

ST JOHN'S NEWSLETTER

19.12.2025

Merry Christmas

It's Christmas! What a wonderfully busy and joyful final week we've had — from the pantomime, Christmas Lunch Day and Christmas Jumper Day, to our festive sing-along assembly and the beautiful Carol Services at the Church. What a special way to send us into our winter break.

As our Carol Service message, delivered so thoughtfully by our brilliant Year 3 and Year 4 pupils, reminded us, Christmas is not only a time for sharing gifts and enjoying time with family and friends. It is also a celebration of how hope came into the world through Jesus, who is called "the Light of the World" (John 8:12).

As we head into the holidays, we are reminded of the words from Matthew 5:16 — "Let your light shine before others" — and encouraged to be that light and hope for those around us.

We wish all our families a peaceful, joyful and restful Christmas break.

Mr Power

WHAT'S INSIDE

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Follow Us

- ACHIEVEMENTS
- ATTENDANCE & TEAM POINTS
- CUP STACKING RESULTS
- YEAR 6 CHRISTMAS STALLS
- BINGO NIGHT
- WINTER READING CHALLENGE
- PICTURE NEWS
- PE & SWIMMING DAYS
- SCHOOL DINNER MENUS
- KEY DATES 2025-2026

Stars of the week

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



Reception - Margot for always making the adults in Pearl Class smile!

Ronnie for taking such great care in everything you do, especially in handwriting and art.

Year 1 - Arthur B for showing great improvement with his phonic skills this term. Super blending!

James for working hard to improve his handwriting

Year 2 - Hamish for super, careful Christingle writing.

Jude for showing real perseverance!

Year 3 - All of Year 3 for some amazing singing and acting in our Year 3/4 Christmas Carol service. You made your teacher very proud!

Year 4 - Lewis for his outstanding effort in the spelling group.

Teddy for being a good friend and making good choices.

Andrei for being a much more responsible member of the classroom.

Year 5 - Cassius for working so hard on his arithmetic and improving his skills.

Joshua B for showing enthusiasm in all his learning and great independent work!

Year 6 - We have so much to be proud of this week! Well done to the following children for giving up their time to run their stall at the Christmas fayre (and doing it brilliantly!) and for being a great support to their buddies during the Panto: **Addison, Darcey, Phoebe, Keziah, Henry D, Seb, George, Elounda, Emily, Henry H, Alfie, Millie, Aidan, Lusjen, Theo, Jean, Brody P, Jess, Rose, Ben, Henry S, Lizzy, Alice, Isla and Harriet.**

Well done to **Freddie, Lily, Dexter and Holly** for doing a great job at running their stalls at the Christmas fayre and to **Brody H, Harry S, Harley and Harry O** for being supportive partners for their buddies.



Jacob, Nelson & Arthur J (Y2) completing the **Team Challenge Games** for **LTA Youth**



Rory (Y4) completing his **Grade 2 Piano with Merit.**



Theatre Dance Awards

Freya (Y3) achieving **Theatre & Tap - Red** at **stardance awards**

Ellius (Y1) achieving **Player of the Week** at **Maldon Rugby Club**



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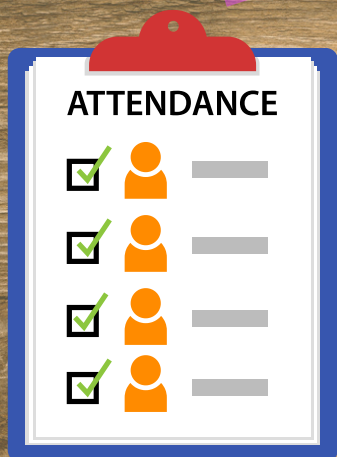


Evalyn & Joshua (Y3) completing the **Santa Fun Run** for the **David Randall Foundation**

ACHIEVEMENTS

around SCHOOL

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



Well done to Year 1
95.7% attendance

Whole School - 95.3%

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

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

House Points

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



Team	Autumn	Spring	Summer	Running total
St Andrew	2			5811
St David	3			5895
St George	7			5999
St Patrick	1			5897

ACHIEVEMENTS around SCHOOL

LEARN TOGETHER
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CUP STACKING

WINNERS

EYFS

Ruby O - 11.16secs

Year 1

Maxwell D - 7.83secs

Year 2

Fraser P - 4.94secs

Year 3

Poppy M - 6.06secs

Year 4

Jude W - 4.17secs

Year 5

Isaac D - 11.4secs

Year 6

Ben S - 5.68secs

OVERALL Winners

ST GEORGE HOUSE



Team	Score
St George	88
St Patrick	87
St David	73
St Andrew	64



Year 6

Christmas Fayre Stalls



At the Christmas Fayre, our Year 6 children worked in groups to raise money for the school. They showed fantastic teamwork, creativity and enterprise, putting a great deal of thought into how to attract customers to their stalls.

Their hard work truly paid off, with an amazing total of **£522.98** raised for the school.

There was also some friendly competition along the way (largely encouraged by Mrs Youles!), with teams aiming to raise the highest amount.

Congratulations go to the winning team of **Theo, Aidan, Henry D, Seb, George and Freddie**, who raised an impressive **£106.70** on their stall.

Once again, thank you to everyone for your generosity and support – it made the event such a success. 🎄





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

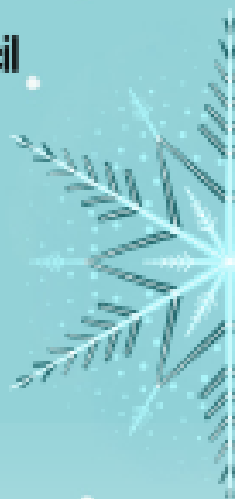
07.00PM

**27TH
FEB**

We look forward to seeing you!



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

This week's story and big question

In the news this week...

This winter, a charity called Small Acts of Kindness has sourced, packed and distributed over 10,000 'Warm in Winter' gift bags across Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire. Each bag includes things to keep people warm, like blankets, socks and hot drinks. The project aims to bring comfort to elderly and vulnerable people in the colder months. It shows that small acts of kindness can make a big difference in someone's life.



What does
kindness look like?

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 campaign.
- Can you think of a time someone was kind to you? How did it make you feel?
- Do you believe helping others can make us feel happier too? Why?
- What are some small acts of kindness we can do at home, at school, or in our community?



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

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

WEEK 2

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

05.01.26	INSET DAY
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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