



# St Helen's Catholic Infant and Nursery School Newsletter



Friday 21st November 2025

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## Prayer of the Week: Class RR

Dear God,  
Thank you for helping us every day to try hard in everything we do.  
Amen.

*With Jesus alive in our hearts, we celebrate each other and learn together as a family.*

**Best Attendance:**

**2S – 98%**

**Whole School Attendance:**

**96%**

Dear families,

**Each year, we urge families to avoid sending Christmas cards wherever possible.**

In this Jubilee Year, as Pilgrims of Hope we are called to take swift and unified global action to protect our environment.

As a staff, we have made a pledge to donate to Brentwood Catholic Children's Society this year instead of sending cards:

<https://www.bccs.org.uk/christmas/>

If you choose to send in Christmas cards, they must be brought into school by Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December and will then be given out on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2024. They will not be accepted after this date.



## Christmas Dinner: Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2025

If you have already selected a school dinner for Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December, then your child will automatically be given the Christmas dinner, either turkey (meat option) or Roasted Vegetable Strudel (vegetarian option).

**If you haven't booked a meal for Christmas Dinner Day and you would like your child to have a Christmas dinner, then YOU MUST BOOK IT BY MONDAY 1st DECEMBER 2025.**

## Reception/ Year 3 Admissions for September 2026

The primary school (Reception and Year 3) admission round is now open for parents of children to apply for a Reception school and a year 3 place for the academic year that starts in September 2026. The statutory national closing date for applications is: **15th January 2026**. Applications can be made online via [www.essex.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.essex.gov.uk/admissions)

## Prospective Reception Parents 2026-27

There will be tours of the school for prospective parents (Reception 2026) on **Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> November, Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> November, Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> November and Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November at 9.30am**. Please contact the school office to book a slot.

### This Week's Awards

Stars of the Week		
Reception Class RS - Archie Class RR - Harry	Year 1 Class 1Mc - Miguel Class 1A - Aurelia	Year 2 Class 2S - Oona Class 2B - Bailey
House	This Week	This Term
St Bernadette	137	1580
St Clare	143	1564
St Francis	150	1553
St Martin	171	**1602**

### Safeguarding Update

**Designated Safeguarding Lead: Mrs C. Morris (Deputy Headteacher)**  
**Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead: Ms A. McAuliffe (Headteacher)**  
**Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead: Mrs J. Seaman (EYFS Leader)**



### Upcoming Festive Activities

We have got some new and exciting festive activities to add to the school diary!

#### **Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> December: Christmas Biscuit Day**

Mrs Dancey will be making festive biscuits for children to have at break-time. If you would like to purchase a biscuit for your child, please pay £1.20 on your Parentpay account by Monday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2025.

*If your child is not taking part, they will have break-time as normal.*

#### **Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December: Christmas Movie Night: 3.25pm - 5pm**

We are holding a Christmas movie night for children to watch a Christmas movie with their friends in their classes. This will enable parents/carers to get some Christmas jobs done. Children will be supervised by their class teachers and they will choose their film as a class. If you would like your child to stay for Christmas Movie Night, please pay £5 on your Parentpay account by Monday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2025. This price includes a bag of popcorn or a pack of Haribo.



### Parents Association

Our infamous Elfridges (Christmas shopping event) is on 5<sup>th</sup> Dec – this will be cash on the day – more details to follow over the next weeks.

**Disco tickets** for Infants and **Panto tickets** for Juniors are available now on the platform. [BUY TICKETS HERE](#)

Both the disco and panto events are in school time on the 10<sup>th</sup> December. A reminder that if you buy events together you only pay one platform fee.



### Reminders

- The school dinner menu next week is week 1

### Diary Dates

- **Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup>, Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> and Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November:** Tours for Prospective Reception Parents 2026
- **Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December:** Y2 trip to Basildon Townsgate Theatre
- **Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December:** Elfridges (PA Event)
- **Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2.30pm:** Y1 Advent Service
- **Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December:** Christmas Dinner/ Fun Day
- **Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2.30pm:** Y2 Traditional Nativity
- **Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December:** Christmas Cards Deadline
- **Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2.30pm:** Reception Nativity through Song
- **Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December 3.15pm:** School closes for Christmas Holidays



God Bless all our families,

*Ms A. McAuliffe*

Headteacher

