

TERM DATES 2025 – 2026



SUMMER TERM 2026

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

Friday 3rd July
Sports Day

Monday 6th July
Y4 to West Stow Anglo Saxon Village

Tuesday 7th July
Year 5 - local geography field trip

Friday 10th July
Rec to Highwoods

Monday 13th July
Y1 to Walton Beach

Dear Parents and Carers

We began the week together in assembly reflecting on the Parable of the Lost Coin. I asked the children to help me count my coins, only to discover that one was missing. Thankfully, it didn't take too long for our eagle-eyed children to find it and I was so relieved when it turned up! Jesus used this story to remind us that every person is precious to God and that we should look out for the lost, lonely or overlooked. I asked the children to look out for each other this week at school.



Transition activities have continued this week for our Year 6 pupils, including visits to St Benedict's Catholic College. Of course, every child will go through a transition as we approach the end of the academic year, so to support all learners we have also held two move-up mornings this week. It has been wonderful to see the excitement and enthusiasm as pupils (and teachers) begin to look ahead to the next stage of their St Teresa's journey. We were also delighted to welcome our new Reception children who joined us for their transition visits and made a fantastic start to their St Teresa's adventure.

Earlier in the week, a group of our Year 5 and Year 6 pupils represented the school at a rapid-fire cricket tournament. As always, they demonstrated excellent sportsmanship and represented our school with pride.

The real headline of the week, however, has undoubtedly been the heatwave. You won't need me to tell you it's been exceptionally hot, but the children have coped remarkably well and our staff have been amazing in adapting routines to keep everyone safe and as comfortable as possible. We made a number of adjustments throughout the week, including lots of water breaks, uniform flexibility, indoor 'wet play' and plenty of water play opportunities. We also offered families the option of early collection and hope this flexibility helped support the many different circumstances and arrangements across our school community. Thank you for your patience and cooperation throughout the week.

It is funny how these unusual and extreme events often become the moments children remember most fondly from their school days. Whilst the adults have been busy managing risk assessments, adapting activities and worrying over weather forecasts, I suspect many of our pupils will remember the hosepipe sprinklers, water play, getting home early and jumping in the paddling pool and time spent together with affection for years to come.

Thankfully the temperatures now appear to be returning to more typical summer levels. As we move into the final three weeks of term, please continue to send children to school with a named water bottle and sun hat, sun cream applied and dressed in summer uniform.

Have a wonderful weekend, I think we've all earned it!

God bless
Mrs B Maguire

Attendance Data

94% and below

94 - 97%

97% and above



| | Week before half term % | This week % |
|---------------------|-------------------------|-------------|
| Reception | 96.1 | 97.5 |
| Year 1 | 98.7 | 94 |
| Year 2 | 100 | 94.5 |
| Year 3 | 98.1 | 93.4 |
| Year 4 | 96.6 | 97.5 |
| Year 5 | 97.2 | 92.2 |
| Year 6 | 97.5 | 96.9 |
| Whole School total: | 97.7 | 95.1 |



Well done to Reception and 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 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.



Dates for events – summer 2026



Monday 29th and Tuesday 30th June
Bikeability Group 3

Monday 29th June
Primary Athletics Competition (selected pupils)



Thursday 2nd July
Year 6 Deanery Day at St. Teresa's

Friday 3rd July
Sports Day (weather permitting)
Starting at 9.30am followed by a shared picnic lunch on the field - Timetable overleaf



Tuesday 7th July
Year 5 local geography field trip

Wednesday 8th July at 2.00pm
School Music Concert



Thursday 9th July at 2.00pm
Nursery and Reception Minibeast Concert

Friday 10th July
Reception class trip to Highwoods Country Park
Year 6 Leavers' Party after school



Monday 13th July
Year 1 class trip to Walton Beach



Tuesday 14th July from 9.30 - 10.30am
Year 3 'Doomed Dinosaur' exhibition



Tuesday 14th July at 6.00pm
Year 5 and 6 production of 'Rock Bottom'

Wednesday 15th July at 6.00pm
Year 5 and 6 production of 'Rock Bottom'

Thursday 16th July from 2.45 - 3.15pm
Year 5 Shakespeare performance



Thursday 16th July at 6.00pm
Year 6 Leaver's Mass in the Church



Friday 17th July at 10.45am
Whole School End of Term Mass in Church
Y6 Shirt Signing
1.30pm Y6 Leavers' assembly (Year 6 parents invited)



End of Term - early finish at 2.30pm - NO WRAPAROUND CARE AVAILABLE ON THIS DAY.

Sports week 29th - 3rd June - children invited to wear PE kit all week.



Sports Day 2026

9:30 – Welcome and warm up led by our Sports Ambassadors

| Reception | KS1 | KS2 |
|------------------------------|---|---|
| Egg and Spoon Sprint | Egg and Spoon Quoit balance to hurdles Sprint | Skipping Egg and Spoon Obstacle Sprint |
| 3-legged race Class relay | Class relays | |

| Year group | Predicted start time | Predicted end time |
|------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| Reception | 9:40 | 10:05 |
| Year 3 | 10:05 | 10:30 |
| Year 1 | 10:30 | 10:55 |
| Year 4 | 10:55 | 11:20 |
| Year 2 | 11:20 | 11:45 |
| Year 5 | 11:45 | 12:10 |
| Year 6 | 12:10 | 12:35 |

12:40 – House relays (the fastest runner from each house in KS2 to take part)

Family picnic to follow. KS1 picnic lunch is provided. KS2 to bring their own packed lunch (unless entitled to FSM).

After lunchtime, families will have the opportunity to go around some activities led by our wonderful Sports Ambassadors as well as enjoy our OPAL play zones together.



SPOTLIGHT ON SAFEGUARDING

WORKING TOGETHER TO KEEP OUR YOUNG PEOPLE SAFE

July 2026 | Primary | What parents and carers need to know about: Water safety | Personal safety

Water safety: Helping children stay safe around water

As the weather gets warmer, many families spend more time outdoors and around water. Following several incidents involving people getting into difficulty in open water during recent heatwaves, now is a good time to think about how we can help children stay safe around water.

Why can water be so dangerous?

Many children are naturally drawn to water. They may see it as a place to play, cool down or explore. However, even water that appears calm and shallow can be dangerous. Rivers, lakes, reservoirs and canals often remain much colder than expected, even on hot days. Sudden immersion in cold water can cause panic and make it difficult to breathe or move.

Open water can also contain hidden dangers such as:

- strong currents
- slippery banks
- weeds and underwater plants
- hidden objects beneath the surface
- sudden changes in depth
- poor visibility.

Teaching children about water safety

Children do not need to be frightened of water, but they do need to understand how to respect it.

Simple messages can help children develop safe habits:

- always stay with a trusted adult near water
- never enter water without permission
- do not run near water
- never push or dare others to go into water
- wear appropriate safety equipment when needed, such as buoyancy aids
- follow signs and safety instructions.

Repeating these messages regularly helps children remember them when they are excited, distracted or playing with friends.

Drowning can happen quickly and quietly

One of the biggest misconceptions about drowning is that it is noisy and obvious. In reality, children who are struggling in water are often unable to shout or wave for help.

This is why close supervision is so important. Accidents can happen in a matter of seconds, even in shallow water.

Young children should always be supervised around water, whether they are at the beach, near a river, in a paddling pool or playing in the garden with water.

How parents and carers can support with Water Safety

Supervise closely

Young children must be actively supervised around water, with no distractions.



Teach children to respect water

Help children recognise that water can be dangerous, even when calm or shallow. Encourage them to follow safety rules.



Choose supervised locations

Where possible, choose beaches, swimming pools and water activities that have trained lifeguards.



Be a positive role model

Children learn safety from adults: following signs and demonstrating safe behaviour around water helps them develop good habits.



If a child gets into difficulty

The Royal Life Saving Society UK encourages people to remember that they should never enter the water to attempt a rescue.

Instead:

- call 999 immediately
- encourage the child to float on their back if they are able
- throw something that floats if available
- seek help from a lifeguard or emergency services.

Trying to rescue someone by entering the water yourself can place more people at risk.

SPOTLIGHT ON SAFEGUARDING

What every child should know about personal safety

As parents and carers, we teach our children many important skills: how to cross the road safely, how to be kind to others and how to look after themselves. Personal safety is another important life skill that helps children recognise when something doesn't feel right, understand their boundaries and know where to get help when they need it.

The good news is that personal safety conversations do not need to be frightening or complicated. In fact, some of the most effective conversations happen naturally as part of everyday family life.

Helping children understand body safety

One of the most important messages children can learn is that their body belongs to them.

Children should understand that they have a right to feel safe and that they can speak up if something makes them feel uncomfortable. This includes helping them understand personal boundaries and that they can say "no" to unwanted touch.

It is also helpful for children to know the correct names for all parts of their body. Research suggests that children who can accurately describe their bodies are often better able to communicate concerns if something happens that worries them.

Teaching body safety is not about making children fearful of others. It is about helping them develop confidence, self-respect and an understanding of healthy boundaries.

Safe, unsafe and confusing situations

Children often find it easier to understand personal safety when we move away from talking about 'good people' and 'bad people'.

Instead, it can be helpful to talk about situations that feel:

Safe – when they feel comfortable, happy and secure.

Unsafe – when they feel frightened, worried or in danger.

Confusing – when something does not feel quite right but they are not sure why.

Helping children understand that confusing feelings matter is particularly important. Sometimes children cannot explain exactly what is wrong, but they know something does not feel right. Encouraging them to talk about these feelings helps them learn to trust themselves and seek support.

HOW PARENTS AND CARERS CAN SUPPORT PERSONAL SAFETY AT HOME

01



Keep conversations regular

Brief, everyday chats often work better than long talks. Use daily life, books or TV as chances to discuss safety.

02



Encourage open communication

Encourage your child to talk about worries and problems, and listen calmly.

03



Practise safety scenarios

Role-play helps children feel confident about what to do if they feel uncomfortable or need help.

04



Reinforce body boundaries

Teach children that they can politely decline unwanted hugs, kisses or physical contact if they feel uncomfortable.

05



Praise speaking up

Praise children for sharing worries or uncomfortable experiences, encouraging them to speak up.

Safe secrets, unsafe secrets and surprises

Surprises, like birthday presents or special treats, are fun and temporary but secrets can be different.

Surprises are shared, but unsafe secrets are kept hidden and can make someone feel worried or upset.

Children should never keep a secret that makes them uncomfortable or that someone asks them to hide from trusted adults. Teach your child that it is always okay to tell.

Our final tea/coffee session of this academic year

THURSDAY 2ND JULY 1:30 - 3PM VISITING GUESTS FROM AUTISM ANGLIA



July 2026 Timetable

All regular sessions delivered live online via zoom. 90 minutes long

£24 each or FREE with School Membership

Book online at facefamilyadvice.co.uk

Recordings available for 48 hours

| | |
|---|---------------|
| Cannabis & Ketamine Awareness | 6 July 10am |
| Anxiety Explained | 6 July 7pm |
| Introduction to OCD | 7 July 10am |
| What is ACT? | 7 July 7pm |
| Decreasing Depression | 13 July 10am |
| Raising Self-Esteem | 13 July 7pm |
| Supporting Healthy Sleep | 14 July 10am |
| Understanding the Teenage Brain | 14 July 7pm |
| FREE - Supporting Healthy Screen Use | 16 July 7-8pm |
| Autism-Improving Communication | 20 July 10am |
| Improving Family Communication | 20 July 7pm |
| Supporting a Child with ADHD | 21 July 10am |
| Understanding Addictive Behaviour | 21 July 7pm |
| Understanding Anger | 27 July 10am |
| School Anxiety | 27 July 7pm |
| Facing Defiance | 28 July 10am |
| Supporting Health Screen Use | 28 July 7pm |

Essex Fire Museum Open Days

2026



Sunday 28th Of June

10:30AM To 4:00PM

Fire Station, Hogg Lane, Grays
RM17 5QS



Book Now ➔



Museum@essex-fire.gov.uk



ANNUAL OPEN DAY

SUNDAY 19 JULY · 11AM-4PM

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