



St John the Baptist Primary School

Friday 18th September
2026

Diary Dates

22nd September

Panther Class trip to Braxted Hall
Park

24th September

5.30pm-7.30pm

Open evening at Ramsey Academy for Year 6's

1st October

Open evening at Hedingham
School for Year 6's

2nd October

Harvest festival service in church
9.30am—

all welcome

6th & 7th October

Individual school photos



Self-motivation Honesty Imaginative Nurturing Empathy

Dear Parents and Carers,

What an amazing time we all had at the party on Friday! It was lovely to see the children enjoying themselves, and we are delighted to share that the event raised £1,100 profit. This money will go towards our new play area, including the new climbing equipment. Building work for this is due to start on 16th November, so we are very excited to see the project get under way. A big thank you to everyone at the Kings Head for all your support; we could not have done it without you on Friday.

Panthers are off on their first trip of the year to Braxted Hall Park. They will learn lots of handy tips and hints to help save our planet. We hope they have a brilliant day and return with plenty of ideas to share with us all.

It was exciting to have Forest School back and to welcome Holly Wolf to join us. The children had an amazing time exploring and learning outdoors, and the sun shone for them throughout the session.

Our Harvest Festival is coming up soon. Everyone is welcome to join us in the church at 9.15am on 2nd October. We look forward to celebrating together and giving thanks for the food and support we receive.

We had to say goodbye to Lola, our PAT dog, this week, as sadly she will no longer be able to attend our school for visits. Ann Harris, her owner, has been amazing for the school, and the children were very sad to see her go. They celebrated with Lola and gave her lots of lovely gifts. Mrs Jinks is busy looking at a replacement, so fingers crossed that we get one soon.

Please have a clear-out before Christmas and donate any unwanted fancy dress clothing to school. The children love dressing up at lunchtime, so we need to replenish our collection, as lots of it did not survive last winter. Any sizes are welcome, and every donation will help to refresh the dressing-up box.

Have a lovely weekend

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	91.07%	92.86%
Infants	91.95%	94.43%
Lower Juniors	95.86%	95.98%
Upper Juniors	91.79%	93.15%
Whole School	92.79%	94.08%

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 18th September 2026

Pebmarsh Cup - Idris

Well Done Idris, you have been chosen by the Koala class for the Pebmarsh Cup! You're such a super friend. You help and look after your friends in class and at playtime. You're always ready with a kind word or a helping hand. Your friends think you're brilliant! They say you're funny and kind, and they love working and playing with you. We're so proud of you, Idris. Keep being the lovely, cheerful friend you are!

Panthers – Alora for Self-motivation.

Alora, in the last week you have shown fantastic motivation and truly embraced becoming a member of Panther class. You have been making brilliant decisions in class whilst also making a great effort to embrace all of your learning. Mrs Lincoln has been particularly impressed with your engagement and maturity when you are doing work in a small group with her. Well done Alora, keep up the fantastic work.

Koalas – Rupert – Self-motivation

Congratulations on winning this week's Gold Award! You have shown such fantastic self-motivation and a brilliant attitude towards your learning. It has also been wonderful to see how confidently and positively you have transitioned into Year 3. You have settled in so well, shown great independence and embraced all the new challenges that Year 3 has brought. You should be incredibly proud of yourself.

Owls – Georgia – Self-motivation

Georgia, you have received our Gold Award this week for self-motivation. You just simply crack on with whatever we are doing and always strive to do your best. Mrs Watkins says that you are always ready to learn in her phonics group and in Super Codes and that you are just embracing Curious Quests. You are a shining example to everyone in the class. Thank you Georgia. Keep being totally amazing.

Miss Gage's Shining Star of the week is:

Bubs-Our Amazing school cook



**Our kitchen is now the heart of our school
and Bubs is the one who keeps it beating.**



**The school dinners are incredible, thank
you!**

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

CRAFT FAIR

SATURDAY 3RD OCTOBER '26

THE ROUND CHURCH, LITTLE MAPLESTEAD, CO9 2SL
10AM - 3PM

JOIN US TO SUPPORT THE ROUND CHURCH AND LOCAL ARTISANS

- | | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| ✓ LADIES ACCESSORIES | ✓ POTTERY | ✓ FLORISTRY |
| ✓ DECOUPAGE & CRAFTS | ✓ HANDMADE COSMETICS | ✓ PRESERVES |
| ✓ STAINED GLASS | ✓ HONEY PRODUCTS | ✓ HANDMADE HOMEWARES |
| ✓ FACE PAINTING | ✓ RAFFLE | ✓ MORE STALLS TBA |

PLUS

HOT & COLD REFRESHMENTS, SNACKS & HOMEMADE CAKES!



£1 ENTRY, CHILDREN UNDER 11 FREE
CARDS ACCEPTED - CASH PREFERRED

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 9.00am
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