



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

This week began with a calm and reflective whole school collective worship on Monday, where the children spent time thinking about the Gospel reading from Matthew 4:12-23. We heard how Jesus calls His first disciples with the simple but powerful words, "Follow me." Together, we explored what it means to follow Jesus in our lives today — not just by listening, but through our everyday choices. The children reflected thoughtfully on how following Jesus means choosing kindness, helping others, telling the truth and showing love, whether that is in the classroom, on the playground or at home. Through prayer, scripture and shared responses, it was a gentle reminder that Jesus continues to call each one of us to walk in His way of love.



On Wednesday, Class 4 were visited by Esther from Essex Fire and Rescue Service, who came to talk to the children about home safety as part of their SMILE curriculum. This was a very important message and the children listened carefully, asking sensible questions and engaging well with the discussion. Learning how to stay safe both in and out of school is an essential part of growing up, and we are grateful for the time taken to share these valuable messages with them.

After school on Wednesday, our Girls' Football Team finally played their much-awaited match against Mayflower. Mr. Gueizelar reported that although the final score was a 4-1 defeat, the girls showed great resilience and should be extremely proud of their efforts. Several pupils were making their first appearance for the school, so a particular well done goes to Veronica and Remi in Year 4 for making their debuts. The girls began the match playing uphill and into the wind, and with a few understandable nerves, went into half time trailing 4-0. However, the second half showed real determination and teamwork. The girls won the second half 1-0, created more and more opportunities, and finished the game with huge smiles on their faces. Veronica scored our goal, and her beaming smile at the final whistle captured the spirit of the team perfectly. Player of the Match was awarded to Neve, who was outstanding at the back throughout the game.



On Thursday, I had the privilege of spending the day teaching in Class 1 while Mrs. Wiltshire attended her own professional learning. I thoroughly enjoyed my time with the children, who impressed me with their enthusiasm, curiosity and kindness. It was a real pleasure to spend the day learning alongside them and seeing first-hand the progress they are making.

Attendance Data

	Last Week	This Week	Late Marks
Class 1	100%	99.52%	1
Class 2	98.89%	97.78%	4
Class 3	94.55%	95.15%	2
Class 4	93.94%	93.64%	5

Looking ahead to next week, Class 3 will be taking part in their own home safety session on Tuesday. On Wednesday, Anglian Water will be in school delivering workshops and an assembly, and in the afternoon some of our KS2 children will be heading out to practise for the upcoming swimming gala.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support and encouragement. I hope you all have a restful and enjoyable weekend.

Have a lovely, safe weekend.

Take care – God bless – Mrs. Golding



Certificate Winners

Class 1: Ellis and Darcey

Class 2: Wynter and Ella

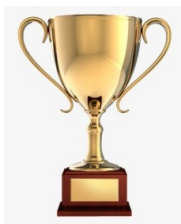
Class 3: Coen and Nicco

Class 4: Ruby, Arwen and Neve

Mrs Golding's Headteacher's Award: Ivy

Whole School Attendance this week: 96.14%

Winning Class this week: Class 1 - 99.52%



Winning House Team This Week:
ST PATRICK

DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

Weds 28th January	Swim Session for Team for Swimming Gala
Mon 2nd February	Football (Boys) at Wix KO 3.20pm
Tues 3rd February	Football Event at HDHS for C4 details to follow
Weds 4th February	School Photos—Desk Top Portraits
Thurs 12th February	12.30pm Swimming Gala—St Joseph's Team
Fri 13th February	Last day before the half-term break Cake Sale—St Helena's Hospice—details to follow
Mon 23rd February	First day back after half-term
Weds 25th February	Lenten Mass—details to follow
Thurs 5th March	World Book Day—details to follow
Fri 6th March	Non Uniform and Race Day—see below
Fri 13th March	Mother's Day Breakfast/Afternoon Tea—see below
Tues 17th March	Parent/Teacher Meetings—details to follow
Weds 18th March	Parent/Teacher Meetings—details to follow
Fri 27th March	PTA Auction Last day of Spring term
Mon 13th April	First day back for children after Easter
Mon 4th May	Bank Holiday—School Closed
Mon 11th May	SATs Week—Y6
Fri 22nd May	Last day before half-term
Mon 1st June	First day back after half-term
Fri 19th July	Last day of school for Children

Week Beginning Monday 26th January
Menu—Week 1

Autumn Menu - Week One

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Pizza with Sweetcorn or Jacket Potatoes	Pasta Bolognaise Or Jacket Potatoes	Turkey Pin Wheel Or Jacket Potatoes	Sausage + Mash Or Jacket Potatoes	Fish Fingers and Chips or Jacket Potatoes
Salad Bar	Salad Bar	Cubed Potatoes Salad Bar	Salad Bar	Beans 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

Schools meals are free for children in Class 1 and 2. Paying children in Class 3 and 4 are charged £2.75.

**Thank you
Mrs Colley**

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->



MISS FINNEY TUTORING

ages 3 - 11

Tutoring group spaces are
available in the following

subjects:

- Phonics
- Mathematics
- English
- SATs Preparation
- Phonics Screening Test

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



Preparation

For further information, please contact:



07398091022



vfinneytutoring@outlook.com



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





Caroline's (Larry's Mum) Fundraiser
for Macmillan Cancer Support
[justgiving.com](https://www.justgiving.com)

Thank you for taking time to read! I have set myself a challenge this year to run my first ever marathon in Edinburgh, 24th May 2026. I am currently training for this, it will be a challenge but for a well worthy cause !

Thanks for supporting my fundraising. The number of people diagnosed with cancer is growing, and every one of them needs the best support to meet their unique needs.

That's why Macmillan will do whatever it takes to help everyone living with cancer across the UK get the support they need right now and transform cancer care for everyone who will be diagnosed in the future.

Donating through JustGiving is simple, fast and secure. Your details are safe with JustGiving, once you donate, they'll send your money directly to the charity.

<https://www.justgiving.com/page/caroline-huggins-1?>

ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Non-Uniform & Race Afternoon

Friday 6th March 2026



Non-Uniform Day in exchange for Chocolate, Sweets, Crisps or Drink in below colours:

Class 1 – Blue, Class 2 Red,

Class 3 – Green, Class 4 – Yellow.

**Bring The Family and Friends to raise funds for
The School.**

First Race Underway at 2.45pm (6 Races on Card)

Horses Auctioned for Each Race

(Winning Owners to Receive Cash / Prize / Hamper)

There will also be opportunity to have a bet on the horses with winning owners receiving cash rewards.

The PTA Team look forward to seeing you all.



FRIDAY 13TH MARCH 2026 MOTHERS DAY BREAKFAST / AFTERNOON TEA

Previous Years have proved to be a hugely popular event – chance for children to celebrate this day with their Mum's / Nan's / Carer. Slight difference this year will be the option of Breakfast or Afternoon Tea. Due to increasing numbers, we ask you to reserve your place by Wednesday 4th March 2026 at the School Office ensuring you identify which event you would like to attend – we ask kindly that you only purchase for one of the events.



**915AM
(BREAKFAST) 2PM
(AFTERNOON TEA) IN
THE SCHOOL HALL**

**£3.50 PER PARENT
/ CARER / NAN /
GUARDIAN**

**CUT OFF TO
RESERVE YOUR
PLACE IS
WEDNESDAY 4TH
MARCH 2026**

**PLEASE PAY AT THE
SCHOOL OFFICE.**

**SIBLINGS WILL
HAVE BREAKFAST
WITH YOU AS A
FAMILY.**

**IF YOU HAVE ANY
QUESTIONS, PLEASE
CONTACT GREG ON
07919 186392.**

Please Indicate any Dietary
Requirements when
Reserving your Place.



February half-term childcare based at St Michael's

When school's out but work isn't, having familiar childcare in place can make half-term much easier to manage.

This February half-term, Holiday HQ begins at St. Michael's, delivered by Junior Adventures Group, offering structured, active holiday childcare for children aged 4–11 with activities adapted across age groups.

Holiday HQ: Destination Imagination

This February's theme, Destination Imagination, invites children to step into imaginative roles each day — from **underwater explorers and creative engineers to sports stars and intelligence agents** — through hands-on activities, team challenges and creative play.

 **Monday 16 – Friday 20 February (from 7.30am to 6pm or anywhere in between)**

Session Timings & Costs:

- Short Day: 9.30am - 3.30pm - £30

- Early Drop Off: 8.30am - 9.30am - £4

- Late Collection: 3.30pm - 5.30pm - £8

As with all Holiday HQ camps, each day includes

-  Themed Hero Activities
-  Make & Take creative workshops
-  Skill Zone teamwork challenges
-  Sports and active games

What parents can continue to expect

- 👤 Ofsted-registered childcare with familiar, DBS-checked staff
- 🕒 Reliable holiday cover you can plan around
- 📅 48-hour cancellation if plans change
- 💷 Tax-Free Childcare accepted, where eligible

Ways families can save on February half-term

👨👩 Sibling discount

An **extra 10%** off automatically applied when booking more than one child

+ Multi-day discount

Book **4+ days** in the same week and receive an **additional 4%** off, automatically applied at checkout

All eligible discounts are combined automatically at checkout, helping families get the best available price.

Less stress for you. Themed fun for them.

Your feedback is vital in helping us understand demand and shape a holiday camp provision that best supports families within the school community.

Please take a few minutes to share your views — your responses will directly inform whether this holiday provision can be introduced.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/StMichaelsCofEPrimary>

😊 Have any questions?

☎ 0333 577 1533

✉ hello@junioradventuresgroup.co.uk



Winter Reading Challenge

10 January to 22 February

Join at your local library!



libraries.essex.gov.uk

   
[@essexlibraries](https://twitter.com/essexlibraries)


Essex County Council

ESSEX YEAR
OF
OPPORTUNITY



Course Code	Course Name	Start Date	End Date	Venue	Start Time	End Time
HO5C40OL25	FL Sibling Rivalry	12/01/2026	19/01/2026	Online Live	09:30	11:30
HO2C40OL25	FL Managing Big Emotions	13/01/2026	20/01/2026	Online Live	19:00	21:00
HO2A40OL25	FL About Boys Course 5-11	13/01/2026	03/02/2026	Online Live	09:45	11:45
HO2C44OL25	FL Sibling Rivalry	13/01/2026	13/01/2026	Online Live	19:00	21:00
HO2C42OL25	FL About Boys Course 5-11	14/01/2026	04/02/2026	Online Live	19:00	21:00
HO3A43OL25	FL ESOL for Parents	14/01/2026	11/02/2026	Online Live	09:30	11:30
HO4B41OL25	FL Setting Boundaries	15/01/2026	22/01/2026	Online Live	13:00	15:00
HO4C42OL25	FL Zones of Regulation	15/01/2026	15/01/2026	Online Live	19:00	21:00
HO4C52OL25	FL Praise, Rewards and Limit Setting	15/01/2026	15/01/2026	Online Live	19:00	21:00
HO5C41OL25	FL Understanding Neurodivergent Children	16/01/2026	27/02/2026	Online Live	18:00	20:00
HO1A40OL25	FL ESOL for Parents	19/01/2026	09/02/2026	Online Live	10:00	12:00
HO1B40OL25	FL ESOL for Parents	19/01/2026	09/02/2026	Online Live	13:00	15:00
HO2A42OL25	FL ESOL for Parents	20/01/2026	10/02/2026	Online Live	10:00	12:00
HO2B42OL25	FL ESOL for Parents	20/01/2026	10/02/2026	Online Live	13:00	15:00
HO3C40OL25	FL ESOL for Families	21/01/2026	04/03/2026	Online Live	18:00	20:00
HO4C53OL25	FL Talking So Your Children Will Listen	22/01/2026	29/01/2026	Online Live	19:00	21:00
HO4C44OL25	FL Fussy Eaters	22/01/2026	22/01/2026	Online Live	19:00	21:00
HO4A45OL25	FL SEND Support for Families	22/01/2026	12/02/2026	Online Live	09:45	11:45
HO4A50OL25	FL ESOL for Parents	22/01/2026	12/02/2026	Online Live	10:00	12:00
HO4B42OL25	FL ESOL for Parents	22/01/2026	12/02/2026	Online Live	13:00	15:00
HO5B40OL25	FL Zones of Regulation	23/01/2026	23/01/2026	Online Live	12:30	14:30
HO5A44OL25	FL ESOL for Parents	23/01/2026	13/02/2026	Online Live	10:00	12:00
HO5B46OL25	FL ESOL for Parents	23/01/2026	13/02/2026	Online Live	13:00	15:00
HO2C45OL25	FL Managing Anger in Young People	27/01/2026	03/02/2026	Online Live	19:00	21:00
HO5B48OL25	FL Sibling Rivalry	30/01/2026	30/01/2026	Online Live	12:30	14:30

If you would like to enrol on to a FREE course please Visit our website aclessex.com and type the course title in the 'Find a course...' box

aclessex.com
0345 603 7635



Essex County Council



Harwich Library
Saturday's 2.30pm-3.30pm



Ask us how to book a session!

