St Joseph the Worker Catholic Primary School

Highview Crescent, Hutton, Brentwood, Essex CM13 1BJ
Telephone Brentwood (01277) 227282 **Email** admin@st-josephworker.essex.sch.uk
Website www.st-josephworker.essex.sch.uk

Head Teacher: Kathryn Poulter

Friday 9th October 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am feeling incredibly inspired after two days at the Diocesan Headteachers' Conference this week. We reflected on our mission to *'provide excellent education where pupils flourish, and Christ is made known to all.'*

Every child, every person, regardless of their shape, size, abilities, race or creed, is created in His image. As educators – both parents and teachers – it is our responsibility to help the children in our care to know Him, love Him and flourish academically, socially, spiritually and morally.
As one of our speakers reminded us:

'Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.' Romans 12:12

Our school vision and values are designed to embody this mission, and Year 6 certainly demonstrated all four of our values this week during their residential to Danbury Outdoors Centre. They showed courage in the face of challenges, climbing to great heights and taking on the zip wire. They were curious about the natural world as they learnt to build and light fires, and respectful towards the adults supporting them. Most of all, however, they showed love through the way they encouraged, supported and cheered one another on, helping everyone to do their very best.

We are incredibly proud of them! A huge thank you to Mrs Ayers, Miss McElhill, Mrs Tobin and Mrs Facchini, one of our governors, for giving up their time to accompany the children and look after them so wonderfully. I am sure everyone will sleep well this weekend!

We wish you all a wonderful weekend.

Mrs Poulter



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Reminder: Flu Vaccinations

A quick reminder that the school nurses will be in school on Monday to administer the children's flu vaccinations (nasal sprays).

If you haven't already done so, please follow the instructions in the NHS email you received to either give consent or opt out.

Thank you for your cooperation!

After School Club collection

If you are collecting a child from After School Club, please call 07341 105623 rather than ring at the gates. The office is not open after 4pm. Thank you for your understanding.

Secondary School Applications – September 2027

The secondary school admission round is now open for parents and carers of children currently in Year 6 to apply for a Year 7 secondary school place for September 2027.

The statutory national closing date for applications is **31 October 2026**.

Parents and carers should visit **www.essex.gov.uk/admissions** to complete their application online. All information and guidance about the secondary school admissions process is available on the website.

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IMPORTANT - Allergies and Medical Information

Following the introduction of Benedict's Law, all staff have completed Allergy and Anaphylaxis training to ensure that we are fully prepared to support children with allergies and respond appropriately in an emergency.

If your child has an allergy, intolerance or any other medical condition, it is essential that you inform the school and provide us with an up-to-date care plan from your GP or other appropriate healthcare professional, together with any medication your child may require. Please ensure that all medication is in date and clearly labelled.

Children who have been prescribed EpiPens (adrenaline auto-injectors) should have two devices in school at all times. The school also has a supply of spare adrenaline auto-injectors for use in an emergency, in line with our emergency procedures.

Please contact the school office if you are unsure whether your child's medical information or medication is up to date.

Important Dates this Term	
9th October	Parent Consultation Bookings - 6.30pm go live on SCOPAY
12th October	NHS Flu Vaccination Day
13th October	PTA Meeting – 7.30pm at the George & Dragon, Mountnessing
15th October	Phonics Workshop (Class R & 1) – 9am
20th October	Parent Consultation Day & Book Fair
20th October	PTA Bake Off
22nd October	Parent Consultation Day & Book Fair

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ATTENDANCE

Well done to the children in Year 4 who sit at the top of the attendance leader board! The year group with the highest attendance at the end of the school term will be treated to an extra playtime. Class 4 may have the highest attendance so far this term, but there is plenty of time for other classes to take the lead by the time we break up for Christmas. Our overall attendance for the whole school is 95.02%

As always, if you are struggling to get your child into school in the morning, please let us know. We are here to support you, and we can work together to come up with a plan to help.

Year One	96.80%
Year Two	97.10%
Year Three	98.33%
Year Four	98.62%
Year Five	97.61%
Year Six	96.39%



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Certificates of Achievement were awarded to the following children this week, well done to you all.



Class R: Gabriela and Theo
Class 1: Jordan and Kyla
Class 2: Ania, Lucas and Reissey
Class 3: Megan and Zienna
Class 4: Scarlett and Teddy O
Class 5: Bella-Rose and Finley B
Class 6: Rocco and All of Class 6

HOUSE CUP – Rome (Red) won the cup this week – Well done!

Tours for 2026-27 academic school year

We warmly invite prospective parents to join us for a school tour and information session. These visits are a great opportunity to see our school in action, meet key members of staff, and learn more about what we offer.
Each session will last approximately **one hour**.
Upcoming Dates:

- **Thursday 5th November – 9:15am – FULLY BOOKED!**
- **Tuesday 10th November – 9:15am**
- **Wednesday 18th November – 2:00pm**
- **Monday 23rd November – 2:00pm**

We look forward to welcoming you!

We would like to remind parents and carers to park safely and considerately when dropping off and collecting children from school.

We are receiving a large number of complaints from our neighbours about parking at busy times of the day. We understand that mornings and afternoons can be hectic and that everyone is often in a rush, but we ask that all drivers are mindful of our local residents and other road users. Please also refrain from parking in private residential car parks.

Please make sure that you do not block other vehicles, driveways, access routes or pavements and always park legally and safely.

A little extra care and consideration can make a big difference and helps keep everyone safe.

Thank you for your continued support and cooperation.

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🎁 Samaritan's Purse – Christmas Shoebox Appeal 🎁

It's that time of year again! We're inviting our wonderful families to take part in the **Samaritan's Purse Christmas Shoebox Appeal**, helping to bring joy and hope to children in need around the world.

Together, we can fill shoeboxes with thoughtful, fun and much-needed gifts to make Christmas a little brighter for others. Every box is an opportunity to show kindness and generosity and let a child know that someone is thinking of them this Christmas.

If you are able to take part, please send your **filled shoeboxes into school as soon as possible**, so that we can collect and send as many as we can and show our school community's support for this wonderful cause.

Please remember to **make your donation online** to cover the project costs. This also allows you to **follow your shoebox and see where it has been sent**.

For more information, including details of what can and cannot be included, please visit How to Pack a Shoebox | Samaritans Purse

⚠ The deadline for all shoeboxes to come into school is **Thursday 19th November 2026** ⚠

Thank you, as always, for your kindness, generosity and support.



Reminders:

Children should have a clearly labelled water bottle and fruit snack to school each day.
We are a nut free school.
Earrings are **not** permitted. If your child has recently had his/her ears pierced, we will allow clear, plastic, FLAT earrings until they have healed.

Thank you for your support!

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WANTED for den building in the playground:

- Old tarpaulin sheets
- Old cushions
- Old camping mats
- Crates



Parish Events

Parish Quiz Night
Get ready for a fun evening of quizzing, laughter and friendly competition! Our fantastic quizmaster, Cormac, is returning so we are looking forward to a fantastic night!

Saturday 17 October
Arrive from 6.30pm for a 7.00pm start
Parish Hall

Come as a team of 8, or come along as an individual and join a team on the night. St Joseph's Primary School parents are very welcome to join us. Tickets are available after Mass at St Joseph's or by emailing hutton@brcdt.org (Adults £10, Teenagers £5 and Primary school age children are free) Please bring your own drinks and snacks.

We hope to see lots of our school families there!

PTA Meeting

We will be holding our evening meeting on **Tue 13 Oc**t from 7.30pm in the George & Dragon, Mountnessing. This meeting is a chance for parents to chat together and also give their input for this term's events.

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Mayor's Christmas Card Design & Christmas Poetry Competition 2026

Pupils are invited to take part in the Mayor's Christmas Card Design and Christmas Poetry Competitions. Pupils can enter one or both competitions, with winners receiving a gift and certificate and the opportunity to join the Mayor for the switching on of the Brentwood Christmas Lights.

Christmas Card Design
Create a Christmas-themed design on A4 paper in portrait format. The winning design will feature on the Mayor's Christmas card. Please do not use materials such as glitter or cotton wool, as these cannot be easily reproduced.

Christmas Poetry Competition
Write a poem titled "My Christmas Wish", of no more than 200 words. The poem will be published in the Mayor's Christmas card. Artwork and decoration are not required.

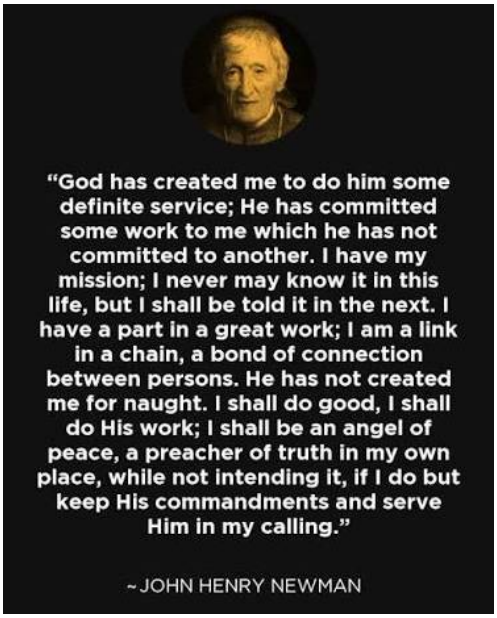
Please include the pupil's name, age and school on the back of each entry.

Entries should be sent to The Mayor's Office, Brentwood Borough Council, Town Hall, Ingrave Road, Brentwood CM15 8AY, or scanned and emailed to zoey.foakes@brentwood.gov.uk by Wednesday 11th November 2026.

Please include a covering note stating who the winner should be contacted through.

And finally…

Today is the Feast of St John Henry Newman



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Week Commencing Monday 12th October 2026:

Monday 12th October 2026	
All Class's	Flu Vaccine Day (please consent or opt out online)
Class 1 and 5	PE
Years 3 & 4	Netball Club - 3.30-4.30pm (Miss Meadows)
Tuesday 13th October 2026	
Class 5 and 6	Netball – 8am – Junior Playground
Class R, 2, 3, 4 and 6	PE
Selected Students	Football
Enrolled Students	Piano Lessons
Enrolled Students	Guitar Lessons
All welcome	PTA meeting – 7.30pm – George & Dragon
Wednesday 14th October 2026	
Class R and 6	PE
Class 5	Swimming
Class 4	Harry Potter Trip – coach departing at 8.30am
Enrolled Students	Drumming Lessons
Years 4, 5 & 6	Choir – 3.30-4.30pm
Thursday 8th October 2026	
Year 3 and 4	Multi Sports – 8am – Junior Playground
Class 3 and 4	PE – bring PE kit in to school
Class R and 1	Phonics Parent Workshop – 9am (**no** parking on the playground)
Friday 9th October 2026	
Class 5 and 6	Football – 8am – Field (Please check school website for cancellations)
Class 1 and 2	PE
Enrolled Students	Guitar Lessons

ChildLine 0800 1111

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