation**

You have blown us all away this week with your self-motivation to work hard and also support your friends. This was very obvious during our difficult origami lesson when you took it upon yourself to help everyone that needed it. You are an absolute super star and we are lucky to have you in the class.

### **Owls – Mark - Self-motivation**

Mark, you have worked hard in Owl Class since joining us. You work hard in school and you have been working really hard at home too. All your hard work is paying off and starting to shine through in your reading, writing and maths work. The difference is incredible. And all with a smile on your face too. Well done Mark. Keep going.

### **Owlets – Oscar W**

You have transitioned beautifully back into school since Easter, you have been a great friend, and you are trying your best which we have really noticed in all areas of your learning. Well done Oscar, keep being you

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

### **Steve Dwyer**



Steve is one of our parents who supported us in painting and decorating our new wellbeing space. His company covered all of the costs and we are very grateful! It looks incredible. Thank you!



# 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)

# WILD KEEP WEEKEND

Nature, Craft, Heritage

3 & 4 MAY

USE CODE  
PEB10  
FOR 10% OFF  
ENTRY PASSES



GET HANDS-ON WITH NATURE AND TRADITIONAL CRAFTS  
AT THIS BRAND NEW FAMILY FESTIVAL AT HEDINGHAM CASTLE!  
LOTS TO SEE AND DO FOR ALL AGES!

# 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.**



