



Dear Parents, family and friends of St. Joseph's

The atmosphere at St. Joseph's is indeed feeling very Christmassy here at our school.

On Monday, we gathered together to reflect on the first week of Advent. This is a particularly exciting time as we prepare for the celebration of Jesus' birthday at Christmas. Advent serves as a period of preparation, during which we not only anticipate the birth of Christ but also look forward with expectant hope to His Second Coming. Our hope is firmly rooted in the promise that Jesus will return. As Pilgrims of Hope, we are encouraged to prepare by nurturing our faith in Jesus and sharing this hope with others. During our gathering, we read from the Gospel according to Matthew, which reminds us, "Therefore, stay awake, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming" (Matthew 24:41).

In the afternoon, Class 4 had the wonderful opportunity to visit the new Harwich Library, which proved to be a fantastic experience for our students. Following this, we re-opened our Book Fair, allowing our children to explore new literary treasures.

On Tuesday, some of our children visited the Memory Café to sing for the attendees. We received a lovely email from Kay Kington expressing her heartfelt gratitude: "Can you please pass on our sincere thanks to staff, and the fabulous children who came along to sing to the attendees of our Memory Café yesterday. It was a truly wonderful morning with lots of attendees singing along with the Christmas Carols, and one of the ladies even got me up to dance with her! Some of the toddlers from our Rhyme Time session also joined us and sat enthralled watching the children sing. A real inter-generational session with a few emotional tears stirred from happy memories. I heard some wonderful comments as people left for home, and I would really appreciate it if you could let the children know what a difference they made to the attendees of our Memory Café." I extend my sincere thanks to the children who made this event so special, as well as to the adults who supported them.

Wednesday was particularly special as we celebrated our whole school Advent Mass. I would like to express my gratitude to all the children who read so beautifully and to everyone for their lovely singing. A heartfelt thank you is also extended to the parents, family members, and parishioners who joined us for this significant occasion.

On Thursday, we welcomed guest speakers, Les Nicol from the North Essex Support Team, and Toni Smith from Harwich Litter Pickers. They spoke to the children about their roles in our community, raising awareness ahead of International Day of the Volunteer. The children listened intently and posed numerous questions for our guests. At the conclusion of their talk, our Head Girl, Gracie, and our Head Boy, Thorin, presented Les with the generous donations of toys, toiletries, and food items that had been kindly contributed by our families. These donations will be distributed as part of N.E.S.T's 'One Day Free from Poverty' Christmas campaign for those in need locally. Les wishes to extend his heartfelt thanks to you all for your generosity on behalf of the recipients.

Friday brought our long-awaited PTA Christmas Bazaar! Once again, our wonderful PTA went above and beyond to create a memorable experience for our children. It was delightful to see the joy on the children's faces, particularly when they encountered Father Christmas. A huge thank you to all the PTA members who contributed to making this event so special and our fantastic staff members - Elf Standen and Elf Campbell!

Looking ahead to next week, on Monday, Class 2 will be visiting the Library. In the evening, some of our KS2 children will attend the HEP carol concert at St. Nicolas Church in Harwich. Tuesday will feature the KS1 Christmas Dinner, during which children are welcome to wear Christmas jumpers alongside their school uniform. Wednesday will see the KS2 Christmas Dinner, with the same dress code. On Thursday, we invite all children to wear a Christmas jumper in support of Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day. Additionally, Classes 1 and 2 will visit Lime Court to sing Christmas Carols.

Finally, as mentioned during our Advent Mass, we are reminded that this holy season of Advent is a time of preparation—not only for the celebration of Christ's birth but also for opening our hearts to those in need. Advent invites us to notice the light that Christ brings into the world and to share that light with others.

This year, we are supporting a charity that holds great significance for us at St. Joseph's—the Brentwood Catholic Children's Society (BCCS). BCCS is a remarkable charity within our diocese that provides emotional, practical, and therapeutic support to vulnerable children, young people, and families experiencing difficulties. Their work brings comfort, hope, and stability to those who may be struggling, particularly during this time of year when pressures and worries can feel even greater.

By supporting BCCS, we are living out our mission as a Catholic school community—to follow Jesus' example of love, compassion, and service. Through small acts of generosity, we can make a substantial difference to children and families within our diocese who require our assistance.

We will continue our support for BCCS throughout Advent, with further opportunities to give during our Celebration Worships each Friday and school events. In this manner, our whole school community can participate and journey together in charity and hope.

As we light the Advent candles and observe the glow growing brighter each week, let us remember those whose lives need a spark of hope. Let us keep in our prayers the children and families supported by the Brentwood Catholic Children's Society, and may our generosity be a sign of Christ's love shining in the world.

I hope you all have a safe, lovely weekend.

Take care – God Bless- Mrs. Golding

Attendance Data

	Last week	This week	Late Marks
Class 1	97.02%	99.05%	3
Class 2	93.06%	91.11%	3
Class 3	96.69%	90.59%	7
Class 4	93.56%	91.82%	1



Certificate Winners

Celebration worship will continue again Friday
12th December

Class 1:

Class 2:

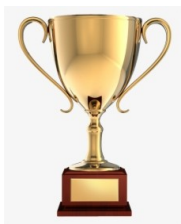
Class 3:

Class 4:

Mrs Golding's Headteacher Award:

Whole School Attendance this week: 92.61%

Winning Class this week: Class 1 - 99.05%



*Winning House Team This Week:
Rollover....*

DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

Mon 8th December	Class 2 Library pm HEP Carol Concert—Class 3 + 4 (optional)
Tues 9th December	Class 1 + 2 Christmas Dinner
Weds 10th December	Class 3 + 4 Christmas Dinner
Thurs 11th December	Save the Children Christmas Jumper day Class 1 + 2 visit to Lime Court for Carols
Mon 15th December	1.30pm Class 4 Don Thompson House Carols
Tues 16th December	2pm Class 1 + 2 Nativity 1.30pm Class 3 Lime Court—Christmas Craft
Weds 17th December	6pm Class 1 + 2 Nativity
Fri 19th December	10am Christingle at Church and 1pm Carols at school 2pm School Closes for the Christmas break
Mon 5th January	Non Pupil Day—Children return Tuesday 6th January
Tues 6th January	Children back to school
Thurs 8th January	First Year 1 and 2 Swim session
Weds 4th February	School Photos—Desk Top Portraits
Fri 13th February	Last day before the half-term break
Mon 23rd February	First day back after half-term
Fri 27th March	PTA Auction TBC Last day of Spring term
Mon 13th April	First day back for children after Easter

Week Beginning Monday 8th December

Week 3 of the menu.....

Christmas Dinner—Class 1+2 Tuesday and

Class 3+4 Wednesday

Please see below for the special festive week menu for the last week of term.

Autumn Menu - Week Three

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Sausage Rolls Or Jacket Potatoes	Christmas Dinner Class 1 and 2 Only	Christmas Dinner Class 3 and 4 Only	Ham and Cheese Swirl Or Jacket Potatoes	Fish Fingers and Chips Or Jacket Potatoes
Mash Potato Beans Salad Bar	Class 3 and 4 need a packed lunch please	Class 1 and 2 need a packed lunch please	Sweetcorn Salad Bar	Beans Salad Bar
Fruit and Yoghurt	Thank you	Thank you	Fruit and Yoghurt	Fruit and Yoghurt or Treat Friday

*Cool water, fresh fruit and yoghurt available daily



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 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->



CHRISTMAS MENU

MAIN

Traditional Roast Turkey with Pigs in Blankets and Stuffing

SIDES

Crisp and Fluffy Roast Potatoes

Selection of Fresh Seasonal Vegetables:

Carrots, Peas and Brussel Sprouts

Accompanied with Gravy

DESSERT

Christmas Tree Brownies

Class 1 and 2 Tues 9th December

Class 3 and 4 Weds 10th December

Please note that on the day of Christmas dinner the only alternative available will be a home packed lunch please.

For Class 3 + 4 the cost is £2.75

FESTIVE DINNERS

WEEK BEGINNING MONDAY 15TH DECEMBER



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Festive Pizza	'SHEPHERD'S' PIE	Festive Cup	Festive Chicken Burger	CHRISTMAS PARTY FOOD FRIDAY
Home-made pizza with toppings of Pigs in Blankets, Turkey and Stuffing served with cubed potatoes	Delicious home-made Shepherd's Pie served with Winter Vegetables	Crispy potato cubes, pigs in blanket, stuffing ball, honey roast parsnips all served in a festive cup	Served in a Bun, Crispy Fries, Corn on the Cob	Selection of Pizza Finger, Sandwich Finger, Sausage Roll Crudités
Festive Gingerbread	Frosty Flapjack	Festive Fairy Cake	Christmas Tree Brownie	Festive Biscuits

A jacket potato alternative will be offered each day along with yoghurts and fresh fruit.



MISS FINNEY TUTORING

ages 3 - 11

Tutoring group spaces are
available in the following

subjects:

-Phonics

-Mathematics

-English

-SATs Preparation

-Phonics Screening Test

Preparation

Offering tutoring in a small
classroom environment for
children ages 3-11.



For further information, please contact:



07398091022



vfinneytutoring@outlook.com



[@miss.finney.tutoring](https://www.instagram.com/miss.finney.tutoring)





We have asked the Teachers to produce a 'wish list' of items they
and the children would like for their classrooms.

Christmas Wish List

The gifting wishes will be tied to the school gates (colour coded for each class) from as early as next week, if you would like to take part, take a label or 2 home with you. Wrap up your selected gift and return to reception by Wednesday 17th December making sure the Class Name label is securely attached to the gift (Please label the gift from Santa)

The following Day, Teachers and Children will open and enjoy their class presents together and hopefully Santa will be on hand to make the special delivery.

Parentkind
Member Association



WINTER WARMERS

Do you have:

- COPD / Asthma or a Respiratory condition?
- Hypertension?
- Mental Health Issues?

Or are you:

- At risk or have had Falls?
- Living in poor housing conditions?

—
Helping
residents
stay warm
and well
this winter
—

Visit one of our events for...

- Free winter warmth items
- Signposting to other services
- Info on Food Banks & Soup Kitchens
- Flu & covid Jabs available
- Energy support & advice
- Warm Hub Guide
- Free smoke alarms

01255 425692

Resilience@cvstendring.org.uk

FIND US AT...

Weeley Village Hall Old Clacton Road, Weeley CO16 9LW	Thursday 11th December 10.00am - 12.00noon
St Osyth Village Hall Clacton Road CO16 8PE	Friday 12th December 10.00am - 11.00am
Park Pavillion Barrack Lane, Harwich CO12 3NS	Monday 15th December 10.00am - 12.00noon
YMCA Brightlinsea 55 High Street CO7 0AQ	Friday 19 th December 10.00am - 12.00noon

If you cannot make it to one of our events,
please call us on 01255 425692,
or Email Resilience@cvstendring.org.uk



Community Voluntary Services Tendring - Charitable Company Limited by Guarantee. Registered in England 535167. Registered Charity No. 1108177
Imperial House, 20-22 Rosemary Road, Clacton on Sea, Essex, CO15 1NZ. Tel: 01255 425692 Email: admin@cvstendring.org.uk Web: www.cvstendring.org.uk

**JOIN
THE
CLUB!**



OPEN TRAINING SESSION DATES

Sunday 26th October - 10am

Sunday 2nd November - 10am

Sunday 30th November - 10am

Sunday 7th December - 10am

**School Years Reception to Year 5
Boys & Girls of all abilities welcome**

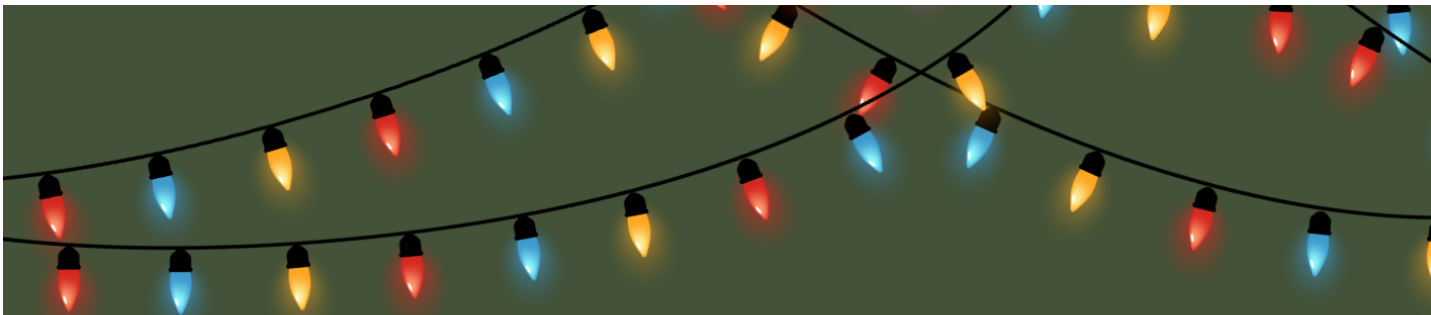
Email us at hdrufcyouth@gmail.com for more info.

**RUGBY'S VALUES OF
TEAMWORK, RESPECT,
ENJOYMENT, DISCIPLINE,
AND SPORTSMANSHIP
ARE WHAT MAKES OUR
CLUB SPECIAL FOR
THOSE WHO ENJOY THE
ENVIRONMENT AND
CULTURE THEY CREATE**



**HARWICH & DOVERCOURT RUGBY UNION FOOTBALL CLUB
SWIMMING POOL ROAD, WICK LANE
HARWICH
CO12 3TA
WWW.HDRUFC.COM**





Festive Light Up

Santa Ride and Christmas Party

Grab your Santa suits, light up your bike and join us for a festive ride along the seafront.

We will then ride back to the Harwich Arts and Heritage Centre for a Christmas party, with hot chocolate and gingerbread men!



Saturday 13th December
2pm - 5pm
Dovercourt Cricket Club



Book on now! Email us at
harwich.dovercourtepp@theaws.org
or call us at 07749 491791.





COURSE TITLE	VENUE	START DATE	START TIME	END TIME
FL ZONES OF REGULATION	ONLINE LIVE	02/12/2025 (2 WEEKS)	09:45	11:45
FL UNDERSTANDING AND MANAGING ANGER	ONLINE LIVE	4/12/2025 (2 WEEKS)	19:00	21:00
FL MANAGING BIG EMOTIONS	ONLINE LIVE	10/12/2025	19:00	21:30
FL UNDERSTANDING DYSLEXIA	ONLINE LIVE	10/12/2025	12:30	14:30
FL ROUTINES RULE	ONLINE LIVE	12/12/2025	12:30	15:00

If you would like to enrol on to a FREE course please Visit our website [aclessex.com](https://www.aclessex.com) and type the course title in the 'Find a course...' box

aclessex.com
0345 603 7635



The 12 Safety Tips for Christmas

Presented by 'The 2 Johns'



"I Know them"



The Johns would like to invite you to join a complimentary online event. This will provide you with an introduction to a world that we, as adults, did not grow up in but your children are fully embracing.

They will give you tips on: -

The Internet Express
WhatsApp & Snap Chat
What to do if it goes Wrong
Indecent Images of Children

Gaming
Screen time
Sex exploitation
Stranger Danger

The Exploiters
Cliff Top Parenting
Where can I Get Help
The Power of Influence

The two Johns, yes, they are both named John and have spent many years working in the police in various overt and covert roles tackling online and offline child exploitation. They are regarded as experts in their field and annually work in hundreds of primary and secondary schools interacting with thousands of children, teachers and parents. They also regularly deliver lunch and learn sessions to parenting networks in the private sector.

Over the past fifteen years, the two Johns have been key speakers at numerous major events throughout the country. In Essex they are regularly commissioned by the Safeguarding Children's Board, Community Safety Partnerships and schools to deliver both staff training and bespoke sessions for large numbers of children. This includes their highly successful 'Walk Online Roadshow' which is delivered to many thousands of children annually.

The 2 Johns



'Keeping Children Safe'

Thursday 11th December
at 20:00hrs

(Scan the QR code to register)



EST E Safety Training

www.esafetytraining.org



@JohnsThe2



Harwich Library
Saturday's 2.30pm-3.30pm



Ask us how to book a session!

