

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

TERM DATES 2026 - 2027

September 2026:

Return on: Thurs 3rd Sept
Tues 1st is a non-pupil day
Weds 2nd is a non-pupil day

October Half Term 2026:

Break up: Fri 23rd October
Return on: Mon 2nd November

Christmas Holidays 2026-27

Break up: Fri 18th December **at 2.30pm**
Return on: Tues 5th January
Monday 4th Jan is a non-pupil day

February Half Term 2027:

Break up: Fri 12th February
Return on: Mon 22nd February

Easter Holidays 2027:

Break up: Thu 25th March **at 2.30pm**
Return on: Mon 12th April

Friday 30th April is a non-pupil day
Monday 3rd May is a Bank Holiday

May Half Term 2027:

Break up: Thurs 27th May
Return on: Mon 7th June

Fri 28th May is a non-pupil day

Summer Holidays 2027:

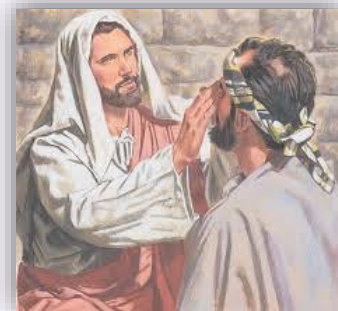
Break up: Weds 21st July **at 2.30 pm**

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 reflecting on superpowers. We listened to the story of Jesus healing the blind man—a true miracle—and wondered together about the extraordinary things that Jesus did, and how we too can use our own gifts to help others. We asked St Teresa and St Carlo Acutis (the first millennial saint) to intercede in our prayers this week.



It has been wonderful to welcome our new Reception pupils each morning during their induction week, and to see our nursery children enjoying their very first full week with us. A very warm welcome also to all our new families—we are delighted to begin working in partnership with you all.

This week at school we have celebrated 'Democracy Week'. Mrs Lewis led a thoughtful collective worship focusing on subsidiarity, a key principle of Catholic Social Teaching. Pupils explored the importance of voting and had the exciting opportunity today to visit our school polling station and cast their votes for pupil leadership roles for the year ahead. I am very proud of every pupil that put themselves forward for these important roles.

We were very pleased to welcome so many parents to our Meet the Teacher sessions this week. These meetings are an important way to build strong partnerships at the start of the school year - so thank you for coming along.

Thank you also to all the parents who attended our Phonics Information Evening. The evening was a chance to share not only how we teach phonics, but also to emphasise the importance of the journey children take in learning to read. Every small step—recognising a sound, blending words, building fluency—forms part of a much bigger picture. Learning to read fluently truly opens the door to the world of learning and enables children to flourish across the whole curriculum. Your support at home in reinforcing these little steps makes a tremendous difference.

A special thank you to FOST for ensuring families are well supplied with second-hand uniform. A reminder that the annual FOST AGM will be taking place soon— all parents are encouraged to attend - Wednesday 15th October at 7.30pm.

Please see term dates, including non-pupil days for the 26-27 academic year. Please be aware we will always finish early on the very last day of any term (2:30pm).

It has been a joyful start to the term, and we look forward to all that the year ahead will bring.

God bless, Mrs Maguire

Attendance Data

94% and below

94 - 97%

97% and above



	Last week %	This week %
Reception		100
Year 1	97.78	96.33
Year 2	96.67	99.33
Year 3	96.88	98.44
Year 4	98.96	95.63
Year 5	93.23	92.19
Year 6	96.88	96.88
Whole School total:	96.21	96.67

EVERY

SCHOOL DAY

COUNTS

Well done to Reception for highest attendance this week! What an amazing start to your school journey!



*Congratulations
to all of our
certificate
winners this
week.
Well done!*

Lunch Menus

Please be aware that we are moving to a rolling 3-week lunch menu - next week is **Week 1**.

Please visit the school website to view the menus:

<https://www.st-teresas.essex.sch.uk/page/?title=Menus&pid=72>

As you will see, Mondays are now going to be 'meat free' days!



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



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.

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



European Day of Languages

Advance notice!

On Friday 26th September, we will mark the European Day of Languages.

Pupils are invited to come to school in non-uniform, dressed in the colours of a European flag.





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!

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

SECOND HAND UNIFORM

UPDATE

FOST are proud to be able to offer the opportunity to purchase good quality second hand uniform, however we have recently realised that the amount of donations is greatly outnumbering the items purchased!

Due to the limited time and space we have, we have made the decision this year to minimise what we can take.

This will now only include the following St Teresa's specific items:

- Polo Shirts
- Summer Dresses
- Jumpers & Cardigans
- PE Kit

Everything we currently have will be available in the playground over the next couple of weeks, until Friday 19th September.

Please help yourself to anything you need, in return for whatever donation you wish or are able to give.

We will then donate the items we are unable to keep to the Essex Free School Uniform Scheme and other charities.

Please do continue to donate to us any good quality items from those listed above, but from now on we will not be able to accept other items and ask that you instead consider donating them to other causes.

You can find details of Essex Free School Uniforms at www.freeschooluniform.org.uk/support-free-uniforms-for-pupils-in-essex

You can also continue to scan the QR code and complete the online form to request items of second hand uniform.



fost@st-teresas.essex.sch.uk

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