



St John the Baptist Primary School

Friday 11th September
2026

Diary Dates

11th September

60th birthday party
6.30pm-10.30pm

22nd September

Panther Class trip to
Braxted Hall Park

6th & 7th October

Individual school photos



Self-motivation Honesty Imaginative Nurturing Empathy

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had a fantastic first full week back at school and it has been lovely to see the children settling in so well. Lunchtimes are going really well, and the children have been enjoying their meals.

To help us order food in plenty of time, please make sure lunch orders are placed by 9.00 am on Thursday for the following week.

Following feedback, we have made the decision to remove the halloumi burger from the menu. In its place, we are pleased to introduce a jacket potato bar, where children will be able to choose from a range of fillings for their potato.

Today has been a very special day as we celebrated our school's 60th birthday. The children had a wonderful time taking part in the celebrations and really enjoyed the chance to mark such an important milestone. Each child was given a name from the 1966 register for the day - I was called Kevin! We danced to 60's music and looked through old photographs of people who once attended the school, which was a lovely way to reflect on our school's history.

Our first trip of the year is coming up soon for Panther Class, who will be visiting Braxted Hall for the Let's Talk Trash Festival. Please ensure permission is given and payments are made to school as soon as possible.

A huge thank you to Ryan and everyone at The Kings Head for their support with tonight's event. It is wonderful to see the community coming together to support our school.

We are looking forward to seeing lots of our families this evening as the celebrations continue.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Best wishes,

Kevin (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	94.67%	96.19%
Infants	94.64%	94.13%
Lower Juniors	97.59%	96.06%
Upper Juniors	94.29%	94.39%
Whole School	95.4%	95.07%

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 see our school website for our attendance and uniform policies

<https://www.st-john.essex.sch.uk>



Gold awards 11th September 2026

Pebmarsh Cup—Jack in Owls

Jack, you have been chosen by Owl Class this week to receive the Pebmarsh cup because they think you are fun, smart and are one of the kindest children they know. They see that you quietly help others and that you crack on with your work to be the best that you can be. Owl Class say 'thank you' for being you, Jack. They are lucky to have you as a member of their class.

Panthers – Daisy for self-motivation.

Daisy, you have had a fantastic start to life in Panther class. You are a brilliant role model to everyone and always follow instructions first time of asking. You apply yourself to all of our learning, giving your very best in every lesson and always helping others in the class. It has been a real joy having you in Panther class and I can't wait to see what the next two years hold.

Koalas – Imogen – Self-motivation

Imogen, you have made a fantastic transition into Year 3 and have shown such a mature and positive attitude towards your learning. You have worked incredibly hard and consistently, putting great effort into everything you do. You are always keen to share your ideas and thoughts with the class, and you do this with confidence and enthusiasm. Well done Imogen, what a fantastic start to the year!

Owls – Ezra – Imagination

Ezra, it has been a pleasure watching you settle into life in Owl Class and...WOW...what an amazing imagination you have. You have blown us away with your creations and the words you use to describe what you have drawn, created or simply known about. Your knowledge and imagination are both awesome. Keep feeding that imagination Ezra – it will take you far.

Miss Gage's Shining Star of the week is:

Ryan and the Kings Head Team



When I had the bonkers idea of throwing a 60th birthday party for a school Ryan jumped in with both feet. I do not know what we would do without you and we cannot thank you enough!



Attendance & Punctuality

Working together to give every child the best start

Every minute matters.
Every day counts.



ARRIVE ON TIME

Gates open at **8:40am**
Gates close at **8:55am**

- If you arrive after **8:55am**, please bring your child to the school office where you will need to sign them in as late.
- Regular lateness can be disruptive for your child and the rest of the class. If your child is regularly late, we may invite you in for a meeting so we can offer support and seek solutions.



IF YOUR CHILD IS ABSENT

Please contact the school office by **9:20am**.

- You must contact us **every day** your child is absent.
- You can:
 - Phone the school
 - Leave a message on the answerphone
 - Email the school office
 - Speak to a member of staff on the gate when dropping off a sibling



Please do not use **Class Dojo** to report absence.

- If we have not heard from you, or cannot make contact, we may carry out a home visit as part of our safeguarding duty to know where your child is.



HOLIDAYS & LEAVE

- All requests for leave must be made using a Leave of Absence form (available from the school office).
- Family holidays during term time will not normally be authorised and will be recorded as unauthorised absence.
- Unauthorised holidays may result in the possibility of a penalty notice.



MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS

- Where possible, please avoid making medical appointments during the school day.
- If an appointment cannot be avoided, please complete a Medical Leave of Absence form (in the school entrance foyer) and hand it to a member of staff.
- We may ask for evidence of medical appointments to monitor absences.



OUR ATTENDANCE TARGET

96% OR ABOVE

We monitor attendance daily, weekly, monthly, termly and annually.

If we believe your child's attendance is a cause for concern, and there are no underlying health conditions, we will invite you in for a meeting so we can work together to improve their attendance.

Thank you for your continued support.



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www.st-john.essex.sch.uk



Brighter futures start with great attendance!



United we strive for excellence – together we shine

Self-motivation ♥ Honesty ♥ Imaginative ♥ Nurturing ♥ Empathy

St John the Baptist Primary School

Autumn Term 2026-2027

Parent Calendar

Date	Yr Group	Event
2nd September	Whole school	Back to school for Autumn Term
11 th September	All welcome	School's 60 th birthday party 6.30pm-10.30pm
17 th September	Koalas	Forest School
22 nd September	Panthers	'Let's Talk Trash' Day at Braxted Park
24th September	Owls	Forest School
1st October	Panthers	Forest School
2nd October	Whole School	Harvest festival in church 9.30am
6 th & 7 th October	Whole School	Individual school photographs
7 th , 8 th , 9th October	Panthers	Bikeability (if you previously signed your child up for this)
8 th October	Owls	Forest School
13 th October	Whole School	Perform Workshop
15 th October	Koalas	Forest School
21 st October	Whole School	Flu immunisation
22 nd October	Owls	Forest School
23 rd October	Whole School	Break up for half term
		HALF TERM
2 nd November	Whole School	Non pupil day
5 th November	Panthers	Forest School
12 th November	Owls	Forest School
19 th November	Koalas	Forest School
23 rd November	Owls	Parent consultations 9am-3pm
24 th November	Panthers	Parent consultations 9am-3pm
24 th November	Owlets	Parent consultations 1.00pm-3.00pm
24 th November	Whole School	Parent consultations 3.30pm-5.00pm
25 th November	Koalas	Parent consultations 9am-3pm
26 th November	Whole School	Pantomime trip
3 rd December	Panthers	Forest School
7th December	Key Stage 1	Nativity dress rehearsal in church 9am
8th December	Key Stage 1	Nativity performance in church 2pm
9th December	Key Stage 1	Nativity performance in church 9.30am
10 th December	Owls	Forest School
17th December	Key Stage 2	Carol Service in church 9.30am
17 th December	Koalas	Forest School
18 th December	Whole School	Break up for Christmas