

# Weekly Newsletter

## At a Glance .....

### Academic Year 2018/19

#### Christmas Holidays 2018/19:

Break up on: Weds 19<sup>th</sup> Dec

Return on: Mon 7<sup>th</sup> Jan

**Thurs 3<sup>rd</sup> and Fri 4<sup>th</sup> Jan are non pupil days**

#### February Half Term 2019:

Break up on: Fri 15<sup>th</sup> Feb

Return on: Mon 25<sup>th</sup> Feb

#### Easter Holidays 2019:

Break up on: Fri 5<sup>th</sup> Apr

Return on: Tues 23<sup>rd</sup> Apr

#### May Day 2019:

No School on Mon 6<sup>th</sup> May as it is Bank Holiday

#### May Half Term 2019:

Break up on: Fri 24<sup>th</sup> May

Return on: Mon 3<sup>rd</sup> June

#### Summer Holidays 2019:

Break up on: Weds 24<sup>th</sup> July

#### Forthcoming Events / Visits:

9<sup>th</sup> November - Remembrance

Day Mass in Church at 9.30am

13<sup>th</sup> Nov: Whole School Visit -

Braintree Cineworld

14<sup>th</sup> Nov: Singing Group to

'Sing Up Suffolk'

16<sup>th</sup> Nov: Rec - Y5 Class based

'Come and See' assemblies.

Parents are welcome to attend

at 9.15am

Y6 date to be confirmed

9<sup>th</sup> January - IMPORTANT

SAVE THE DATE (day and

evening!) Details to follow!

### School Meals

w/b 12<sup>th</sup> November 2018

**Week 3** (Please see the School

Website or the App for details of

the three weekly dinner menus)



I am sure that it will not take you long to realise that Mrs Hale is back and our newsletter is once again awash with clip art, words of wisdom - and diary dates!

It was lovely to see so many of you at Parents Evening this week - there was almost 100% turnout. Thank you for taking the time and for supporting your child through their learning journey. If you were unable to get to Parents Evening please try and make an alternative appointment with the class teacher so you can find out both what your child is up to and how you can help them at home.

On Thursday we received a phone call from one of our neighbours. She wasn't cross, she wasn't rude - she was somewhat resigned to the fact that at least one parent in this school doesn't care about anyone except themselves! She knows this because four times this week the same parent has parked their car across her driveway without a thought about anyone except themselves. I don't know who this parent is but I do know that every day in school we talk to children about keeping rules, being kind and thoughtful and thinking about other people. I expect that this message is reiterated at home. I know that in the very vast majority of homes it is. I am disappointed to find that it is not the case in every home.

As you know tomorrow we will be celebrating a very special Mass to commemorate the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> World War and to remember all those brave men and women, young and old from this country and all over the world who made the ultimate sacrifice both in this war - that they thought would end all wars - and every war and conflict since. We also remember those whose lives have been changed forever. You are all most warmly welcome to this special Mass and to come in to the school hall for refreshments afterwards where you will see some of the work the children have produced and some of the items from our 'War Museum'. We will be joined by the Mayor and Mayoress of Colchester and the Deputy Lord Lieutenant of Essex, Nigel Spencer MBE. At the Mass we will be singing a special composition written by Mrs Wilson and signed by the children in Y5. It would be lovely if all the children were wearing a poppy - home-made or bought.

Well done Year 2 for best attendance this week - so nearly 100%! Keep it up

Mrs Kelly

## Merit Certificates

There was no Merit Assembly last Friday as Will Quince was in School and spoke to the children about Democracy and what it is like to be an MP.

### Attendance



Rec: 95.83%  
Year 1: 98.75%  
Year 2: **99.14%**

Year 3: 96.37%  
Year 4: 97.66%  
Year 5: 96.88%  
Year 6: 98.53%

**EVERY  
SCHOOL DAY  
COUNTS**

Congratulations Year 2 for having the highest attendance last week.



# Reflections of the Week



## November's Gospel Value – Respect and Reverence

During the month of November we will remember all the special saints and our loved ones who are in heaven with Jesus.

*'Let us share and remember together. Remembering those in Heaven, gone, but forgotten NEVER. Down deep in our hearts, their memory lives on and will do forever and ever.'*

This week our Monday Assembly was focused around the importance of prayer and how the children can use their fingers to help them remember who to pray for.



Pope Francis wants us to be praying 'Children of God' and has guided us to use our fingers to remember those important people who need our prayers and love. Using our fingers and starting with our thumb, the children were reminded that it is so important to pray for those people closest to them (mum, dad, grandparents, siblings etc) because their thumb is closest to them. The children learnt that their index finger represented the teachers in their lives and how important it is to pray for teachers so that they continue to guide and support children in their daily lives. The middle finger represents the leaders and governors in our lives. The children thought that it was important to pray for the leaders because 'they have difficult decisions to make every day'. The ring finger is our weakest finger and the children learnt that it is important to pray for the weak and sick. Finally, having prayed for so many important people and issues, we focused on smallest finger, which represents them. Having prayed for everyone else, it is time to pray for ourselves and hopefully it will put the prayer we want to say for ourselves into perspective. The children were able to remember which finger to use for each prayer and I am sure many of them have already shared their learning with you. Thank you to the Liturgy Group for leading the assembly in such a confident way.

They are preparing some paper hands to share with each class so that the children are reminded daily about the importance of prayer.

It would be lovely if during the coming week the children could spend some time with you at the beginning or end of the day using their fingers. I have attached the praying with fingers image onto the 'Come and See' section of the website so that you can explore it to.

On Friday we will be remembering all those brave men and women who have lost their lives protecting us and past generations, as we join together to celebrate mass. I do hope you can join us for this beautiful celebration at 9.30am.





Painted by Erin Gwyn-Jones

## “Let us do little things well today”

Well done to all the children who have tried to do ‘Little

Congratulations to all those who have tried to make a difference in little ways this week.

Reception	Isabella	Being a smiling and welcoming member of the class
Year 1	Josef	Trying to improve his writing using his phonics and not giving up!
Year 2	Elliot	Helping others to remember their writing rules
Year 3	Imogen	Being kind to other children at play
Year 4	Oli	Helping another member of his class during poppy making
Year 5	Daniel A	Using good manners when speaking to adults this week
Year 6	Victoria	Offering to open the door for an adult.
Staff	Miss Clark	Being a superhero and working super hard through the pain barrier this week!

### Applying for a Secondary School place for September 2019

As you may be aware, the new secondary school admission round opened on Wednesday, 12 September 2018, for parents of current Year 6 children to apply for a secondary school (Year 7) place for September 2019. **THE STATUTORY NATIONAL CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS IS 31ST OCTOBER 2018.**

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

**Please be aware that, this year, Essex are not sending letters to parents about making an application. All of the application information is available on the website above.**

The website also has a copy of the Secondary Education in Essex 2019-20 booklet which contains details of all secondary school admission policies. This can also be accessed using the link below. [http://www.essex.gov.uk/EducationSchools/Schools/Admissions/Documents/econdary\\_Admissions\\_Booklet.pdf](http://www.essex.gov.uk/EducationSchools/Schools/Admissions/Documents/econdary_Admissions_Booklet.pdf)

**Please also ensure that you check what supplementary information you need to return directly to the individual schools that you have applied for.**

### IMPORTANT – ADMISSIONS FOR RECEPTION – SEPTEMBER 2019

As you may be aware, the primary school (Reception) admission round opens on **Monday 12 November 2018**, for parents of children to apply for a Reception school place for the academic year that starts in September 2019.

**THE STATUTORY NATIONAL CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS IS 15 JANUARY 2019.**

**From 12 November 2018**, applications can be made online via [www.essex.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.essex.gov.uk/admissions). 98% of parents in Essex applied online last year.

Please be aware that Essex County Council are not sending letters to parents about making an application. All of the application information is available on the website above.

The website [www.essex.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.essex.gov.uk/admissions) also has a copy of the Primary Education in Essex 2019-20 booklet and the Schools Admissions Policies Directories contain details of all admission policies.

Information regarding admissions can also be found by visiting our school website [www.st-teresas.essex.sch.uk](http://www.st-teresas.essex.sch.uk) and following the links to Admissions.



### School Photographs

A reminder that the deadline date to order your photographs online, with the free delivery option back to the school, is next Tuesday 13th November. Please ensure that you have ordered in time so that you don't miss out on the free delivery option.

### Breakfast Club on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> November - (Whole School Trip to the Cinema)

Please be aware that Breakfast Club will be open as usual on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> November. All the children will then be brought over to school at 8.15 in preparation for the whole school cinema trip. We **will not** be providing breakfast on this day so please make sure your child has eaten before they are dropped off. There will be no charge for Breakfast Club on this occasion.



### Parish Christmas Bazaar 24<sup>th</sup> November 11am to 2pm

Thank you to the parents who have already donated an item of stationery / candle for the Tombola Stall that the School will be running on the day to raise funds for our Parish.

We do still URGENTLY need more items in order for us to have a sufficient items for a Tombola stall.

If each child in KS1 could donate an item of stationery suitable for a child, teenager or adult. It can be small or large but something that would be nice to win as a gift for someone. From KS2 parents we would ask if they could donate a candle, large or small. Nothing has to be expensive although it is always nice on a tombola if a couple of things are! If you are able to donate these items can you please send them into school and place in the marked box in the reception area within the next week? **Also**, keep those Colouring Competition entries coming in! Thank you.



Please remember to check the App and the school website for all sorts of useful information, letters and dates!

[www.st-teresas.essex.sch.uk](http://www.st-teresas.essex.sch.uk)

*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.*