

# ST JOHN'S NEWSLETTER



12.12.2025

As we reach the penultimate week of the autumn term, there has been a real sense of excitement around school. Our Band-It performances were truly out of this world — what incredible talent we have here at St John's! A huge well done to all the children who took part and to Nicola for all the hard work she puts in!

We are also looking forward to welcoming families to our Christmas Fayre this evening, which promises to be a wonderful community event. With just one week to go, we're excited for a busy and festive final few days of term.

Mr Power

## WHAT'S INSIDE



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# Stars of the week

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



**Reception - Albie & Rosie J** for engaging so well in their learning this week.

**Year 1 - Maxwell, Cooper and Archie G** for always working hard and trying their best.

**Year 2 - Richie** for working independently and trying his best!

**Ember** for having a go - it's lovely to see you becoming more confident!

**Year 3 - Albert R** for always trying so hard with all of his work and giving every lesson his best.

**Josh S** for always asking insightful questions and offering a great perspective to class discussions.

**Year 4 - Ralph** for his brilliant expanded noun phrases.

**Eleanor** for her improved confidence in her own abilities.

**Year 5 - Jacob H** for all your hard work. We have noticed your perseverance and it is definitely paying off!

**Lottie** for always showing our school value of respect. Thank you for being a great role model!

**Year 6 - Isla and George** for showing amazing focus and working incredibly hard in class

## ACHIEVEMENTS around SCHOOL



**Eleanor (Y2)** for achieving **Distinction** in both **Imperial Classical Ballet** and **Modern Theatre**

**Flo (Y2)** for her achievements in dancing.

**Sophie G (Y2)** for achieving **Merit** and **Distinction** in **Imperial Classical Ballet** and **Modern Theatre**



**Tommy, Oliver and Chris (Y5)** all received their **Silver Chief Scout's Award** this evening, the highest award that can be earned in **Cubs**

**Gracie (Y2)** for achieving **Most Improved Dancer**



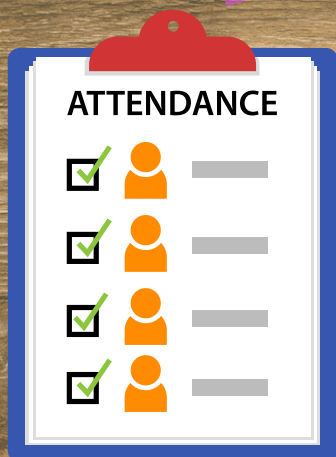
**Arthur L and William W (Y2)** all received their **Chief Scout's Acorn Award**



# ACHIEVEMENTS

around **SCHOOL**

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



**Well done to Year 7**  
**97.1% attendance**  
**Whole School - 95.5%**

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 Andrew House** for winning this week's House Cup



Team	Autumn	Spring	Summer	Running total
<b>St Andrew</b>	<b>2</b>			<b>5511</b>
<b>St David</b>	<b>2</b>			<b>5474</b>
<b>St George</b>	<b>7</b>			<b>5583</b>
<b>St Patrick</b>	<b>1</b>			<b>5478</b>

# ACHIEVEMENTS around SCHOOL

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



I'm super excited to announce that the Doodle achievements just keep coming! **Ben** (Y6) and **Alexander** (Y5) have both hit their **750 day streak!** **Lucas** (Y5) has achieved his **2 YEAR streak!** 730 days of Doodling which is **PHENOMENAL!**



Congratulations also goes to **Arthur** (Y5) who has achieved his **700 day streak!!** **Oliver** (Y5) for achieving his **550 day streak;** **Eleanor** (Y2) for achieving her **400 day streak;** **Eleanor** (Y4) and **Hugo** (Y2) for hitting their **350 day streak;** **Gracie** (Y2) for achieving her **300 day streak** and **Sofia** (Y5) and **North** (Y2) for doodling every day for **100 days!** **WELL DONE!**

## HAVE YOU JOINED IN WITH THE WINTER CALENDAR YET?



The Winter Calendar can be found as a colourful icon in the **Stars > My Robot** page of DoodleMaths and the **Stars > My Travels** page of DoodleEnglish.

Between the **1st of December and the 24th of December**, children can unlock the doors on one or both calendars by completing an x-a-day exercise each day in DoodleMaths and/or DoodleEnglish in the run-up to the holidays.

# TIMES TABLES ROCK STARS



Only 1 change to TTRS this week....**WELL DONE** to **Jude** (Y4) for becoming a **ROCK LEGEND!**

Congratulations to our existing **ROCK HEROES: Ezra, William S and Isaac** (all Y5), **Henry H, Ben, Lily, Alfie, Seb, George, Theo and Jean** (all Y6) and **Ralph** (Y4).



Well done to the following children who have maintained their **ROCK LEGEND** status....

**Year 4:** Rory, Cohen, Teddy S, Logan, Evan, Sam, Mia, Heidi, Freddie, Lucas, Hudson H, Lily, Savannah and Andrei.

**Year 5:** Elliot, Leo, Oliver, Hetty, Quinn, Sofia H, Ruby, Anakin, William R, Cassius, Reuben and Sofia W.

**Year 6:** Isla, Jess, Jemima, Brody P, Harriet, Lizzy, Harley, Elounda, Emily, Holly, Henry D, Aidan, Freddie, Dexter, Henry S, Rose, Alice and Phoebe.

**TOP 5:** Still no change in our top 5 at the moment!

**Our top 5 is:** George (Y6), Theo (Y6), Henry H (Y6), Isaac (Y5) and Seb (Y6).

# Free parental courses

ACL Community & Family Learning offer a range of **FREE online Family Learning courses** designed to support parents and carers.

These courses cover topics such as:

Supporting neurodiverse children

Positive parenting strategies

Understanding ADHD and ASD

Managing big emotions

And many others!

Registration is simple via: [www.aclessex.com](http://www.aclessex.com)



**ACL** **FREE!**

## Positive Parenting Online Course

This 6 week course is designed to support you to understand your children and provide parenting support. It covers boundaries, communication skills, understanding feelings and emotions and most importantly how to have fun as a family.

**Date: 8th January 2026 - 12th February 2026**  
**Time: 18:00 - 20:00**

Scan the QR code, or Visit our website [aclessex.com](http://aclessex.com) and type "POSITIVE PARENTING" in the 'Find a course...' box

[aclessex.com](http://aclessex.com)  
0345 603 7635



**ACL** **FREE!**

## Supporting Neurodiverse Children Online Live Course

This 6 week course will provide you with an opportunity to discuss with tutors and peers about how challenging parenting a SEND child can be. You will receive practical tips and advice on how to make family life just that little bit easier. This is an adults only LIVE course so you need to log in at the given time.

**Date: 08/01/2026 - 12/02/2026** **Time: 09:30- 11:30**

Scan the QR code, or Visit our website [aclessex.com](http://aclessex.com) and type "Neurodiverse" in the 'Find a course...' box

[aclessex.com](http://aclessex.com)  
0345 603 7635



**ACL** **FREE!**

## Managing Big Emotions Online Live Course

**What You Will Learn**

- Emotional Control: Strategies to help children recognize and regulate their emotions and impulses.
- Sensory Management: Practical tools to support children in meeting their sensory needs.
- Conflict Resolution: Techniques to guide children in problem-solving and handling disagreements constructively.

**Date: 13/01/2026 - 20/01/2026** **Time: 19:00- 21:00**

Scan the QR code, or Visit our website [aclessex.com](http://aclessex.com) and type "BIG EMOTIONS" in the 'Find a course...' box

[aclessex.com](http://aclessex.com)  
0345 603 7635



**ACL** **FREE!**

## Understanding ADHD & ASD in Children ONLINE COURSE

Join us for this 6 week online course which covers a range of subjects which Neurodiverse children often struggle with, such as timekeeping, sleeping, eating, and understanding the world around them.

**Date: 8/1/2026 to 12/2/2026** **Time: 18:00 - 20:00**

Scan the QR code, or Visit our website [aclessex.com](http://aclessex.com) and type "ADHD and ASD" in the 'Find a course...' box

[aclessex.com](http://aclessex.com)  
0345 603 7635



## Reminders



# Toys



It has been great to see the children coming in focused and ready to learn this term, and we really appreciate how well you have prepared them. As we approach Christmas, we know children are excited about gifts, collectables and festive treats — however, a gentle reminder that these should not be brought into school.

To ensure school remains calm and focused for all children, please remember:

- ✓ Toys, cuddly bears or collectables (e.g. Labubus, Jellycats, festive gifts etc.) must not be brought into school.
- ✓ Fidget toys are only permitted if agreed in advance with the SENCo and class teacher.
- ✓ Personal items can easily be lost or damaged, which can be very upsetting for children.
- ✓ If toys are brought in, teachers will keep hold of them until the end of the day and return them to the collecting adult.

Thank you for your continued support in helping children stay focused, calm and ready to learn during this busy and exciting time of year.



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!

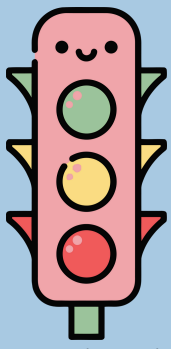
Explore our Pawfessionals' amazing careers as you progress through the challenge.

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)



Road

# SAFETY



As the days grow darker and traffic around school increases, we are asking all families to take extra care on the roads and pavements near school. Thank you for continuing to support a safe and calm start and end to each day.

## A few key reminders:

- **Please park considerately** and avoid stopping on the yellow zig-zags so that sightlines remain clear for children crossing.
- **Use designated crossings** wherever possible and encourage children to walk—never run—across the road.
- **Hold hands with younger children** when walking through car parks or near busy traffic.
- **Make sure children can be seen.** Bright or reflective clothing helps significantly during darker mornings and evenings.
- Be aware when reversing or opening car doors near pedestrians.
- Consider walking, cycling or scooting to school where safe—it reduces congestion and supports healthy habits.

If you would like to explore road safety further with your child at home, the THINK! Road Safety website provides short videos, activities and age-appropriate resources for primary pupils:

[www.think.gov.uk/education-resources](http://www.think.gov.uk/education-resources)

Working together, we can help every child arrive and leave school safely.

**STOP**

**LOOK**

**LISTEN**

**THINK**

# This week's story and big question

## In the news this week...

An adventurer named Darren Edwards, who is paralysed from the chest down, is preparing to travel 137 miles across Antarctica using a sit-ski. If he succeeds, he will break the world record for the longest sit-ski journey to the South Pole. Darren hopes his challenge will raise money for charity and show that his injury does not limit what he can achieve.



## How might challenges help us grow?

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

My opinion



## Things to talk about at home...

- How do you think Darren will feel at each stage of his challenge (before, during, and after)?
- What kinds of challenges do you think can help you grow the most – something physical, emotional, or trying something new?
- Can you recall a challenge you have set yourself and achieved? Ask others at home about their experiences.



# 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 **£2.40**  
 School meals are to be ordered and paid for on ParentPay

# WEEK 3

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 Autumn Term 2025.



Autumn Term	
15.12.25	Year 3 & 4 Carol Service
16.12.25	Civic Theatre Pantomime
17.12.25	Christmas Dinner & Jumper Day
19.12.25	Last Day of Term

Spring Term	
05.01.26	INSET DAY
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
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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