



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 2nd October 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:

Thursday 16th October -
Photographer's Visit

20th and 22nd October- Parents'
Evenings

4th December Whole school trip to
the Panto



Dear Parents, Carers and Friends,

I cannot believe it is that time of year again when Mrs Maguire attends the Rosary Trust Pilgrimage and I have the privilege of writing the newsletter. She has been in regular contact all week and I know that she has been praying for us all.

Mrs Maguire started the week with her Gospel Assembly on Monday. She read the parable of the two sons and spoke about how actions speak louder than words. She linked it to St Teresa's Feast Day which we of course celebrated yesterday. Mrs Maguire reminded the children that St Teresa's did little things with great love and we should be inspired to follow her example. She gave each child a tag and encouraged them to write a 'little thing' they were going to try to do throughout the week.

Throughout the week the children have been thinking about St Teresa's Little Ways and have been completing some reflective work each day on the many values that St Teresa had. They have been filling in their 'little ways' journal and sharing how they could be more like St Teresa in their daily actions. On Thursday, Year 4, 5 and 6 attended the Parish Feast Day mass and it was lovely to hear what excellent ambassadors they were, representing the school in such a sensible, respectful manner. I know that the children were very excited to enjoy either a cookie or cake during the day to celebrate such an important Feast Day in our school year.

There has been an excited buzz around the school, with incredible learning taking place. There are certainly lots of children from each class awaiting the return of Mrs Maguire and I think she needs to get her golden headteacher award stickers ready! Nursery and Reception have enjoyed reading 'The Disgusting Sandwich' with Nursery creating craft sandwiches and Reception making a disgusting sandwich at the beginning of the week and a delicious sandwich today! Year 1 were very proud of their fantastic writing about the Big Sad Wolf and the Three Little Pigs. They shared what they thought of the wolf, why he was sad and what advice they would give him! The children wrote some amazing sentences with lots of adjectives. There was big excitement in Year 2 as they 'published' their very own Dragonology book, full of their brilliant dragon descriptions. It is now proudly displayed in the Year 2 book corner where it's already been enjoyed by many eager readers. Year 3 have been eager scientists, investigating the nutritional information on different types of crisps and thinking about what makes a balanced and healthy diet. They were certainly engaged and loved making their own discoveries. Year 4 have been on a very exciting trip to Sutton Hoo today and I am sure they will be sharing lots about their trip on Seesaw. Mrs Heath has shared that she was particular impressed with Year 4's work on understanding three theological virtues: faith, hope and charity (love), and developing an understanding of how they can build these into their daily habits as good neighbours. In Year 5, Mrs Herron was also blown away by the retelling of the scripture of Moses and the Burning bush with accompanying art work inspired by Elizabeth Wang. There was also BIG excitement when they re-enacted the trenches in hall as part of their World War focus. Year 6 have been very busy being incredible Samba players, making Pharaoh headshots of themselves and decorating with designs inspired by Ancient Egypt. I am sure you will agree, that whilst this only a snapshot of the learning that has taken place this week, the children have been immersed in incredible opportunities to explore the curriculum in a fun and engaging way.

A huge thank you to everyone who attended our Macmillan Coffee morning last Friday. We were blown away by your generosity and Mrs Herron was very excited to share that we have raised £825.05 for Macmillan. What an amazing amount of money for such an important charity. Thank you for going above and beyond to support this.

There have been a few events this week that we have sent Seesaw messages about, but I do ask that you take the time to read.

I know Mrs Maguire looking forward to seeing the children next week and sharing her experiences.

Have a wonderful weekend,

God bless,
Miss Hilton

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

DRIVE SAFELY



If you are dropping your child to breakfast club (that takes place in the hall) or collecting your child from wraparound, please be cautious when driving up the school driveway. It is essential that the speed limit is adhered to and when you get to the end of the driveway just before the road, you should be slowing to a stop to ensure it is safe to exit. We will be closing the gate from 8.20 to cars, so please do not use the car park if you are dropping your child to Universal Breakfast Club in the Church hall.

BEHAVIOUR OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL



We have been made aware of reports that a small number of pupils, while wearing St Teresa's school uniform, have been hitting/banging on a neighbouring property as they make their way to or from school. Please could we ask all parents and carers to remind children that we expect them to behave respectfully and responsibly when travelling to and from school. When wearing our uniform, children are representing St Teresa's in our local community, and our expectations to Be Ready, Show Respect and Stay Safe remain important beyond the school gates. We are very proud of the positive reputation our pupils have within our community and want to ensure that we are always considerate and respectful neighbours.

ST FRANCIS FEAST DAY

The children are invited to come to school on Monday (5th October) wearing green to celebrate the Feast Day of St Francis one of our four house team saints. It will be wonderful to see the children in multiple shades of green especially with St Francis being the patron saint of animals and the environment.



Introduction from the New Chair of Governors

28th September 2026

St Teresa's Catholic Primary School

Dear Parents and Carers,

My name is Gemma Humphries & I am delighted to introduce myself as the new Chair of Governors at St Teresa's. I feel privileged to take on this role within a school community whose Catholic character and values are at the heart of its life.

I am working mother with three children, all of whom attended St Teresa's, with my youngest daughter currently in year 6.

The governing board works closely with the headteacher, staff and our church partners to help shape the school's strategic direction. We have a particular responsibility to uphold and develop the school's Catholic vision, while supporting continuous improvement, providing constructive challenge and helping to ensure that every child is known, valued and given the opportunity to flourish.

As Chair, my priority is to help the board remain focused on the quality of education, pupils' wellbeing and nurturing a welcoming inclusive school experience rooted in Catholic values.

I believe that strong relationships between the school, families, the parish and the wider community are essential & I would welcome your feedback about the school's strategic direction and Catholic ethos.

Thank you for the part you play in supporting the school and its pupils. I look forward to speaking to you as we build on the school's strengths and ambitions for the future.

Yours sincerely,

Gemma Humphries

Chair of Governors

St Teresa's Catholic Primary School

Attendance Data

94% and below

94 - 97%

97% and above



	Last week year %	This week %
Reception	96.4	97
Year 1	94.7	98.9
Year 2	97.2	99.7
Year 3	97.1	96.1
Year 4	96.4	96.4
Year 5	97.3	99.3
Year 6	93.8	94.4
Whole School total:	96.1	97.4



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

£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



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>

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: IVORTVENTS96@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, London



SPORTS COACHING SCS
Inspiring children in sport
SPECIALISTS

SME UK Enterprise Awards 2024
Sports Coaching Specialists Ltd
Best Sports Coaching Provider 2024 - East of England

SCS OCTOBER HALF TERM COLCHESTER FOOTBALL CAMP

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

2 DAY CAMP
Monday 26th & Tuesday 27th October

10am - 1pm Age 4-5 years £20 per day
10am - 3pm 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

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Best Sports Coaching Provider 2024 - East of England

SCS OCTOBER HALF TERM HIGHWOODS FOOTBALL CAMP

Highwoods Primary School, CO4 9SN

1 DAY CAMP
Friday 30th October

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

★ Inspiring Children in Sport ★

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www.scssports.co.uk

Essex Outdoors

AMAZING ADVENTURES ON YOUR DOORSTEP

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

essexoutdoors.com/school-holiday-activities

OCTOBER HALF TERM Schools 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!

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
Nurman Way, Colchester CO3 3US
Ofsted Number: EY2837204

WE ACCEPT GOV.UK The Free Childcare

TO BOOK VISIT www.schoolsoutactivities.co.uk

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!