



# St John the Baptist Primary School

Friday 2nd October 2026

## Diary Dates

**6th October**

Owls and Panthers

School photographs

**7th October**

Owlets and Koalas

school photographs

**13th October**

Perform Workshop in School

**31st October**

Closing date for Year 7 Sept  
2027 applications



Self-motivation Honesty Imaginative Nurturing Empathy

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thanks to everyone who came to our Harvest Festival today, and well done to the children for their lovely singing and performances. Thank you also for all of your generous donations. These will be collected by the food bank on Monday.

Individual photos will take place next week: Tuesday for Owls and Panthers, and Wednesday for Owlets and Koalas. Please ensure your child is dressed smartly for the photo.

Please note that there will be a funeral in the church at 2:00 pm on Tuesday. We do not know how long the service will last, and this may place a strain on the village hall car park. Please take your time, be patient and stay safe. We will hold on to your children for as long as is needed.

Some of our children in Panther Class will be taking part in a Bikeability course next week. Please spend the weekend getting your bike ready for the course. Children will need working brakes, a helmet that fits properly and weather-appropriate clothing. Children may come to school wearing their Bikeability clothes on the day. A letter was sent out yesterday regarding an upcoming workshop for every child. Please make payment on Arbor as soon as possible.

Congratulations to the children elected as Pupil Parliament! I cannot wait to see what a difference you make to our school.

Many Thanks

Miss Gage

United we strive for excellence-together we shine

# ATTENDANCE INFORMATION

Our schools attendance target is **96%**

|               | This Week<br>Fri-Thurs | Year to date |
|---------------|------------------------|--------------|
| EYFS          | 95.33%                 | 95.6%        |
| Infants       | 94.29%                 | 93.34%       |
| Lower Juniors | 96.59%                 | 96.01%       |
| Upper Juniors | 95%                    | 93.91%       |
| Whole School  | 95.31%                 | 94.61%       |

## 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>



# 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



Essex County Council  
Special Educational Needs  
and Disabilities



# SPACE

## **SPACE offers free support to families of children and young people with SEND.**

Delivered by peer educators – all parents and carers with lived experience.

### **Get support your way:**

-  **in person** – meet us at Local Offer roadshows, coffee mornings, and community events
-  **by phone** – talk one-to-one with a peer educator
-  **online** – join webinars on key topics, led by peer educators
-  **on the SPACE website** – find helpful info and guidance anytime



Book your place for an online session, or a phone call today!

[parent-send-support.essex.gov.uk](http://parent-send-support.essex.gov.uk)



# 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 <sup>th</sup> September                         | All welcome  | School's 60 <sup>th</sup> birthday party 6.30pm-10.30pm       |
| 17 <sup>th</sup> September                         | Koalas       | Forest School                                                 |
| 22 <sup>nd</sup> 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 <sup>th</sup> & 7 <sup>th</sup> October          | Whole School | Individual school photographs                                 |
| 7 <sup>th</sup> , 8 <sup>th</sup> , 9th<br>October | Panthers     | Bikeability (if you previously signed your child up for this) |
| 8 <sup>th</sup> October                            | Owls         | Forest School                                                 |
| 13 <sup>th</sup> October                           | Whole School | Perform Workshop                                              |
| 15 <sup>th</sup> October                           | Koalas       | Forest School                                                 |
| 21 <sup>st</sup> October                           | Whole School | Flu immunisation                                              |
| 22 <sup>nd</sup> October                           | Owls         | Forest School                                                 |
| 23 <sup>rd</sup> October                           | Whole School | Break up for half term                                        |
|                                                    |              | HALF TERM                                                     |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> November                           | Whole School | Non pupil day                                                 |
| 5 <sup>th</sup> November                           | Panthers     | Forest School                                                 |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> November                          | Owls         | Forest School                                                 |
| 19 <sup>th</sup> November                          | Koalas       | Forest School                                                 |
| 23 <sup>rd</sup> November                          | Owls         | Parent consultations 9am-3pm                                  |
| 24 <sup>th</sup> November                          | Panthers     | Parent consultations 9am-3pm                                  |
| 24 <sup>th</sup> November                          | Owlets       | Parent consultations 1.00pm-3.00pm                            |
| 24 <sup>th</sup> November                          | Whole School | Parent consultations 3.30pm-5.00pm                            |
| 25 <sup>th</sup> November                          | Koalas       | Parent consultations 9am-3pm                                  |
| 26 <sup>th</sup> November                          | Whole School | Pantomime trip                                                |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> 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 <sup>th</sup> December                          | Owls         | Forest School                                                 |
| 17th December                                      | Key Stage 2  | Carol Service in church 9.30am                                |
| 17 <sup>th</sup> December                          | Koalas       | Forest School                                                 |
| 18 <sup>th</sup> December                          | Whole School | Break up for Christmas                                        |
|                                                    |              |                                                               |
|                                                    |              |                                                               |
|                                                    |              |                                                               |
|                                                    |              |                                                               |
|                                                    |              |                                                               |