



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 Summer Term 2026 – Friday 8th May 2026

TERM DATES 2025 – 2026



SPRING TERM 2026

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
No wraparound care on this day
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 the last day of term

Friday 17th July 2026
(last day of term - 2.30pm finish)

Year 6 SATS Week:
Mon 11th – Thurs 14th May

Forthcoming Trips / Visits:

Thursday 11th June
Y6 Siege of Colchester Trip

Friday 12th June
Y6 Crucial Crew Event

Wednesday 17th June
Y6 Theatre Trip

Thursday 2nd July
Y6 Deanery Day at St. Teresa's

Friday 10th July
Rec to Highwoods

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends,

We began the week with joyful singing! Our praise assemblies are such an uplifting way to start the week together, reminding us of the importance of worship, gratitude and praising God. There is something truly special about hearing children sing with such enthusiasm and joy, it certainly lifts the spirit!

It may have been a shorter week because of the bank holiday, but we have certainly packed a great deal into it! Year 1, Year 5 and our catch-up Year 6 swimmers have all been making a splash in the pool.



I have loved seeing the photographs on Seesaw and popping over to watch parts of the lessons. Swimming is such an important life skill, but it is also wonderful to see the children growing in confidence, resilience and determination as they challenge themselves in the water.

The swimming pool staff were not our only visitors this week as we also welcomed Mr Fusi, Chaplain from St Benedict's College, who spent time with Year 5 speaking about the Sacrament of Confirmation. The children listened beautifully and engaged thoughtfully as they reflected on what it means to strengthen their faith and continue their journey with Christ. We are very grateful to Mr Fusi for giving his time to support our pupils' learning.

In our global assembly this week, Miss Gooneratne helped us learn about International Red Cross Day. Together, the children reflected on the incredible work of the Red Cross across the world in supporting those who are vulnerable, suffering or displaced. It linked beautifully to Catholic Social Teaching and the principle of the preferential option for the poor, reminding us of our responsibility to care especially for those most in need and to be people of compassion, service and love.

It is also the time of year for statutory assessments, with Year 1 preparing for the Phonics Screening Check, Year 4 preparing for the Multiplication Tables Check and Year 6 making their final preparations for SATs week. I wrote to Year 6 pupils this week reminding them that although the tests matter, they do not define them. We are incredibly proud of each and every one of them for the hard work, perseverance and resilience they have shown throughout their journey at St Teresa's.

Please do keep all of our children in your prayers over the coming weeks, Year 6 especially next week.

Wishing you all a peaceful and restful weekend.

God bless,

Mrs Maguire

Attendance Data

94% and below

94 - 97%

97% and above



	Week before Easter %	This week %
Reception	95.09	95.54
Year 1	95	95.83
Year 2	94.58	97.92
Year 3	98	98.05
Year 4	98.39	99.22
Year 5	90.59	95.7
Year 6	92	93.75
Whole School total:	94.83	96.59



Well done to Year 4 for highest attendance this week!



Menus

Lunch Menu

Next week is Week 1

Wraparound Menu

Next week is Week 1

Nursery Snack 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>



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

Breakfast club



School Meals

The dinner menus are available on the school w



After School Club - 3.15 - 6.00pm

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 £10 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.

Free School Meals Eligibility

As a school we are registered with the London Grid for Learning (LGfL). They provide a service called the LGfL FSM Checker, which allows any parent or school in England to use the system completely free of charge to check if their child is eligible for Free School Meals (FSM). Eligible children receive a free school meal, and schools get the funding they need. This funding helps provide additional resources and support to improve education for all pupils.

Parents, or schools acting on their behalf, simply enter a few basic details online. The system securely checks with the Department for Education (DfE) and gives an instant “eligible” or “not eligible” response. There are no paper forms, and you only need to apply once.

Schools can recheck eligibility and manage applications at any time using a secure portal. The LGfL FSM Checker has helped schools identify millions in funding. It could help your school too, completely free!

Please use the following link to check eligibility for your child <https://fsm.lgfl.net/>

St Teresa's Church First Holy Communion programme 2025/6

Communion

16/5/26 - Reconciliation session - times to be advised

First Holy communion rehearsal

Wednesday 3rd June 2026

6.00pm -Group 1 7.00pm-Group 2

Saturday 6th June 2026 First Holy Communion service -11am and 2pm

Going Forth Mass - June 14th @ 9.00am



PLAY
MORE
TOGETHER



MORE
PLAY,
MORE
POSSIBILITIES!

every day is an
OPAL day!

BRING A THING!

Help us build even more
amazing play opportunities
at school!

PARENTS: BRING A THING

to school to donate to our
OPAL play collection.

IN RETURN, CHILDREN CAN
WEAR NON-UNIFORM!

FRIDAY 15TH MAY

Thank you for supporting OPAL play!

BRING A THING!

Umbrellas 	Plastic Trucks 	Cake moulds 	Measuring spoons 	Strainers 
Baskets 	Cable spools 	Cones 	Containers 	Corrugated pipes 
Wellies 	Fabric 	Funnels 	Jugs 	Bowls/pots/pans 
Pool noodles 	PVC pipes 	Water Toys 	Small World Toys 	Tongs and Tweezers 
Tires and wheels - big, small and weird 	Flower Pots 	Colanders 	Play Wheelbarrow 	Watering cans 

Laundry basket 	Suitcase 	Kitchen Utensils 	Action figures 	Plastic crates 
Dress up items 	Cars 	Dinosaurs 	Toy Rakes 	Plastic dolls 
Lego 	Balls 	Baking pans 	Plastic tubes 	Tarpaulin 
Beach spades 	Buckets 	Trowels 	Funnels 	Duplo 
Guttering 	Wooden planks 	Helmet 	Aprons 	Farm Animals 

FRIENDS OF ST TERESA S, COLCHESTER

Spring Disco

FRIDAY 15TH MAY

ST TERESA'S CHURCH HALL

EYFS/KS1
5PM - 6PM



KS2
6:15PM - 7:30PM

£4 PER CHILD

Payment can be made on ParentPay until Weds 12th May.
AFTER THIS DATE THERE WILL BE NO MORE TICKET SALES!

Drinks, sweets, snacks and disco accessories sold on the night. Suggested spending money no more than £5, in change where possible.

For those in Little Flowers Nursery, an adult will need to stay for the duration of the disco.

Numbers will be limited to allow us to remain within a safe child:adult ratio as per all risk assessments.



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

FOSTFest 2026

JUNE 12
3pm - 7pm

We'd love your support in helping make FOSTFest a huge success! We need families to display a FOSTFest advertising board outside their home for a few weeks during May and June.

Thanks to the generosity of Keystones Property, every board displayed will raise £7 for the school - a simple and effective way to boost funds for our children!

There's nothing to organise - installation and removal are all taken care of. Just complete the quick form below, and if you can, spread the word to friends, family, and neighbours who might also like to get involved.

Thank you so much for your support—it really does make a difference!



CLICK HERE!



Please use this link to request your advertising board:

<https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=-HyphrKNc0u5IV43OvP-KTB0pih5PEpKgle2UR8So9pUOFcxSk9CNkpGOU4zQzgyTUIzQIA4STIHSy4u&route=shorturl>

ACL**Community & Family Learning Courses**

COURSE TITLE	VENUE	START DATE	START TIME	END TIME
FL MANAGING ANGER IN YOUNG PEOPLE	ONLINE LIVE	08/05/2026 (2 WEEKS)	13:00	15:00
FL RAISING GIRLS	ONLINE LIVE	11/05/2026 (2 WEEKS)	09:30	11:30
FL UNDERSTANDING AUTISM AND ADHD	ONLINE LIVE	14/05/2026 (2 WEEKS)	09:45	11:45
FL UNDERSTANDING ANXIETY	ONLINE LIVE	14/05/2026 (2 WEEKS)	09:00	11:00
FL MANAGING ANGER IN YOUNG PEOPLE	ONLINE LIVE	21/05/2026 (1 WEEK)	19:00	21:00
FL FUSSY EATERS	ONLINE LIVE	21/05/2026 (1 WEEK)	13:00	15:00
FL ZONES OF REGULATION	ONLINE LIVE	21/05/2026 (1 WEEK)	09:30	11:30

If you would like to enrol on to a FREE course please Visit our website acessex.com and type the course title in the 'Find a course...' box

acessex.com**0345 603 7635**

Essex County Council



THE LITTLE LOVES FAYRE

Colchester Rugby Club, Raven Park

Colchester, CO4 5YX

Sunday 10th May, 2026

11am-2pm

The marketplace celebrating every stage of parenthood from pregnancy to teens in one place with some fab hidden gem businesses there to!!

FREE
Parking

Baby Changing
Facilities

On Site
Refreshments

FREE
Admission



Follow us on



The Little Loves
Fayre

ALL ABOUT KIDS - COLCHESTER

COLCHESTER FAMILY FEST

2026

SATURDAY 13TH JUNE



11.30 - 16.00



Firstsite, Colchester

SEN / QUIET HOUR

10.30 - 11.30

Reduced noise & capacity
*Limited tickets available

FAMILY TICKET - £23.50

CHILD - £9 / ADULT - £3.50

UNDER 1'S - GO FREE



Character Meet & Greet



Live Entertainment



Inflatables & interactive activities

AFFORDABLE FUN FOR ALL THE FAMILY

INCLUDED WITH YOUR TICKET

- ✓ Inflatables
- ✓ Under 3's play area's
- ✓ Live Wrestling shows (all day)
- ✓ Animal & reptile encounters
- ✓ Meet & Greet
- ✓ Workshops
- ✓ Magician & Storytelling
- ✓ Interactive activities & more
- ✓ DJ & live entertainment
- ✓ Emergency services roleplay
- ✓ Fire Engine visit *SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY
- £ Local market stalls
- £ Food & Drink
- £ Additional activities

PROUDLY SPONSORED BY



follow us on social media to see what is available locally for you & your family!



SCAN ME!





THE COLCHESTER
2026 **PET AWARDS**

Stories that matter

Presented by Ginger and Tails

BECAUSE THEIR STORY DESERVES TO BE TOLD

The Colchester Pet Awards 2026 celebrate the stories behind the animals we love.

If there's a pet in your life who means something, this is your chance to honour them and share what makes them special.

Open to dogs, cats, horses, small animals, reptiles, and other companion pets in CO1-CO7.

Community and Character Award
Rescue Success Story Award
Behaviour Breakthrough Award
Young Handler Award
Golden Years Award






gingerandtails.co.uk/colchester-pet-awards-2026

**Join the community. Entries are now open.
Take five minutes. Tell their story.**

Sponsored by



   @gingerandtails

Closing for entries 12pm Saturday 6th June 2026





Week 1
25th July
-
1st Aug
2026

Week 2
1st Aug
-
8th Aug
2026

£200
Per child
Expected donation

SUMMER CAMP
Residential Camp For Children aged 9-12 Years Old

A week-long summer camp where children can explore the outdoors, make new friends, and enjoy a fun-filled activity program.

Set in a supportive environment grounded in Catholic values, helping them grow in both faith and character.

ACTIVITIES

- Archery
- Arts & Crafts
- Many Sports
- Swimming
- Climbing
- Team Challenges
- Table Tennis
- Volley Ball



 boscocamp.co.uk

 A special works of Caritas Diocese of Brentwood



SCS WORLD CUP CAMP

COLCHESTER FOOTBALL CAMP

The Stanway School, Winstree Road, Colchester, CO3 0QA

2 Day Camp

Tuesday 26th & Wednesday 27th May

- 10 am - 1 pm > Age 4-5 years > £20 per day
- 10 am - 3 pm > Age 6-12 years > £25 per day



Inspiring Children in Sport



JOIN OUR
COLCHESTER SCS
WHATSAPP GROUP



FOR MORE
INFORMATION ABOUT
OUR SCS EVENTS IN
COLCHESTER

PLEASE EMAIL: colchesterscs@gmail.com
or CONTACT LUKE ON 07593 557556 to book your child's place.

Boys and girls welcome. Packed lunch and drinks bottle required

Payments can be made by cash or card on the day of camp.



www.scssports.co.uk





SCS WORLD CUP CAMP

COLCHESTER GOALKEEPER CAMP

The Stanway School, Winstree Road, Colchester, CO3 0QA

1 Day Camp

Tuesday 26th May

- 10 am - 1 pm > Age 4-5 years > £20 per day
- 10 am - 3 pm > Age 6-15 years > £25 per day



Inspiring Children in Sport



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www.scssports.co.uk





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outdoors

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Exhilarating school holiday
activity days for kids age 8+

Water sports, high ropes, zip wire, archery,
bushcraft and more at four centres.

BRADWELL • DANBURY • HARLOW • MERSEA

**£40
PER DAY**

 Essex County Council

essexoutdoors.com/school-holiday-activities