



Dear parents, carer and family members,



Welcome back to everyone! I hope you all had a lovely Christmas and a happy New Year. A new year brings us the opportunity for a fresh start and encourages us to begin anew. It reminds me of the passage from : "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." This is one of the most powerful Bible verses about new beginnings. It serves as a poignant reminder that God's plans for us are infused with hope and promise. As we embark on this new term, I sincerely hope we all experience success and happiness together.



For I know the plans I have for you," says the LORD. "They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope.

JEREMIAH 29:11  
NLT

This term is indeed special, as there is much planned for our students and the wider school community. The PTA have organised several exciting events that I am certain everyone will enjoy. Furthermore, we are looking forward to our special Jubilee Day, as well as a day dedicated to celebrating our patron saint, St Joseph.

On Monday, we had a non-pupil day, which allowed our dedicated teachers to prepare diligently for the new term. Our teaching assistants were particularly busy updating their paediatric first aid qualifications during specialised training. I would like to commend them for their commitment to ensuring a safe and supportive environment for our students.

On Tuesday, our Class 4 students had the pleasure of welcoming guest speaker David Whittle from Harwich Museum. He delivered an engaging talk on Harwich during World War II, which proved to be profoundly informative. The children were captivated by historical photographs depicting local bomb damage and learned about our town's crucial role in naval defense during that tumultuous period. This experience not only enriched their understanding of history but also reminded them of the resilience of our community.

On Wednesday, we embraced the Jubilee 2025 year with a special Mass, thank you to all those who read beautifully. The significance of the 2025 Jubilee Year for Catholics lies in its capacity to encourage us to renew our faith and share hope with the world. This year is marked by a series of significant events, including the opening of the Holy Door in St Peter's Basilica. Pope Francis has invited Catholics to rekindle their hope and actively participate in a vision that seeks to restore access to the fruits of the earth for all. As we are called to rediscover a spirituality that regards us as "pilgrims on the earth" rather than masters of the world, this Jubilee has been aptly named "Pilgrims of Hope". We will be undertaking various activities to celebrate this at St Joseph's, and I will provide further details in due course.

On Thursday, our Year 1 and 2 children embarked on their first swimming lesson. I must commend their bravery, particularly those who do not swim regularly and may not feel as confident in the water. Well done to all the children for their efforts and determination.

Looking ahead to next week, I would like to invite all parents and carers to a Neurodiversity workshop taking place in the school hall on Wednesday at 3:30pm. These workshops, provided by the Essex Partnerships for Inclusion of Neurodiversity in Schools (EPINS), form part of the PINS project, aimed at enhancing outcomes for neurodivergent children. The training will provide essential support and foster collaboration among schools, parents, and carers. To secure a place, please email Mrs Varley at [senco@st-josephs-dovercourt.essex.sch.uk](mailto:senco@st-josephs-dovercourt.essex.sch.uk).

### Attendance Data

|         | Last Term | This week | LATE marks |
|---------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| Class 1 |           |           |            |
| Class 2 |           |           |            |
| Class 3 |           |           |            |
| Class 4 |           |           |            |

Additionally, on Wednesday, our Girl's Football Team will be competing in a match at All Saints, with a kick-off scheduled for 3:20pm. I encourage everyone to go along and show your support for our talented team.

On Thursday, Class 4 will attend a special workshop at the Electric Palace. More information regarding this event will be communicated shortly.

Finally, I encourage you to review some of the free courses available for parents, focusing on supporting children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and anxiety. Details of these courses can be found towards the end of this newsletter.

Wishing you all a lovely and safe weekend. Take care—God bless—Mrs. Golding



# Certificate Winners

Class 1: Wynter and Grace

Class 2: Chikamso, Esmée and Ishmael

Class 3: Amelia and Mia

Class 4: Daisy and Celine

Whole School Attendance this week: 98.77%

Winning Class this week: Class 2—99.48%



*Winning House Team This Week:*  
**ST ANDREW**

## **DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR**

|                    |                                                                          |
|--------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Weds 15th January  | 3.30pm Neurodiversity workshop for Parents and Staff in the school hall. |
| Weds 15th January  | 3.15pm Girls League Football Match at All Saints'                        |
| Thurs 16th January | C4 Electric Palace Kindertransport Workshop                              |
| Mon 20th January   | Beach of Dreams Workshop C4 (in school)                                  |
| Thurs 23rd January | Football League Match at Chase Lane tbc                                  |
| Fri 14th February  | Last day before half-term                                                |
| Mon 24th February  | Children return to school                                                |
| Weds 5th March     | Ash Wednesday Mass at Church 9am                                         |
| Fri 7th March      | World Day of Prayer                                                      |
| Fri 14th March     | CAFOD Tea and Cake at School 2pm                                         |
| Weds 19th March    | 9.30am St Joseph's Mass at School                                        |
| Mon 31st March     | 10am Stations of the Cross at Church                                     |
| Friday 4th April   | Last day for Children before Easter break                                |

### **Reminder Reception Admissions September 2025**

Parents with children due to start Reception in September 2025 need to apply for a school place by the deadline of **15 January 2025**.

Even if you already have a sibling at the school, you need to apply.

To apply please go to the website [www.essex.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.essex.gov.uk/admissions) which also has a copy of the Primary Education in Essex 2025-26 booklet and the Schools Admissions Policies Directories contain details of all admission policies.

Please see Mrs Colley if you need any help.

Thank you

*Week Beginning 13th January 2025*  
*WEEK 2 of the Dinner Menu*

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Week 2

**Monday**

**Chinese Chow Mein**

Served with noodles and mini spring roll

**Jacket Potato**

With a choice of Ham, Cheese, Tuna, or Beans

**Tuesday**

**Katsu Cottage Pie**

served with broccoli

**Jacket Potato**

With a choice of Ham, Cheese, Tuna, or Beans

**Wednesday**

**Roast Chicken**

served with Mashed potatoes and savoy cabbage and cauliflower

**Jacket Potato**

With a choice of Ham, Cheese, Tuna, or Beans

**Thursday**

**Pasta with Peas & Bacon**

served with crispy leaf salad

**Jacket Potato**

With a choice of Ham, Cheese, Tuna, or Beans

**Friday**

**Fillet of Fish**

served with crispy chips and peas

**Jacket Potato**

With a choice of Ham, Cheese, Tuna, or Beans

**Available everyday**

A healthy salad bar, fresh fruit, and yoghurt, water and milk



**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->

**NHS Pharmacy First Service**—Did you know that the NHS Pharmacy First Service enables children and adults to get convenient access to healthcare advice and treatment where appropriate, for seven common conditions without the potential delay of having to wait for a GP appointment? Accessing the service may mean that can help children feel better and back to school as quickly as possible, as well as supporting parents/carers to also get better if they are unwell with one of the conditions covered under the service.

There is no need to make an appointment; parents or carers can pop into their local pharmacy with their child and ask for help under the service.

Support for the following conditions can be accessed under the service, free of charge (unless NHS prescription charges apply):

| <u>Common condition</u>          | <u>Patient eligibility</u> |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Earache                          | 1 to 17 years              |
| Impetigo                         | 1 year and over            |
| Infected insect bites and stings | 1 year and over            |
| Sore throats                     | 5 years and over           |
| Sinusitis                        | 12 years and over          |
| Uncomplicated urinary tract      | Women 16 to 64 years       |
| Shingles                         | 18 years and over          |

SONIC 3 IS COMING TO

# ELECTRIC PALACE

HARWICH



This Weekend and next week!

With lots of extra screenings at new times :

Fri 10 Jan - 7:30pm

Sat 11 Jan - 2:30pm

Sat 11 Jan - 7:30pm

Sun 12 Jan - 2:30pm

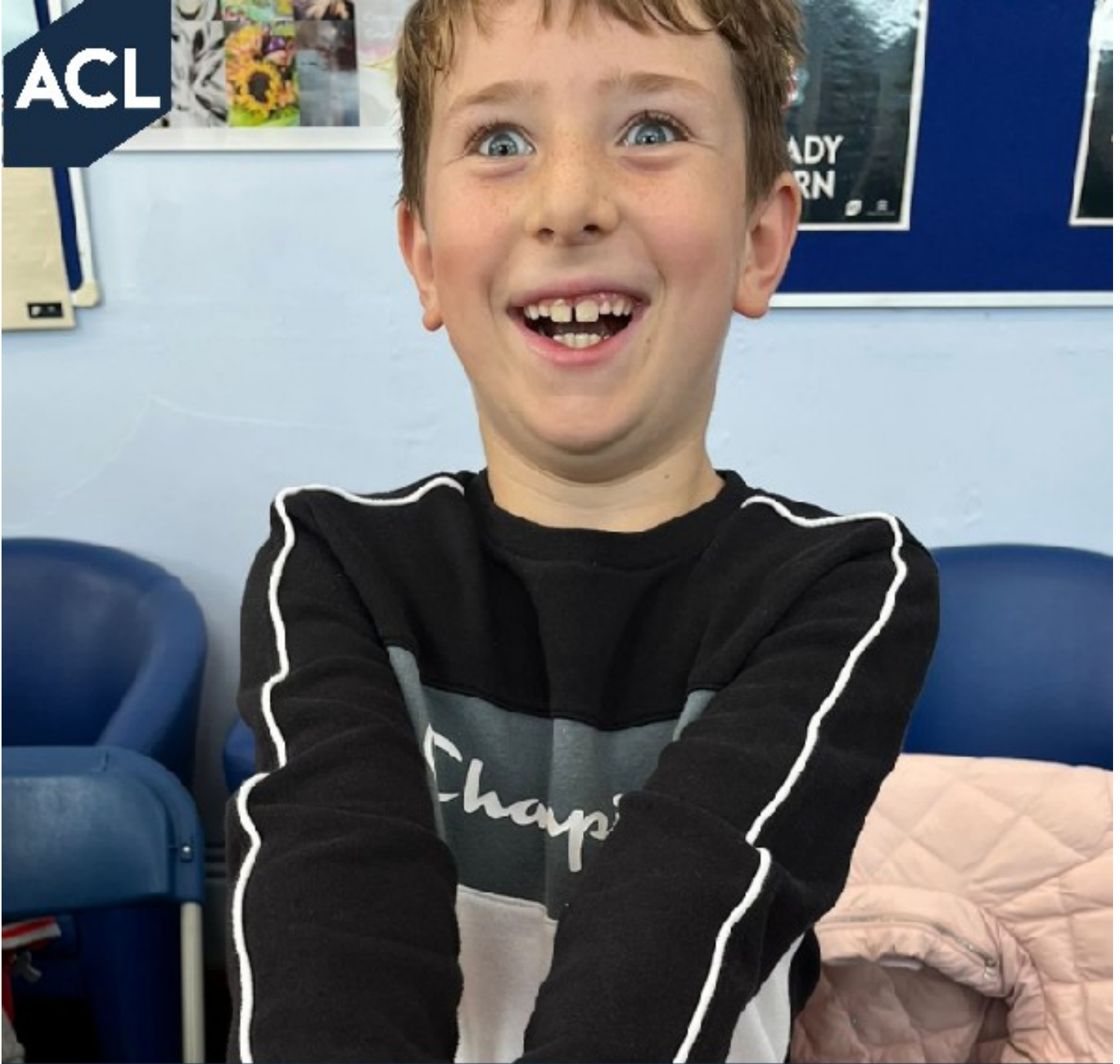
Mon 13 Jan - 4:00pm

Tue 14 Jan - 4:00pm

Wed 15 Jan - 3:30pm- Relaxed Screening

Thu 16 Jan - 4:00pm

Book online: [www.electricpalace.com](http://www.electricpalace.com) or pay on the door.



ACL

## 🌟 Unlock the Joy of Learning Together! 🌟

FREE courses, or workshops, for residents of Essex

Sessions include family fun and/or support, for example;  
Family First Aid, Positive Parenting, Zones of Regulation, Managing Big Emotions,  
SEND support, Wellbeing, Story Sacks and crafts, Family Fun, and MORE!

**COMMUNITY &**  
**FAMILY LEARNING**  
[ACLESSEX.COM / FAMILY LEARNING](https://aclessex.com/family-learning)



ACL

FREE

UNLOCK YOUR  
CAREER POTENTIAL!



## From Job Seeker to Job Winner!

Do you want to unlock your career potential and master Microsoft Word for a winning CV with our **Digital Skills - Boost Your CV** course?

Maybe you want to develop motivation and self esteem, as well as learning a range of employability and goal setting skills with our **Supporting You Into Employment** course?

**Enroll Now and Take the First Step Towards Your Dream Job!**

**COMMUNITY &  
FAMILY LEARNING**  
ACLESSEX.COM / FAMILY LEARNING



The background of the entire flyer is a photograph of two hands, likely belonging to a parent and a child, cupped together to form a bowl shape. In the center of the hands is a white silhouette of a family consisting of a father, a mother, and three children. The hands are resting on a wooden surface.

**ACL**

**SEND SUPPORT**  
**FOR FAMILIES**



Join a group of like minded parents and carers of children with SEND (special educational needs and disabilities) to discuss a different topic each week and to exchange experiences, views, and obtain advice.



**COMMUNITY &  
FAMILY LEARNING**

**ACLESSEX.COM / FAMILY LEARNING**





🌟 Help Your Child Master Their Emotions 🌟

Join our transformative sessions designed to equip you with information to support your child to understand their emotions, & to self regulate.

**COMMUNITY &  
FAMILY LEARNING**  
ACLESSEX.COM / FAMILY LEARNING



**ACL****FREE**

## Talking So Children Will Listen

Effective communication is the foundation of a healthy parent-child relationship. During our online workshops, parents and caregivers will learn the skills needed to communicate with their children in a constructive and encouraging way. This course emphasises the importance of using positive language, avoiding harmful labels, and fostering open dialogue that supports a child's emotional development. By understanding how words can shape a child's self-perception and behavior, participants will gain tools to nurture a more trusting and connected relationship with their child.

**Sign up via the QR code or website:**  
[ACLEssex.com/Family Learning](https://ACLEssex.com/Family Learning)

**Can't find what you are looking for?**  
email us - [aclfamilylearning@essex.gov.uk](mailto:aclfamilylearning@essex.gov.uk)



**COMMUNITY &  
FAMILY LEARNING**

[ACLESSEX.COM / FAMILY LEARNING](https://ACLESSEX.COM / FAMILY LEARNING)





**ACL**

**FREE**

## **Empower Your Child, Ease Their Anxiety**

Unlock parenting skills to help your anxious child thrive. Join our online courses to gain essential tips and tools to support and empower your child through anxiety. Discover practical strategies and compassionate approaches that make a real difference.

**Sign up via the QR code or website:**

[ACLEssex.com/Family Learning](https://ACLEssex.com/Family%20Learning)

**Can't find what you are looking for?**

email us - [aclfamilylearning@essex.gov.uk](mailto:aclfamilylearning@essex.gov.uk)



**COMMUNITY &  
FAMILY LEARNING**

[ACLESSEX.COM / FAMILY LEARNING](https://ACLESSEX.COM/FAMILY%20LEARNING)





**ACL**

**FREE**

## Raising Boys, Raising Girls

Join one of our 'Raising Boys' or 'Raising Girls' sessions (or BOTH!) Find out how to support your son, or daughter's, growth into a confident and resilient individual. Sign up today!

Sign up via the QR code or website:  
[ACLESsex.com/Family Learning](https://ACLESsex.com/Family Learning)

Can't find what you are looking for?  
email us - [aclfamilylearning@essex.gov.uk](mailto:aclfamilylearning@essex.gov.uk)



**COMMUNITY &  
FAMILY LEARNING**

[ACLESSEX.COM / FAMILY LEARNING](https://ACLESSEX.COM / FAMILY LEARNING)



# *Message from STREET TAG*

We are in the final five weeks of the Street Tag Schools' Game, and it would be fantastic if you could encourage parents to get involved and get active!

In addition to the chance of winning £100 for 1st place and £75 for 2nd place, there are also exciting weekly 'lucky dip' prizes of £10 vouchers for participants who collect at least 10 tags. Plus, the top two children in the schools' game who cover the most miles will each receive a £10 voucher!

To make gameplay even easier for the children, we now have a limited number of fobs available (see attached picture). Parents simply need to provide their child's username, and Street Tag will deliver the fobs directly to your school. Please email either

[support@streettag.co.uk](mailto:support@streettag.co.uk) or [becky.dowling@cvstendring.org.uk](mailto:becky.dowling@cvstendring.org.uk)

We also have two exciting upcoming events:

**Party in the Park – January 18th** This is a fantastic opportunity to earn up to **10,000 points!** There are **8,000 points** available from a special tag and an additional **2,000 points** if participants send a selfie to [support@streettag.co.uk](mailto:support@streettag.co.uk). Details on which park to attend are on the attached leaflet.

## **Free Event at Dovercourt & Harwich Hub – February 1st**

Taking place from **10 am to 12 pm**, this event is **FREE** and open to **all** parents, whether or not they are Street Tag players. Please share this opportunity with your parent community. A leaflet with further details is also attached below.





**Monthly**

# **STREET TAG PARK BONUS**

**10:30 AM - 11:00AM  
18th January 2025**

**Up to  
10,000  
bonus points  
up for grabs**



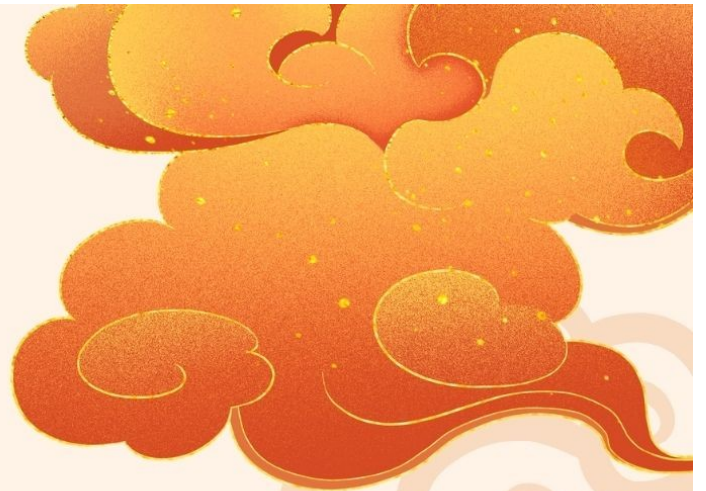
**Street Taggers!!!**

**Don't forget to grab 8000 BONUS POINTS at the STREET TAG PARK BONUS on Saturday 18th January 2025, 10:30am - 11:00am.**

Also send a selfie of you in the park to "[support@streettag.co.uk](mailto:support@streettag.co.uk)" to claim 2000 bonus points. Use #ParkBonusSelfie when sending us your selfie, and include your username & Leaderboard name.

## **Venues**

(Harwich) - Cliff Park - Main Rd, Harwich CO12 4AJ  
(Walton) - Bathhouse Meadow CO14 8PZ



# Chinese New Year with Street Tag



Dovercourt and Harwich Hub



Saturday 1st February



10am to 12pm



Enjoy a FREE morning of crafts, Tai Chi, and learn how to write and say 'Happy Chinese New Year' with the Chinese Society.

Come along for free refreshments and celebrate with Street Tag.





**COMING  
SOON**



**TEACHER**

~~**I'M A CELEBRITY**~~

**Get Me Out Of Here!**

