



Weekly Newsletter

St. Teresa's Catholic Primary School



The School is a charitable company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales. Registered number 8111345.

1st half Autumn Term 2025 – Friday 5th September 2025

TERM DATES 2025 – 2026



October Half Term 2025:

Break up: Fri 24th October
Return on: Mon 3rd November

Christmas Holidays 2025-26

Break up: Fri 19th December **at 2.30pm**
Return on: Mon 5th January

February Half Term 2026:

Break up: Fri 13th February
Return on: Mon 23rd February

Easter Holidays 2026:

Break up: Fri 27th March **at 2.30pm**
Return on: Mon 13th April

*Friday 1st May is a non-pupil day
Monday 4th May is a Bank Holiday*

May Half Term 2026:

Break up: Thurs 21st May
Fri 22nd May is a non-pupil day
Return on: Mon 1st June

Summer Holidays 2026:

Break up: Fri 17th July **at 2.30 pm**
Mon 20th July is a non-pupil day

Please note that after-school wrap-around care will not be available on Friday 12th December 2025 (school pantomime day)

We hope that by giving families plenty of notice, alternative arrangements can be made.
Thank you for your understanding.

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends,

We began the week and indeed the school year, collectively in worship, thinking about our patron saint and what it really means to do little things with great love. We heard in the Bible about the little boy who gave his little packed lunch so that Jesus could feed the 5,000. Together, we reflected on how a new year is a fresh start and a new chapter. I asked the children to think about making a resolution—choosing one small thing they could work hard on with great love inspired by St Teresa.

Before the children returned, staff were back in school on Monday for two days of training. We spent time focusing on safeguarding, phonics, RE and English—ensuring we are all well prepared to give our pupils the very best. It was also a chance to welcome new members of staff to the team, and we look forward to you getting to know them over the year ahead: Mr Williams (Wrap-Around), Miss Whittington (LSA), Mrs Maclennan (QTS-HLTA) and three trainee teachers Miss Copeland (Y6), Ms Egan (Y3) and Mrs Smallwood (Y2).

It's certainly been a wet start to September but, despite the weather, the children have been an absolute delight. I've enjoyed visiting every class each day to see how they are settling in. As always, the children look so smart on their return to school—thank you, parents, for supporting us with our uniform expectations.

Arrangements for drop-off and collection have gone smoothly from our side, but please do let us know if they are working well for you too.

This week, our nursery and reception children have been taking part in their induction sessions, and we've been so excited to meet them all. We can't wait to welcome them officially into school next week.

Looking ahead, we'd love to see as many parents as possible at our Meet the Teacher event on Wednesday 10th September

Year 1 and Year 2 4:00 - 4:30
Year 3 and Year 4 4:30 - 5:00
Year 5 and Year 6 5:00 - 5.30

These sessions are a wonderful way to begin our year of partnership, sharing key messages so that we all know what to expect.

It may only have been three days back, but getting back into routine is always tiring—so I hope you enjoy a restful weekend with your families.

God bless
Mrs Maguire

PS - Please see the useful start of term reminders overleaf

Attendance Data

94% and below

94 - 97%

97% and above



	This week %
Reception	
Year 1	97.78
Year 2	96.67
Year 3	96.88
Year 4	98.96
Year 5	93.23
Year 6	96.88
Whole School total:	96.21

**EVERY
SCHOOL DAY
COUNTS**

Well done to Year 4 for highest attendance this week!

Wrap Around Care Timings:

Please see below for details of all of our wrap around provision at the school.

All Reception - Y6 provision needs to be booked and paid for in advance via your child's ParentPay account. For nursery children, please contact the Office for any additional sessions.

Breakfast Clubs:

Universal Free Breakfast Club	YR - Y6	Church Hall	8.15 - 8.45 am
Early Bird Breakfast Club	Y2 - Y6	School Hall	7.30 - 8.35 am
Early Bird Breakfast Club	Nursery, Rec, Y1	Hive	7.30 - 8.35 am

After School Clubs:

After School Club	Year 2 - Year 6	Based in the hall with provision to use the ICT Suite, playground and classrooms as well.	3.15 - 6.00pm
After School Club	* Nursery, Rec, Y1	Hive	3.15 - 6.00pm

* Nursery children only have the option of half wrap around sessions.

Breakfast Club

Early Bird Breakfast club starts at 7.30am with food served until 8.30am.

Universal Free Breakfast Club opens at 8:15am with children escorted to class up till 8.45am

Please **BOOK** for all breakfast clubs.

Breakfast club



School Meals

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



After School Club - 3.15 - 6pm

Places for the after-school club must be booked via your child's ParentPay account (or by contacting the office for nursery children).

The cost is £9 per child per session
YR - Y6

£16.50 per nursery child per full session and £8.25 per nursery child per half session

After School **Club**

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.

Reminders

School Office: Letters/permission slips / forms etc. can be returned to the school via your child's school bag. Our 'internal mail' system will ensure that everything handed to your child's teacher will make its way to the office.

Absence Line- Option 1: 01206 508445. We must account for all our pupils' whereabouts every day. If your child is going to be absent please contact the Office before 9am. In the event we don't hear from a parent and can't make contact with emergency contacts our safeguarding procedures will include a home visit.

Punctuality: Children must be in their classrooms by 8:45am as this is when registers are called. Anyone arriving after 8:45 will be recorded as LATE and reasons for lateness will need to be recorded. Once registers close at 9:00 late arrival is recorded as unauthorised absence for the whole morning session, it is important we share this as ten-unauthorised sessions can be liable to a fine. At the end of the day school finishes at 3:10pm for Nursery and Reception children, 3:15pm for Y1 - Y6. Uncollected pupils will be taken to 'The Hive' wrap-around childcare, please note although we are sympathetic to the very occasional late pick-up, repeated late collections will be charged for their child's place in wrap-around.

Parent Pay, Blossom, Tax-Free Childcare and Vouchers: Please keep accounts in credit and contact the office for any queries.

School Clubs: Clubs will begin the week commencing 15th September. Please complete the online form by midday on Thursday 11th September -available via this link: <https://forms.office.com/e/usYBLG2m5T?origin=lprLink>

Jewellery: A reminder that jewellery should not be worn to school with the exception of one small pair of stud earrings - no more than one per ear which your child must be able to remove by themselves for P.E. lessons. If your child cannot remove their own earrings they should be taken out before school and left at home on the days your child has P.E.

P.E.: P.E. kits are worn to school in place of the usual uniform on PE days.

School Uniform: Please check out the school uniform page of the school website <https://www.st-teresas.essex.sch.uk/page/?title=Uniform&pid=73> if you are unsure of the requirements. A reminder that hair accessories should be small and in school colours only. Long hair must be tied back. Please NAME all uniform- lost property can only be returned if it is named, sadly we recycle lots of uniform every year because it is unnamed and remains unclaimed from lost-property. Lost property is displayed outside on the front playground daily.

Belongings: To make best use of space and keep things simple, we kindly ask that children bring only essential items to school. In Reception to Year 2, we ask that children use book bags ONLY - no rucksacks, please. In KS2, rucksacks should be small in size. All children should bring: their reading book, their reading record, a named water bottle.

Snack: Children in Nursery, Reception and KS1 are provided with a free piece of fruit every day so they do not need to bring in a snack. Children in KS2 are not provided with free fruit and are therefore allowed to bring in a snack for break time. However, in-line with our healthy-school status, this must be fruit or vegetable snack - no bars, crisps, biscuits etc.

Named Water-Bottle: Please send your child to school with a named water bottle every day.

NO NUTS: We are a NO-NUT school due to children with severe allergies. Please be mindful of hidden nut ingredients e.g. Nutella chocolate spread.

School Meals / Free School Meals: All children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to receive a school meal each day at no cost to parents. If your child is in Years 3 - 6 the cost of a school meal is £2.30 per day which will be added to your child's ParentPay account on the day that your child has a meal. If you think that you may be entitled to Free School Meals you can check eligibility and make an application via this link: <https://www.essex.gov.uk/free-school-meals>

Consent Forms: Please can we ask that you return consent forms to the school via your child as soon as possible.

Data Checking Sheets: All children have been sent home with a 'Data Checking Sheet' containing all of the information that we hold on our system. Please check the information on the sheet and, if necessary, amend and return the form to school. This is very important as it will ensure that we have the most up to date information should we need to contact you in case of an emergency.

Need to speak to a teacher: Our teachers are available most days on the playground afterschool, please utilise this opportunity for quick communications. If you cannot use this mechanism or your query requires a bit more time please make an appointment via the school office for a phone-call back or a meeting. Logistical queries can be asked via Seesaw.

Parking / School Car Park

Please park considerately and safely on Clairmont Road and beyond.

The school car park can be used for drop of / collections between the following times:

7.30 - 8.00am (Early Bird Breakfast Club)

9.00 - 3.00pm (Nursery drop off / collections)

4.30 - 6.00pm (Wrap Around Collections)

Please note that some parents have separate permission to use the car park at other times.

The car park is completely closed to ALL traffic between the following times (please note slight changes):

8.30 - 8.50am

and

3.05 - 3.25pm

This is to accommodate children and parents entering and exiting the school to ensure their safety.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Music Lessons

The music tutors will be returning for music lessons on the following days :

Guitar - Mr Hurley Wednesday 17th September

Violin/Piano - Mrs Luff Friday 19th September

Piano - Mrs Brooks- Monday 22nd September





THE KNIGHTS OF ST JOSEPH
PRESENTS

BONKERS BINGO



BINGO				
4	7	21	18	16
F	FREE	5	8	
8				
8				



**Saturday 6th Sept. Doors
Open 6:30 - 7PM Start
St Teresa's Church Hall**

**Tickets £5 includes Bar, Music
Bingo Cards & Fun**





SAVE THE DATE!

FOST AGM

**Weds 15th October
7:30pm**

The AGM (Annual General Meeting) is our chance to be transparent, review the past year, and share plans for the year ahead, and your chance to share thoughts, ideas and feedback with us.

Everyone is welcome – please do pop along for a chat, a drink and help us make a difference!