

## 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:

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

'Come and See' assemblies.

Parents are welcome to attend at 9.15am

20<sup>th</sup> Nov: Y6 Class based

'Come and See' assembly.

Parents are welcome to attend at 9.15am

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

SAVE THE DATE (day and evening!) Details overleaf!

I am sure that those of you that were at our Remembrance Mass on Friday will have been as moved as I was by the whole occasion. It was a very special tribute to our armed forces, past and present, and an especially touching way to mark the anniversary of the end of the First World War. A huge thank you to all who took part - parents and children, to Mrs Herron for organising the Mass, to Miss Spratt for all the background work she put in, to Mrs Wilson for the beautiful composition written especially for the Mass, to all the staff who have ensured that, over the past two weeks, the children at this school will certainly not forget, and to the children - whose input and participation both in the Mass and the work leading up to it leaves me in no doubt that they will never forget. The poppy display we had in the church will be put on display in the entrance area of the School along with our Tower of London poppies and will stay there for the centenary year as a reminder of the huge sacrifice made by so many. Following the service the Mayor and Mayoress, the Deputy Lord Lieutenant and many of the parishioners who attended have all contacted me to express how moved they were by the Mass, and how impressed they were by the standard of work on display in the school hall and the respectful behaviour of the children. I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate Micaiah in Reception and Josef (Y1) who won 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place respectively in the Mayor's WW1 Centenary competition. They were invited to an award ceremony at the Town Hall on Remembrance Sunday which they duly attended. Of the 5 prizes awarded, two came from St Teresa's pupils and much of the work on display came from our pupils as well. Miss Hilton has created a very beautiful video which you can find on the Latest News (under Parent Info) of the website. It really is worth a watch. On Friday 30<sup>th</sup> November we will be holding our Advent Fayre. Please take a look on the FOST Facebook page to find out how you can help and what sort of donations they are looking for. This is always a very popular event and all the money raised will be spent on you children. Please keep an eye on the 'At a glance ...' section of the newsletter as it is updated weekly with new events added and school will become very busy in the lead up to Christmas. In the meantime I look forward to seeing Rec - Y5 parents at the Come and See class based assemblies on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> November. Y6 parents will be joining their children on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> November. Congratulations to Year 4 for having the highest attendance - you just pipped Reception. Keep it up. We will be having 'Merit Assembly' on Thursday this week so watch this space for winners. Mrs Kelly

## Merit Certificates

There was no Merit Assembly last Friday as all of the children were taking part in our very special 'Remembrance' Mass in Church.

### School Meals

w/b 19<sup>th</sup> November 2018

**Week 1** (Please see the School

Website or the App for details of the three weekly dinner menus)



#### Attendance

Rec:	99.33%	Year 3:	97.42%
Year 1:	97.33%	Year 4:	99.69%
Year 2:	97.59%	Year 5:	97.19%
		Year 6:	98.82%

**EVERY  
SCHOOL DAY  
COUNTS**

Congratulations Year 4 for having the highest attendance last week.



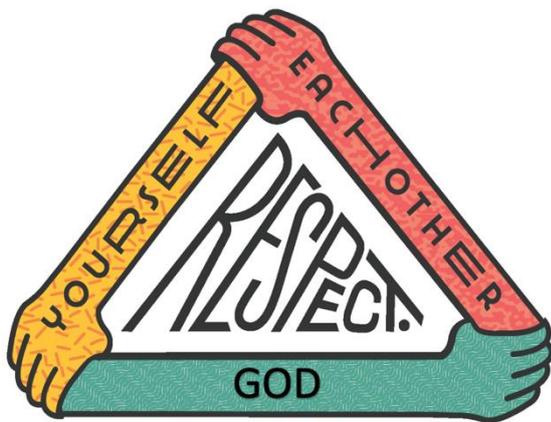
# Reflections of the Week



## November's Gospel Value – Respect and Reverence

*'If we have no peace it is because we have forgotten that we belong to each other.'* St Teresa of Calcutta

This week our Monday Assembly was focused around our Gospel value of 'respect'. Mrs Kelly started the assembly by asking Mrs Wilson to play her favourite song on the piano. Whilst Mrs Wilson played, Mrs Kelly started to huff and puff, spoke to other people, looked out of the window, kept interrupting and even asked Mrs Wilson whether it was nearly over. Staff and children alike were shocked at Mrs Kelly's behaviour, however, it was all an act! Mrs Kelly was behaving in this way because she wanted us to understand what being disrespectful is and how important it is to respect everyone just like Jesus wants us to. Mrs Kelly explained to us all that God gave us talents that we should respect and use them to the best of our abilities. She also explained the importance of being respectful to others, especially friends and family. Respect is such an important word and in order to continue to support the home school link, it would be lovely for you to discuss the importance of being respectful to others with your children. You could even pray this prayer and spend some time thanking God for all that he has given to us.



*Dear God, please help me to show my friends and family the respect they deserve. Please guide me to listen to and help those closest to me, especially when they need me the most. Thank you for the gifts and talents you have showered me with. I promise to use them to the best of my ability and let my light shine because I am a child of God.*  
Amen

On Friday we had a special mass to remember all those who have died in wars around the world. Year 5 led the mass and we were lucky enough to be joined by the Mayor of Colchester, the deputy Lord Lieutenant of Colchester and some serving members of the armed forces. The children were extremely respectful and the mass was a beautiful way to remember the fallen men and women.

This Friday we are looking forward to welcoming Reception – Year 5 parents to join each class for their end of topic celebration. Year 6 parents are invited in on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> November. It would be lovely to see you there, although I do know that sometimes work prevents you from being able to attend. I am sure if you ask your child what their celebration was about, they will tell you all about it.

## “Let us do little things well today”

Well done to all the children who have tried to do ‘Little things’ well so far this week.

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

Reception	Lewis	Always thinking of others and makes sure his friends are happy.
Year 1	Joanne	For being such a supportive friend.
Year 2	Amelia	Thinking so thoughtfully about others to help them.
Year 3	Henrietta	Being a kind and respectful friend and member of the class.
Year 4	Alexs H	Being so helpful around the classroom.
Year 5	Roisin	Being a helpful and thoughtful member of the class.
Year 6	Alice	For giving up her own time to help at the Parents’ Evenings
Staff	Mrs Herron	Organising our whole school cinema trip.

I cannot wait to hear about all the wonderful ‘little things’ that happen during the coming week.

## 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.

## FOST Children's Christmas Discos - Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> December in the Church Hall Entry by ticket purchased in advance only



KS1 Disco will be from 5pm-6pm

KS2 Disco will be from 6:15 - 7:45pm

Tickets will be £4 each, these can be purchased through Parent Pay where you will be asked to provide a telephone/mobile number for emergency contact during the event. **Tickets will not be issued without this.**

Please can children take a maximum of £5 with them to spend on sweets and glow sticks. Squash and water will be available free of charge.

Only parents who have volunteered to help can stay for the fun - guidance will be given on the night if you are new to this! Please email Ivana if you can help at either (or both!) discos. [ivka89@gmail.com](mailto:ivka89@gmail.com)

Please note - a nominated adult will be required to stay if your child needs assistance with medication.

## Breakfast Club



Please note that Breakfast Club will be held in the School Hall on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> November and Friday 30<sup>th</sup> November as the Church Hall is in use on those days. Children should be brought to the main Reception area at School and will still need to be signed in as usual. Thank you.

## PLEASE PUT THIS DATE IN YOUR DIARY



On Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2019 the 'Two Johns' (which some of you will have heard of) are coming in to school to teach the children, staff and parents about e-safety. So important is their message to parents that we are putting on 'film nights' for children so that child care is arranged for you if you need it. I am sure that many children will receive new IT equipment for Christmas and it is vitally important that they not only know how to use and enjoy it but how to keep safe while using it as well. Please put the date in your diary - we all think that we are internet safety savvy but I am sorry to say that I think we will all find out in January that we are not.

# eSafety

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.*

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

The children will be bringing home raffle tickets for the Parish Bazaar today. Please feel free to use these yourself or to sell them to family members / friends. If you would like more tickets they are available via the School Office. Tickets stubs / monies should be returned in a clearly marked envelope to the School Office (via your child's book bag) as soon as possible. If you are left with any unsold tickets, please return them to school as they can be sold on the day of the bazaar.

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



## Girlguiding

Please help support the 9<sup>th</sup> Colechester Guides . All monies raised will help our girls visit Switzerland in August 2019.



**We will be selling a selection of natural bath bombs, bookmarks and bracelets.**



**Visit us in the Music & Media room on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> November from 3.15pm**

