



Dear parents, carers, family members and members of our school community,

It has been a quiet week at St. Joseph's; however, it has also been filled with meaningful activities and valuable lessons.

On Monday, we hosted our much-anticipated Flu Immunisation programme. I am immensely proud of our children for their bravery during the immunisation process. Under the guidance of Mrs. Colley, whose dedication and professionalism were evident throughout, we successfully completed the immunisations for all those who had requested them by the end of the afternoon.

Later that same afternoon, we gathered for our traditional Monday worship. It is always heartening to witness the children's enthusiasm during our gatherings, and this week was no exception. I introduced an engaging quiz that sought to explore the concept of 'greatness' in various categories. The challenge involved two teams, each tasked with proposing their nominees for the title of 'the greatest' across several predetermined categories.

We began the quiz by inviting the teams to consider who they believed to be the greatest actor on earth. The children demonstrated remarkable teamwork and critical thinking skills, as they deliberated on their nominations within a limited timeframe. When the minute concluded, each team presented their suggestions, and we progressed through the categories, which included Actress, Sportsperson, Cook, Singer (with a nomination for Mrs. Wiltshire), Leader, Artist, and Author.

Following the discussions on each category, it was time for the children to engage further by deciding which nominee they considered to embody greatness. I encouraged active participation by having hands raised for votes on selected individuals from each pairing, creating a vibrant atmosphere filled with spirited debate and friendly competition. As we worked through the choices, we meticulously crossed out the suggestions garnering fewer votes, which allowed us to work towards a final selection.



In conversing on the essence of greatness, I reminded the children of the timeless question of who is 'the greatest', a subject that has intrigued humanity throughout history. Interestingly, even Jesus' disciples posed this very question, underscoring that the pursuit of greatness is an intrinsic aspect of human nature. In this light, I shared with them a poignant passage from the Gospel according to Matthew (18:1-5): "At that time the disciples came to Jesus and asked, 'Who then is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?' He called a little child to him and placed the child among them. And he said: 'Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Therefore, whoever takes the lowly position of this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.'"

This scripture served as a profound reflection on what true greatness entails. I concluded that attributes such as pride, fame, and societal importance do not equate to greatness. Rather, it is the simple yet profound virtues of friendship, tolerance, and care for one another that define our potential for greatness. I earnestly encouraged each child present to recognise these qualities within themselves, affirming that they all possess the capability of being God's greatest people.

Regrettably, I had to postpone several collective events this week due to unforeseen sickness within the KS1 classes. It is of paramount importance to consider the health and wellbeing of our entire school community, and I would not wish to put anyone at risk. I appreciate your understanding of this necessity. As a community, we will still find ways to support MacMillan, an important charity to St. Joseph's, albeit at a later date.

Looking ahead, I would like to highlight a few key events scheduled for next week. First, we eagerly anticipate our Rugby tournament, which will involve six children from Year 2 and Year 3. This event is sure to foster sportsmanship and teamwork among our young athletes. Additionally, on Friday, we have the pleasure of welcoming a special guest, Rowan from Essex Cricket, who will join us to celebrate the Women's Cricket World Cup with an assembly at the beginning of the day. Following this, each class will have the opportunity to engage in a tailored session with him, further enriching their sporting experience. In light of this exciting occasion, I kindly ask that all children come dressed in their PE kits on Friday.

Thank you for your continued support and for being integral members of our school community. Your involvement is pivotal in fostering an environment where our children can flourish both academically and personally.

Have a safe and lovely weekend.

Take care - God bless—Mrs. Golding

Attendance Data

	Last week	This week	Late Marks
Class 1	99.52%	95.24%	0
Class 2	95.83%	91.54%	3
Class 3	96.36%	98.18%	7
Class 4	95.45%	94.85%	2



Silver Diversity Mark



Certificate Winners

Certificates will continue next week

Class 1:

Class 2:

Class 3:

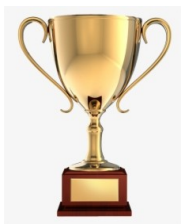
Class 4:

Mrs Golding's Headteacher Award:

Whole School Attendance this week: 95.13%

Winning Class this week: Class 3 - 98.18%

Please make sure you collect the trophy!



*Winning House Team This Week:
Rollover!*

DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

Mon 29th September	Tendring Technology Open Evening 5pm to 8pm
Tues 30th September	Rugby Tournament Y2/3—selected children
Thurs 2nd October	St Benedict's Open Evening 5pm Harwich and Dovercourt High School Open Evening 5.30pm to 7pm Manningtree School Open Evening 6.30pm
Fri 3rd October	Cricket Day—All children need PE kit please
Fri 17th October	Head Boy and Head Girl interviews
Weds 22nd October	Open Day—Prospective Parents—details below Spooky Disco—details to follow
Fri 24th October	Last Day for Children before Half Term
Weds 5th November	9am Remembrance Mass at School
Thurs 6th November	Pizza and Catch up—Y7 + Y8 pupils—details to follow
Weds 12th November	Y6 Electric Palace—Crucial Crew—details to follow
Tues 18th November	Class 3 + 4 Electric Palace Visit—details to follow
Weds 19th November	Open Day—Prospective Parents— details below
Fri 21st November	Non Uniform Day—Sweets and Chocolates—Bazaar
Tues 25th November	Parent/Teacher Meetings—details to follow
Weds 26th November	Class 1 + 2 Electric Palace Visit—details to follow Parent/Teacher Meetings-details to follow
Thurs 27th November	Non Uniform Day—Bottles—Bazaar
Fri 28th November	Non Pupil Day—School Closed to Children
Fri 5th December	Christmas Bazaar—details to follow

The non pupil days are:

Friday 28th November

Monday 5th January

Monday 20th July

Week Beginning Monday 29th September
Week 2 of the menu.....

**St Joseph's Catholic Primary
School**

Monday

Breakfast Wrap
Sausage, Bacon and Hash Brown
served with baked beans

Baguette/Roll
served with salad

Tuesday

BBQ Panko Chicken
served with Wedges and Corn on
the Cob

Baguette/Roll
served with salad

Wednesday

**Jacket Potato with a
selection of fillings**

Baguette/Roll
served with salad

Thursday

Traditional Lasagne
served Garlic Bread and Salad

Baguette/Roll
served with salad

Friday

Fish Cake
served with Fries and baked beans

Baguette/Roll
served with salad

Available everyday

**A healthy salad bar, fresh fruit, and
yoghurt**

Week 2

Menu

Fresh
All our food is
cooked fresh each
day

Healthy
Our pasta, rice and
breads are healthy
wholemeal products

checked
We always use
reputable suppliers
and where possible
use local produce

St Joseph's are occasionally asked to promote activities from local groups, such as the Swimming Pool, the Sports Hall, Church Groups etc....

Such activities are not quality assured by the school and parents should be aware of the need to reassure themselves of the quality and safety of the services on offer, for example by visiting, looking at inspection reports etc.

Our website can be accessed at
<https://www.st-josephs->

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

**Open Days for Parents/Carers
Applying for Reception School Places to
Start School in September 2026**

Wednesday 22nd October from 10am to 4.30pm

Wednesday 19th November 1.30pm to 6.30pm

**Tours run throughout the day—Please call to book
your place. We look forward to seeing you.**



***Please email us to book at:
admin@st-josephs-dovercourt.essex.sch.uk
Or call 01255 503493***



ACL

FREE!

Understand Anxiety for SEND Children Online Course

Looking at anxiety, the causes of anxiety and how to support your child or young person.

Date: Various - check website

Time: check website

Scan the QR code, or Visit our website
aclessex.com and type
'UNDERSTAND ANXIETY' in the
'Find a course...' box



aclessex.com

0345 603 7635



Essex County Council



ACL



FREE!



Managing Big Emotions Online Course

Develop an understanding of emotional expression and how to manage big emotions in young people.

Dates: 30/10/25 19:00-21:00, 25/11/25 13:00 - 15:00
more dates available online



Scan the QR code, or
Visit our website
aclessex.com and type
"BIG EMOTIONS" in the
'Find a course...' box



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Essex County Council

Hasty's Pumpkin Event

BOOK ONLINE NOW

WWW.HASTYS.CO.UK



Scan here for all the info!