



St John the Baptist Primary School

Friday 16th October 2026

Diary Dates

20th October

Perform Workshop in school

23rd October

Odd sock day in school & break
up for half term

21st October

Flu immunisation

31st October

Closing date for Year 7 Sept
2027 applications

2nd November

Non-pupil day



Self-motivation Honesty Imaginative Nurturing Empathy

Dear Parents and Carers,

Flu jabs will be taking place next week. If you have not already replied to the message sent by the NHS, please do so as soon as possible, even if you do not want your child to have the vaccine. If you have not received a message from the NHS, please contact the school office so that we can check whether your details have been passed on correctly.

Please also make payment for the Perform workshop, which will take place on Tuesday next week. We are looking forward to welcoming the children to what should be a fun and engaging experience.

Next week we also have a cross country event at St Peter's, Sible Hedingham. Please return the permission slips as soon as possible, or let us know if your child cannot attend so that we can offer the place to another child. Thank you for your support with this.

Well done to the football team for their fantastic performance on Wednesday. The team came 3rd out of 8 teams, which is a brilliant achievement and something everyone should be proud of. Good luck to all pupils taking part in Cross Country next week. Thank you to Mr Nichols for taking them and supporting the children throughout the event.

We have new menus starting after half term, these are on Arbor ready for you to book, please do so as far in advance as possible.

Mrs Jinks also led a trip this week for some children as part of the life skills curriculum. The children had a wonderful time at Gemma's Farm and enjoyed a valuable learning experience beyond the classroom.

Finally, next Friday is Odd Socks Day. Please see page 6 for further information about how pupils can take part. We are looking forward to seeing lots of bright and colourful socks on the day.

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	97.33%	96.35%
Infants	93.38%	92.70%
Lower Juniors	95.27%	95.99%
Upper Juniors	92.09%	96.96%
Whole School	94.16%	94.55%

Congratulations to OWL class for having the highest attendance across the month of September 2026!

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 16th October 2026

Pebmarsh Cup - Deiliah

Your friends have voted for you to win the Pebmarsh cup this week. They say you are brave, kind and strong and make them feel welcomed and wanted. Our class have noticed how hard you work every day and how resilient you can be when taking on challenges. Well done Delilah.

Panthers – Leo - Honesty

Leo, this week you took part in your very first football tournament. Whilst I was very impressed with the skills you showed on the pitch (providing one great assist) I was most impressed by your honesty leading up to the tournament. You told adults that you were a bit nervous but didn't let that get in your way, you conquered your fears and produced a performance that you should be proud of. Not only were you honest with yourself and others, but you also showed fantastic sportsmanship throughout the tournament and it was a fantastic representative of our school! Well done, Leo, you should be very proud!

Koalas – Ivy - Self-motivation

Since joining Koala Class, you have demonstrated a wonderfully mature and positive attitude towards your learning across the curriculum. You have impressed us all with the quality of your work, your thoughtful ideas and your impressive knowledge, which you share with confidence. Keep up the fantastic work, Ivy — you should be very proud of yourself!

Owls –Amelia M – Self-motivation

Amelia, you were quite poorly last week and missed some of what we were learning in class when we were writing our formal letters to Sir David Attenborough. You came in on Monday, listened to the learning and expectations and quietly cracked on with your letter and asked him some AMAZING questions, such as 'How do Dalmatians get their spots? How do giraffes sleep? Your letter was fantastic and Sir David Attenborough will be extremely pleased to receive it. I cannot wait to see if he replies to us. Well done Amelia for bringing that spark to your learning and your curious mind to your writing.

Miss Gage's Shining Star of the week is:



Sam B-Koala Class

Sam, you have embraced our school dinners this term and it has been lovely to see you enjoying them. You are always polite and love having a chit chat with Bubs at the end of lunch.

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



UPCOMING EVENTS 2026-2027

SEPTEMBER

29th FOPS - AGM

OCTOBER

7th - 20th

Order Children's
Christmas Design

23rd Odd Socks Day

NOVEMBER

30th Elfridges Shop

DECEMBER

1st Elfridges Shop

11th Christmas Disco

14th Santa's Grotto

JANUARY

21st

Break the Rules Day

FEBRUARY

11th Movie night

MARCH

1st & 3rd

'Someone Special' -
Mother's Day stall

APRIL

15th Spring disco

MAY

21st Non Uniform
Day

24th - 11th June

Raise £20.27
Challenge in 2027

JUNE

24th May - 11th

Raise £20.27 Challenge

8th & 9th

'Someone Special' - Father's
Day stall

27th Summer Fete

JULY

19th Leavers Disco



ODD SOCKS DAY!



Friday 23rd October 2026

**Wear your silliest mismatched
socks and join the fun!**

**In return
Bring a Bottle of Alcohol
for the Alcohol Tombola**

(All alcohol need to be unopened and in date until summer 2027)

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 **new date 20th October**
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 & Odd Sock Day
		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
30th November & 1st December	Whole School	FOPS Elfridges shop
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
11th December	Whole School	FOPS Christmas disco
14th December	Whole School	Santa's grotto
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