



St Helen's Catholic Infant and Nursery School

Newsletter

Friday 19th December 2025



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Prayer of the Week: Class 1A

Dear God,

We pray for Jesus as we prepare to celebrate his birthday!

We hope everyone has a safe and happy Christmas.

Amen

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

Best Attendance:

2S – 96%

Whole School Attendance:

95%

Dear families,

This week we had a wonderful performance from Reception children who sang a selection of festive songs. Thank you Canon John for lighting this week's candle on the Advent wreath and thank you to all the families who joined us. The Reception staff did a fantastic job teaching the children the songs and dance moves. It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas!



As this is the last newsletter before the Christmas break, I would like to take this opportunity, on behalf of all the staff, to thank you all for your kind gifts, thoughts and prayers this Christmas time, we wish you all a peaceful and happy break. Children return on **Tuesday 6th January 2026**.

Extra-Curricular Clubs: Spring Term

Booking details for spring term clubs are now available on the school website: [Parents – Extra-Curricular Clubs](#).

Please note: All bookings and payments are made directly to the club provider.

Spring Term	Before School Clubs: 8am-8.45am	After School Clubs: 3.15 – 4.20pm
Monday	Ballet (Rec/Y1)	Gymnastics (Rec/Y1/ Y2) Glee Club (Y2)
Tuesday	Tennis (Y1/Y2)	Football (Y1/Y2 – 4.10pm finish)
Wednesday	Karate (Y1/2)	Street Dance (Rec/Y1/ Y2)
Thursday	Spanish (Rec/Y1/Y2)	Tag Rugby (Y1/ Y2)
Friday	Dodgeball (Rec/Y1/ Y2)	Nerf Wars Club (Rec/Y1/ Y2)

Spring Term Diary Dates

Please also see the attached flyer for spring term diary dates.

Please Note:

Tuesday 13th January - 2.50pm: Class 1A Celebration of the Word, parents and carers are invited to attend.

Tuesday 20th January - 2.50pm: Class 1MC Celebration of the Word, parents and carers are invited to attend.

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

Prospective Nursery Parents 2026-27 (3-4 year olds)

There will be tours of the school for prospective parents (Nursery 2026) on **Wednesday 28th January 9.30am** and **Thursday 29th January 9.30am**. Please contact the school office to book a slot.

This Week's Awards

Stars of the Week		
Reception	Year 1	Year 2
Class RS – The whole class Class RR – The whole class	Class 1Mc - Elise Class 1A - Matthew	Class 2S - Alexandra Class 2B - Jenica
House	This Week	This Term
St Bernadette	130	2134
St Clare	133	2143
St Francis	124	2132
St Martin	173	**2182**

Safeguarding Update: Sort your settings – Essex Police online safety campaign for parents

This campaign is aimed at raising awareness of online exploitation for parents and carers, as well as what they can do to reduce the risks around this. Details can be found:

<https://www.essex.police.uk/police-forces/essex-police/areas/essex-police/au/about-us/sort-your-settings/>

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)



PA News

We would like to say a *huge* thank you to our amazing local businesses who very kindly donated prizes for our recent fundraising event. Your generosity and support helped make the event such a success, and we are so grateful to have such wonderful businesses in our school community.

A big thank you goes to:

- Vogels Hair
- Stacy Bastion Fitness
- Football Factory

- Mummy Julie Cupcakes
- Doci Visi Italian Restaurant
- Carmel Jones Photography
- Migdonia's Massage Therapy
- Alex Watkinson Make-Up
- Sweet Essentials UK
- Sam's Sweet Shop
- Bespoke by ANNABEL

We would also like to say a massive thank you to all of our parents, teachers and families who bought tickets and supported the event with bringing in prizes. Thanks to your kindness and enthusiasm, we are thrilled to announce that we raised a fantastic **£1,200**. Your support really does make a difference, and we couldn't have done it without you. Thank you all for helping to make this fundraiser such a success!

Reminders

- The school dinner menu the first week back is week 1

Diary Dates

- **Monday 5th January:** INSET Day
- **Tuesday 6th January:** Children return to school
- **Tuesday 6th January:** Epiphany Mass at St Helen's Junior School Academy
- **Tuesday 13th January 2.50pm:** 1A Celebration of the Word – Parents and Carers invited
- **Tuesday 20th January 2.50pm:** 1MC Celebration of the Word – Parents and Carers invited
- **Wednesday 28th January 9.30am:** Tours for Prospective Nursery Parents/Carers
- **Thursday 29th January 9.30am:** Tours for Prospective Nursery Parents/Carers
- **Friday 6th February:** Number Day
- **Monday 9th – Friday 13th February:** Children's Mental Health Week/ E-Safety Week
- **Tuesday 10th February:** Safer Internet Day
- **Tuesday 10th/ Thursday 12th February: 3.30pm – 6.30pm:** Parent Consultations on-site or telephone appointments available)

God Bless all our families,

Ms A. McAuliffe

Headteacher

