

### Term Dates 2024 – 2025

#### October Half Term 2024:

Break up: Fri 25<sup>th</sup> October  
Return on: Mon 4<sup>th</sup> November

#### Christmas Holidays 2024-25

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

#### February Half Term 2025:

Break up: Fri 14<sup>th</sup> February  
Return on: Mon 24<sup>th</sup> February

#### Easter Holidays 2025:

Break up: Fri 4<sup>th</sup> April  
Return on: Tues 22<sup>nd</sup> April

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

#### May Half Term 2025:

Break up: Fri 23<sup>rd</sup> May  
Return on: Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> June

#### Summer Holidays 2025:

Break up: Fri 18<sup>th</sup> July  
*Mon 21<sup>st</sup> and Tues 22<sup>nd</sup> July are non-pupil days*

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends,

We began the week with whole school assembly, the children listened to a piece of music by Edvard Grieg, 'Peer Gynt- Morning Mood' and we listened to a poem entitled 'The Dawn'.

I asked the children if they knew what dawn was and some were able to describe the gradual transition between night and day. I asked the children if they recognized the phrase, 'it's beginning to dawn on me' and we thought about how sometimes our learning is a bit like the dawn, gradually a bit at a time we get better at a certain skill, or we talk more knowledgably about a subject; sometimes without even realizing we've accomplished a great step in our learning. We recognized though that we needed practice, good teachers and good books to help us. We reflected on faith being a bit like our learning, it takes practice to develop faith and it builds gradually. We thanked God for the gift of the dawn and the opportunities we get when each new day comes.

It's been a fun filled week at school, made particularly special with the new Reception class joining us full-time. I've had several visits from children this week who have wowed their teachers, earning themselves golden Headteacher award stickers! We had our termly fire-drill practice and the children showed great maturity in recognizing their new emergency exits and following our safety routines well. Our many after school clubs started and it does feel like school is now in full-swing.

We welcomed Peer Educators from Autism Central this week to deliver a presentation to parents - those that attended I hope you found it informative and supportive.

Next week I shall be accompanying Year 6 alongside Mrs Lewis, Mr Rees, Mrs Dyball and Ms Shergold to Aymerton in Norfolk for Year 6's week long residential trip. I am looking forward to the fresh air and the opportunity to watch Year 6 thrive and grow during the action-packed week. I know I am leaving the school in very capable hands, with Miss Hilton and Mrs Gill at the helm.

Advance notice- PARISH MISSION - on my return from Aymerton I hope to see you all at the special Mass on Friday evening at 7.00pm (27<sup>th</sup> September) to mark the start of the Parish Mission. The Parish Mission is a weekend long opportunity for the whole parish community to grow and deepen their faith, to build community and to heal their inner selves.

Uniform- please may I take the opportunity at the beginning of term to share reminders about our high expectations for school uniform. Our expectation includes - hair that can be tied up needs to be tied up, hair accessories should be discreet and in school colours, only one set of stud earrings is allowed and these must be removed for PE lessons. May I also ask that on PE days children come dressed in the school PE kit (not just general sportswear) this includes (see photos on our website: <https://www.st-teresas.essex.sch.uk/page/?title=Uniform&pid=73>) plain team coloured t-shirt, navy/black plain tracksuit bottoms and plain navy/black tracksuit top. Please NAME everything- you will notice a steadily growing pile of unnamed lost property on the bench on the front playground.

Please keep reading for details of the FOST cheese and wine AGM, First Holy Communion, Feast Day Mass and attendance messages.

Have a lovely weekend and a wonderful week at school next week.  
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	100
Year 1	98.97	97.32
Year 2	96.45	99.35
Year 3	99.03	98.71
Year 4	91.88	93.75
Year 5	96.56	99.69
Year 6	95.31	95.00
Whole School total:	96.49	97.66



Well done Reception for 100% attendance this week – what a fantastic start to your school journey!

### Merit Certificates

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

- Y1: Adrian, Irene, Layla, Matilda, Amelia
- Y2: Simisola, Charlie, Grace, Eliyanah
- Y3: Stacey, Ellie, Cormac, Silouanos
- Y4: Charlotte H, Kasinma, Blake, Jacob
- Y5: Amira, Freddie, Paul, Jacob P
- Y6: Isabella, Aila, Erin, Thomas



### 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.



## First Holy Communion



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

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**

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<sup>h</sup> June 2025

6.00pm - Group 1

7.00pm - Group 2

June 21<sup>st</sup> 2025 - First Holy Communion services at 11am and 2pm

Going Forth Mass - June 29<sup>th</sup> 2025 at 9.00am

## School Mass

You are all warmly invited to join us for a whole school Mass on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> 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.



# 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.

# 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
<b>Asthma flare up</b>	Worsening of usual symptoms		Follow your care plan	Stay off school if feeling too unwell
<b>Chicken pox</b>	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
<b>Common cold</b>	Runny nose, sneezing, sore throat		Pharmacy	Ensure good hand hygiene
<b>Conjunctivitis</b>	Teary, red, itchy, painful eye(s)		Pharmacy	Try not to touch eye to avoid spreading*
<b>Flu</b>	Fever, cough, sneezing, runny nose, headache, body aches and pain, exhaustion, sore throat		Pharmacy	Ensure good hand hygiene*
<b>German measles/ Rubella</b>	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.
<b>Glandular fever</b>	High temperature, swollen glands, sore throat; usually more painful than any before		GP	*
<b>Hand, foot &amp; mouth disease</b>	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
<b>Head lice</b>	Itchy scalp (may be worse at night)		Pharmacy	
<b>Impetigo</b>	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
<b>Measles</b>	Fever, cough, runny nose, watery inflamed eyes, rash		GP	Back to school four days from on-set of rash, and if feeling well enough
<b>Ringworm</b>	Red ring shaped rash, may be itchy, rash may be dry and scaly or wet and crusty		Pharmacy	
<b>Scabies</b>	Itching rash, commonly between fingers, wrists, elbows, arm		GP	Back to school after first treatment
<b>Scarlet fever</b>	Fever, unwell, red tongue, sandpaper rash		GP	Exclusion period during first 24 hours of antibiotics*
<b>Shingles</b>	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
<b>Sickness bug/ diarrhoea</b>	Stomach cramps, nausea, vomiting and diarrhoea		Pharmacy	Contact GP if symptoms persist after 48 hours
<b>Threadworms</b>	Intense itchiness around anus		Pharmacy	Ensure good hand hygiene
<b>Tonsillitis/ Strep throat</b>	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
<b>Whooping cough</b>	Violent coughing, with a 'whoop'		GP	Exclusion period during first five days of antibiotics
<b>Covid</b>				Visit <a href="http://www.nhs.uk">www.nhs.uk</a> 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?

Herfordshire and West Essex Healthier Together for further information

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





# Calling all SEND parents and carers - Your school needs your voice!

Help make your school more inclusive for *all* children

Your school has signed up to a pilot project aimed at increasing inclusivity in school and building relationships and communication with parents/carers. The name of this project is Partnership for Inclusion of Neurodiversity in Schools (PINS).

You may remember a survey being sent out about this project recently. We would now like to gather your views in person through a parent/carer 'cuppa and chat' event that will be run by a representative from Essex Family Forum (EFF). The event will be very informal and a real opportunity for you to share your views on what what is working within your school and what you would like to see improved. You can find out about the work EFF do here [www.essexfamilyforum.org](http://www.essexfamilyforum.org).

The group is open to all parents/carers of children at the school who have EHCP's are supported by One Planning, or who have children that may have currently unrecognised/undiagnosed SEND. Come along for a chat, to support one another and an opportunity to work with your school and to improve the outcomes for your child.

**Date:** Friday 4th October  
**Time:** 2.15-3.15 pm  
**Location:** Meet at School  
Reception/Entranceway



Department  
for Education

**TUES 15th  
OCTOBER**

**7:30pm**

**St Teresa's  
School**

**FOST AGM**  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

# CHEESE & WINE NIGHT

**Please join the Friends of St Teresa's for our Annual General Meeting with Cheese & Wine Night.**

Every parent, family, staff member and parishioner of St Teresa's school and church are automatically a Friend and invited to be part of decisions how we can enhance the curriculum and school experience for our children.

**Free event!**

### **Agenda for the evening:**

Arrive, grab a seat, help yourself to drinks and nibbles . . . and relax

Hear from FOST on

- what we have achieved in the past year
- our annual accounts and reports.
- future plans and aims

Take an opportunity to

- ask questions
- vote for new members
- share thoughts and ideas, including what you'd like to see in the future

**There is no obligation to volunteer or sign up by coming along.**

**Please just enjoy the evening, get to know us and share your thoughts!**



Please scan the QR code or click [here](#) to RSVP



FRIENDS OF ST TERESA'S, COLCHESTER Charity Number:1206040

## The Gilberd School - Open Morning Tours

The Gilberd School have asked us to share the following information:

*Our Open Mornings give parents/carers the opportunity to tour the school during the school day and drop into lessons. To book a place on one of our open morning tours, please complete the MS Form [here](#). Alternatively, please visit [www.gilberd.com](http://www.gilberd.com) for more information or contact the school directly on 01206 842211.*



# The Gilberd School



## Open Morning Tours



**Friday 20th September 2024  
9.00am**



**Tuesday 24th September 2024  
9.00am**



*To book a place on one of our open morning tours,  
please complete the MS Form [here](#) or visit  
[www.gilberd.com](http://www.gilberd.com) for more information.*



Admissions, The Gilberd School, Brinkley Lane, Colchester, CO4 9PU  
☎: 01206 842 211

🌐: [www.gilberd.com](http://www.gilberd.com) ✉: [admissions@gilberd.com](mailto:admissions@gilberd.com)





**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](http://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](http://www.aesessex.co.uk/home/admissions/open-evening-and-tours)

[www.aesessex.co.uk](http://www.aesessex.co.uk)

Willow Green, Ingatestone, Essex, CM4 0DJ

Email: [admissions@aessex.co.uk](mailto:admissions@aessex.co.uk) Tel: 01277 354018



St Mary's  
Colchester

ATTEND A  
SENIOR SCHOOL

*open day*

11&12 | 9.30-11.30am  
OCT | St Mary's Senior School

Reserve your place at [stmaryscolchester.org.uk/open-days](http://stmaryscolchester.org.uk/open-days)



COLCHESTER

Free  
FAMILY  
FUN  
Festival



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

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

[FACEBOOK.COM/COLCHESTERFAMILYFESTIVAL](https://www.facebook.com/colchesterfamilyfestival)

## October Half Term – Tech Camp

We have been asked to share the following information with you:

Dear Parents/Guardians,

October half term is fast approaching, and we have an excellent solution for childcare this holiday!

We are so excited to be running our October STEM tech camp at **Holmwood House School, CO3 9ST** from the **28<sup>th</sup> October – 1<sup>st</sup> November** this upcoming half term.

Our STEM camps are a fun and engaging environment to access impressive technology and learn the foundations of coding and engineering for 5-11 year olds!

Our spooky October tech camps will see a host of new activities that you won't want to miss out on:

### - Revolting Robotics & Creepy Coding 🤖

Learn how to program a robot with crazy functions like dancing or answering questions!

### - Crazy Circuits & Animation 🎨

Enter the world of circuitry and animation and utilize our tech and your creativity to create wonders of animation.

### - Enchanting Engineering & 3D Animation 🧑‍🔧

Learn even more impressive real-world skills like the foundations of engineering with our advanced tech and teaching, and let your imagination run wild with 3D animation!

### - Thrilling Inventions & Virtual Reality 🕶️

Explore a virtual reality with our VR headsets and dive into the world of Ocean Rift, the first VR underwater world, or choose Rush, to experience the feeling of jumping out of a plane!

Our October Tech Camps are the perfect opportunity for childcare that does more; enjoy a week of Halloween fun and outstanding education!

Spaces are **LIMITED** so book now to avoid disappointment. This camp is £45 per day, and we have a special offer of **£175 for 5 days**, which works out as only **£35 per day!**

Book here: <https://www.nextthing.education/>

We look forward to seeing you at camp! 🚀 🤖

**Next Thing** Ofsted Registered

# OCTOBER HALF TERM TECH CAMP

IN MULTIPLE LOCATIONS ACROSS THE UK

28TH OCT - 1ST NOV

CHILD CARE PROVIDERS ACCEPTED

ROBOTS INVENTIONS MINECRAFT + LEGO ENGINEERING VR & TECH FUN

AGES 5-11 | £45 PER DAY 9AM - 3PM DAILY

5 DAYS for only **£175**

[www.nextthing.education](http://www.nextthing.education)

## OCTOBER HALF TERM 2024 What's on?

MINECRAFT ENGINEERING PROGRAM ROBOTS SPOOKY FILM MAKING LEGO ENGINEERING 3D CREATIONS

Different activity theme each day, please check website for your camp activities.

28TH OCT - 1ST NOV LIMITED SPACES

Check out what parents are saying...

"The kids absolutely loved the camp. They could not stop talking about what they did and how much fun they had and begged to go back. Great tech camp!"

★★★★★

**SPECIAL OFFER**

# BOOK 5 DAYS FOR ONLY £175

What to bring to camp

Packed Lunch and Snacks (not mandatory) Water Bottle Medication (if required) Halloween Costume (Friday Optional)

[www.nextthing.education](http://www.nextthing.education) E: [info@nextthing.education](mailto:info@nextthing.education) T: 01442873150

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](mailto: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



CALL/TEXT  
07766170848

SPACES AVAILABLE  
NOW!



[WWW.LINKSKARATE.CO.UK](http://WWW.LINKSKARATE.CO.UK)



VENUES

- HARWICH

- COLCHESTER

- CLACTON

- GREAT HOLLAND