



# St John the Baptist Primary School

Friday 8th May 2026



Self-motivation Honesty Imaginative Nurturing Empathy

Dear Parents and Carers,

It's marathon weekend! We are so excited to cheer on Mr Nichols as he takes on this fantastic challenge to raise money for our school. It is not too late to sponsor him, and every donation will make a real difference. Mr Nichols is looking forward to seeing lots of familiar faces along the way, and we know the whole school community will be right behind him. If you would like to contribute, please visit: [https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/mrnichols?utm\\_medium=FA&utm\\_source=CL](https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/mrnichols?utm_medium=FA&utm_source=CL)

We would also like to wish our Year 6 pupils the very best of luck for their SATs next week. This is an important time for them, and we are incredibly proud of the hard work, resilience and positive attitude they have shown throughout the year. A reminder for Year 6 parents and carers that breakfast club will be available from 7.45am next week, helping pupils start the day calmly and comfortably.

Please also take a moment to check page 5 for details of some upcoming road closures. These may affect your journey to school in the mornings and afternoons, so do plan ahead where possible.

Thank you, as always, for your generous support with our sock collection. We now have enough socks, but we are still in need of dressing-up clothes for school activities, so any donations would be greatly appreciated.

It has been lovely to see so many exciting letters coming home this week about upcoming trips, including visits to the cathedral and Jimmy's Farm. The next two trips are especially exciting for Panther Class, who will be heading to the Braintree Museum dressed as Victorians, as well as attending the Essex Food and Farming Show.

A quick reminder that Wrap Around Care with Primary Education starts on Monday. Please note that children will only be able to attend if they have already been registered and booked in.

Finally, our FOPS Meeting will take place on 8th May at 7pm at The Kings Head Pub in Pebmarsh. We would love to see as many parents and carers there as possible.

Have a great weekend, maybe see you on Sunday!

Miss Gage

## Diary Dates

**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

United we strive for excellence-together we shine

# ATTENDANCE INFORMATION

Our schools attendance target is 96%

	This Week Fri-Thurs	Year to date
EYFS	88.39%	91.98%
Infants	94.20%	94.41%
Lower Juniors	94.17%	95.93%
Upper Juniors	92.13%	95.30%
Whole School	93.69%	94.41%

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](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 8th May 2026

### Pebmarsh Cup – Bernie

Bernie, you have been chosen by Owl Class this week to receive the Pebmarsh Cup. They say that you are kind, funny and a good friend to have. They say that you talk more and that they absolutely LOVE your guitar playing and obsession with Nirvana and cars! Your classmates say that they love having you in Owl Class and that you draw some awesome pictures in Curious Quest lessons. Keep being you Bernie because Owl Class love you.

### Panthers – Finley - Honesty

Finley, throughout everything you do at school you act with honesty and integrity. This is evident in the way you conduct yourself throughout the entirety of your learning and experiences throughout school and beyond. You are always in the nominations for the Pebmarsh cup which shows how highly your classmates think of you and truly shows how much we appreciate having you in our class. Keep being you Finley, you are an incredible role model and will achieve great things beyond our school.

### Koalas – Oscar – Self-motivation

Oscar, you have shown excellent self-motivation in your learning. You have been working really hard writing a Greek myth, demonstrating imagination and a positive attitude throughout the task. You have also been using your sounds carefully to spell sentences, showing a growing confidence in your phonics and writing skills. Your determination to improve has been wonderful to see, and you should feel very proud of the effort you put into your work each day. Well done Oscar!

### Owls – Mia – Self-motivation

Mia you have been working hard in Owl Class in everything we do. You always try your hardest and you are always ready to learn. If you get stuck you will ask for help and you are beginning to solution solve and connect to what you already know. You are a true role model to others. You have an amazing imagination that is beginning to shine through and a cheeky smile and side to you that is just beginning to blossom. Yay! Let it shine Mia, let it shine.

### Owlets – Georgia – Self-motivation

I don't know where to start with all the amazing things you have done this week, Georgia! Your independent writing is out of this world!! Your imagination shines through your reams of sentences, your learning is limitless, and you are unstoppable. You are an amazing member of our class Georgia!

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

Isaac – Panther class



I have been told that you would like to start a 'Gold Award' for the teachers because you think we deserve it. This kindness is exactly what makes you the most amazing person I know! Keep being awesome and kind! (does this mean I win it now?!)





# Open | Farm Sunday

Visit a farm & discover  
the world of farming!

7<sup>th</sup> June 2026

Hunts Hall,  
Colne Road,  
Pebmarsh  
CO9 2QE

11am - 5pm

Tractor Trailer Rides

Farm Machines on Display

Country Walks

View Glamping Site

Food Truck – Brittens Bites

Tea, Coffee and Cake Stall

Donations – Essex Air Ambulance

Contact: 07952 023630



Frontier

JOHN DEERE



M&S  
EST. 1844



Sainsbury's

TESCO

WAITROSE

[www.farmsunday.org](http://www.farmsunday.org)

@Openfarmsunday

LEAFopenfarmsunday

openfarmsunday

# The Great Grid Upgrade

Bramford to Twinstead

## Road closure on Oak Road, north of Pebmarsh – 11 May to 8 June 2026

National Grid is getting ready for the main construction phase of the Bramford to Twinstead Reinforcement. In preparation for this, we need to build a new, widened site entrance (known as a bellmouth) so vehicles can safely access our working areas.

To keep everyone safe while Balfour Beatty carry out this work on behalf of National Grid, part of Oak Road (north of Pebmarsh) will be closed near Collins Road **from Monday 11 May to Friday 8 June**. A full road closure is needed as the narrow carriageway means that the works cannot be carried out safely whilst keeping the road open.

We will display advance warning signs and clearly mark the work area prior to the closure. We will also clearly signpost the diversion route, which you can see on the map to the right.

We know this diversion might delay your journeys, and we apologise for the disruption this causes. Our teams will work hard to finish these activities as safely and quickly as possible.



000025



View the exact location by typing `nowadays.hiker.drawn` into What3Words.

# St John Baptist School Pebmarsh



**Mr Nichols is  
running the marathon.**

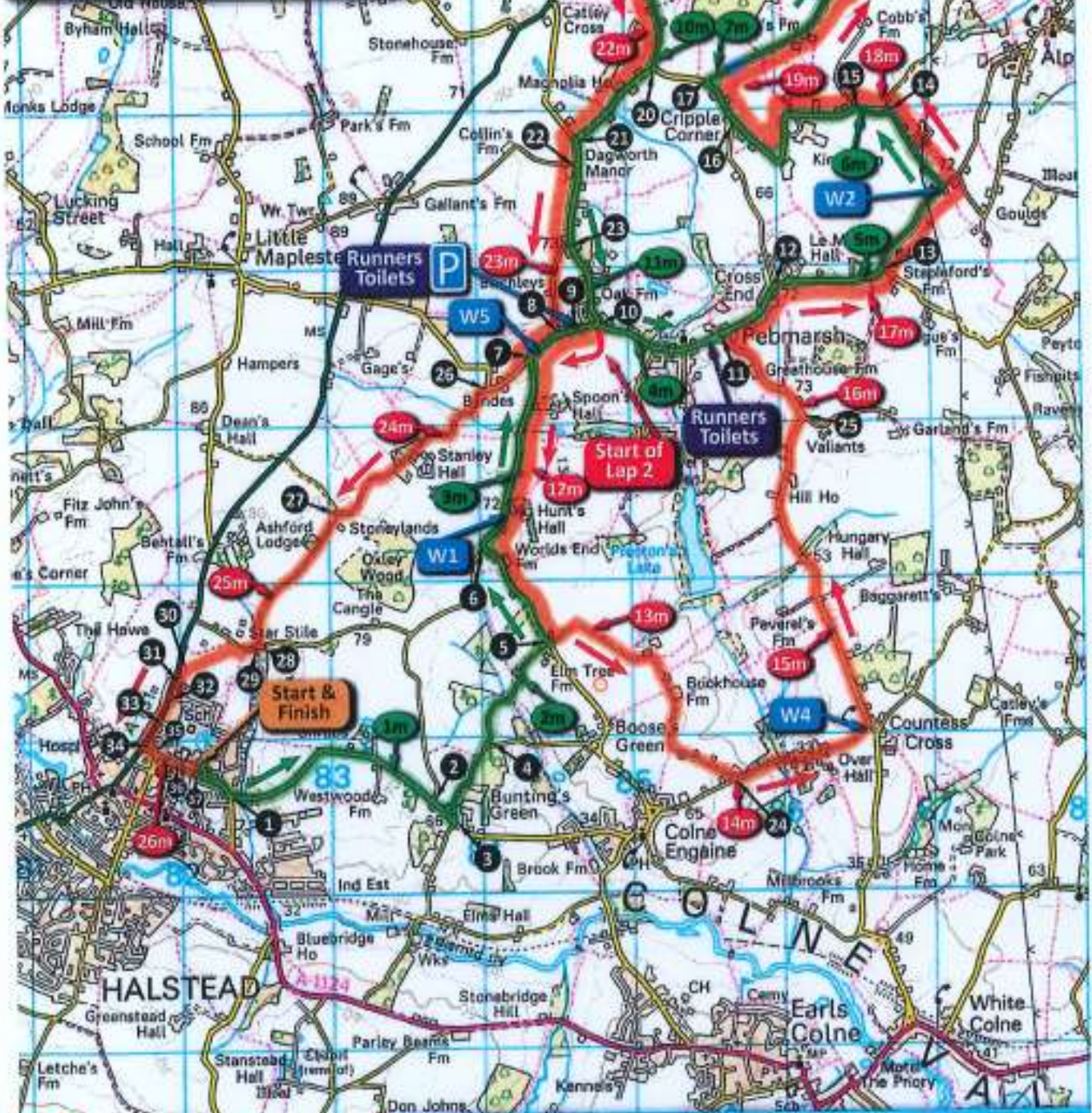
Halstead Marathon – 10<sup>th</sup> May

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)

# 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 26<sup>th</sup> 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



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