



St John the Baptist Primary School

Friday 1st May 2026



Self-motivation Honesty Imaginative Nurturing Empathy

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a wonderful week it has been at our school! We are thrilled to share that Koala Class had a fantastic day at the British Museum yesterday. Their behaviour was exemplary, and they truly set a wonderful example as role models for their peers. Well done, Koala Class!

We would also like to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who contributed to our recent Book Fair. It was a resounding success! All proceeds will go towards purchasing new books for our school, ensuring our children have access to a wide range of reading materials.

Looking ahead, there's just over a week to go until the Halstead Marathon! If you'd like to come and support Mr Nichols, he will be running the route on Sunday 10th. The Kings Head in Pebmarsh will be selling delicious bacon rolls and hot drinks, and refreshments will also be available for purchase on the field behind the leisure centre in Halstead, which is also the finish line. Runners will leave the start line at 9:30 am, so come along and cheer them on!

Diary Dates

6th May

SATS meeting for Year 6 parents 3.30pm

10th May

Halstead marathon
(Mr Nichols is participating!)

W/C 11th May

KS2 SATS

14th May

EYFS assembly from The Dental Clinic

21st May

Panther Class Trip to Braintree Museum

On Wednesday, we will hold a SATS meeting for Year 6 parents in Panther Class. We encourage all parents to attend, as it will provide valuable information regarding the upcoming assessments.

Additionally, we invite you to join us for a maths tour on Wednesday morning to see how maths is taught in our school. Please call the office to book your space.

As a reminder, Primary Education will be our wrap-around care provider starting Monday, 11th May. If you haven't signed up yet, please do so at your earliest convenience.

Lastly, we are in need of socks for our collection, as our supply is running low. Children often borrow them and forget to return them, so any donations would be greatly appreciated. We could also use a refresh of our fancy dress outfits. If you have any costumes your children no longer use, please consider donating them to the school.

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	91.96%	92.10%
Infants	95.67%	94.17%
Lower Juniors	97.50%	95.93%
Upper Juniors	90.86%	95.40%
Whole School	93.99%	94.40%

Congratulations to Owl Class for the highest attendance in April!

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 1st May 2026

Pebmarsh Cup – Isobel in Owlets

Your friends have said you are kind, and you take care of them. You always ask them to play and you help them when they need it. You are a lovely friend. And just simply, people absolutely adore you! We love having you in Owlets Isobel.

Panthers – Amalie - Nurturing

Amalie since joining our class you have made such a fantastic positive impact. You are fantastic at cheering people up when they are down and always know the right thing to say. You brighten the day of not just those around you, but everyone and during this busy period you are the friend and classmate that everyone needs. You make everyone feel welcome, this was especially evident when we welcomed a new member to our class recently and you treated them like you had known them forever. This ensured they felt safe and cared for and is a brilliant representation of who you are as a person. Well done Amalie, keep being your amazing self!

Koalas – Willow – Self-motivation

I am truly overwhelmed by how much you have flourished in Year 4. Your journey this year has been remarkable, and it is a joy to witness your growth. You are confident, bright, and sassy, and these qualities shine through in everything you do. Your self-motivation to be awesome is truly inspiring. You have embraced challenges with enthusiasm and have shown resilience in the face of difficulties. This determination not only enhances your learning but also encourages those around you to strive for their best. Keep nurturing that incredible spirit within you. Continue to believe in yourself, and the sky is the limit!

Owls – Wynter – Self-motivation and Imaginative

Wynter, you have worked SO hard this week, creating, writing and publishing your own 'Lost' story. It has been fabulous to see your self-confidence grow in your own abilities and I look forward to seeing your first book published! Well done Wynter, we are so proud of you!

Owlets – Esme – Self-motivation

Esme, you have blown us away with your resilience, tackling any tricky challenge with a smile on your face and a give it a go attitude. We love this positivity! Your independent writing and problem solving in Maths has not gone unnoticed. Keep being you Esme, you are on fire!!

Miss Gage's Shining Star of the week is:

Rosie



This week we welcomed a new member to Panther class to see if they would like to join us. Her most favourite thing about the school was you, this just goes to show how much of an impact your kindness had. Thank you for being so lovely and welcoming.



St John Baptist School Pebmarsh



**Mr Nichols is
running the marathon.**

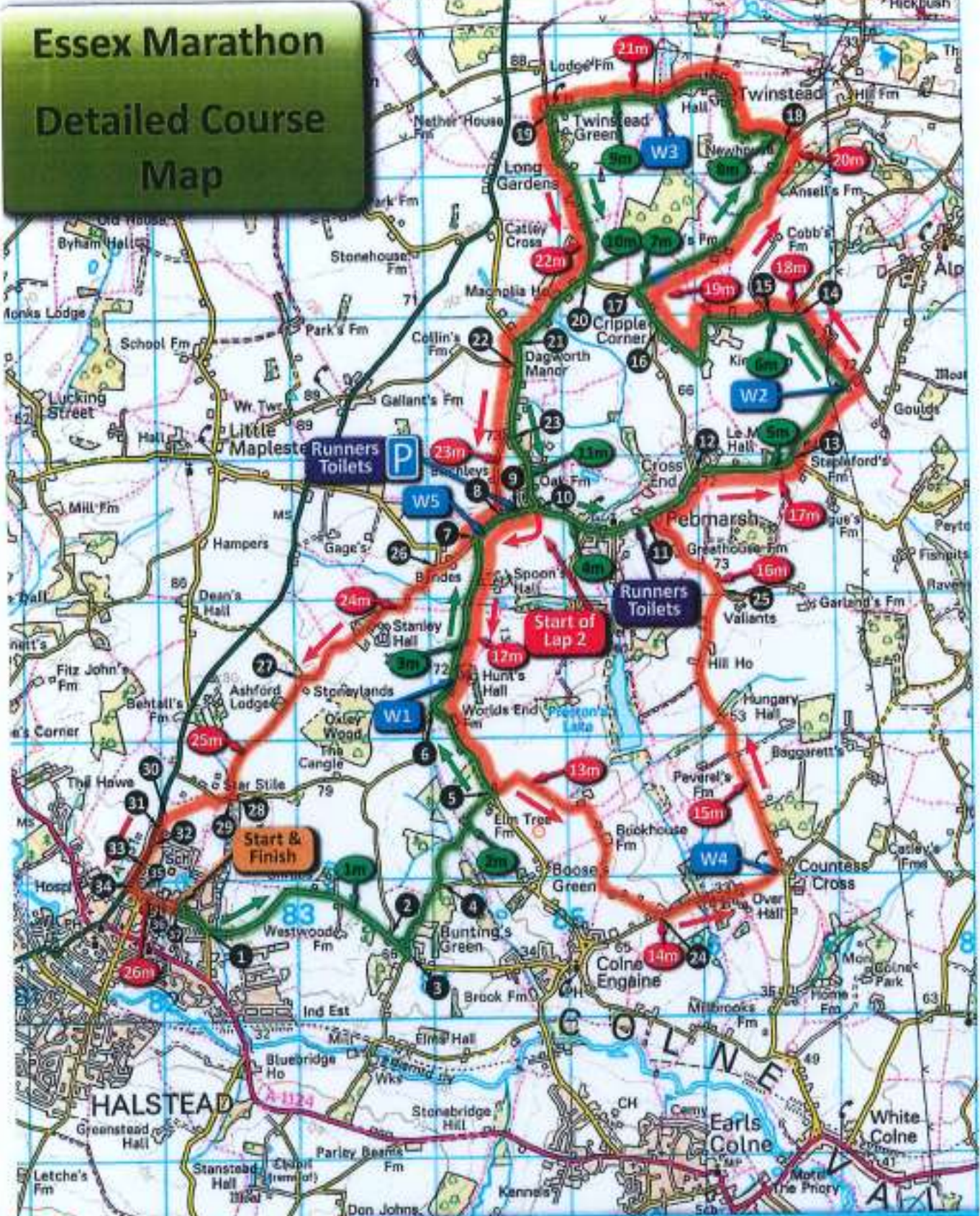
Halstead Marathon – 10th May

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.



River Stour Trust



Dedham Vale National Landscape



National Trust



PACE Manningtree's Earth Festival

Discovering what we can do



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

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**

Essex County Council

