Good afternoon,

Didn't everyone look wonderful today! Thank you to all of those who came in non-uniform and donated a bottle for the bazaar. There looks to be several that I wouldn't mind winning myself!

It has been another busy week with lots of sickness. Please do your best to get children in as much as possible as they miss so much even when arriving just 10 minutes late- this could be 2 phonics sounds in early years that they end up missing as we progress on to the next bit of learning. We will always contact you if we feel that your child is not in a fit enough state to continue with their learning that day.

At the beginning of the week we were joined by several of the school's governors who came to learn a little more about how maths learning is going in the school. All left with a good understanding and very impressed with what they saw from the children.

Hard luck to our football team who were on the wrong side of the result against Ardleigh this week, the team acquitted themselves well and we are looking forward to the next fixture in a couple of weeks.

Yesterday we had a visit from Essex police who delivered an assembly about ebikes and scooters to the children, hopefully they can tell you all about it and now know what they can and can't do.

Next week Class 4 go on their residential trip to Aylmerton which is very exciting. Please rest assured that the children will have a great time and even if you don't see pictures they will be enjoying the trip.

We also have the book fair arriving on Wednesday and it will remain with us for the week so do pop in and have a look at the titles on offer.

Have a wonderful weekend,

Mr Bevan

Dear parents and carers,

This week was another fun packed week! The nativity rehearsals began and all the staff are full of the Christmas spirit. Class 4 had their first Rock Band session in a real recording studio with some very talented musicians. They had a go at playing drums, electric and bass guitars - we definitely have some rock stars in the making! Mr Gueizelar notes that we came out on the wrong side again on Wednesday's football match, but showed a lot more character in the second half. We were 3-0 down at the break and a more resolute 2nd half performance, keeping the score line at 3-0 to Ardleigh. Player of the Match again goes to James Mc - he gave his all in goal and made two or three outstanding saves. Fully deserved. We had our final open day this week and I would like to congratulate every child who showed these new parents and little ones around. You were so polite, respectful and patient - well done and thank you! Finally we had a very informative lesson from the police who visited to tell us all about E-Scooters. If you are thinking of getting one, just ask your child and I'm sure they will persuade you not to! We all learnt a lot and as always the children loved meeting and asking questions to the wonderful men and women who serve our community.

Next week St Joseph's will be a whole lot quieter as we will be waving goodbye to most of our Class 4 as they head off on their much anticipated residential trip. We wish them (and the staff) well and I'm looking forward to spending the day with them all on Thursday. On Monday Class 1 will be clearing out their closet and heading to the charity shop to learn all about donating and running a business geared towards helping others. Especially in the lead up to Christmas donating to charity is always a good idea and I look forward to heard all about Class's 1's learning!

Reading is one of the most essential and valuable skills a child can gain. Reading for pleasure is a gift for life and one we can all return to as adults (when we get the time to). Encouraging children to read is a big part of who we are which is why Mrs Standen, our English lead, has arranged for the Book Fayre to visit St Joseph's on Wednesday 25th of November and they will be here for a whole week! More information will follow, but we look forward to seeing you after school to have a look at some of the wonderful new books we will have to offer.

Finally, I would like to thank the staff for their amazing dedication to your children. They really do work tirelessly to make coming to school every day a fun and welcoming experience. Unfortunately, we have had a few scenarios of parents speaking to our staff in an unpolite way. Please can I ask you to bear in mind that we are all human beings trying to do our best and polite communication is a standard we should all try to uphold.

I wish you all a wonderful weekend, God bless,

Mrs Leigh

Attendance

Class	Last Week	This Week
1	95.00%	93.18%
2	98.67%	91.00%
3	98.44%	96.56%
4	96.67%	91.82%

Certificate Winners

Class 1: Ettie and Marybeth

Class 2: Billy and Sofia

Class 3: Lily, Jax and Declan

Class 4: James Mc, Daisy and Emma

Our New School Council: Henley, Ronnie, Ellis, Darcey, Helen, Thomas, Edie, Ishmael, Isabelle, Morgan, Coen, Daisy, Jacob, Lottie

And our Child MPs – Ellie and James Mc

Whole School Attendance this week:

93.16%

Winning Class this Week:

Class 3 – 96.56%





Winning House Team This Week:

ST GEORGE

DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

Mon 23rd November	Class 4 Residential Class 1 Visit to local charity shop
Weds 25th November	Book Fair Arrives – more details to follow
Tues 1st December	HEP Carol Concert 6pm St Nicholas – details to follow
Fri 4th December	Non Uniform – collecting sweets/chocolates for the bazaar 10am Advent Mass
Tues 8th December	Class 1 and Class 2 Christmas Dinner
Weds 9th December	Class 3 and Class 4 Christmas Dinner
Thurs 10th December	Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day
Fri 11th December	9.30am Penitential Service at School Christmas Bazaar – details to follow
Tues 15th December	6pm Christmas Nativity Play Class 1 + 2 – tickets will follow
Weds 16th December	2pm Christmas Nativity Play Class 1 + 2 – tickets will follow
Fri 18th December	Last day of term – Carol Service at Church 1pm School closes at 2pm
Tues 5th January 2027	Children return to School (Monday is a non-pupil day)
Weds 6th January 2027	11.30am Epiphany Mass at Church

Term Dates for 2026/2027 are on our School Website

Week Beginning Monday 23rd November
Week 2 of the Menu

Winter/Spring – WEEK 2

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Chicken Burger Or Sandwich/Jackets	Pizza Or Sandwich/Jackets	Roast Chicken Or Sandwich/Jackets	Brunch Lunch Or Sandwich/Jackets	Fish Fingers and Chips Or Sandwich/Jackets
Salad Bar	Salad Bar	Salad Bar	Salad Bar	Salad Bar
Fruit and Yoghurt	Fruit and Yoghurt	Fruit and Yoghurt	Fruit and Yoghurt	Fruit and Yoghurt or Treat Friday

*Cool water, fresh fruit and yoghurt available daily



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

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 at inspection reports etc.

Our school website can be found at:

https://www.st-josephs-dovercourt.essex.sch.uk/

Breakfast With Santa



You're Invited!

On Sunday 29th November 2026

9:00am till 10:30am

At Dovercourt Central Church
203 Main Road Dovercourt

Adults : £9 | Child : £4

Santa will have presents for everyone!

HARWICH
EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP

Christmas Carol Service

All primary schools in HEP will be performing their favourite Christmas songs on

Tuesday 1st December at 6:00pm

at St Nicholas Church in Harwich.



Join us for an evening of music, joy and Christmas spirit!

The Ark Family Centre

Ark Community Food Bank

Monday, Wednesdays and Thursdays 9am-12pm

We offer free food and essential items to individuals and families in our community who may be struggling

No Judgement

Friendly faces

Open to everyone that needs support

Please make contact with Claire on 07961 411329 or claire@thearkcentregroup.co.uk

If you contact us before midday we can arrange same day collection or if you can't come to us, we will do our best to help with local delivery

36 Main Road, Harwich, Essex, CO12 3LU

Registered charity no: 297935

extra

ADHD Workshop

Scan to book your free place!

Join us for a friendly and informative workshop designed to help you better understand Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) and feel more confident in supporting your child.

Together, we'll explore:

What is ADHD?

How the brain works in children with ADHD

Understanding Rejection Sensitive Dysphoria (RSD)

Practical, positive strategies you can use at home

This session is all about giving you helpful insights, simple tools, and reassurance – so you can respond to your child's needs with greater understanding and confidence.



Karen - Parent Services Manager



Lauren, MBACP
Integrative Counsellor and Associate Facilitator

Thursday 26th November 2026
9.30am - 12pm

Harwich and Dovercourt High School



admin@extrasupportforfamilies.co.uk
01255475001
www.extrasupportforfamilies.co.uk/
Registered in England No: 1158891

Funded by...
PEOPLE'S POSTCODE LOTTERY
PEOPLE'S POSTCODE TRUST
COMMUNITY FUND

ACL

Free courses for parents & carers

December 2026

These courses all take place online

Gain practical **tips and techniques** you can use straight away.

Be around others that 'get it' in our **supportive and friendly** sessions.

W.C. 30th November

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
30th November	1st December	2nd December	3rd December	4th December
	Understanding Teens Anxiety 7pm - 9pm Managing Big Emotions 6:30pm - 8:30pm	Understanding ASC in Children 6:30pm - 8:30pm Managing Anger in Young People 7pm - 9pm	Parent's Guide To Separation Anxiety For Primary 7pm - 9pm	

W.C. 14th December

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
14th December	15th December	16th December	17th December	18th December
Parent's Guide To Separation Anxiety For Early Years 7pm - 9pm	Managing Conflict at Home 7pm - 9pm	Building Better Routines 7pm - 9pm		

To book, please visit **aclessex.com** and search the course name or give us a call on **0345 603 7635**.

ACL | Essex County Council