



Hatfield Peverel St. Andrew's Junior School



# NEWSLETTER

## 19<sup>th</sup> December 2025



Dear Parents and Carers,

Today's church service was possibly the busiest I have ever known (in my 11 years at St Andrew's)- it was such a wonderfully happy celebration. I hope that those who could attend felt the Christmas spirit!

The children's singing was just fantastic (well done to year 4 for coping without the music!) and I am sure I was not the only one with goose-bumps!

So many children shining so brightly.

This week has been very busy with: the disco, A visit from Father Christmas, Christmas dinner, Church Service and Shine time treats. I am sure you are all exhausted (as are your children).

We would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a very happy new year.

We are holding in our thoughts our staff and families who have experienced ill-health or loss this year.

The staff would like to express their thanks for the lovely gifts and cards received this week. So very kind.

Wishing you all a peaceful and fun-filled break.

Mrs Black and the St Andrew's team.



Huge thanks to Mrs Thomas and her fantastic catering team. Dinner was wonderful!

### SCHOOL MEAL PRE-ORDERING

By midnight on WEDNESDAY 7<sup>th</sup> January – for week beginning 12<sup>th</sup> January 2026

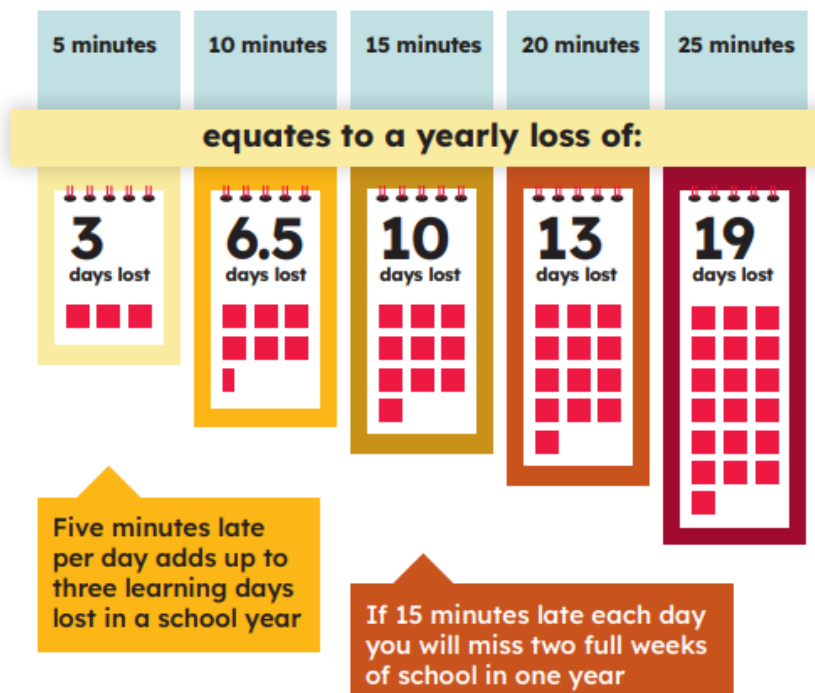
If you have any queries, please do contact the school office.

## CHILDREN ARRIVING TO SCHOOL LATE

Please help ensure your child arrives at school on time each day, some days we have had over 20 children arriving late after the gate has closed. Early morning work and class instructions are an important part of our learning routine. This time helps the children settle in and understand the plans and expectations for the day. When they arrive late, they miss key instructions and learning opportunities which can make it harder for them to stay on track. Your support with punctual arrival helps set your child up for a confident and successful school day.



### Minutes lost per day



Poor timekeeping means less chance of success!

## Spring Term 2026 - Diary Dates

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026: children back to school

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2026: 3.15pm Year 4 MTC meeting (parents and children welcome)

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> to Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> January: Y6 Hilltop Residential Trip

Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> January: Y4 Roman Day (details to follow)

4<sup>th</sup> February: Y5 Road Safety Visit

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> - Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> February: Book Fayre in School

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February: Inset Day**

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> to Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February: Half Term Break

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March: Y6 Warner Bros Studios Trip (details to follow)

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March: Y5 Viking Day (details to follow)

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March: Parent Consultation Evenings (details to follow)

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March to Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April: Easter Holidays

## **HEALTHIER SCHOOLS AND MAINTAINING HIGH ATTENDANCE THROUGHOUT THE WINTER MONTHS**

As we move further into the term, please see key guidance below to help manage seasonal illnesses and keep pupils and staff well.

[Education Hub Blog](#) a helpful blog for parents and staff.

[NHS Guidance for Parents](#) is my child too ill for school – a useful resource to help parents decide when children should stay at home.

[Preventing and Controlling Infections Guidance](#) includes advice on vaccination, ventilation and good respiratory hygiene.

[A-Z of managing Infectious Diseases](#) practical guidance on managing specific illnesses.

### • **FAMILIES WITH YEAR 2 CHILDREN \***

#### **Year 2-3 admissions for September 2026**

As you may be aware, parents of current Year 2 children at an infant school need to make a formal application to the Council for a junior school (Year 3) place and can do so via the website [www.essex.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.essex.gov.uk/admissions).

The junior admission round opened on **10 November 2025**, for parents of children in Year 2 at an infant school to apply for a junior school (Year 3) place for September 2026.

The statutory national closing date for applications is **15 January 2026**.

Applications can be made online via [www.essex.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.essex.gov.uk/admissions).

All of the application information is available on the website above.



We were very pleased to receive our 'Healthy Schools' Plaque from the Essex Child and Family Wellbeing Services Healthy Schools Team. The plaque was presented in recognition of Essex County Council's driven statement that all Essex schools are healthy.

The Healthy Schools Programme recognises and celebrates best practice, offering an individualised pathway and development plan, supported by an award framework across the six key areas of public health.





**PE DAYS AUTUMN TERM 2025**  
 (children to wear PE kit on PE days)

Red PE top, black shorts/joggers, red sweatshirt or jumper (no black tops please) and trainers

Year 3	Monday Wednesday
Year 4	Wednesday Thursday
Year 5	Monday Tuesday
Year 6	Tuesday Thursday

**CYCLE HELMETS**

If your child is riding either a bicycle or scooter to school, can you please ensure they are wearing a suitable helmet. It is school protocol and imperative for their safety.

**Amazon Wish Lists**

We are often asked how families can support the school to provide a wide-ranging curriculum and keep to our high standard of education.

A couple of items have been added to the Amazon wish lists for each year group. If you are able and willing to contribute please visit the links below for your child's year group. Items bought are sent directly to school within a few days and added to our resources.

*We are so grateful for your continued support.*

[Year 3](#)

[Year 4](#)

[Year 5](#)

[Year 6](#)

Year Group	Trip or Event	Deadline for response
All Years		
Year 3		
Year 4	Sign up to Year 4 MTC Meeting, Mon 19 <sup>th</sup> January 2026 at 3.15pm <a href="https://forms.gle/zaELyHFt9zuKsfRB9">https://forms.gle/zaELyHFt9zuKsfRB9</a>	
Year 5		
Year 6		



Wishing a very **Happy Birthday** to those who celebrate their birthdays between:  
 15<sup>th</sup> December 2025 to 4<sup>th</sup> January 2026

**Matilda M (Apple), Isabelle A (Sycamore), Myles W (Rowan),  
 Elliott G (Sycamore), James S (Maple), Everly L (Fir), Cai A (Birch), Ralph A (Cherry),  
 Kobi T (Fir), Arthur V (Fir), Lola-Rose H (Rowan),**

**Mrs Black**

Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
99%	97%	98%	95%

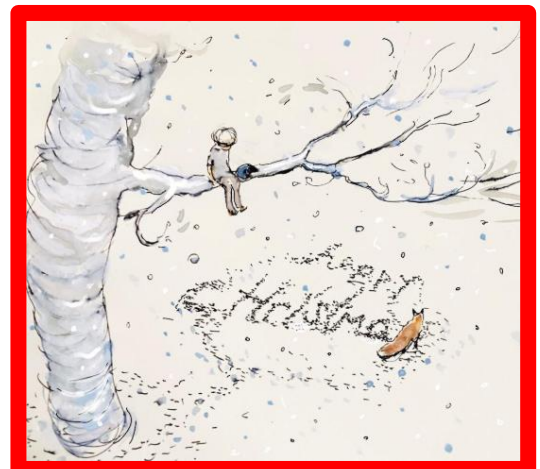
**'Attendance Matters'**  
 Attendance for each year group this week.

Communication regarding attendance concerns and requests for leave of absence will now be shared electronically via email wherever possible. This is in line with ECC directives.



**Winner of House Points for this term is**  
**VINEHURST**

<b>Berwicks</b>	<b>5599</b>
<b>Greystones</b>	<b>6078</b>
<b>Priory</b>	<b>5776</b>
<b>Vinehurst</b>	<b>6400</b>



If you want to see more from Charlie Mackesy please follow  
<https://www.charliemackesy.com/>



Congratulations to the children below who have made it onto the TTRS leader board for this week!



### Year 3 MOST PLAYED

1 <sup>st</sup>	Reuben B-R	5,211
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Theo C	2,232
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Sophie A	1,740



### Year 4 MOST PLAYED

1 <sup>st</sup>	James B	4,230
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Elizabeth S	1,848
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Ralph A	1,616



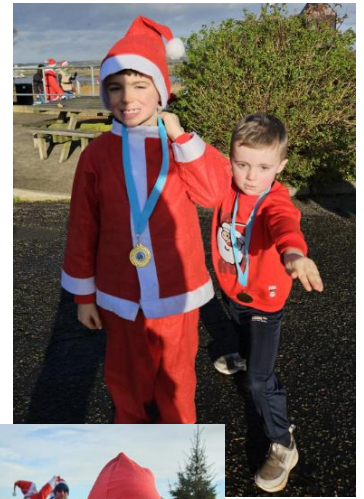
### Year 5 MOST PLAYED

1 <sup>st</sup>	Cameron G	13,750
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Theodore J	2,930
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Logan S	2,876



### Year 6 MOST PLAYED

1 <sup>st</sup>	Elliott G	10,760
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Frank C	5,521
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Delilah P	4,682



We received this lovely message from Caleb's family:-

*Caleb ran his first 3K Santa fun run for charity! He was so determined and although it was actually much longer than I'd thought, he kept going- full Santa suit and all, with a sprint finish at the end! We had so much fun! Super proud of Caleb! Please see attached pictures 😊.*

This looks a lot of family fun! Well done Caleb 🎅!



# WINTER 2026 - SCHOOL MEAL MENUS

**Please ensure you have PRE-ORDERED via ParentPay**

**Meals are £2.70 daily**

Thank you for helping to support our school by choosing a school meal for your child/ren.



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Tomato Pasta Bake (v) or Creamy Macaroni Cheese (v) Baguette Slice (v) Diced Carrots (ve) Sweetcorn (ve)	Sweet and Sour Chicken or Veggie Nuggets (v) White Rice (ve) Peas (ve)	Mighty Mince with a Puff Pastry Top or 5 Bean Mild Chilli with a Pastry Top (ve) Mashed Potato (v) Broccoli (ve) Gravy (optional)	Baked Sausages or Veggie Sausages (ve) Roast Potatoes (ve) Seasonal Vegetables (ve) Gravy (optional)	Fish Fingers or Vegetable Fingers (ve) Chips (ve) Sweetcorn (ve)
Fruit Wedge (ve)	Jelly (v)	Strawberry Fruit Whip (v)	Jam Crumble Slice (v)	Biscuit (v)

JACKET POTATOES WITH CHEESE (v), BEANS (ve) OR TUNA SERVED WITH VEG AND DESSERT OF THE DAY

or

SCHOOL PACKED LUNCH: HAM, CHEESE (v) OR TUNA ROLL WITH CARROT AND CUCUMBER STICKS (ve), FRUIT, JUICE CARTON (ve) AND DESSERT OF THE DAY

Thank you for supporting us by having a school meal. Please be assured for your peace of mind - all allergens are catered for.



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Pepperoni Pizza or Margherita Pizza (v) Sweetcorn (ve) Pasta Salad (v)	Hot Doggidy Dog or Veggie Doggidy Dog (v) White Rice (ve) Broccoli (ve)	Meatballs & Tomato Pasta or Veggie Balls & Tomato Pasta (ve) Garlic Bread (v) Sweetcorn and Pepper Salad (ve)	Roast Chicken or Roasted Herby Fillet (ve) Roast Potatoes (ve) Yorkshire Pudding (v) Stuffing (v) Seasonal Vegetables (ve) Gravy (optional)	Harry Ramsden Fish or Crispy Dipper (ve) Chips (ve) Peas (ve) Baked Beans (ve)
Fruit Salad (ve)	Crumble & Custard (v)	Jelly (v)	Shortbread (v)	Chocolate Cake (v)

JACKET POTATOES WITH CHEESE (v), BEANS (ve) OR TUNA SERVED WITH VEG AND DESSERT OF THE DAY

or

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Crispy Pizza Whirl (v)	Creamy Bacon Carbonara  or  'No Bacon' Creamy Carbonara (v)	Mild Chilli Con Carne  or  5 Bean Mild Chilli (ve)	Roast Chicken  or  Baked Fillet (ve)	Fish Fingers  or  Veggie Fingers (ve)
½ Jacket Potato (ve) Baked Beans (ve)	Fresh Bread (v) Broccoli (ve)	White Rice (ve) Tortillas (v) Seasonal Vegetables (ve)	Roast Potatoes (ve) Yorkshire Pudding (v) Stuffing (v) Seasonal Vegetables (ve) Gravy (optional)	Chips (ve) Peas (ve) Sweetcorn (ve)
Yogurt (v)	Chocolate Crispie Cake (v)	Flapjack (v)	Apple Crumble & Custard (v)	School Cake with Icing & Sprinkles (v)
<p>JACKET POTATOES WITH CHEESE (v), BEANS (ve) OR TUNA SERVED WITH VEG AND DESSERT OF THE DAY or SCHOOL PACKED LUNCH: HAM, CHEESE (v) OR TUNA ROLL WITH CARROT AND CUCUMBER STICKS (ve), FRUIT, JUICE CARTON (ve) AND DESSERT OF THE DAY</p>				
<p><b>Thank you for supporting us by having a school meal. Please be assured for your peace of mind - all allergens are catered for.</b></p>				

Meals can be pre-ordered up to February half term and will only be charged to ParentPay once the meal has been taken.



ACL

ACL in association with  
St Andrew's Junior School



FREE!



# Zones of Regulation

Join our Zones of Regulation course designed especially for families. This practical and engaging programme introduces the tools and language your child is already using in class to help them recognise, understand, and regulate their feelings.

**Date: 15/01/2026**

**Time: 09:00 - 11:00**



Scan the QR code, or Visit our website [acessex.com](https://acessex.com) and type 'ST ANDREWS' or 'HO4A40CO25' in the 'Find a course...' box



Enrolment pin  
-1616

**acessex.com**

**0345 603 7635**



Essex County Council



# SCS CHRISTMAS

## WITHAM FOOTBALL CAMP

Witham Town FC, Spa Road, Witham, CM8 1UN

### 1 Day Camp

Tuesday 23rd December

- 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 SCS WITHAM WHATSAPP GROUP



FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT OUR SCS EVENTS IN WITHAM

PLEASE EMAIL: [withamscs@gmail.com](mailto:withamscs@gmail.com)

or CONTACT BRAD ON 07464 235643 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](http://www.scssports.co.uk)



**10 January  
to 22 February  
2026**



# Winter Reading Challenge

Children across Essex are being challenged to read and get creative at their local library this winter!

Explore our Pawfessionals' amazing careers as you progress through the challenge.

Choose from twelve fun activities to complete. For each one, you'll get a sticker! Complete six, and you'll receive a certificate and get to enter our prize draw for the chance to win some incredible goodies!

Plus, you can join in with themed events and activities at the library!



**Find out more about how to take part in this free activity on our website: [libraries.essex.gov.uk](https://libraries.essex.gov.uk)**



# Sports & Play Camps Winter Holidays 2025/26

HAF Funded Places Available Now

## ADDING TO THE FUN:

### Big Winter Family Party

Maldon Primary School  
Mayland Primary School

19 / 12 / 25

3:30–6:30pm

### LSC Hamper Day

Maldon Promenade Park  
Mayland Primary School

23 / 12 / 25

10:00–12:00pm

4–12  
years

## Book Your Space With Holiday Activities at Essex Activate!

Click the green button on your email from  
[hello@holidayactivities.com](mailto:hello@holidayactivities.com)

Monday 22nd December 2025  
Friday 2nd January 2026

Maldon

Maldon Primary School

Heybridge

Heybridge Primary School

Maylandsea

Mayland Primary School



- 1 – Open your email
- 2 – Click the green button
- 3 – Sign in / create an account
- 4 – Make your booking
- 5 – Search 'Little Sportsters'
- 6 – Pick your activity
- 7 – Follow the prompts



Essex  
**ACTIVate**

[isccoaching.com](https://www.isccoaching.com)



Essex County Council



Little  
**Sportsters**  
COACHING