



St Helen's Catholic Infant and Nursery School

Newsletter

Friday 30th January 2026



Email: admin@st-helens-inf.essex.sch.uk

Tel: 01277 215626

Website: www.st-helens-inf.essex.sch.uk/

Prayer of the Week: Class 2B

Dear God,
Please help us to be messengers just like Jesus' apostles.
Amen

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

Best Attendance:

Class 2B 99%

Whole School Attendance:

95%

Dear families,

On Friday 6th February 2026 children will be taking part in the NSPCC's Number Day and raising money for the NSPCC. Children are encouraged to come to school in a Number themed outfit. This can be a top with a number on it or a hat with numbers, for example. Children will be having lots of number lessons on this day to develop their Maths skills and families are encouraged to donate up to £3 to NSPCC via Parentpay.



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

Nursery Wishlist

As you are aware, we are actively seeking support resourcing our school nursery ready for September 2026. We are hugely grateful for any support families can give. As well as supporting the nursery with financial contributions, we now have an Amazon Wishlist which is solely dedicated to resourcing the nursery classroom. If you would like to show your support by purchasing a resource for the nursery, the link to the list is:

https://www.amazon.co.uk/registries/gl/owner-view/CE4GY31VU4JM?ref =gr_universal_landing_ggr

St Helen's Catholic Infant and Nursery School: Nursery Applications 2026-27

The nursery admission round is now open for parents of children to apply for a nursery place for the academic year that starts in September 2026. The application form is available on the school website and applications must be made directly to the school. The closing date for applications is: 20th March 2026.

Essex County Council
Early Years and Childcare

Take a closer look at Changes in Childcare

Funded Early Education Entitlement (FEEE)

Funded Early Education Entitlements are expanding!

Announced by the Chancellor in Spring 2023 as part of the Childcare Reforms Expansion, this will help enable more parents and carers in/back to work.

What do these expansions to Funded Early Education Entitlements mean for you and your family?

From April 2024, eligible working parents will be able to access up to 15 hours of funded childcare from the term after their child turns two-years-old.

In September 2024, the offer will extend further, and eligible working parents will be able to access up to 15 hours of funded childcare the term after their child turns 9-months-old.

From September 2025, eligible working parents will be entitled to up to 30 hours of childcare a week from the term after their child turns 9-months-old.



Find out more about the support you may be eligible for and how you can access a funded place here:

www.essex.gov.uk/children-young-people-and-families/early-years-and-childcare

Parent Consultations: Tuesday 10th/Thursday 12th February 2026: 3.30pm-6.30pm

Parents/carers are now able to book a 10 minute appointment **on site** to discuss their child/ren's progress this term. Alternatively If you wish to arrange a **telephone** meeting to discuss your child/ren's progress, please contact your child/ren's teacher directly via the year group email address to arrange. ***If you want a telephone appointment please book early to avoid disappointment.***

Five Star Food Hygiene

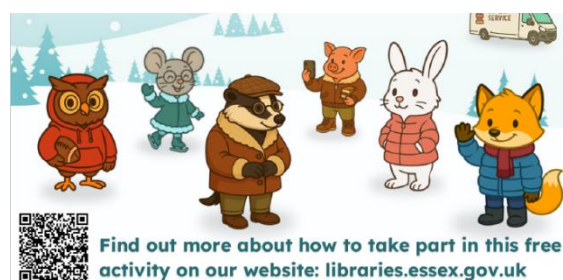
Huge congratulations to Mrs Dancey and the Catering team on receiving a 5-star rating following their inspection today!



The Winter Reading Challenge

The Winter Reading Challenge is a fun activity put together by Essex Library Service for children aged 0-12. It encourages children and families to keep reading over the winter and to visit their local library.

Children are invited to complete 6 challenges from a list of 12 reading and creative activities, and it's **FREE** to take part. Their mission is to help some friendly animals that work in different professions across Essex! The challenge starts on Saturday 10 January and runs through to the end of the February half term on 22 February. For more information head to your local library to sign up!



This Week's Awards

Stars of the Week		
Reception	Year 1	Year 2
Class RS – Santino Class RR – Arabella	Class 1Mc - Riley Class 1A - Maria	Class 2S - Annabelle Class 2B - Ruwan
House	This Week	This Term
St Bernadette	234	529
St Clare	207	508
St Francis	279	**586**
St Martin	206	503

Safeguarding Update

If you have any safeguarding concerns, please contact:

- 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)**



Reminders

- The school dinner menu next week is week 2

Diary Dates

- **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)
- **Monday 16th February – Friday 20th February:** Half Term
- **Monday 23rd February:** Children return to school

Upcoming Schedule



PTA 2026

- 4TH FEBRUARY**
PRO STRIKE (JUNIORS) 🏏
- 13TH MARCH**
MOTHERS DAY / SOMEONE SPECIAL SALE 🛍️
- 20TH MARCH**
PARENTS NIGHT OUT AT THE BRENTWOOD KITCHEN
- 27TH MARCH**
EASTER EGG HUNT 🥚
- 17TH APRIL**
BINGO NIGHT
- 15TH MAY**
DOUGHNUT SALE 🍩
- 19TH JUNE**
FATHERS DAY / SOMEONE SPECIAL SALE 🛍️
- 26TH JUNE**
SUMMER FUN DAY & PICNIC ☀️
- 3RD JULY**
END OF TERM DISCO JUNIORS 🎵
- 8TH JULY**
SUMMER DISCO INFANTS 🎵



Tickets are available to purchase on the PTA platform now

<https://www.pta-events.co.uk/st-helens>

God Bless all our families,

Ms A. McAuliffe

Headteacher



Artsmark
Silver Award
Awarded by Arts
Council England

