



Dear parents, family members and friends of St Joseph's,

We gathered together at the end of the day on Monday for our Whole School Collective Worship, where children and staff came together in a spirit of prayer and reflection. Our theme was The Beatitudes, with a particular focus on "Blessed are the peacemakers" from the Gospel according to Matthew (Matthew 5:1-12). The children listened carefully to the scripture and we spent time thinking about what Jesus teaches us through the Beatitudes and how these powerful words still guide our lives today. We talked about what peace looks like in our school community and how every child, no matter their age, has an important role to play in helping to build a peaceful, loving environment.



The children shared thoughtful and honest ideas about how they can be peacemakers at St Joseph's. They spoke about using kind words, including others, forgiving when someone has made a mistake, walking away from conflict, and asking an adult for help when needed. We also reflected on how being a peacemaker does not always mean things are easy, but that choosing to do the right thing is what Jesus asks of us. It was a calm, reflective and prayerful time that reminded us all that we are called to live as children of God, following in Jesus' footsteps and building a community of love, trust, respect and learning.

On Tuesday, Esther from Essex Fire and Rescue Service visited Class 3 to deliver a home safety session. This was an extremely important and informative visit. The children learned about the dangers of fire, the importance of having working smoke alarms, and what to do in an emergency. Esther explained how to stay safe in different situations around the home, including in the kitchen, bedrooms and living areas. The children were attentive, asked sensible questions and demonstrated a good understanding of how they can help keep themselves and their families safe. We are very grateful to Essex Fire and Rescue for supporting us with this vital work.



On Wednesday, Mrs Smith organised a visit from a representative from Anglian Water. He delivered an assembly explaining where our water comes from, how it is cleaned and treated, and how the sewage system works. This linked closely with our learning about caring for the environment and being stewards of God's world, which is an important part of Catholic Social Teaching. Throughout the day, he also visited Class 3 and Class 4 to lead workshop sessions, giving the children the opportunity to explore these ideas in more depth. The pupils learned about the journey water takes to reach our homes, the materials involved in the system, and how we can all help to look after this precious resource. The children showed great curiosity and enthusiasm, and it was lovely to see them making links to their wider learning about sustainability and responsibility.

Also on Wednesday afternoon, some of our Key Stage 2 children headed to the swimming pool to practise in readiness for the Gala swimming event, which is taking place before half term. The children worked hard in the water, demonstrating determination, resilience and a positive attitude. It was encouraging to see their confidence growing and their swimming skills developing. Well done to all those who took part.

Looking ahead to next week, on Monday our boys' football team will be playing a match against Wix. We wish them the very best of luck and thank the staff who give up their time to support school sport. On Tuesday, Class 4 will be attending a football event at Harwich and Dovercourt High School, which we are sure will be an enjoyable and valuable experience. On Wednesday, the school photographer will be in school. We ask that all children come to school looking really smart, as these photographs will be slightly different this year, adding a bit of character and fun, including some snazzy desktop-style photos.

Attendance Data

	Last Week	This Week	Late Marks
Class 1	99.52%	99.52%	4
Class 2	97.78%	91.11%	3
Class 3	95.15%	96.36%	6
Class 4	93.64%	96.36%	9

Finally, I would like to apologise for not being on the gate as much this week. On Tuesday I had a minor operation on my foot, but I am hoping to be fighting fit and back ready to welcome you all on the gate on Monday morning.

I hope you all have a lovely and safe weekend.

Take care – God bless
Mrs Golding



Silver Diversity Mark



Certificate Winners

Class 1: Billy and Ivan

Class 2: Helen and Harry

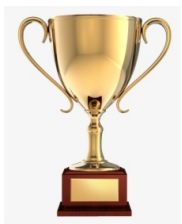
Class 3: Mira and Ernie

Class 4: Avery, Finn, Gracie and Robbie

Mrs Golding's Headteacher's Award:
continues next week

Whole School Attendance this week: 95.70%

Winning Class this week: Class 1 - 99.52%



Winning House Team This Week:
ST PATRICK

DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

Mon 2nd February	Football (Boys) at Wix KO 3.20pm
Tues 3rd February	Football Event at HDHS for C4
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—2.30pm Hall
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 2nd February

Menu—Week 2

Autumn Menu - Week Two

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Chicken Burger Or Jacket Potatoes	Chicken Curry Or Jacket Potatoes	Cottage Pie Or Jacket Potatoes	Sausage + Tomato Pasta Or Jacket Potatoes	Fish Cake and Chips Or Jacket Potatoes
Wedges Sweetcorn Salad Bar	Rice Salad Bar	Mixed Vegetables 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




Essex County Council

ESSEX YEAR
OF
OPPORTUNITY



COURSE TITLE	VENUE	START DATE	START TIME	END TIME
FL GETTING TEENS TO TALK	ONLINE LIVE	05/02/2026 (2 WEEKS)	19:00	21:00
FL ROUTINES RULE	ONLINE LIVE	10/02/2026	09:45	11:45
FL MANAGING BIG EMOTIONS	ONLINE LIVE	11/02/2026	19:00	21:00
FL ROUTINES RULE	ONLINE LIVE	13/02/2026	12:30	14:30

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





COURSE TITLE	VENUE	START DATE	START TIME	END TIME
FL GETTING CHILDREN TO LISTEN	ONLINE LIVE	20/02/2026	12:00	14:30
FL MANAGING BIG EMOTIONS	ONLINE LIVE	20/02/2026	09:00	11:30
FL SUPPORT YOUR CHILD ATTEND/ENJOY SCHOOL	ONLINE LIVE	23/02/2026 (6 WEEKS)	18:00	20:00
FL UNDERSTANDING NEURODIVERGENT CHILDREN	ONLINE LIVE	23/02/2026 (5 WEEKS)	12:30	14:30
FL SEND SUPPORT FOR FAMILIES	ONLINE LIVE	24/02/2026 (6 WEEKS)	19:00	21:00
FL FAMILY WELLBEING	ONLINE LIVE	24/02/2026 (6 WEEKS)	09:30	11:30
FL ASSERTIVE PARENTING	ONLINE LIVE	24/02/2026 (6 WEEKS)	19:00	21:00

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



COURSE TITLE	VENUE	START DATE	START TIME	END TIME
FL BUILDING POSITIVE FAMILY RELATIONSHIP	ONLINE LIVE	24/02/2026 (5 WEEKS)	09:45	11:45
FL ROUTINES RULE	ONLINE LIVE	24/02/2026	13:00	15:00
FL FAMILY WELLBEING	ONLINE LIVE	24/02/2026 (6 WEEKS)	09:30	11:30
FL POSITIVE PARENTING	ONLINE LIVE	24/02/2026 (6 WEEKS)	09:30	11:30
FL UNDERSTANDING ADHD AND AUTISM IN CHILDREN	ONLINE LIVE	24/02/2026 (5 WEEKS)	09:30	11:30
FL UNDERSTANDING NEURODIVERGENT CHILDREN	ONLINE LIVE	24/02/2026 (5 WEEKS)	19:00	21:00

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



COURSE TITLE	VENUE	START DATE	START TIME	END TIME
FL UNDERSTANDING NEURODIVERGENT CHILDREN	ONLINE LIVE	25/02/2026 (6 WEEKS)	10:00	12:00
FL MANAGING BIG EMOTIONS	ONLINE LIVE	25/02/2026 (2 WEEKS)	18:00	20:00
FL MANAGING ANXIETY FOR SEND	ONLINE LIVE	25/02/2026 (2 WEEKS)	18:00	20:00
FL RAISING BOYS	ONLINE LIVE	26/02/2026 (2 WEEKS)	19:00	21:00
FL SUPPORTING FAMILY MATHS	ONLINE LIVE	26/02/2026 (6 WEEKS)	09:30	11:30
FL SUPPORT YOUR CHILD ATTEND/ENJOY SCHOOL	ONLINE LIVE	26/02/2026 (6 WEEKS)	09:30	11:30
FL ESOL FOR FAMILIES	ONLINE LIVE	26/02/2026 (6 WEEKS)	18:00	20:00
FL GETTING AN ADHD/AUTISM DIAGNOSIS ADULT	ONLINE LIVE	26/02/2026 (2 WEEKS)	18:00	20:00

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



COURSE TITLE	VENUE	START DATE	START TIME	END TIME
FL UNDERSTANDING CHILDREN'S ANXIETY	ONLINE LIVE	26/02/2026 (3 WEEKS)	19:00	21:00
FL ASSERTIVE PARENTING	ONLINE LIVE	26/02/2026 (6 WEEKS)	09:30	11:30
FL ZONES OF REGULATION	ONLINE LIVE	26/02/2026 (2 WEEKS)	09:45	11:45
FL UNDERSTANDING CHILDREN'S ANXIETIES	ONLINE LIVE	26/02/2026 (2 WEEKS)	19:00	21:00
FL FAMILY FIRST AID	ONLINE LIVE	26/02/2026 (2 WEEKS)	09:30	11:30
FL POSITIVE PARENTING	ONLINE LIVE	26/02/2026 (6 WEEKS)	18:00	20:00
FL UNDERSTANDING ADHD AND AUTISM IN CHILDREN	ONLINE LIVE	26/02/2026 (5 WEEKS)	19:00	21:00
FL - A GUIDE TO SIBLING HARMONY	ONLINE LIVE	27/02/2026	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



Harwich Library
Saturday's 2.30pm-3.30pm



Ask us how to book a session!

