



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 2026 – Friday 25th September 2026



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**

WRAP-AROUND

Please note that after-school wrap-around care will **not** be available on the last day of term: 18th December, 25th March or 21st July. In addition, wrap-around is not available after the Panto trip 4th Dec.

Forthcoming Events:

1st October - Feast Day of St Thérèse of Lisieux

20th and 22nd October- Parents' Evenings

4th December Whole school trip to the Panto

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends,

We began the week thinking about measuring. I shared with the children that measuring was always one of my favourite parts of maths, before producing a bag filled with different measuring tools. We thought about all the things we can measure - but then considered a much more difficult question: how do we measure love, kindness or generosity? Through Jesus' parable of the workers in the vineyard, we discovered that God's generous love cannot be measured. It is given freely and abundantly. Inspired by St Teresa, we reflected on how we can show that same generosity through the small acts of love and kindness we offer to others each day.

It has also been an exciting week for sport. Selected pupils from years 5 and 6 took part in our first sporting event of the year: New Age Kurling. They represented our school wonderfully. Thank you to Mr Nichols, one of our parent governors, for giving his time to accompany and support the children alongside school staff.

Following last week's elections, it was my pleasure on Thursday to present badges to our newly elected School Council members, Eco Representatives and Liturgy Leaders. We also presented some of our first prefect badges to Year 6. Wearing any one of these badges is both a privilege and a responsibility and I know that the elected children will make an important contribution to the life of our school.

We ended the week with a wonderful day of generosity. Children came to school dressed in red, white and blue - the colours of the Nepalese flag - and donated coins for the Red Cross and its work supporting those affected by the recent disaster in Nepal. In standing alongside people they may never meet, our children put Catholic Social Teaching into action, particularly the principle of solidarity. Year 5 also hosted our annual Macmillan Coffee Morning. They did an absolutely fantastic job of baking - and perhaps undertaking a little "fake baking" - as well as welcoming families and helping everyone to enjoy a cake in our school hall. Thank you to everyone who donated cakes, gave their time or came along to show support for the vital work of Macmillan Cancer Support. Thank you to Mrs Herron for going above and beyond to organise such a great event.

Several vehicles have been seen stopping on the yellow zigzag markings outside school this week. Please do not stop, park or drop off passengers on these markings, even for a few seconds. During the signed restriction times, stopping there is prohibited and may result in a fine. The markings are there to keep sightlines clear so that our children can cross the road safely. Every member of our school community has a part to play in keeping children safe, so please park legally and considerately away from the school entrance.

It is essential that staff know who will be collecting each child at the end of the day. Please ensure that all changes to collection arrangements are communicated through the school office rather than passed verbally to a teacher in the morning. The adult teaching your child at the end of the day may be different and although our teachers perform minor miracles every day, they cannot be expected to hold every family's changing arrangement in their heads! Please also give the office as much notice as possible. An email received at 3.10pm cannot be guaranteed to have been read and passed to the correct member of staff by 3.15pm. If an unavoidable change is made late in the day, please telephone the office rather than relying on an email.

I will be away from school next week as I join a Rosary Trust pilgrimage. This is something I am very much looking forward to and I hope to share some of the experience with the children when I return. The school will, of course, remain in the very capable hands of our senior leadership team and the office will direct any queries to the appropriate senior leader.

Thursday 1st October is the Feast Day of St Thérèse of Lisieux, our school's patron saint and it will be an especially joyful day at St Teresa's. The children will have an opportunity to attend the parish Mass in the morning, and each class will celebrate the feast in its own special way. I am also delighted to confirm that, even under the new school food standards, cake is permitted as part of a religious celebration - so there will be cake for everyone!

Wishing you all a peaceful and restful weekend. God bless, Mrs Maguire

We are delighted to announce that one of our amazing year 6 pupils - Eva - has been cast in Billy Elliot the Musical showing at the Adelphi Theatre in London. Eva has been working very hard attending daily rehearsals and we know she will do brilliantly. Do join us in wishing her the very best of luck!



Essex Child and Family Wellbeing Service



Speech and Language Pre-school Drop-in Clinic AUTUMN TERM DATES

Please see details below for drop-in schedule this term.

Every Tuesday excluding 22nd December

9.00am-12.00pm

Berechurch Family Hub, Monkwick, Colchester CO2 8NN

1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month excluding 2nd December

12.30pm - 3.00pm

Greenstead Community Centre, Colchester CO4 3QE



2nd & 4th Thursday of the month excluding 22nd October & 24th December

9.00am - 12.00pm

Sydney House Family Hub, Clacton CO16 7PA

1st Friday of the month excluding 1st January

10.00am - 1.00pm

Harwich Delivery Site, Mayflower Primary School, Harwich, CO12 4AJ

2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month excluding 14th October

9.00am - 11.00am

Telephone drop-in: call 01206 742 965

t: 01206 742 960

Services commissioned by



St Teresa's
Christmas Bazaar
Please start donating
BOTTLES
for the Bottle Stall
at our Church Christmas Bazaar.

Saturday 28th November 2026

= Any bottles! =

Please leave bottles at the
back of the church.

Thank you!



Attendance Data

94% and below

94 - 97%

97% and above



	Last week year %	This week %
Reception	96.7	96.4
Year 1	91.8	94.7
Year 2	98.3	97.2
Year 3	97.4	97.1
Year 4	96.1	96.4
Year 5	97.7	97.3
Year 6	95.9	93.8
Whole School total:	93.6	96.1



Menus

Lunch Menu

Next week is Week 2

Wraparound Menu

Next week is Week 2

Nursery Snack Menu

Next week is Week 2

Please visit the school website to view the menus:

<https://www.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

£18.00 per nursery child per full session and £9.00 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.



St Teresa's Catholic Primary School

"Let us do little things well today"

RECEPTION OPEN DAY

Saturday 10th October 2026

10.00am – 1.00pm

No need to book

Come along and explore our beautiful school

We welcome children of all faiths and beliefs

 www.st-teresas.essex.sch.uk

 office@st-teresas.essex.sch.uk

 01206 508445



St Benedict's Catholic College – Year 7 Admission for September 2027

If your child is currently in Year 6 and you are considering St Benedict's Catholic College as one of your choices on your secondary school application for September 2027, please be aware that you will also need to complete the college's Supplementary Information Form (SIF).

The completed form must be returned to the college by 31 October 2026, together with a copy of your child's Baptism Certificate or other appropriate evidence of Catholicity or Christianity.

The Supplementary Information Forms are available on our website via the following link:- <https://www.stbenedicts.essex.sch.uk/welcome/admissions/supplementary-information-forms/>

Free School Meal Entitlement

If you have received a letter from us about Free School Meals, please don't be alarmed!

We are proactively contacting families who may benefit following the recent changes to eligibility. The letter is entirely confidential and is simply intended to ensure that no family misses out on support to which they may be entitled.

If you think you may be eligible for free school meals, you can apply via this link:

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>



JOIN AN iROCK BAND THIS SEPTEMBER

New spaces now open!
Choose your instrument today.

Discover more Enrol now

Enrol Online
www.irockschool.com/enrol

We're here to help
01223 124 455
info@irockschool.com

iRock

As our iRocker school leavers move on to their next adventure, new places are opening for children to start band lessons from September.

About iRock Lessons

- 30-minute band-based music lessons taught by a professional Band Coach
- Lessons take place during school hours
- Easy subscription: cancel at any time, with a first lesson money-back guarantee
- Open to children aged 4 to 13, regardless of ability or experience
- Children learn popular music while building confidence, teamwork and listening skills
- Pupils can work towards an exam-free RSL Awards music qualification as part of their Rock journey



AMAZING ADVENTURES ON YOUR DOORSTEP

Exhilarating school holiday activity days for kids age 8+

Water sports, high ropes, zip-wire, archery, basketball and more at four centres:

BRADWELL • DARBURY • HARLOW • HERSEA

£40 PER DAY

www.irockschool.com/school-holiday-activities



Father Saurin Hall
St Teresa of Lisieux Church
Clairmont Rd, Colchester CO3 9BE

Social committee

QUIZ night

Saturday 10th October
7.30pm

Bring your own snacks and drinks

Teams of up to 8 people

£5 per person on the door



Great Bromley Village Hall, CO7 7JA

AUTUMN Fayre

SUNDAY 25th OCTOBER

11AM - 3.00PM / FREE ENTRY

FESTIVE FOOD
CRAFTS
KIDS' ACTIVITIES
COMPETITIONS
LOCAL STALLS

NEW FOR THIS YEAR
DEDICATED STALLS
SHOWCASING
TALENTED LOCAL CHILDREN

SHOP LOCAL • SUPPORT YOUNG CREATORS • ENJOY A FUN FAMILY DAY OUT

CONTACT: IVORYEVENTS90@GMAIL.COM



CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Please come and join us for the Parish Bazaar

Saturday 28th November

11am - 2pm

Father Saurin Hall & School Hall
St Teresa's Church
Clairmont Road, Lexden

