St Joseph's Catholic Primary

We follow in St Joseph's footsteps building a community of love, trust, respect and learning.

16th May 2025

Dear parents, carers and family members,

What a lovely, sunny week we have had; long may it last!

We did not gather on Monday due to the Year 6 children commencing their SATs assessments, an event that marks a significant milestone in their educational journey. As educators, we are acutely aware of the hard work and dedication that these children have displayed over recent weeks in preparation for these important tests. Their perseverance and commitment are commendable, and we are so incredibly proud of their efforts this week. After a challenging few days, we celebrated not only their academic determination but also their collective resilience.

On Thursday, Mrs. Campbell had the pleasure of escorting Thorin, Gracie, Taylor and Finn from Class 4 to the prestigious Mayor-Making ceremony in Harwich. This event is steeped in history and tradition, providing an enriching experience for our children to witness the civic process in action. The ceremony entails the newly elected mayor throwing "kitchel cakes" from the Guildhall window to the crowd below—an eagerly anticipated highlight for many in attendance.

The Mayor-Making ceremony, as reported by Harwich Town Council, takes place each May following the election of the new mayor. These unique kitchel cakes, which can be either spiced or sweet buns, are baked locally and represent an age-old custom that has been passed down through generations. Children and members of the public eagerly await this charming gesture, which forms a key part of the official mayor-making proceedings, reinforcing the community spirit that Harwich embodies.

Moreover, on Friday we were privileged to welcome the mayor to school for a special assembly. During this gathering, the mayor graciously shared insights about the Mayor-Making ceremony and elucidated the significance of the 'kitchel cakes', enhancing our children's understanding of local heritage. The day was particularly momentous for our Year 6 pupils, as we celebrated the completion of their SATs with an array of enjoyable activities centred around water, allowing them to unwind and relish their achievements.

In addition, during our celebration worship, the Year 6 students were presented with their leavers hoodies, which they may now wear with pride as symbols of their journey through primary school. These hoodies not only signify their academic growth but also the camaraderie established with their peers throughout their time at our school.

Looking ahead, next week appears to be quieter as we prepare for some upcoming events. On Thursday, Mrs. Campbell will be taking a selection of Year 6 children to a Multi-School Council Transition Festival at Colchester Stadium. This festival promises to be an exciting opportunity, and we look forward to hearing all about their experiences upon their return.

Additionally, on Friday, we invite all the children to come to school in non-uniform. We kindly request that each child brings a bottle for the tombola and wine stall at our much-anticipated summer fete. This event is a fabulous opportunity for our school community to come together, raise funds, and enjoy a day of fun and festivities.

As previously mentioned, May is a particularly special month in our Catholic faith, dedicated to Our Lady, Mary, the Mother of Jesus. Throughout this month, we reflect upon Mary's profound love, unwavering faith, and her momentous 'yes' to God. We are encouraged to pray to Mary, seeking her intercession, and striving to model our own lives after her example of kindness, humility, and trust in God. Many of our students and staff will be partaking in special prayers, crownings, and reflections in her honour, demonstrating our collective devotion.

Mary, Mother of God, pray for us! This month, let us walk with Mary, drawing closer to Jesus through her loving care and example.

In our last newsletter, I expressed our joy at the welcoming of our new Holy Father, Pope Leo XIV. Chosen through sincere prayer and the guidance of the Holy Spirit, Pope Leo XIV embarks on a significant journey as shepherd of our global Church. As a school community, we carry Pope Leo XIV in our daily prayers, asking God to bless him with strength, wisdom, and peace as he leads us in faith and love. May his heart be perpetually guided by the example of Jesus, bringing hope to people all around the world.

Let us continue to pray fervently for Pope Leo XIV and the Church that he now oversees.

"I will give you shepherds after my own heart, who will lead you with knowledge and understanding." – Jeremiah 3:15.

Attendance Data

	Last week	This week	Late Marks
Class 1	95.83%	96.19%	1
Class 2	90.38%	94.62%	2
Class 3	94.12%	99.12%	2
Class 4	95.45%	99.09%	1

Finally, I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to everyone who has already responded to the letter sent home regarding our Governor Building Fund. This vital fund plays an essential role in supporting the upkeep and improvement of our school buildings, ensuring a safe and inspiring environment for our children to learn and thrive. As a school, we rely on the generosity of our families to assist us in meeting these essential costs.

If you have not yet had the opportunity to contribute, we kindly ask that you consider making a donation—no matter how large or small. Every contribution makes a difference and directly supports the enhancement of the facilities our children utilise daily. Thank you for your unwavering support and commitment to our school community.

I hope you all have a lovely, safe weekend and we look forward to seeing you all Monday morning.

Take care - God bless - Mrs. Golding

Young Carers in Schools Award 2020

Silver Diversity Mark

Certificate Winners

Class 1: Walter and Emily
Class 2: Florence and Lily
Class 3: Eddie and Daisy
Class 4: Thorin and All of Year 6

Whole School Attendance this week: 97.54%
Winning Class this week: Class 1—96.19%

Winning House Team This Week:
ST GEORGE

DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

Tues 20th June	Y6 School Council—Multi School Council Meeting
Fri 23rd May	Last Day before Half-Term—Non uniform day (for the Fete) Bottles for the bottle tombola and wine stall please
Mon 2nd June	First day back ****NEW**** School Photo Date
Fri 6th June	Walk and Talk in aid of NSPCC
Sat 7th June	First Holy Communion
Mon 9th June	16 x Children C4 Cricket Tournament
Thurs 12th June	Class 3 Mass at School *****now 9.30am—new time**
Fri 13th June	Non uniform day (for the Fete)
Mon 16th June	Summer Mass at School *****now 9.30am—new time**
Thurs 19th June	Class 4 Mass *****now 9.30am—new time**
Fri 20th June	School Fete
Mon 23rd + Tues 24th June	Y6 Transition Days for St Benedict's Children
Thurs 26th June	Y6 Transition Day for Harwich and Dovercourt School
Fri 27th June	Y6 Transition Day for Tendring Technology College
Weds 2nd July	Sports Day
Thurs 3rd July	Class 1 Beach Schools am
Weds 9th July	Reserve Sports Day
Thurs 10th July	Class 1 + 2 Summer Mass *****now 9.30am—new time
Fri 11th July	Non-Uniform Day—for Wonderful Wings Rescue
Tues 15th July	Class 1 Beach Schools am
Fri 18th July	Last Day for Children

Week Beginning Monday 19th May
Week 2 of the new menu

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Week 2

Menu

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

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
Summer Fete 2025

SUMMER FETE

Friday 20th June 2025
230pm – 430pm

Bouncy Castles, Ice Cream Van, Food Outlets, Slushies, Tombola's, Local Fire and Police Service, Cake Sale, Hook a Bag, Poo in the Loo, Coconut Shy, Penalty Shoot Out, Sweet Stall, Glitter Tattoos, Water or Wine Stall and "The Stocks" with Teacher Participation – Plus many more stalls and outside Stall Holders too.

St Joseph's School, The Drive, Dovercourt, CO12 3SU.
Please note Parking Restrictions will remain in place.

Parentkind
Member Association

SUPPORTING A SUCCESSFUL SECONDARY TRANSITIONS (Year 6)

Preparing for the transition to secondary school can be both exciting and challenging for families and children in Yr 6. Our 2-hour sessions are designed to help families navigate this important milestone with confidence and ease. By the end of this session, families will be equipped with the tools and knowledge to ensure a smooth and successful transition to secondary school.

16/06/2025 1900 - 2100 Online
or
03/07/2025 1900 - 2100 Online

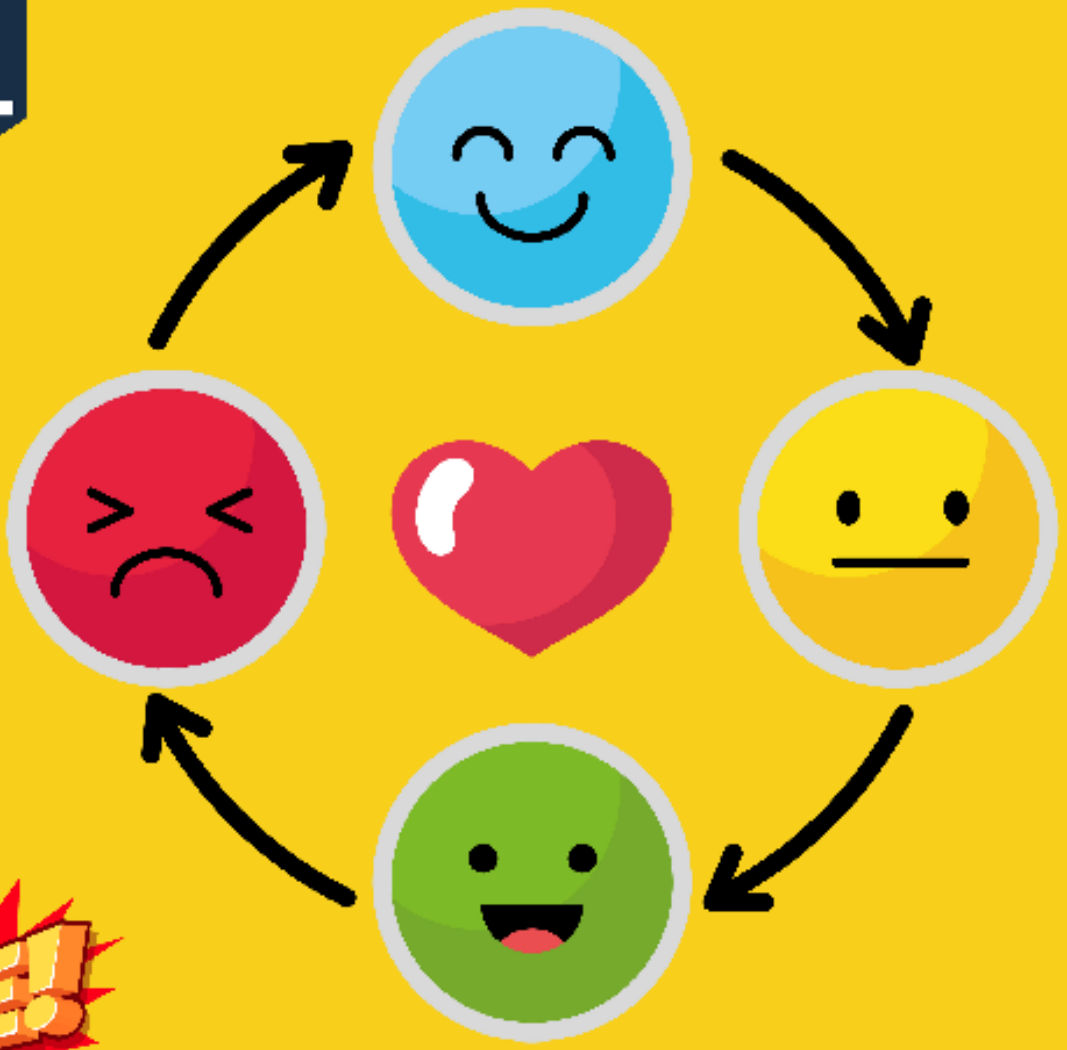
Sign up today and make a positive impact on your child's life!

Visit our website **aclessex.com** and type **'successful secondary'** in to the 'Find a course...' box

COMMUNITY & FAMILY LEARNING

ACL | Essex County Council

ACL



FREE!

Help Your Child Master Their Emotions

Help your child understand and manage their emotions!
Join us for a friendly, practical FREE online sessions introducing the Zones of Regulation. A simple, effective approach to support emotional wellbeing at home and school.

Various online sessions available at different times of the day to suit you!

For Further Information, and to **Sign Up ...**
Visit our website **aclessex.com** and type **'Zones'**
In to the 'Find a course...' box

COMMUNITY &
FAMILY LEARNING

Essex County Council

24th–31st May

Woodland Trail May Half Term

Explore our woodland garden this half term and search for the wooden animals hiding among the plants.

Prebook tickets

www.bethchatto.co.uk

Beth Chatto Education Trust

Fossil Hunting on The Beach!

May 29th 1pm-3pm

This May Half-Term, we're heading to Harwich beach for an **epic fossil hunt!** Come explore, chill by the sea, and top it all off with some tasty chips by the shore!

11-16 HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

All our activities are **completely FREE!**
All you have to do is sign up!

To get in contact, you can call or fill in our self-referral form on our website!

funded by Children in Need

01255 504800
info@teentalkharwich.co.uk
www.teentalkharwich.co.uk
17 Cliff Road CO12 3PP

teentalk HARWICH

teentalk
HARWICH

Calling all 11 - 25 year olds!

LEGO FREE-BUILD

Let your creativity flow this half-term at our lego free-build session!

Join us in the holidays for our free-build LEGO challenge

Wednesday 28th of May, 1pm-4pm

You can build your own designs, be creative, chat and make friends!

Parents and guardians must give consent in person or over the phone for 11-13 year olds.

No need to book, and completely free!

Contact Teentalk for more details today!

The Essex Lottery Community Fund
Children in Need

01255 504800
info@teentalkharwich.co.uk
www.teentalkharwich.co.uk
17 Cliff Road CO12 3PP

Active Essex Foundation

BoxSmart

On the Ropes

AEF BoxSmart is a targeted youth intervention project aimed at young people aged between 11-17 years. Projects vary from 12-week referral-led courses to regular after school sessions.

The BoxSmart project has been designed to give young people the opportunity to learn the techniques and disciplines of boxing, martial arts and other physical activities. In return, they can earn valuable awards and qualifications, making it a rewarding experience both physically, mentally and personally.

FREE

- Bring your own water/drinks
- Wear suitable clothing for activities
- No booking needed, just turn up

Each week, alongside boxing and fitness activities, young people and coach mentors will explore current issues faced by young people including social media pressure, risk taking behaviours and consequences, substance misuse, exploitation and how to stay safe in their community. Participants will be fully supported, meet like-minded others, and develop their teamwork, motivation and collaboration skills.

Starting weekly on Friday afternoons from **May 16th** 2025

4.15pm to 5.45pm

Harwich Social Club, Barrack Lane, CO12 3NS

To find out more or book a place, contact Seconds Out on 01255 235052 or email: secondsoutltd@gmail.com

activeessexfoundation.org

Seconds Out Gym

Tendring District Council