



St John the Baptist Primary School

Friday 17th July 2026

Diary Dates

1st September

Non pupil day

2nd September

Children back to school



Self-motivation Honesty Imaginative Nurturing Empathy

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of another school year, it is a lovely time to pause and reflect on everything our school community has achieved together. Today I posted a speech from Rev Bev on ClassDojo, as I believe she really captures the heart of our school and the values we hold dear.

Thank you to everyone who joined us for the leavers' service yesterday. It was a special and memorable occasion, and we are incredibly proud of all of our Year 6 children as they prepare for the next exciting step in their journey. We also said goodbye to the children who are moving on to new schools today, and we wish them every success and happiness for the future.

We also took the opportunity to say farewell to Jo Clayman, our Chair of Governors, who has supported the school through some times of change. Her dedication and commitment have meant so much to the whole school community. Alongside this, we said goodbye to Rev Bev, who has been a tremendous support to everyone, including me. We are truly grateful to both Rev Bev and Jo Clayman for all they have done for the school, and we thank them warmly for their kindness, guidance and care.

Please do take a look at pages 5 and 6 for details of summer activities, as there are plenty of ideas to keep everyone busy over the holidays.

A huge well done to Panthers for winning the highest attendance award this year — a fantastic achievement!

Finally, we are delighted to share that Pebmarsh School turns 60 this year. Please see page 8 for further information. All funds raised will go towards the school, so we hope you will support this very special celebration.

Please remember that our support never stops, and I will be contactable via ClassDojo or email over the holidays if there is anything that you need.

Wishing you all a wonderful summer holiday. Stay safe and look after each other.

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	88.57%	90.92%
Infants	88.33%	94.07%
Lower Juniors	95%	95.76%
Upper Juniors	91.92%	94.35%
Whole School	91.3%	94.21%

Congratulations to Panther Class for the highest attendance in July!

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 17th July

Pebmarsh Cup - Harrison in Owlets

Harrison, your classmates say that you are a good friend, you help everyone to do things, you are kind and you help tidy up! You are a very valued member of our class and we know Owls will be lucky to have you in September.

Panthers—See next page

Koalas – Theo Da. Imaginative

Well done Theo for winning this week's Gold Award! You have shown fantastic initiative by choosing to continue your creative writing independently. You have worked hard to create an exciting and imaginative story, adding lots of thoughtful details to make it enjoyable to read. Even more impressively, Theo, you confidently shared your writing with the class, inspiring others with your creativity and enthusiasm. You should be very proud of the independence, courage, and creativity you have shown. Well done, Theo!

Owls – Freddy - Imaginative

Freddie - it is never easy going to a new class or a new school but it is as if you have always been with us since joining us this term. This week you have showed us how incredible your imagination can be when creating with the duplo various bug houses alongside your friends, inventuring in Curious Quests for the Faithful Friends and Greg and in the stories you tell us when working alongside us in different lessons. You have been telling jokes, laughing and smiling alongside others and being a fabulous member of our Owl Class community. Well done Freddie.

Owlets – Oscar - Self-motivation

Oscar, you are winning our Gold award this week for always trying your best – especially at improving your resilience and showing you can do it! You are an amazing friend and light up the room with your happy, smiley face! We will miss you in Owlets but we know you will be fantastic in Owl Class!

Panthers – Toby – Self motivation

Toby, throughout your time at our school you have always given your absolute best in everything that you do. You are a fantastic role model to everyone in the school and despite the high expectations we have of you, you always manage to surprise us by how fantastic you are. Well done Toby!

Saffron – Nurturing

Saffron, you always put the needs of others before your own, that has been clear to see throughout the time you have spent at our school. In our class you are always willing to help others learn and grow when they find something difficult; outside, you ensure that everyone is having a fantastic time and no one is left out. Well done Saffron!

Lana: - Imaginative

Lana, you bring imagination to every aspect of life. Our classroom would be much less creative and entertaining without your fantastic ideas. You bring a fantastic positive energy to school everyday which is matched only by your want to learn and succeed. The classroom will be very different without you and your imaginative spirit in it. Well done Lana!

Finley – Honesty

Finley, you act with honesty and integrity every single day but they are only two of the many qualities that have made you a fantastic learner and classmate throughout your time at our school. You consistently show all our school qualities whilst going above and beyond them each day without a second thought. You should be incredibly proud of everything you have achieved in and outside of school. Well done Finley

Stanley – Self-motivation

Stanley, you are incredibly headstrong and I truly believe that you can achieve whatever you set your mind to. Your ability to adapt quickly and solve problems is fantastic and something you should never underestimate. The classroom will be a much less energetic and enthusiastic place without you but we are all sure to remember the joy you have brought to everyone in Panther class throughout your time with us. Well done Stan!

Kieran – Self motivation

Kieran, you are a fantastic learner who has shown that working hard and listening to feedback can have a huge impact. You are not shy to take on feedback and use it to help you improve and grow as a learner and a person. Your confidence has come on tremendously since you joined us last year and it has been brilliant to see you grow into a mature and confident learner. Well done Kieran!

Ares – Honesty

Ares, throughout your time at our school you have been incredibly honest with us and yourself, this has resulted in you growing tremendously as a learner and a person. You have overcome difficult situations with a sense of pride and self-respect and dealt with difficult situations in a more mature way than most adults. You should be very proud of the person you have become. Well done Ares!

Mariella – Imaginative

Mariella, since joining us you have put a Mariella style spin on every single day. You approach life with a fantastic open-minded attitude which allows you to have (and share) a unique perspective on everything that you do. Your imaginative mind knows no bounds and helps to spread joy and creativity every single day. Because of this unique perspective you have and will continue to have great success throughout the rest of education and life. Well done Mariella!

Isaac – Empathy

Isaac, throughout your time at our school you have shown that you are an incredibly empathetic person who consistently puts others first. You have developed into a great leader and act as a true leader should, leading by example and helping those who are struggling. You are a brilliant learner and person who I'm sure will achieve great things not just for yourself, but for the rest of the world. Well done Isaac!

Poppy – Honesty

Poppy, since joining us you have flourished as a person as a learner. It has been fantastic to see your honesty when embracing your fears and overcoming obstacles. You have grown into a true reflection of yourself, showing all your fantastic qualities each day. You should feel incredibly proud of the progress that you have made since you joined us because we are very proud of you. Well done Poppy!

Amalie – Self motivation

Amalie, no one has faced the same challenges that you have but despite this you work incredibly hard every day and never make excuses when things get hard. You have a fantastic attitude for learning and life which is infectious and helps to brighten everyone's day. This attitude will take you far in life and I know that you can achieve anything that you set your mind to. Well done Amalie!

SUMMER 2026

Free & Low Cost Activities in Mid Essex

Find activities & events in Braintree | Chelmsford | Maldon



A practical guide to some of the low cost & no cost activities for children, young people and families this summer

Events are designed for different age groups – please check each listing for age guidance

Developed by the

MID ESSEX CHILDREN'S PARTNERSHIP

Supporting, signposting, connecting and empowering young people in Mid Essex get the best start in life



SUMMER 2026

Highlights in BRAINTREE

18th July
-
31st August

BRAINTREE MUSEUM TRAILS AND ACTIVITIES

Suitable for all ages
Braintree Museum are offering a variety of trails that can be completed outdoors. These are free to collect from the Museum Shop during opening hours: Tuesday to Saturday, 10am-4pm. For more information, call 01376 328660.



19th Jul
2-4pm

KINETIX ACADEMY - FAMILY MOVEMENT & WELLBEING DAY

Suitable for ages 3+ yrs
This free event for families includes parkour, obstacle courses and more. The indoor venue offers toilets, baby changing, and free parking. A local food van will sell refreshments. Please wear comfortable clothing and bring a reusable water bottle. To book visit www.braintreekinetix.co.uk/the-academy

5th Aug
11am-2pm

TEDDY BEAR PICNIC

Suitable for all ages
Join us at Zee Z Blue Museum (CDE 4-17) in Great Yelderton for a fun-filled community day bring your 'teddy bear' and a picnic to enjoy games and activities. For more information contact Jayne Laker jayne.laker@essex.gov.uk or call 07458 300903



14th Aug
10.30am-12.30pm

FREE SCHOOL UNIFORM EVENT AT CAROUSEL FAMILY HUB

Suitable for families with school-aged children ages 4-16 yrs
You are invited to pick up free pre-loved school uniform (subject to availability). Local organisations will also be on hand offering information, advice, and support. Please bring a bag. Location Chapel Hill, Braintree, Essex, CM7 3QZ



28th Aug
11-5pm

BRAINTREE DISTRICT YOUTH FESTIVAL

A free event at Wivenhoe Park, designed and led by young people in collaboration with Essex Youth Service and Braintree District Council offering fun, creativity, music, DJ workshops and live bands.



Find more events and information online visit:

www.activessex.org/mid-essex-summer-events

SUMMER 2026

Highlights in CHELMSFORD

20th &
31st Jul
10am-5pm

MARSH FARM SEND FEST

Suitable for aged all ages
Festival for children and young people with SEND and their families, with activities, animals, and entertainment. Tickets from £10. Free tickets also available for eligible Essex residents benefit-related FGM or Universal Credit. Contact kerry@independenceproject.co.uk for more details



27th -
31st Jul
10am-12pm
and 1-3pm

PICNIC IN THE PARK

Suitable for 3-11 yrs
Free themed activity days at Hellsbourne Park. Activities include: sports, games, crafts and food demonstrations. A free lunch is available for anyone scoring benefit-based free school meals. Please book a space via www.chelmsford.gov.uk/picnicinthepark



22nd Jul -
21st Aug
10am-12pm
and 1-3pm

PLAY IN THE PARK

Suitable for 3-11 yrs
A series of free 2 hour play sessions in parks and parish venues around the Chelmsford District. Activities include: sports, games and crafts. Some sessions have additional 'Tots' including infantile, getting toys and more. Please book a space via www.chelmsford.gov.uk/play



6th Aug
10.30am-1pm

FREE SCHOOL UNIFORM EVENT AT CHRIST CHURCH

Suitable for families with school-aged children ages 4-16 yrs
You are invited to pick up free pre-loved school uniform (subject to availability). Local organisations will also be on hand offering information, advice, and support. Location: Christ Church Chelmsford, 164 New London Road, CM2 8AW



24th Jul-
28th Aug

ESSEX YOUTH SERVICE SUMMER SESSIONS

Suitable 11-16yrs
Weekly Gaming Sessions at Chelmsgate Youth Centre CM2 8LG. These sessions run every Friday from 1pm-4pm during the holidays starting the 24th July. SEND sessions are also running from Galleywood Youth Centre. Contact youthwork@essex.gov.uk for more details.



Need more support?

You can find information relating to advice, services and support for children, young people and families at:

www.essex.gov.uk/children-young-people-and-families/support-children-young-people-and-families

SUMMER 2026

Highlights in MALDON

27th Jul -
24th Aug

GREEN SPACE GAMES

Suitable for 3-11 yrs
Free outdoor sessions with games and activities across the Maldon District utilising green spaces and local parks. Over 20 dates to choose from. Please visit www.maldon.gov.uk/activities-projects for more information



Fridays
and
1st & 3rd
Tuesdays

COMMUNITY GAMING INITIATIVE

Ages 11-18 (Fridays 5-7pm) Ages 8+ (1st & 3rd Tuesdays 5-7pm)
Aimed at young people who love gaming, these sessions offer a fun, social space to connect with like-minded peers. Sessions are free, new participants need to be registered before entry. Contact gaming@maldon.gov.uk or visit www.maldon.gov.uk/activities-projects for more information



31st Jul
1-3pm

FREE SCHOOL UNIFORM EVENT AT PLANTATION HALL

Suitable for families with school-aged children ages 4-16 yrs
You are invited to pick up free pre-loved school uniform (subject to availability). Local organisations will also be on hand offering information, advice, and support. Location: Plantation Hall, Colchester Rd, Heybridge, Maldon CM9 8AL



14th Aug
11am-4pm

U FEST - MALDON PROMENADE PARK

Suitable for all ages
This free all-day community festival celebrates everything that makes life worth living. Held in the picturesque surroundings of Maldon's Promenade Park, U Fest brings local people together in the Maldon District for a day of joy, connection, and wellbeing.



5th, 12th
& 26th
Aug
10am-5pm

ESSEX YOUTH SERVICE SUMMER SESSIONS

Suitable for 11-19 yrs
Maldon Youth Club are hosting a number of summer sessions at Maldon Activity Centre during August. Contact youthwork@essex.gov.uk for more details.



This guide highlights local activities, support and welcoming spaces — but it's just a starting point.

Scan here for more events, activities and local support or visit our website:

www.activessex.org/mid-essex-summer-events

Please note: Event details are provided by organisers and may be subject to change. Contact organisers directly for the most up-to-date information, including accessibility.

SCAN HERE



WILD CHILD SUMMER

Nature inspired crafts celebrating 100 years of
David Attenborough

JULY

Wed 22nd - Wallace Bookmarks

Thurs 23rd - Origami Birds of Paradise

Wed 29th - Meadow Paper Weave

£2.40 per child, 30 min session starting at 10:30, 11:15, 12:00 and 2:00

Thurs 30th - Animal Tooth Necklaces

£10 per child, 1.5hrs workshops starting at 10am or 1pm

AUGUST

Wed 5th - Wild Plates

£2.40 per child, 30 min session starting at 10:30, 11:15, 12:00 and 2:00

Wed 26th - Shoe Box Diorama

£10 per child, 1.5hrs workshops starting at 10am or 1pm

SEPTEMBER

Tues 1st - Feather Crown

channel your inner peacock

£4.80 per child, 45 min sessions starting at 10:00, 11:00, 1:15 and 2:00



Scan here to book your place or visit Eventbrite

*Eventbrite fees apply for online booking.

**entry to the museum not included

Temporary exhibition

life. Celebrating 100 Years of
Sir David Attenborough



Saffron Walden Museum
Museum street
Saffron Walden CB10 1BN
www.saffronwaldenmuseum.org



EARLS COLNE SUMMER CAMPS

EARLS COLNE RECREATION CLUB

GREEN FARM MEADOW, HALSTEAD ROAD, EARLS COLNE, CO6 2NG

TUESDAY 11TH AUGUST
WEDNESDAY 12TH AUGUST
THURSDAY 13TH AUGUST
TUESDAY 18TH AUGUST
WEDNESDAY 19TH AUGUST
THURSDAY 20TH AUGUST
TUESDAY 25TH AUGUST
WEDNESDAY 26TH AUGUST
THURSDAY 27TH AUGUST

9AM - 3PM | PRIMARY SCHOOL AGED CHILDREN | £30 PER DAY
HOT OR COLD LUNCH INCLUDED
WHEN BOOKED SPACES ARE NON REFUNDABLE



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Football Fun Day



BOOK NOW TO RESERVE YOUR PLACE
CONTACT DAN MATHER
07585959529 | info@footballfunday.co.uk

**Climbing
Trees.**

COACHES ARE QUALIFIED AND FA LICENCED





**PEBMARSH
SCHOOL**

Turns
60

St. John Baptist School



Pebmarsh

• **CELEBRATE 60 YEARS OF PEBMARSH SCHOOL** •

FRIDAY 11TH SEPTEMBER

BAR



BBQ



LIVE MUSIC



**GATES AT
6.30PM**



**LIVE MUSIC
FROM
7PM**



**BBQ
6.30PM –
8PM**

★ **TICKETS** ★
£10 FOR ADULTS
£5 FOR CHILDREN

AVAILABLE FROM
SCHOOL
OR
KINGS HEAD PUB



**COME AND VIEW THE SCHOOL
YOU ATTENDED AS A CHILD**

★ **ALL PROCEEDS GO TO THE SCHOOL** ★

WILDERNESS

FOUNDATION UK

**Ages
9-14**

**July/Aug
2026**



FREE SPACES available

Neurodiversity Outdoor Summer Camps

FRIDAYS: July 31st, Aug 7th, 14th, 21st
LIMITED TO 1 FREE PLACE PER PERSON
[Click here for further details & booking form](#)

(28th August date remains as a fee paying session)

St John the Baptist Primary School

Spring Term 2025-2026

Parent Calendar

Date	Yr Group	Event
16 th April	Koalas	Forest School
17 th April	Eco club	Cressing Temple Barns trip
23 rd April	Owls	Forest School
30 th April	Panthers	Forest School
30 th April	Koalas	Class trip to British Museum, London
6th May	Year 6	SATS meeting for parents 3.30pm
7 th May	Owls	Forest School
10th May	Mr Nichols	Halstead marathon
14 th May	Panthers	Forest School
14th May	Owlets	Visit from dental nurse to talk about oral hygiene
21 st May	Owls	Forest School
21 st May	Panthers	Trip to Braintree Museum
21st May	Owlets	‘Lift the Lip’ visit from the dentist
22 nd May	Whole School	Non pupil day
		HALF TERM
4 th June	Koalas	Forest School
5th June	Whole School	FOPS ‘Break the Rules Day’
9th June	Whole School	Class photographs
10th June	Owlets	Class trip to Jimmy’s Farm
11 th June	Owls	Forest School
18 th June	Panthers	Forest School
23rd June	Key Stage 2	Trip to ARU, Writtle, Essex Schools food and farming day
24th June	Year 5	Taster Day at Hedingham School
25 th June	Owls	Forest School
25 th & 26 th June	Year 6	Transition Days at some secondary schools
28 th June	Whole School	FOPS Summer Fair 12-3pm
30 th June	Whole School	Sports Day (weather allowing)
2 nd July	Koalas	Forest School
2 nd July	Whole School	Reserve Sports Day date
3rd July	Selected pupils	Athletics event at Hedingham School
8th July	Key Stage 2	Summer performance of ‘Oliver’ in village hall at 9.30am & 1pm
9 th July	Owls	Forest School—CANCELLED
10th July	Key Stage 2	Summer performance of ‘Oliver’ in village hall at 4pm
14th July	Whole School	Food tasting afternoon
16 th July	Panthers	Forest School—CANCELLED
16th July	Everyone welcome	Year 6 leavers’ assembly 9.15am
17th July	Whole School	Break up for summer holidays