



St John the Baptist Primary School

Friday 24th April 2026



Self-motivation Honesty Imaginative Nurturing Empathy

Dear Parents and Guardians,

What a fantastic week we've had at school! We wrapped up our Indian dancing sessions, and I must say, the children were absolutely brilliant. Their enthusiasm and energy lit up the hall, and it was wonderful to see them embracing the culture through dance. A big thank you to everyone who supported this initiative!

If your child loves to sing, there are still spaces available in our Choir Club! It's a wonderful opportunity for them to express themselves musically and make new friends. If you're interested, please don't hesitate to contact the school office for more information.

In other news, we want to inform you that there will be changes to our wrap-around care. Please check your email on Class Dojo for the latest updates. It's important to note that you will need to re-register before the 10th of May. If you have any questions or need assistance, feel free to reach out.

Exciting times are ahead as we count down to the Halstead marathon! With only 2 weeks and 2 days to go, we can't wait to cheer on Mr Nichols. We've attached a map of the course on page 5 for anyone wishing to come along and support him on the day. If you would like to contribute to his fundraising efforts, here's the link: [JustGiving - Mr Nichols](#).

Next week, we'll be welcoming parents into our classrooms to see our learning. If you're interested in joining us, please let me know as I still have some space available for the reading tour next week.

As the weather warms up, the children are relishing their time outside. To enhance their outdoor play, our dressing-up box is in need of a little replenishment. If you have any costumes or accessories that you could donate, we would greatly appreciate it!

Our book fair has arrived, please do come and have a look and maybe purchase something, it is here for one week.

Thank you for your continued support and involvement in our school community.

Warm re- [United we strive for excellence-together we shine](#) gards,

Miss Gage

Diary Dates

24th April

Book fair in school

30th April

Koalas trip to the
British Museum

10th May

Halstead marathon
(Mr Nichols is participating!)

21st May

Panther Class Trip to
Braintree Museum

ATTENDANCE INFORMATION

Our schools attendance target is 96%

| | This Week Fri-Thurs | Year to date |
|---------------|------------------------|--------------|
| EYFS | 95.38% | 92.11% |
| Infants | 96.44% | 94.38% |
| Lower Juniors | 97.33% | 95.9% |
| Upper Juniors | 93.6% | 95.51% |
| Whole School | 94.34% | 94.48% |

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 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 24th April 2026

Pebmarsh Cup – Amelia

Amelia, this week, the Panthers have voted for you to receive the Pebmarsh Cup. They say you are a good and kind friend, you make them laugh and you are so funny! You always try your hardest. They have noticed you put your hand up more and have become much more courageous and resilient. Well done Amelia, keep it up because you are on fire!

Panthers – Mariella – Self-motivation

Mariella, throughout your time with us the self-motivation you have shown has increased week on week and now truly represents who you are as a learner and as a person. You are always looking for the next step in a process or willing to challenge what we are learning to deepen your understanding. You have also shown a tremendous amount of self-motivation when embracing your interest and you even started a club so you could share this with others. Well done Mariella, you are a fantastic learner, and it is a privilege to have you in our class

Koalas – Matthew – Self-motivation

It is truly lovely to see you trying so hard in your learning, especially when it comes to your writing. Your efforts are shining through, and it brings big smiles to all of us! I want to commend you on your fantastic self-regulation skills. When you need a break, you take the time to recharge and then rejoin the group with renewed energy. This ability to recognise your needs and manage your learning is a wonderful strength. Keep up the great work, Matthew! Your determination and positive attitude are inspiring, and I am excited to see how you continue to grow. Remember, every step you take in your learning journey is something to be proud of.

Owls – William – Self-motivation

William - wow, what a start to the Summer Term you have had. You represented our class and school brilliantly with Eco Club last week at Cressing Temple Barns showing all of our school values. In class, you have been working away using all that you have learnt in all areas of learning and this week your amazing work was noted by The Faithful Friends who snuck a peek at your Science work and left it in the portal as an example of a WAGOLL. WOW! WOW! WOW! Keep shining brightly like this William - you are amazing

Owlets – Hettie – Self-motivation

Hettie, you have been incredible this week. You have completely blown us away with your INDEPENDENT writing, and even telling us that you now love reading! This was so lovely to hear and shows in your learning in school. Not only this, but your mathematical knowledge has improved SO much, and you are always reeling off number facts to us which we love! Well done Hettie, keep it up!

Miss Gage's Shining Star of the week is:

Esmae-Owlets



Your cheery smile everyday really brightens up my mood. No matter what is happening you are always a happy cheery young lady and your manners are impeccable. Keep shining bright!



St John Baptist School Pebmarsh



**Mr Nichols is
running the marathon.**

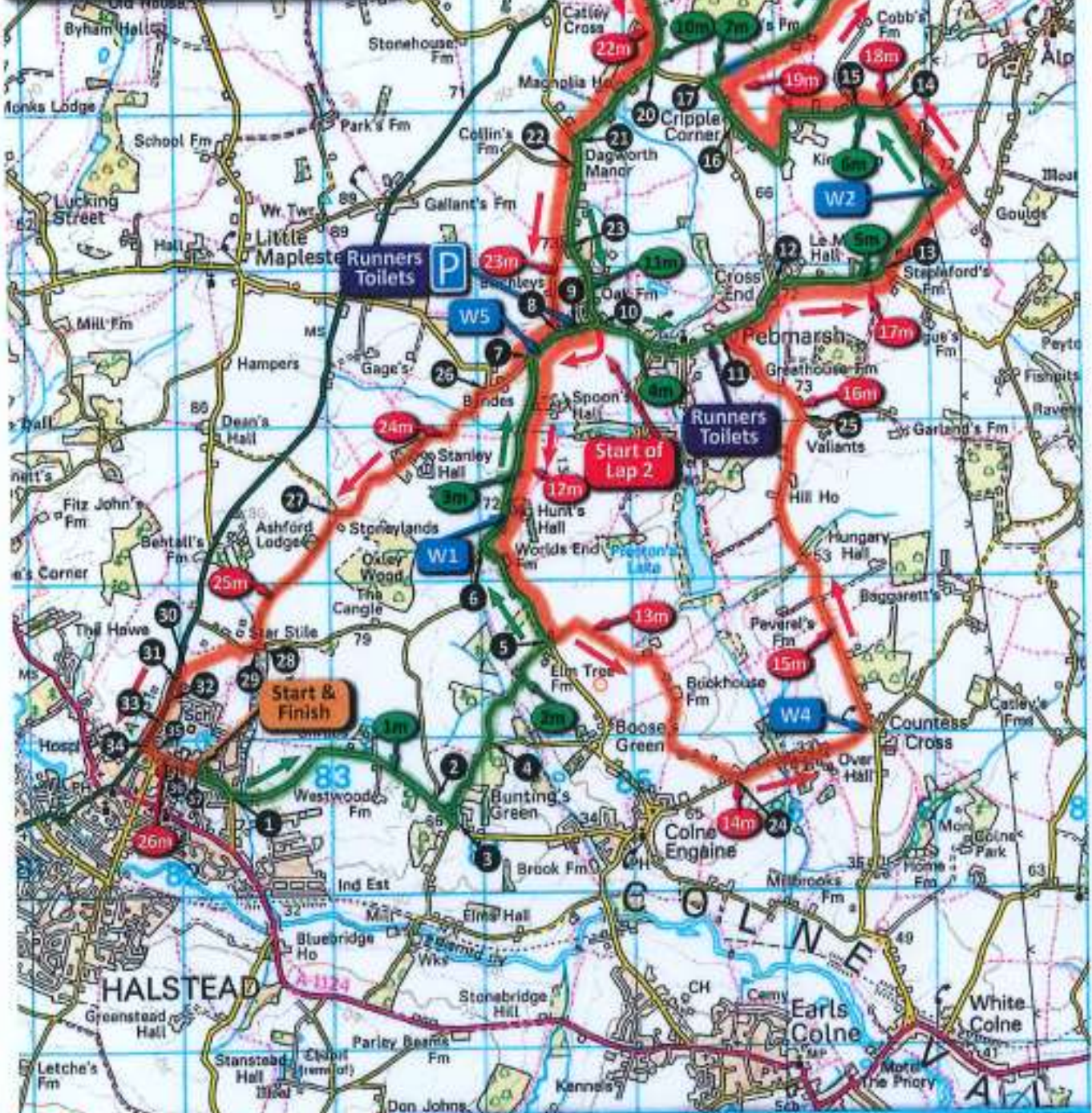
Halstead Marathon – 10th May

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



PLEASE DONATE: www.justgiving.com/crowdfundig/mer8onrfl0s

Essex Marathon Detailed Course Map



| | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|
| Lap 1 and out run | 1m Mile markers (lap 1) | 3 Marshal Point |
| Lap 2 and return run | 12m Mile markers (lap 2) | |
| W1 Water station | | |

Race HQ: Halstead Leisure Centre, Colne Road, Halstead, Essex CO9 2HR



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!

Flatford Nature Day

Tuesday 26th May 2026

Visit Flatford for our May half-term Nature Day

Join in for free, nature-themed activities and crafts including:

- Pond dipping
- Bug hunting
- Tree trails
- Making nature's colour palette
- Using a solar telescope



...and much more!



➔ Drop in activities 11am – 4pm



Enjoy the outdoors around Flatford for the day.

There will be something for all the family!

River Stour Trust boat trips are free for children under 14 when accompanied by £8.00 fare paying adult.

There is a charge of £6.00 for use of the National Trust car park for non-members.

Call Field Studies Council Flatford Mill on 01206 297110 for more details.



 ACL

Community & Family Learning Courses



| COURSE TITLE | VENUE | START DATE | START TIME | END TIME |
|--|--------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| FL MANAGING ANGER IN YOUNG PEOPLE | ONLINE LIVE | 08/05/2026 (2 WEEKS) | 13:00 | 15:00 |
| FL RAISING GIRLS | ONLINE LIVE | 11/05/2026 (2 WEEKS) | 09:30 | 11:30 |
| FL UNDERSTANDING AUTISM AND ADHD | ONLINE LIVE | 14/05/2026 (2 WEEKS) | 09:45 | 11:45 |
| FL UNDERSTANDING ANXIETY | ONLINE LIVE | 14/05/2026 (2 WEEKS) | 09:00 | 11:00 |
| FL MANAGING ANGER IN YOUNG PEOPLE | ONLINE LIVE | 21/05/2026 (1 WEEK) | 19:00 | 21:00 |
| FL FUSSY EATERS | ONLINE LIVE | 21/05/2026 (1 WEEK) | 13:00 | 15:00 |
| FL ZONES OF REGULATION | ONLINE LIVE | 21/05/2026 (1 WEEK) | 09:30 | 11:30 |

If you would like to enrol on to a FREE course please Visit our website [aclessex.com](https://www.aclessex.com) and type the course title in the 'Find a course...' box

aclessex.com
0345 603 7635



ACL**Community & Family Learning Courses****Learning**

| COURSE TITLE | VENUE | START DATE | START TIME | END TIME |
|--|--------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| FL GROWING INDEPENDENCE | ONLINE LIVE | 01/05/2026 (1 WEEK) | 09:30 | 11:30 |
| FL UNDERSTANDING ANXIETY IN CHILDREN | ONLINE LIVE | 05/05/2026 (3 WEEKS) | 19:00 | 21:00 |
| FL GETTING AN ADHD/ASD DIAGNOSIS AS ADULT | ONLINE LIVE | 06/05/2026 (2 WEEKS) | 18:00 | 20:00 |
| FL MANAGING ANGER IN CHILDREN | ONLINE LIVE | 06/05/2026 (2 WEEKS) | 10:00 | 12:00 |
| FL UNDERSTAND ANXIETY FOR YOUR SEND CHILD | ONLINE LIVE | 07/05/2026 (2 WEEKS) | 19:00 | 21:00 |
| FL MANAGING ANGER IN CHILDREN | ONLINE LIVE | 07/05/2026 (2 WEEKS) | 19:00 | 21:00 |

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