

# ST JOHN'S NEWSLETTER

09.01.2026



**Welcome back and Happy New Year!**

It has been wonderful to welcome everyone back at the start of a new term and a new calendar year.

The children have returned with fantastic attitudes, settling back into school life brilliantly and showing real enthusiasm for learning. Even the winter weather hasn't dampened spirits, with lots of energy, smiles and resilience on display.

There is so much to look forward to this term, and we are excited for all the learning, opportunities and experiences ahead as we continue to learn together, achieve together and celebrate together.



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# Stars of the week

**LEARN TOGETHER  
ACHIEVE TOGETHER  
CELEBRATE TOGETHER  
AND 'LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE'**



**Reception - Beau** for his excellent pattern work this week.

**Rosie J** for always having a positive attitude.

**Year 1 - Arthur B and Archie** for going above and beyond at showing kindness to both children and adults in Year 1.

**Year 2 - Eleanor and Gracie** for making a super start to the New Year. You have pushed yourself to do your best!

**Year 3 - Josh** for using some fantastic vocabulary when writing his own poetry.  
**Ellie** for using her excellent knowledge of Roman Numerals to help solve our maths mystery message. Thank you for always showing such enthusiasm.

**Year 4 - Monty and Isla** for both showing great kindness and thoughtfulness this week towards our new class members.

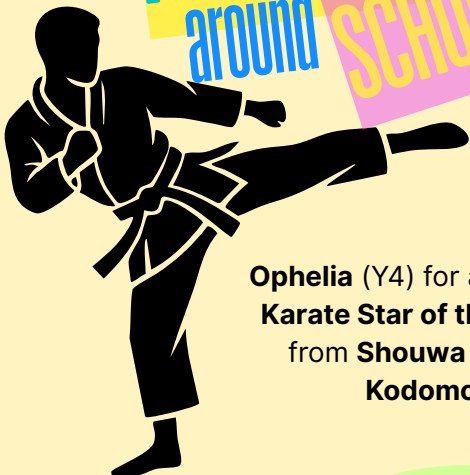
**Year 5 - Jacob H** for being an amazing role model this week. What an incredible start to our New Year!

**Anakin** for being a great team player in our science experiment. Great collaboration!

**Year 6 - Brody H** for showing resilience and focus across his learning this week.

**Jean** for showing an improved attitude and level of focus across her learning this week.

**ACHIEVEMENTS  
around SCHOOL**



**Ophelia (Y4)** for achieving  
**Karate Star of the Week**  
from **Shouwa Jyuku  
Kodomo**



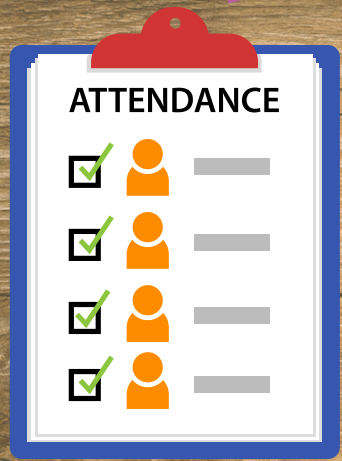
**Joshua B (Y5)** for achieving  
**Best Trainer of the Camp**  
and **tournament** with his  
team



# ACHIEVEMENTS

around SCHOOL

LEARN TOGETHER  
ACHIEVE TOGETHER  
CELEBRATE TOGETHER  
AND 'LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE'



Well done to Year 1  
99.4% attendance  
Whole School - 95.2%

Any communication regarding attendance will no longer be sent via letters. It will be emailed from the following account: [attendance@st-johns-danbury.essex.sch.uk](mailto:attendance@st-johns-danbury.essex.sch.uk)

Please do not use this for when your child is absent from school.

# House Points

Well done to  
**St Patrick House**  
for winning this week's  
House Cup



Team	Autumn	Spring	Summer	Running total
St Andrew	2			6095
St David	3			6161
St George	7			6292
St Patrick	1	1		6204



# BINGO

42 28

B 12 15 30 44

## Night

*Please save the date for the first St John's Bingo Night! All money raised will be used for curriculum enhancement, directly benefiting the children. More details to follow in the new year.*

**FRIDAY**

**07.00PM**

**27TH  
FEB**

B  
12

30

*We look forward to seeing you!*

B  
12

44

30



Essex County Council  
Libraries

**10 January  
to 22 February  
2026**



# Winter Reading Challenge

Children across Essex are being challenged to read and get creative at their local library this winter!

Explore our Pawfessionals' amazing careers as you progress through the challenge.

Choose from twelve fun activities to complete. For each one, you'll get a sticker! Complete six, and you'll receive a certificate and get to enter our prize draw for the chance to win some incredible goodies!

Plus, you can join in with themed events and activities at the library!



Find out more about how to take part in this free activity on our website: [libraries.essex.gov.uk](https://libraries.essex.gov.uk)

# This week's story and big question

## In the news this week...

The National Year of Reading 2026 is a special year, created to help children and adults in the UK enjoy reading more. Everyone is encouraged to explore all kinds of stories, books, comics, magazines, websites, and even audiobooks, with the theme 'Go All In'.

Throughout the year, schools, libraries, and communities will run fun events and challenges to help everyone find a type of reading they love.



**What role will  
reading play in our  
future?**

**My opinion**  
I think...  
I feel...  
I prefer...  
I am convinced that...  
I know...  
I believe...  
My view is...

## Things to talk about at home...

- Talk to someone at home about the types of books or other materials you enjoy reading.
- Ask an adult to describe their reading journey, e.g., what they liked reading as a child, what they read now.
- Why do you think fewer people read in today's world? What do you think of the initiative – is it a good idea in your view?



# PE & Swimming



**PE days** – Children to wear PE Kit to school  
**Swimming days** - Children to wear uniform to school  
 These days will run for the entire year

Day	EYFS	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Monday		PE	PE	PE	PE	PE	PE
Tuesday	Swimming			Swimming	PE	PE	
Wednesday	PE	Swimming	PE		Swimming		PE
Thursday	PE	PE	Swimming	PE		Swimming	Swimming



Reminder that earrings are **not to be worn** for PE or Swimming



## SCHOOL DINNERS

# WEEK 3

Home-cooked hot dinners with locally sourced food for just **£2.70**  
 School meals are to be ordered and paid for on ParentPay

Week 1	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Option 1	Pasta & Pepperoni Sauce Garlic Bread, Coleslaw and Mixed Salad	Pepperoni Pizza Salad Bar, Sweetcorn and Coleslaw	Roast Chicken Yorkshire pudding, Roast Potatoes, Stuffing, Peas, Carrots and Gravy	Chicken Chunks Potato Wedges, Peas or Beans	Fishfinger Baguette Chips and Beans
Option 2	Pasta & Cheese/Tomato Sauce Garlic Bread, Coleslaw and Mixed Salad	Cheese Pizza Salad Bar Sweetcorn and Coleslaw	Quorn Fillet Yorkshire pudding, Roast Potatoes, Stuffing, Peas, Carrots and Gravy	Quorn Dippers Potato Wedges, Peas or Beans	Omelette Chips and Beans
Option 3	Jacket Potato Baked Beans, Tuna or Cheese	Jacket Potato Baked Beans, Tuna or Cheese	Jacket Potato Baked Beans, Tuna or Cheese	Jacket Potato Baked Beans, Tuna or Cheese	Jacket Potato Baked Beans, Tuna or Cheese
Option 4	Baguettes with Cheese, Tuna or Ham	Baguettes with Cheese, Tuna or Ham	Baguettes with Cheese, Tuna or Ham	Baguettes with Cheese, Tuna or Ham	Baguettes with Cheese, Tuna or Ham
	Mandarin and Pineapple Fruit Salad	Apple Sponge Cake and Custard	Vanilla Ice cream with Orange Slices	Strawberry and Grapefruit Salad	Chocolate Muffins with Orange Slices
Week 2	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Option 1	Pasta & Pepperoni Sauce Garlic Bread, Coleslaw and Mixed Salad	All day breakfast – Butchers Sausage, Bacon Egg, Beans, Hash Browns and Mushrooms	BBQ Chicken Kebabs and Rice Roasted Peppers and Onions, Sweet Chilli Sauce and Flatbread	Beef Burger in a Bun with Sweetcorn, Tortilla Chips and Tomato Sauce	Bubble Cod with Chips, Beans or Sweetcorn
Option 2	Pasta & Cheese/Tomato Sauce Garlic Bread, Coleslaw and Mixed Salad	All day breakfast - Vegetarian Sausage Egg, Beans, Hashbrowns and Mushrooms	Quorn Fillet and Rice Roasted Peppers and Onions, Sweet Chilli Sauce and Flatbread	Vegetarian Burger in a Bun Sweetcorn, Tortilla Chips and Tomato Sauce	Cheese Puff Triangles Chips, Beans or Sweetcorn
Option 3	Jacket Potato Baked Beans, Tuna or Cheese	Jacket Potato Baked Beans, Tuna or Cheese	Jacket Potato Baked Beans, Tuna or Cheese	Jacket Potato Baked Beans, Tuna or Cheese	Jacket Potato Baked Beans, Tuna or Cheese
Option 4	Baguettes with Cheese, Tuna or Ham	Baguettes with Cheese, Tuna or Ham	Baguettes with Cheese, Tuna or Ham	Baguettes with Cheese, Tuna or Ham	Baguettes with Cheese, Tuna or Ham
	Strawberry Ice Cream with Orange Slices	Fruity Flapjacks	Jelly and Pineapple Pieces	Cinnamon Cookies with Apple Slices	Fruit Smoothies
Week 3	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Option 1	Homemade Chicken Korma Curry Rice and Naan Bread	Meatballs in Tomato Sauce Pasta, Garlic Bread and Runner Beans	Roast Chicken Yorkshire pudding, Roast Potatoes, Stuffing, Peas, Carrots and Gravy	Chicken Burger Lettuce, Mayo, Sweetcorn and Tortilla Chips	Butchers Sausage Chips, Beans or Sweetcorn
Option 2	Homemade Vegetable Korma Curry Rice and Naan Bread	Quorn Meatballs in Tomato Sauce Pasta, Garlic Bread and Runner Beans	Quorn Fillet Yorkshire pudding, Roast Potatoes, Stuffing, Peas, Carrots and Gravy	Quorn Burger Lettuce, Mayo, Sweetcorn and Tortilla Chips	Veggie Sausages Chips, Beans or Sweetcorn
Option 3	Jacket Potato Baked Beans, Tuna or Cheese	Jacket Potato Baked Beans, Tuna or Cheese	Jacket Potato Baked Beans, Tuna or Cheese	Jacket Potato Baked Beans, Tuna or Cheese	Jacket Potato Baked Beans, Tuna or Cheese
Option 4	Baguettes with Cheese, Tuna or Ham	Baguettes with Cheese, Tuna or Ham	Baguettes with Cheese, Tuna or Ham	Baguettes with Cheese, Tuna or Ham	Baguettes with Cheese, Tuna or Ham
	Chocolate Ice Cream with Orange Slices	Cherry Sponge Cake and Custard	Vanilla Traybake	Pancakes and Chocolate Sauce with Banana Slice	Fruit Platter or Yogurt

# Key Dates 2025-2026

Below are some of the key dates for the upcoming academic year as well as more detailed events for Spring & Summer Terms 2026.



**New dates added in red.**

## Spring Term

16.01.26	EYFS Parent Road Safety Talk
27.01.26	Communication Station
16.02.26-20.02.26	HALF TERM
05.03.26	World Book Day
12.03.26	Music Celebration Evening
17.03.26 & 19.03.26	Parents' Evening
23.03.26	Whole School Cross-Country
26.03.25	Easter Service @ St John's Church
27.03.26	INSET DAY
30.03.26-10.04.26	EASTER BREAK

## Summer Term

11.05.26-14.05.26	SATs Week
25.05.26	HALF TERM
08.06.26	Year 6 Residential
19.06.26	Year 5 Trip
25.06.26	Year 4 Trip
26.06.26	Sports Day
03.07.26	Arts Festival
08.07.26	Triathlon
17.07.26	Leavers' Service & Last Day
20.07.26	INSET DAY

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