



Dear Parents, carers and family members,

What a lovely sunny week. During our gathering on Monday, we discussed an event of considerable significance—the selection of a new pope. This topic was particularly poignant, as it embodies the deep-rooted traditions and sacred practices of the Catholic Church.

In our worship, I elaborated on the process of how a new pontiff is chosen. It is a solemn occasion that steeped in ancient rituals and profound spiritual significance. The selection of a new pope is crucial, as he serves as the visible head of the Church, guiding approximately 1.3 billion Catholics worldwide. The pope, who also holds the title of Bishop of Rome, continues the unbroken line of succession from St. Peter, offering spiritual guidance to the faithful through his teachings, writings, and apostolic journeys.

When the conclave convenes, it marks the beginning of a sacred process whereby the Cardinals enter into the Sistine Chapel and swear an oath of secrecy. During this time, outside communication is strictly prohibited; mobile phones and the internet are forbidden, creating an atmosphere of contemplation and prayer. The Cardinals collectively pray for the guidance of the Holy Spirit as they engage in the essential task of selecting the next bishop of Rome.

The voting process itself is straightforward yet deeply reverent. Each cardinal writes his choice on a paper ballot, preceded by the declaration, "I call as my witness Christ the Lord." Once all votes are cast, three Cardinals meticulously count and verify the ballots for each round. This cycle of voting continues until one candidate receives a two-thirds majority. In instances where no pope is elected, the ballots are incinerated, producing black smoke—an indication to the world that deliberations are still ongoing. The conclave can extend over several days, or even weeks, as the Cardinals discern the divine will regarding their future leader.



In a moment of triumph, when a Pope is eventually elected, white smoke rises from the chapel chimney, signalling joyous news to the faithful awaiting outside. The bells of St. Peter's Basilica chime in celebration, and the Senior Cardinal Deacon proclaims, "Habemus Papam!" from the balcony. This transition is met with fervent prayers, including a poignant question raised by Neve—"Why are there no women as Popes?"—to which I responded that, as women cannot be ordained as priests, it follows that they are not eligible for the pontificate.

In our prayers, let us continue to lift our hearts for Pope Francis, for the cardinal electors in their discernment, and for the next individual who will shepherd Christ's flock. May the Holy Spirit guide the Church through this sacred transition.

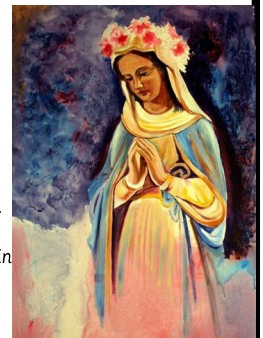
This week has been relatively quiet, aside from our football team's passion displayed during their home match against Ardleigh on Monday. Although the outcome was disappointing, with a defeat of 4-1, I want to commend each member of the team for their spirited play. A special congratulations to Ned, who not only scored our solitary goal but was also named player of the match.

On Wednesday, Mrs. Standen and Mrs. Wiltshire hosted the Phonics meeting. I extend my gratitude to all parents who attended; your participation made it a resounding success, and I hope the session was both informative and beneficial for you.



I must take a moment to thank all students for their effort in dressing smartly for school on Thursday. However, Mrs. Colley and I are currently disappointed with our Photographer and are actively seeking alternatives. Rest assured, we will inform you as soon as we finalise the arrangements for our next school photographs.

As we move through May, we would like to reflect on this special month dedicated to Mary, the Mother of Jesus and indeed our Mother. Throughout May, we are encouraged to contemplate her role, and to engage in special prayers, establish May altars, and sing hymns that express our love for her. We ask her support in staying close to her Son, Jesus, and striving to embody His teachings in our lives.



May is often seen as a time of new beginnings, heralding the onset of summer; hence, it is fitting that we celebrate Mary during this month. We hope to share various ideas on how we can honour the Blessed Virgin in meaningful ways and allow her to touch our hearts in profound ways.

## Attendance Data

|         | Last week | This week | Late Marks |
|---------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| Class 1 | 95.24%    | 98.57%    | 4          |
| Class 2 | 94.76%    | 99.62%    | 4          |
| Class 3 | 97.43%    | 96.76%    | 8          |
| Class 4 | 95.04%    | 96.06%    | 12         |

Finally, I wish to extend my heartfelt congratulations to Mrs. Stant and Miss. Fielding in the kitchen, who have recently been awarded a 5-star hygiene rating. This accolade is a testament to their dedication and hard work, and it is something in which St. Joseph's takes immense pride.



Looking ahead to next week, it appears that there are currently no events scheduled in the diary. However, I am confident that activities will arise. Our Year 6 pupils are diligently preparing for their impending SATs week, and we wish them all the best in their preparations.

I wish you all a lovely, long bank holiday weekend and look forward to seeing you on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> May.

Take care—God bless—Mrs. Golding



# Certificate Winners

Class 1: Wynter and Grace

Class 2: Lexi and Chikamso

Class 3: Remi and Rupert

Class 4: Kye, Jasmine and Ned

Whole School Attendance this week: 97.54%

Winning Class this week: Class 2—99.62%



*Winning House Team This Week:*  
*ST*

## **DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR**

|                           |                                                          |
|---------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| Mon 5th May               | BANK HOLIDAY—SCHOOL CLOSED                               |
| Mon 12th May              | Year 6 SATs Week                                         |
| Fri 23rd May              | Last Day before Half-Term—Non uniform day (for the Fete) |
| Mon 2nd June              | First day back                                           |
| Sat 7th June              | First Holy Communion                                     |
| Thurs 12th June           | Class 3 Mass 9am at School                               |
| Fri 13th June             | Non uniform day (for the Fete)                           |
| Mon 16th June             | 9am Summer Mass at School                                |
| Thurs 19th June           | 9am Class 4 Mass                                         |
| 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           | 9am Class 1 + 2 Summer Mass                              |
| 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 Tuesday 6th May

## Week 3 of the new menu

### Monday

Meatballs with a choice  
of sauces  
Served with Pasta

Baguette/Roll  
served with salad

### Tuesday

Sausage Rolls  
Served with diced potatoes and  
sweetcorn

Baguette/Roll  
served with salad

### Wednesday

Roast Gammon  
served with roast potatoes, green  
beans and broccoli

Baguette/Roll  
served with salad

### Thursday

Peri Peri style Chicken  
served with wedges and corn on  
the cob

Baguette/Roll  
served with salad

### Friday

Fish Finger Wrap  
served with crispy chips and peas

Baguette/Roll  
served with salad

### Available everyday

A healthy salad bar, fresh fruit, and  
yoghurt



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->



ACL

FREE!

## Empower Your Child, Ease Their Anxiety

Children and teens today face immense pressure from various sources, including transitions, exams, online, peer pressure or daily life.

Join our FREE sessions designed to help you to understand, and support your child/teen manage their stress, anxiety, or other emotions. Together, we can create a healthier, happier environment for our young, and not-so-young, ones.



Enrol now to make a positive difference in your child's life!

Scan the QR code, Visit our website [aclessex.com](https://www.aclessex.com) and type '**CHILD ANXIETY** or **TEEN ANXIETY**' in to the 'Find a course...' box or phone 0345 603 7635



COMMUNITY &  
FAMILY LEARNING





## ADHD & ASD: Join Our Support Network!

Are you a parent or carer of a child, or teen, with ADHD or ASD? Gain valuable insights and connect with others who understand your journey. Attend our informative online sessions to learn more about your child's needs and build a supportive community.

 Upcoming online sessions this May:

- Understanding ADHD In Children
- Understanding ASD In Children
- Understanding ADHD & ASD In Children
- Understanding ADHD & ASD: Teen Boys

Don't miss out! Register today and be part of a supportive network.

### Sign Up!

Visit our website [aclessex.com](https://www.aclessex.com) and type 'ASD or ADHD' in to the 'Find a course...' box

**COMMUNITY &  
FAMILY LEARNING**

# National Smile Month Story / Poem Competition

Community  
Dental  
Services

Celebrate with us this National Smile Month,  
12th May – 12th June 2025  
and help raise awareness of the importance of good oral health.

We are asking children aged between 6 to 11 across Essex, to write a short story (up to 400 words) or a poem promoting the importance of looking after our teeth. Whether it's about brushing, eating tooth friendly foods and drinks, the tooth fairy - it is entirely up to you, as long as it is about teeth!



## Enter for a chance to win!

The winner will have their story or poem turned into a video with their voiceover, plus receive an electric toothbrush and a book voucher.



Please send your entries in by 5pm 12th June 2025 via either email at **[ohimp.Essex@cds-cic.nhs.uk](mailto:ohimp.Essex@cds-cic.nhs.uk)** or by post to:

**Community Dental Services - CIC**  
**Oral Health Improvement Team**  
**Witham Health Centre**  
**4 Mayland Rd, Witham, CM8 2UX**

Winner will be announced on 1st July 2025. Please ensure you provide the child's name, school they attend or parents contact on the back of the submission or in the email.

*The winner will be expected to take part in post-competition publicity for CDS. This may mean their name and image being used on the internet, in publications, on TV and Radio, along with an image/video of their winning entry.*



ACL

## EMPOWER YOUR CHILD TO MANAGE THEIR EMOTIONS

Are you a parent or carer looking to better support your child's emotional well-being? Join our sessions designed to help you understand and nurture your child's emotions.

FREE Online sessions available this May:  
Managing Big Emotions, Managing Anger, Self Esteem For Teens,  
Understanding Children's Anxiety, Understanding Teen Stress, Zones of Regulations.

Take the First Step Today by Signing Up!  
Visit [aclessex.com](https://aclessex.com) and type '**emotions**' in the search courses box

**FREE**

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Essex County Council

# Fossil Hunting on The Beach!

**May 29<sup>th</sup> 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!**

**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 28<sup>th</sup> 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!**



**01255 504800**

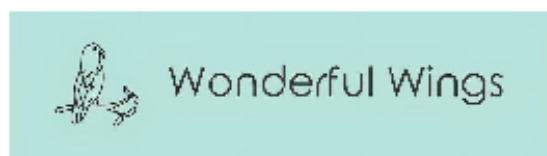
**info@teentalkharwich.co.uk**



**www.teentalkharwich.co.uk**

**17 Cliff Road CO12 3PP**





✦ WONDERSFUL WINGS RAFFLE ✦

Draw date 30th May 🍷

Strips are £1 each

Lots more prizes to be added but here's some of the amazing prizes we have so far!

1 Night B&B courtesy of The Alma Inn Harwich  
4 Local Journeys from Raymondo's Cabs  
£15 Raj Tandoori voucher  
£10 off a treatment at Gelust  
Gel Polish colour at Gelust  
Barbie model paint set  
2 crystal creations  
4 skate vouchers from The Lighthouse Sports and Social Hub  
Orange Gin  
Rose prosecco  
2 hours hire of Studio on the Quay in Mistley  
£10 voucher for Impact Imagery  
2 Spa entries at Aqua Springs Colchester  
2 Large Pizzas at Domino's Harwich  
Ladies Watch  
Clementine Gin Liqueur

We are also looking for more prizes to be donated!

To purchase tickets or to donate a prize please contact Albie's mum (C3) or message Wonderful Wings on Facebook or contact on 07538327939