



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 – Thursday 21st May 2026

TERM DATES 2025 – 2026



SUMMER 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)

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

Monday 6th July
Y4 to West Stow Anglo Saxon Village

Friday 10th July
Rec to Highwoods

Dear parents, carers and friends



We began the week with a beautiful Mass dedicated to Our Lady during this special month of May. It was a lovely opportunity for us to gather together in prayer and reflection, remembering Mary as our loving Mother and a model of faith, gentleness and obedience to God. We are very grateful to Father Adrian for making us so welcome and for leading such a prayerful celebration for our school family.

As we reach the end of another busy and joyful half term, I would like to thank our whole school community for your continued support, encouragement and partnership. School life remains so wonderfully full, the weeks seem to fly by!

Swimming lessons have continued this week and what a wonderful experience this has been for pupils once again. It has been a pleasure watching the children grow in both confidence and skill in the water over recent weeks. We now say goodbye to the swimming pool for another year and extend our thanks to the staff of Mini Swim Stars for the lessons and to Mrs Herron for organising.

This week also saw our RE Branch celebrations taking place across school. Thank you to all parents and family members who attended these special moments with the children. It is always wonderful to see pupils speaking confidently about their faith and proudly sharing their learning. Sharing worship opportunities is always special.

Preparations for the upcoming FOST FEST are now very much in full swing, including the ever-popular 'Ice the Teacher' event - excitement is certainly building! Early-bird tickets are on sale via ParentPay and we are incredibly grateful to the many volunteers already offering their support. If you are able to help man a stall, assist on the day or support preparations in any way, please do get in touch. This really is one of the highlights of the school year and a wonderful example of our community spirit in action.

I wrote to Year 1 and Year 4 parents this week regarding the upcoming Phonics Screening Check and Multiplication Tables Check respectively. These are important statutory assessments and I would encourage families to continue supporting practice little-and-often over the half term break. Regular reading, phonics revision and times table recall really do make a significant difference to children's confidence. Thank you, as always, for your continued support at home.

As half term begins, I hope families are able to enjoy some well-earned rest and quality time together. We look forward to welcoming the children back refreshed and ready for what promises to be another exciting half term, filled with trips, sports events, transition activities and many special memories.

Have a restful and blessed half term.

God bless,
Mrs Maguire



St Teresa's Catholic Primary School

Clairmont Road, Lexden, Colchester, Essex. CO3 9BE

Tel: 01206 508445

Email: office@st-teresas.essex.sch.uk

Website: www.st-teresas.essex.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs B Maguire M.A. NPQH



Dear Parents, Carers and Parishioners

Voluntary School Fund Appeal - Supporting Our School Together

At St. Teresa's Catholic Primary School, we are blessed with a strong, faith-filled community committed to nurturing every child to grow in wisdom, love and service. We are so grateful for the generosity regularly shown by families and parishioners.

Annually we will write to ask if you might consider supporting our Voluntary School Fund. With national funding not keeping pace with rising costs – including staff salaries, essential services, maintaining the building - schools like ours are under considerable pressure.

We remain determined to maintain the excellent education and Catholic ethos that define St. Teresa's. We want to retain the high-quality teachers and support staff our children deserve and keep classrooms rich with opportunity and care.

By contributing to the voluntary school fund, you could make a real difference which will go a long way to ensuring the school continues to flourish and the children in our care get the very best we can offer. If you would be happy to contribute £2 a month (£24 annually) we would be extremely grateful for your support. If you are in a position to help, please consider setting up a standing order to:

Account Name: St Teresa's Catholic Primary School

Sort Code: 30-92-16

Account Number: 55726068

Reference: School Fund

This request is entirely voluntary. We are so aware of the generosity already shown throughout the year - through FOST- Friends of St. Teresa's events, parish collections, and other charitable initiatives and understand that not everyone will be in a position to be able to give.

However, if you can support, please know it will be deeply appreciated and directly benefit the children in our school.

Thank you once again for your continued support and prayers.

Yours sincerely

Mrs B. Maguire (MA, NPQH)
Headteacher



St Teresa's School is part of The Rosary Trust a Catholic Multi Academy - Registered Number: 08068528

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

The Governing Body is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people, and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

Attendance Data

94% and below

94 - 97%

97% and above



	Last Week %	This week %
Reception	97.9	91.96
Year 1	94.3	91.67
Year 2	97	89.58
Year 3	100	92.19
Year 4	96.3	97.27
Year 5	90.6	95.31
Year 6	97.5	95.31
Whole School total:	96.2	93.4



Well done to Year 4 for highest attendance this week!



Menus

Lunch Menu
Next week is Week 3

Wraparound Menu
Next week is Week 3

Nursery Snack Menu
Next week is Week 3

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 website and via Seesaw



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

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



Free Workshop

What you can do **RIGHT NOW** to support your child diagnosed (or suspected) with autism and/or PDA

Thursday 28th May 8pm - 9pm

Join us

No one needs to walk alone in their autism parenting journey

Send an email to team@youarenotalone.community to request the Zoom link to attend the FREE workshop



2026 FOSTFest

JUNE 12
3pm - 7pm

FUN FOR
THE WHOLE
FAMILY!

FREE
ENTRY!



FOOD TRUCKS



BAR



ICE CREAM



LIVE MUSIC



PERFORMANCES



ACTIVITIES



RAFFLE



KIDS RAFFLE



RETURN OF THE POPULAR
"ICE THE TEACHER!"

UNLIMITED
INFLATABLES



WRISTBAND PRICES

— EARLYBIRD PRICES AVAILABLE —

UNTIL 31ST MAY

SCHOOL AGE

£6

PER WRISTBAND

PRE-SCHOOL AGE

£4

PER WRISTBAND

After 31st May, prices will be £8 (school age)
and £5 (pre-school age).

BUY EARLY
& SAVE!

WRISTBANDS ON
SALE NOW ON
PARENT PAY
(Separate link for
nursery children)

Grab your family and friends for an afternoon
of fun, food and festival vibes!

WE CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOU THERE!

SPONSORED BY

KEYSTONES
PROPERTY

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



Link for Nursery families to purchase pre-school wristbands: <https://pay.sumup.com/b2c/Q45XDN9Q>

2026 FOSTFest

WHAT DO WE NEED FROM YOU?



VOLUNTEER ON THE DAY

Help us to set up, run stalls and clear up. (Many hands make light work so the more we have, the less there will be to do!)



DONATE A RAFFLE PRIZE

Do you have a business who could donate a voucher or experience? Let's make our grand raffle one to remember!



RUN A STALL

Do you have a business, game or idea you would like to run on your own? Even if it is only for an hour we'd love to see a variety of things going on throughout the afternoon. (You could do this and raise money as part of your 2026 challenge!)



CALLING ALL FOODTRUCKS!

Do you (or do you know someone) who runs a catering business or food truck?

WE'D LOVE YOU TO COME AND RUN AT FOSTFEST!

Great opportunity to showcase your business and be part of a fun, well-loved community event.



Complete the attached volunteer form, speak to one of FOST, message our WhatsApp group or email fost@st-teresas.essex.sch.uk

Grab your family and friends for an afternoon of fun, food and festival vibes!

WE CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOU THERE!

SPONSORED BY
KEYSTONES
PROPERTY



THE RETURN OF...

ICE THE TEACHER!

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND

THE STAFF MEMBER WITH THE
MOST DONATIONS WILL BE

ICED

AT THE END OF FOSTFEST!

WHO WILL IT BE THIS YEAR?



NAMES TO BE
ANNOUNCED SOON



NAMES TO BE
ANNOUNCED SOON



NAMES TO BE
ANNOUNCED SOON

ONE
LUCKY
STAFF
MEMBER...

ONE
FREEZING
SURPRISE!

LET THE
COUNTDOWN
TO ICE BEGIN!

DONATE, GET INVOLVED AND HELP US MAKE THIS
OUR BIGGEST ICE THE TEACHER YET!



2026 FOSTFest

RAFFLE PRIZES

BAYLHAM HOUSE FARM
Family Admission

POPLAR NURSERIES
£20 Voucher

FIRST SITE
2 Cinema Tickets

JIMMY'S FARM
Family Day Pass

TENPIN BOWLING
Game Voucher (2 to win!)

AQUA SPRINGS
2 for 1 voucher

GO BANANAS
1 child / 1 adult admission

COLCHESTER ARTS CENTRE
Comedy Night tickets

LAYER MARNEY TOWER
Family Entry

BARLEYLANDS
Family Entry (2 to win!)

IROCK
1 Month Free

BETH CHATTO GARDENS
Annual Garden Entry for 2

WINE AND CHOCOLATE
HAMPER

**£2
PER
TICKET**

**AND
MORE!**



**DON'T MISS YOUR CHANCE
TO WIN AMAZING PRIZES!**

**Raffle tickets will come home
in bags and be on sale
during FOSTFest.**



**RETURN TICKETS AND CASH
TO SCHOOL OFFICE
BEFORE 10TH JUNE
OR TO THE RAFFLE TABLE AT
FOSTFEST ON THE DAY**

**THANK YOU TO
OUR GENEROUS
DONORS!**





FREE

**HOT
MEAL**

MULTI-ACTIVITY MAY camps



**26TH, 27TH, 28TH, 29TH
10AM - 2PM**



**BOOK NOW AT :
[HTTPS://WWW.SIMPLYACTIVE
.COM/HALF-TERM-CAMPS](https://www.simplyactive.com/half-term-camps)**

Venue 1

**CHANGING LIVES,
COMMUNITY HUB, CO3 3EN**

Venue 2

**SIMPLY ACTIVE
GYM, UNIT P, CO1 2TJ**

Venue 3

**PADEL UNITED, EUDO
ROAD, CO2 7XE**

**FOR MORE INFO EMAIL
HELLO@SIMPLYACTIVE.COM**



COLCHESTER School's OUT Activities



Essex's top Activity Camp is returning to Colchester County High School this coming holiday. We can't wait to welcome children from the Colchester area and beyond!



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Offering amazing facilities such as a heated indoor pool, a state of the art drama studio and expansive outdoor areas only a short walk away, it's the perfect setting for your child to spend their holiday!



COLCHESTER COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL

Norman Way, Colchester CO3 3US
Ofsted Number: EY2837204

WE ACCEPT

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Tax Free Childcare



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TO BOOK VISIT



www.schoolsoutactivities.co.uk

Choose individual days or come
for the week for 20% OFF



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



JOIN OUR
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www.scssports.co.uk





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outdoors

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activity days for kids age 8+

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bushcraft and more at four centres.

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PER DAY**

 Essex County Council

essexoutdoors.com/school-holiday-activities