

Stock Church of England Primary School

Newsletter: Friday 18th September 2026

“Let their light shine” (Matthew 5:16)
Affinity - Aspire - Achieve



The week's news:

Gospel Values Celebration Certificates

Well done to the following children who have received certificates today for demonstrating our Gospel Values this week.

Perseverance

Year 1:

George T for being brave and building confidence in coming into school this week.

Year 3:

Darcey K for working hard on similes and vocabulary choices in English.

Ivy A for working hard in English this week.

Elsie B for working hard in Maths this week.

Year 4:

Effie M for showing fantastic focus and determination in the maths lesson.

Year 6:

Liam M for always trying hard and following class rules.

Max S for a brilliant start to Year 6; he is always listening and trying hard.

Compassion:

Year 1:

Sophia B for always showing kindness and being focussed in class.

Trust:

Year 2:

Nellie H and Myles H for always being ready to learn.

Year 4:

Madeleine P for showing honesty and kindness in her choices.

George S for always trying his best and leading by example.

Jessica T for setting a brilliant example for others.

Year 5:

Eloise T for always being helpful around the class.

Year 6:

Amy L for working hard in every lesson; Isaac Holroyd for trying hard in all lessons.

Class Attendance



This week the award for highest attendance goes to Year 3 with 100%.

Every Day Matters. Attend today, achieve tomorrow.

Pupil numbers, low birth rate and Reception Tours 2027/28

Message from Mr Roberts

Parents and carers, I am reaching out to ask for your invaluable support in helping us spread the word about our upcoming Reception tour dates. Our school community has always thrived on the close knit, supportive relationships we build with our families, and your personal recommendations are the school's greatest strength. Today, I am asking you to share your positive experiences with other families you know who are currently looking for the perfect school for their children.

You may have seen in the news that there is currently a significant decline in the national birth rate. This demographic shift is impacting primary schools across the country. Historically, our school has been heavily oversubscribed, with waiting lists for entry. However, due to these wider national trends, we currently have rare and valuable spaces available not only for our upcoming 27/28 Reception intake but also within our current Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. I need to be open with you about why maintaining a full school is so vital. School funding is allocated by the government on a per pupil basis. Every child who joins our school family secures the vital funding necessary to maintain our high standards of education, resource our classrooms, and provide the rich extracurricular opportunities that make Stock the great school it is. Ensuring our classes are full, directly protects and enhances the educational experience of the children who are already here.

If you have friends, family members, neighbours, or colleagues with school aged children, particularly those looking for a Reception place for September, or those who may have recently moved to the area and need a place in our current Reception, Year 1 or Year 2, please encourage them to visit us and see our school in action.

Our upcoming tour dates are:

Monday 28th September 2026

Thursday 1st October 2026

Thursday 15th October 2026

Friday 6th November 2026

Friday 27th November 2026

Prospective families can book a place on a tour by contacting the school office at 01277 840265 or emailing admin@stock.essex.sch.uk.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Billericay Parade – 13th September

Thank you to the children who joined Mr Roberts and Mrs Rouse for the Billericay Parade on Sunday to celebrate 'National Billericay Day'. The children represented the school impeccably with their conduct and enthusiasm and the event was a great occasion for the community of Billericay. As this was the first year the event has taken place, we kept the numbers small on this occasion. Assuming the event takes place again next year, we would like to invite the whole school. We will communicate further details in July so watch this space!



Year 5 Viking Day – 24th September

Year 5 will be having a company coming in to lead a fantastic day about life in Vikings and Saxons times. To enhance their experience of the day, we would love it if the children all came in dressed up in Anglo-Saxon/Viking clothing! There is no need to buy anything new, the company suggests the following homemade alternative:

- **Boys:** A simple belted tunic, with or without sleeves; a cloak fastened on a right shoulder with a brooch (optional); trousers, either tucked into long socks or with sting or braid crossed round the lower legs; boots or old leather laced shoes.
- **Girls:** A long dress, skirt and blouse or tabard; headscarf; A cloak (mantle), fastened on the right shoulder with a brooch (optional).

Harvest Celebrations

We would like to invite you to our Harvest Celebrations which will be held in school on Monday 28th September at 2.30am for KS1 and Tuesday 29th September at 9.00 am for KS2.

Once again, our harvest charity will be The Billericay Foodbank which was established by the Anglican Team Ministry in Billericay to offer a service to the whole town. They need long-life items as follows:

Tins- meat, fish, beans, soups, potatoes, spaghetti, tomatoes, vegetables (not pulse or lentils), rice pudding, fruit, custard.

Cupboard items - tea, coffee, cereal, long grain rice, cooking sauces, UHT semi-skimmed or full fat milk, squash, fruit juice cartons, biscuits, crisps.

Toiletries and Household Items - cleaning products, toilet rolls, nappies and baby wipes.

We will start collecting these items from next week. Please can your child bring any donations into school with them and there will be a table outside of the hall for the collection.

We look forward to seeing you at the services.

Year 6 to 7 Secondary School Admissions

The new secondary school admission round opened recently, for parents of current Year 6 children to apply for a secondary school (Year 7) place for September 2027.

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

Applications can be made online via www.essex.gov.uk/admissions. 99% of parents in Essex applied online last year.

All of the application information is available on the website above.

The website also has a copy of the Secondary Education in Essex 2027-28 booklet which contains details of all secondary school admission policies.

Premier Sports Clubs

Premier Sports still have availability across some of their clubs, please see the attached letter regarding the details of the clubs available. If you would like your child to book on to any of the Premier clubs, please contact them directly to make the booking. They will also be making their clubs available to Reception aged children.

Attendance

We have had a large number of leave of absence requests for term time holidays. Term time holidays are disruptive to the education of your child and will not be authorised unless there are exceptional circumstances. Unauthorised leave may lead to penalty notice fines from Essex County Council, please see the guidance overleaf on understanding fines for school attendance. If you believe to have exceptional circumstances then Mr Roberts would be happy to discuss this with you.



Essex County Council

Helping Parents understand Penalty Notice Fines for School Attendance

From 19 August 2024, there is a National Framework for Penalty Notice Fines being issued for unauthorised absences recorded by schools

National Threshold

A single consistent national threshold for when a Penalty Notice must be considered by ALL schools in England, this is:

- 10 sessions (usually equivalent to 5 school days) of unauthorised absence within a rolling 10 school week period
- These sessions do not have to be consecutive and can be made up of a combination of any type of unauthorised absence
- For example, a 5-day unauthorised leave of absence would meet the national threshold
- The 10-school week period can span different terms or school years

Who may be fined?

- Penalty Notice Fines are issued to each parent who allows their child to be absent without authorisation from school
- For example, 3 siblings absent for unauthorised leave during term-time would result in each parent receiving 3 separate fines

First Offence

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for unauthorised absence, the fine amount will be:

- £80 per parent, per child if paid **within 21 days**
- If **not paid within 21 days**, the fine will increase to **£160 per parent, per child**, payable between the 22nd and 28th day

Second Offence (within 3 years)

The second time a Penalty Notice is issued for unauthorised absence, a reduced rate is not available. The amount therefore will be:

- £160 per parent, per child – payable within 28 days

Third Offence and Any Further Offences (within 3 years)

The third time an offence is committed, a Penalty Notice WILL NOT be issued, and the case will be presented **straight to the Magistrate's Court**

- **Prosecution** can result in **criminal records** and **fines of up to £2,500**
- Cases found **guilty** in a **Magistrates Court** can show on the parent's future DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) certificate (Disclosure and Barring Service) due to a **'failure to safeguard a child's education'**

PTA News

Little Recyclers Collection - Wednesday 23rd September

Reminders will be going out via the class reps but just to confirm - our first collection of the school year will be held on the 23rd September. Accepted items (see attached poster) can be left under the large tree in the school car park on the mornings of Monday 21st, Tuesday 22nd and Wednesday 23rd. The PTA will store bags left on 21st/22nd until Wednesday's collection.

School Lottery - 'Play today - Support tomorrow!'

The first of our NEW fundraising events for 2026/27 goes live next week with the sale of our numbered balls that will go into a monthly draw. The children will get the chance to choose 3 balls each month in a Friday assembly. Numbered balls are £12 each for the whole school year with the opportunity for families to buy as many as they like. 50% of the money raised will go into the prize pot, with 3 prizes each month, and 50% will go to the school. The first draw will be held at the end of September. There will be 12 draws in total throughout the school year.

We will be selling numbered balls next week at pickup in the playground, on Tuesday 22nd and Thursday 24th. Card payments, or correct money only please.

Good Luck to everyone taking part!

Break the Rules Day -9th October

Our first Break the Rules Day of this school year will be held on Friday 9th October. The children will have up to 10 rules to break with a 'fine' of 50p per rule. Information regarding this year's rule breaks will be sent out soon and, as this is a cashless event, fines can be paid on PTA Events. Details to follow.



SCHOOL FUNDRAISING

More clothes -
more funds for
your organisation
1 kg = £0.45

YOUR COLLECTION IS
ARRANGED ON:

23 SEPTEMBER

WEDNESDAY

FILL ANY BAGS WITH CLOTHING AND
BRING THEM TO SCHOOL/ORGANISATION
WE WILL COLLECT AND WEIGH THEM

WE ACCEPT

- Good quality clean clothing (adult's, children's, baby)
- Shoes (paired)
- Bags
- Hats & scarves
- Belts
- Fashion accessories
- Swimwear, lingerie
- Jewellery
- Perfumes

WE DON'T ACCEPT

- Uniforms
- Dirty, wet, ripped, damaged clothing
- Traditional clothing
- Duvets & pillows
- Single shoes
- Toys, stationery
- Bric-a-brac & electrical items
- Books, CDs, DVDs
- Workwear
- Carpets, rugs, mats, curtains
- Hygiene items, diapers
- Linen & towels

PLEASE NO UNIFORMS & DUVETS!

RAISE MONEY FOR YOUR SCHOOL BY GIVING
AWAY YOUR UNWANTED CLOTHES

hello@thelittlerecyclers.co.uk • 0330 043 0550 • thelittlerecyclers.co.uk



Stock Church of England Primary School



A chance to win cash prizes
while raising funds for our school!

£12
per ball
Enter for just £12 per ball.

12 MONTHS
of lottery draws starting September 2026.

50%
Half to the school
50% of the money raised each month goes to the school.

50%
Half to the prize pot
50% goes into the prize pot for 3 balls pulled each month.

Support our school and you could be a winner!

TICKETS ON SALE IN THE PLAYGROUND
Tuesday 22nd and Thursday 24th
September at 3.10pm

★ **Stock School PTA** ★

Dates for Your Diary

September

23rd – PTA – Little Recyclers
 24th – Year 5 Viking Day
 28th – New Intake for Reception 2027 Tour 9.30am
 28th – Year 5 Road Safety Talk and Walk 9.30am
 28th – Harvest Service to KS1 Parents, 2.30pm (Parents Invited)
 29th – Harvest Service to KS2 Parents, 9am (Parents Invited)
 29th – Harvest Service to Over 60s Club, 2pm

October

1st – New Intake for Reception 2027 Tour 9.30am
 1st – Year 4 School Trip to West Stow
 4th – Harvest Service at All Saint's Church – Rota Club Cake Sale (Parents Invited)
 7th – Year 2 School Trip to Braintree Museum
 8th – New Intake for Reception 2027 Tour 9.30am
 8th – Year 6 School Trip to Braintree Museum
 9th – PTA -Break the Rules
 12th – Parent Consultations 3.30pm – 6.30pm (Parents Invited)
 13th - Bikeability Group 3, Year 6
 14th - Parent Consultations 3.30pm – 6.30pm (Parents Invited)
 16th – Flu Vaccination Programme
 16th - New Intake for Reception 2027 Tour 9.30am
 19th – 30th Half Term

November

2nd – Pupils Return to School
 2nd - Bikeability Group 4, Year 6
 5th – Reception Road Safety Talk 2.15pm (Parents Invited)
 6th - New Intake for Reception 2027 Tour 9.30am
 10th – Individual School Photographs
 11th – Year 6 War Memorial Service 11am
 24th - Bikeability Group 5, Year 6
 21st – PTA Christmas Fayre
 27th - New Intake for Reception 2027 Tour 9.30am

December

1st – Choir Performance to Over 60s Club
 3rd – Year 2 Dress Rehearsal, 9.15am
 3rd - Year 2 Nativity Performance, 2.30pm (Parents Invited)
 3rd and 4th – PTA Christmas Wrap
 8th – Pantomime Years 1-6
 9th – KS2 Dress Rehearsal
 10th – KS2 Christmas Performance (Parents Invited)
 11th – Decoration Day (Parents Invited)
 11th – Carols at the Bakers Arms
 14th – RockSteady Concert, 9.15am KS2 and 10.30am KS1 (Parents Invited)
 14th – Reception/Year 1 Dress Rehearsal
 16th – Reception/Year 1 Christmas Performance, 9.15am (Parents Invited)

18th – Christingle Service 9.30am
 18th – Christmas Dinner Day
 18th – Class Christmas Parties, 1.30pm
 18th – Last Day of Term
 21st – Christmas School Holidays

February

10th – PTA School Disco
 15th – 19th February Half Term
 22nd – Pupils Return to School

March

1st – Parent Consultations 3.30pm – 6.30pm (Parents Invited)
 3rd - Bikeability Group 1, Year 5
 3rd - Parent Consultations 3.30pm – 6.30pm (Parents Invited)
 4th and 5th - Bikeability Group 2, Year 5
 4th and 5th – PTA Mother's Day Wrap
 11th and 12th - Bikeability Group 3, Year 5
 18th – PTA Wonka Ticket
 22nd – RockSteady Concert, 9.15am KS2 and 10.30am KS1 (Parents Invited)
 26th March – 9th April Easter School Holidays

April

12th – Pupils Return to School

May

10th – 14th SATS week
 21st – 24th - Year 6 Residential Trip
 31st May – 4th June – May Half Term

June

17th and 18th – PTA Father's Day Wrap
 21st – Residential Trip Meeting for Current Year 5 Parents, 2.30pm (Parents Invited)

July

2nd – Sports Day (Parents Invited)
 10th July – Flower Festival
 16th – Reserve Sports Day (Parents Invited)
 19th - RockSteady Concert, 9.15am KS2 and 10.30am KS1 (Parents Invited)
 22nd – PTA Summer Party
 23rd – Last Day of Summer Term