

Term Dates 2024 – 2025

October Half Term 2024:

Break up: Fri 25th October
Return on: Mon 4th November

Christmas Holidays 2024-25

Break up: Thurs 19th Dec **at 2.30pm**
Return on: Mon 6th January
Fri 20th December is a non-pupil day

February Half Term 2025:

Break up: Fri 14th February
Return on: Mon 24th February

Easter Holidays 2025:

Break up: Fri 4th April
Return on: Tues 22nd April

*Friday 2nd May is a non-pupil day
Monday 5th May is a Bank Holiday*

May Half Term 2025:

Break up: Fri 23rd May
Return on: Mon 2nd June

Summer Holidays 2025:

Break up: Fri 18th July
Mon 21st and Tues 22nd July are non-pupil days

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends,

We began the week with whole school assembly. We thought about the theme of listening. I challenged the children to identify some mystery sounds, we clearly have some great listeners as these proved to be easily solved.

We turned to the Bible and listened to the story of Samuel who heard God calling in the night and responded to His call. We thought about listening and what the important things to listen to are. We thought about how easy it was to ignore the sounds we don't want to hear, perhaps if we're asked to help with a chore at home or that we may choose to ignore someone who is upset, maybe sometimes we pretend not to hear. We prayed, saying sorry for the times we didn't listen.

On Monday our St Teresa's family officially grew bigger as we welcomed Reception class for their first day of school. Reception pupils have been attending in the mornings, they have got stuck straight into exploring their new environment, getting to know Miss East and beginning to make new friends. Next week we look forward to welcoming Reception class full time.

Reception Class and Year 5 took part in a Road Safety workshop this week. Do ask them about it!

This week was 'Democracy' week and pupils have been busy voting for positions of responsibility within their classes. Thank you to Mr Smith and Mrs Lewis who organized a real-life polling station experience for the children.

You will have noticed we haven't been giving out tokens since we returned to school. We would still encourage you to park carefully in the King George car-park and surrounding roads. The children's safety is always our first priority. The tokens will come back intermittently for short periods - we hope this will keep the initiative fresh and impactful.

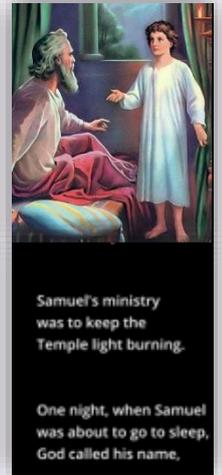
This week I have received lots of handwritten letters from Year 6, they are all keen to become Prefects! I'm delighted by the letters and shall keep reading through the pile and look forward to writing back to pupils soon.

Mr Price has been busy painting some fresh lines on the front playground - we ask that KS1 classes line up on these lines in the mornings, they will be escorted inside from here.

Next week our range of after-school clubs begin. I'm very grateful to the teachers and staff who volunteer to run clubs. Extra-curricular activity is so important.

Please note some upcoming dates this term which include:
St Teresa's Feast Day Mass at 10.00am on Tuesday 1st October - all are welcome.
Parents' Evenings will take place on Tuesday 22nd and Wednesday 23rd October - further details to follow but please mark the dates on your calendars.

God Bless
Mrs Maguire



After School Club - 3.15 - 6pm

Places for the after school club must be booked via the school office.

After School Club



Open

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club starts at 8.00am. Food will be served until 8.20am only. Children will be escorted to class at 8.40am.

School Meals

The dinner menus are available on the school website and via Seesaw



Remember to check Seesaw and the website for useful information, letters and dates!

We are occasionally asked to promote activities/clubs etc. from local groups. 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.

Attendance Data:

94% and below

94 - 97%

97% and above



	Last week %	This week %
Reception	---	98.67
Year 1	100	98.97
Year 2	98.36	96.45
Year 3	99.19	99.03
Year 4	97.66	91.88
Year 5	98.44	96.56
Year 6	99.22	95.31
Whole School total:	98.79	96.49



Well done Year 3 for highest attendance this week.

Merit Certificates

Congratulations to the following children who received a merit certificate in our assembly this afternoon:

- Y1: Boglarka, Emily, Freddie, Joyelaa
- Y2: Hugo, Edward, Bertie, Cora
- Y3: Toby, Lydia, Darell, William
- Y4: Jacquan, Eva, Michaiah, Jayden
- Y5: Margherita, Roberta, Oscar C, Amira
- Y6: Nahla, Mishel Marcus, All of Year 6!



Open days / tours of the school

We will be holding open days for prospective families to come and view our school on the following dates:

Monday 7th October at 1.30pm
Friday 8th November at 9.30am
Tuesday 19th November at 6.00pm

To book a place on one of the above dates please use this link:

<https://forms.office.com/e/Gr2mKPL4Zn>

We look forward to welcoming you.



INTERNATIONAL DEMOCRACY DAY



First Holy Communion



Please see the message below from the Church:

First Holy Communion for children who are in Year 3 will recommence on Saturday 14th September at 9.15 am in the church.

Parents/guardians need to attend a meeting in the church hall on Friday 13th September at 6.00pm - please bring a copy of the child's baptismal certificate.

Please see below for the First Holy Communion programme 2024/5

Parents meeting -13/9/24 @ 6.00pm St. Teresa's church hall.

Sessions - 9.15am - 10.45 am St. Teresa's school (pick up from the church)
NB The first session will only take place in the church.

Reconciliation

14/09/24 - Introduction - session to start in the church.

28/9/24 - We join the church - times to be advised

12/10/24 - God gives you love

16/11/24 - God gives you joy and peace

7/12/24 - God gives you forgiveness

11/1/25 - Reconciliation preparation

17/1/2024 - Reconciliation preparation and sacrament (children to arrive at 6pm in the church hall, service to start in the church at 7pm).

Communion

1/2/25 - We walk with Jesus

1/3/25 - We learn about the mass & we share God's word.

22/3/25 - We give thanks & we remember and celebrate.

26/4/25 - We share the bread of life.

17/5/25 - Retreat 10 -2pm (children to bring a packed lunch)

First Holy communion rehearsal

Wednesday 18^h June 2025

6.00pm - Group 1

7.00pm - Group 2

June 21st 2025 - First Holy Communion services at 11am and 2pm

Going Forth Mass - June 29th 2025 at 9.00am

Essex Music Services - Music Tuition

Essex Music Service music tutors will be returning to school next week to give individual music lessons for children who have signed up for this term.

Mr Morris (piano) will be in school on Mondays

Mr Hurley (guitar) will be in school on Wednesdays

Mrs Luff (piano and violin) will be in school on Fridays

Please remember to bring instruments and books on the appropriate days - thank you.



School Mass

You are all warmly invited to join us for a whole school Mass on Tuesday 1st October at 10.00am in Church to celebrate the start of the new academic year and the Feast of St. Teresa.

You are welcome to come back to school after Mass where FOST will be serving tea and coffee in the school hall.

We look forward to welcoming you.



Piano

We have been sent the following message by a lady looking to find a new home for a grand piano. If this is of interest to you, please get in touch with the school office:

I am looking to donate a Yamaha grand piano to a passionate instrument lover, organization, music department, individual, Church or local school. Please kindly let me know if you will take it or have someone who will care for it.



Philip Morant School and College – Open Evening

Please see the message below from Philip Morant School and College

Dear Parents and Carers

Philip Morant School and College is a community where everyone feels they belong and are the best that they can be. We warmly welcome you to our Open Evening on Thursday 19th September, 2024.

You and your child will be able to look around our wonderful school and see all we can offer, both in and out of the classroom. There are Headteacher talks at 4pm (arrive 3.45pm), 5pm and 6.30pm and you can book places for one of them [here](#)

You can also visit the school on a normal school day by signing up for one of our Open Morning Tours. They take place during the mornings of Wednesday 25th September, Friday 27th September, Wednesday 2nd October, Friday 4th October, Wednesday 9th October and Friday 11th October. You can book a place for one of them [here](#)

We very much look forward to meeting you and your child.

Date for your Diary Autumn Term 2024

Mrs Burrows, our SENCO, has arranged for Peer Educators to visit St. Teresa's for a coffee afternoon on

Wednesday 18th September 2:15- 3:15pm

A short PowerPoint presentation will be shared, this will explain the Autism Central programme.

This will be followed by a cup of tea/coffee, questions and answers and the offer any support required.

Following this introductory session, further sessions can be arranged based on topics of interest shared at this session.

Autism central is here to help!

Sometimes talking to people who share similar experiences to yours means you're more likely to feel understood and get the support you need.

The Autism Central Peer Education Programme is for parents, carers and Personal Assistants of autistic people of any age. They do not need a diagnosis to access the service. Support is provided by parents and carers of autistic people who are happy to share their knowledge and experience with others.

Please attend if you are interested in finding out more, or if you just fancy a sit down and cuppa!

School Attendance: The law is changing

From 19th August 2024



Penalty Notice Fines for School Attendance are changing

The government is introducing a new National Framework for Penalty Notices

5 days of unauthorised absence

Penalty Notice fines may be issued for any term-time absences that are unauthorised (for example, a 5-day term-time holiday) - whether these absences are taken consecutively or cumulatively over a rolling period of 10 school weeks

10 sessions of unauthorised absence in any 10-week period

Penalty Notice fines will also be considered when there have been 10 sessions of unauthorised absence in any rolling period of 10 school weeks

**A school day has 2 sessions:
1 morning and 1 afternoon session per day**

A **school week** means any week in which there is at least one school session. The threshold can be met with any combination of unauthorised absence (e.g. 6 sessions of holiday plus 4 sessions of arriving late after the register closes all within 10 school weeks). These sessions can be consecutive (e.g. 10 sessions of holiday in one week) or not (e.g. 6 sessions of unauthorised absence taken in 1 week and 1 per week for the next 4 weeks). The period of 10 school weeks can also span different terms or school years (e.g. 2 sessions of unauthorised absence in the Summer Term and a further 8 within the Autumn Term).

What is a Penalty Notice?

A penalty notice is an out of court settlement which is intended to change behaviour without the need for criminal prosecution. If repeated penalty notices are being issued and they are not working to change behaviour they are unlikely to be most appropriate tool. Therefore, from August 2024, only 2 penalty notices can be issued to the same parent in respect of the same child within a 3 year rolling period and any second notice within that period is charged at a higher rate. Any further offences will result in criminal prosecution.

The law will be clear that where a Penalty Notice threshold met – in each individual case, the school **must** consider if a Penalty Notice is appropriate

First Offence

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for a Term-Time Leave of Absence or irregular attendance, the amount will be:

£160 per parent, per child (if paid within 28 days)

Reduced to: **£80** per parent, per child if paid within 21 days

Second Offence (in a 3-year rolling period)

The second time a Penalty Notice is issued for a Term-Time Leave of Absence or irregular attendance to the **same parent** for the **same child** the amount will be:

£160 per parent, per child (if paid within 28 days)

There is no reduction in the amount.

Third Offence or Any Further Offences (in a 3-year rolling period)

The third time an offence is committed for a Term-Time Leave of Absence or irregular attendance by the **same parent** for the **same child** (including those by other Local Authorities) a Penalty Notice will NOT be issued but will be referred to Bristol City Council's Education Welfare service for **Prosecution** which may result in fines of upto **£2,500** per parent, per child.

Cases found guilty in a Magistrate's Court can show on a parent's future DBS certificate.

Bristol City Council have the discretion to issue Penalty Notice fines before the above threshold is met in cases where parents are deliberately avoiding the national threshold by taking several term time holidays below the threshold, or for repeated absences for birthdays or other family events.

Unchanged

Penalty Notice fines are issued **Per Parent, Per child**. This means that fines are issued to each parent, for each child who is absent. **For example:** If 2 siblings are absent for a term-time holiday this will result in each parent receiving 2 separate fines.

School Age Community Drop-in

The School Age team at Essex Child and Family Wellbeing Services will provide two weekly drop-ins within our Family Hubs across Colchester and Tendring. One of these is for parents and a second for young people. The Family Hub drop-in is available for all young people including those who may be home educated or unable to access the support they require in the school environment. **No need to book, just come along.**

- Emotional health and wellbeing
- Improving sleep
- Nutrition support
- Physical and sexual health
- Health needs assessment
- Personal hygiene
- Managing health conditions
- Signposting, advice and support.

Berechurch Family Hub, School Road, CO2 8NN

Every Monday 13:30-15:30 drop-in for parents/carers.

Every Thursday 15:30-16:30 drop-in for young people.

Sydney House Family Hub, Maldon Way, CO16 7PA

Every Monday 10:00-11:00 drop-in for parents/carers.

Every Thursday 15:30-16:45 drop-in for young people.

Contact the Essex Child and Family Wellbeing Services

Tel: 0300 247 0015

(Mon-Friday 9am-5pm)

Services commissioned by:

What to do

Advice on childhood illnesses



Go to school; if needed, get treatment as required



Some restrictions for school attendance



Don't go to school and see the GP

What it's called?	What it's like	Going to school	Getting treatment	More advice
Asthma flare up	Worsening of usual symptoms		Follow your care plan	Stay off school if feeling too unwell
Chicken pox	Rash begins as small, red, flat spots that develop into itchy fluid-filled blisters		Pharmacy	Back to school five days after on-set of the rash, or when all lesions are crusted over
Common cold	Runny nose, sneezing, sore throat		Pharmacy	Ensure good hand hygiene
Conjunctivitis	Teary, red, itchy, painful eye(s)		Pharmacy	Try not to touch eye to avoid spreading*
Flu	Fever, cough, sneezing, runny nose, headache, body aches and pain, exhaustion, sore throat		Pharmacy	Ensure good hand hygiene*
German measles/ Rubella	Fever, tiredness. Raised, red, rash that starts on the face and spreads downwards		GP	Back to school four days after the rash has started, if feeling well enough. Please let the school know, as pregnant members of staff may be affected.
Glandular fever	High temperature, swollen glands, sore throat; usually more painful than any before		GP	*
Hand, foot & mouth disease	Fever, sore throat, headache, small painful blisters inside the mouth on tongue and gums (may appear on hands and feet)		GP	Attend school while monitoring symptoms
Head lice	Itchy scalp (may be worse at night)		Pharmacy	
Impetigo	Clusters of red bumps or blisters surrounded by area of redness		GP	Back to school when lesions crust or 48 hours after start of antibiotics
Measles	Fever, cough, runny nose, watery inflamed eyes, rash		GP	Back to school four days from on-set of rash, and if feeling well enough
Ringworm	Red ring shaped rash, may be itchy, rash may be dry and scaly or wet and crusty		Pharmacy	
Scabies	Itching rash, commonly between fingers, wrists, elbows, arm		GP	Back to school after first treatment
Scarlet fever	Fever, unwell, red tongue, sandpaper rash		GP	Exclusion period during first 24 hours of antibiotics*
Shingles	Pain, itching, or tingling along the affected nerve pathway. Blister-type rash		GP	Only stay off school if rash is weeping and cannot be covered
Sickness bug/ diarrhoea	Stomach cramps, nausea, vomiting and diarrhoea		Pharmacy	Contact GP if symptoms persist after 48 hours
Threadworms	Intense itchiness around anus		Pharmacy	Ensure good hand hygiene
Tonsillitis/ Strep throat	Intense sore throat for more than 1 day		Pharmacy	See GP if temperature lasts more than 48 hours or cannot swallow. Only need to stay off school if feeling too unwell
Whooping cough	Violent coughing, with a 'whoop'		GP	Exclusion period during first five days of antibiotics
Covid				Visit www.nhs.uk for latest guidance

*Attend school while monitoring symptoms.

This information is a guide and has been checked by health professionals. If you are unsure about your child's wellbeing, we recommend you contact your pharmacy or GP to check.

Working in partnership with

Should my child go to school/nursery today?

Hertfordshire and West Essex Healthier Together for further information

<https://www.hwehealthiertogether.nhs.uk/parentscarers>



SATURDAY 14TH SEPTEMBER

7.30pm - 10pm

onosé

TICKETS

Adult £10

Child £5

Family (2 adults + 2 children) £25

Tickets on sale after Sunday Masses



Info - Catherine +44 7971 052441

St Teresa's Church Hall - 16 Clairmont Rd Colchester CO3 9BE

THE CRAFT HUB PRESENTS

HALLOWEEN HALF TERM

MONDAY
SLIME SESSION

TUESDAY
HALLOWEEN DECOR
MAKING

WEDNESDAY
TSHIRT PRINTING

★ THURSDAY
HALLOWEEN COOKING

FRIDAY
HALLOWEEN CRAFTS

15% DISCOUNT CODE
RNB209

28TH OCTOBER - 1ST NOVEMBER

BOOK ONLINE AT [HTTPS://BOOKWHEN.COM/THECRAFTHUBCABIN](https://bookwhen.com/thecrafthubcabin)

EARLS COLNE | COLCHESTER | STANWAY



HALLOWEEN CRAFT HUB

OCTOBER

HALF
TERM

9-3PM



EARLS COLNE, THE CRAFT HUB CABIN
CO62JX - MONDAY - FRIDAY



Stanway - Lakelands community centre
30th Wednesday



Colchester Community Association
Monday & Tuesday 28th - 29th





SRR ELITE CHEERLEADING

Enquire today:

EMAIL: srrelitecheerleading@outlook.com

INSTAGRAM: @srrelitecheerleading

FACEBOOK: SRR Elite Cheerleading



Classes:

Monday: Supernova - 4:30-5:30pm - Mersea
Women's Institute Hall, Kingsland Road CO5
8RB

Shooting Stars - 5:00-6:00pm - Colchester -
SEND Friendly
Lakelands Centre, CO3 8WU

Tuesday: Supersonics - 5:00-6:00pm - Colchester
Lakelands Centre, CO3 8WU

Friday: Rockets - 6:00 -7:00pm - Witham
KL Ariel Studio, Perry Road, CM8 3YY

Sunday:

Open Tumble Session - 9:00- 10:00am - Colchester

Shockwaves - Competition Development Team -
10:00am-12:00pm

Iceni Gymnastics Club, CO3 0LE

We have been asked to share the following information with Year 5 and Year 6 families:

**The Gilberd School - New Year 7 Intake Open Evening
Wednesday 18th September 2024**

The evening is for parents/carers and students applying for places in September 2025 and 2026. Parents/carers residing anywhere in the Colchester Borough area can apply for one of the 32 places available at The Gilberd School via music aptitude test. Please note, the Supplementary Information Form (SIF) for musical aptitude deadline has been extended to Thursday 19th September, with testing due to take place in the week beginning 7th October.

If you require any further information about the evening, please do not hesitate to contact the Gilberd school office.

Kind regards

Nikki Burnett
Admin Support to Deputy Headteacher - Pastoral
The Gilberd School
Brinkley Lane
Colchester
CO4 9PU
01206 – 842211



The Gilberd School

Open Evening

Wednesday 18th September 2024

Doors open at 6.15pm. Event ends 9.00pm.

Tours: 6.30pm - 8.45pm

Headteacher's address: 6.45pm, 7.30pm and 8.15pm
(To book a place for the Headteacher's address, please complete the MS Form [here](#))

This will be an opportunity to tour the school and for parents/carers to meet our staff and students.

Selective places (musical aptitude test)

We are now accepting applications for 32 selective places in the 2025 intake via a musical aptitude test for students who reside within Colchester Borough.

To apply under this criteria, please complete the supplementary information form when booking a place.

Please note, the musical aptitude test will take place after school during the week beginning Monday 7th October 2024.

Admissions, The Gilberd School, Brinkley Lane, Colchester, CO4 9PU
☎: 01206 842 211
🌐: www.gilberd.com ✉: admissions@gilberd.com

Dear Parents/Carers

Re: New Year 7 Intake 2025 - Open Evening

I am delighted to invite you and your child to our Open Evening. Please take a few moments to read the key information below.

When is it and who can attend?

The Open Evening is on Wednesday 18th September 2024 from 6.30pm - 8.45pm (doors open 6.15pm). The evening is for parents/carers of students in Years 5 and 6. Year 5 and 6 students are of course most welcome. All children must be accompanied by a parent or carer.

Will there be a presentation from the Headteacher?

Yes, there will be a short presentation repeated 3 times throughout the evening by the Headteacher. To book a place for the Headteacher's address, please complete the MS Form [here](#).

What time do the presentations begin?

The presentations begin at 6.45pm, 7.30pm and 8.15pm in the Performing Arts Centre. Parents/Carers will have an opportunity to visit areas of the school either before or after attending the presentation of their choice. Experience tells us that the earlier presentations are popular and due to fire regulations, our numbers are restricted so the doors to the presentation will be closed when we reach capacity.

Will there be an opportunity to meet staff and students?

Yes, tours will be conducted by prefects providing an opportunity for parents/carers to speak with students and staff in faculty areas who will answer any questions you may wish to ask. Governors will be represented and will be pleased to talk with you.

Is parking available on site?

There is limited onsite parking for this event so we would ask that you seek alternative means of transport to the school if possible.

I don't live anywhere near The Gilbert School and so I don't think I will be allocated a place. Is there any point in attending?

There are 32 places available for the 2025 and 2026 intake allocated by musical aptitude test. This is open to all applicants resident in the Colchester Borough area at the time of application. Application forms are available on the website or can be completed and submitted during the Open Evening.

Can I see the school on a normal school day?

Yes, we will be offering open morning tours on Friday 20th September and Tuesday 24th September. Please note that this invitation to attend the Open Evening does not constitute a formal offer of a place in September 2025/26. Should you have any queries not addressed by this letter, please contact our admissions officer, Mrs Jodee Tinman. I look forward to welcoming you to the school.

Yours faithfully

Mr J Mitchell
Headteacher



**ST JOSEPH'S
COLLEGE**

Does your ambition match ours?

There's never been a
more exciting time to
join us at St Jo's.

Find out more about
our Sport, Academic
and Performing Arts
initiatives at our
Open Morning on
Saturday 21 September.



stjos.co.uk

**OP
EN
MORNING**

Sat 21 Sept

Nursery • Prep • Senior • Sixth Form





ANGLO EUROPEAN SCHOOL

Welcome Benvenuti Добро Пожаловать! Willkommen

歓迎 Bienvenue أهلاً بكم Bienvenidos ようこそ

Open Evening

Thursday 26th September 2024

16:30 - 20:00

For entry into Year 7 and International Sixth
Form in September 2025

"The school's exceptional curriculum
provides a unique educational experience"

Ofsted

Please go to our website for more information on our Open Evening or to book a
Morning Tour: www.aesessex.co.uk/home/admissions/open-evening-and-tours

www.aesessex.co.uk

Willow Green, Ingatestone, Essex, CM4 0DJ

Email: admissions@aessex.co.uk Tel: 01277 354018

COLCHESTER

Free
FAMILY
FUN
Festival



Live Music,
Dog Show,
BOUNCY CASTLES
Entertainment
Sports...

Saturday
21st September
11am - 4pm
Lower Castle Park

FACEBOOK.COM/COLCHESTERFUNFAMILYFESTIVAL