



ST. HELEN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL BULLETIN



5th December 2025

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Don't forget that the school closes at 1.15pm on Wednesday 10th December –there will be no after school provision on this day.

School closes for Christmas– Friday 19th December

School reopens– Tuesday 6th January

Christmas Programme dates on page 4

11 January 2026

We need your help in improving the school grounds and promoting more wildlife areas in conjunction with the Southend Forest Project. The school will be open in the morning to complete jobs involving a new wildlife area, painting fences if dry and tidying our willow dome. Please bring gardening equipment (spades, forks, secateurs) and as many helpers (young and old) as possible!

More details regarding times to follow.

Thank you, Mrs Miller

St. Andrew 2214

St. Patrick 1487

St. David 1677

St. George 2036

Our Mission Statement

Respect yourself

Respect everyone in our school community

Respect everyone in our local community

Respect everyone in our global community

But most of all,

Respect God our Father in Heaven



North Road
Westcliff on Sea



www.st-helens.southend.sch.uk

www.schoolgateway.com



Essex, SS0 7AY
01702 343823



www.facebook.com/sthelenswestcliff/

office@st-helens.southend.sch.uk

Don't forget to book your Christmas dinner on the School Gateway-Thursdays 18th December.
If you have any problems or would like to change your booking, then please contact the office.

NOURISH

CHRISTMAS MENU

Roast Turkey with Yorkshire Pudding, Stuffing, Pigs in Blanket & Gravy 1,6,7,9

Winter Vegetable Wellington 1 VG With Yorkshire Pudding, Stuffing & Gravy 1,7,9

Santa's Cookie 1 VG

Iced Chocolate Sponge 1 VG

Jelly

Fruit Pots VG

Jugs of Squash

Peas, Carrots, Brussel Sprouts Rustic Roast Potatoes

Dishes marked with any of the following numbers contain the matching allergen:
1 Wheat Gluten 2 Crustaceans 3 Soybean 4 Mustard 5 Sesame 6 Sulphites/Sulphur Dioxide 7 Milk 8 Fish 9 Egg
10 Peanuts 11 Molluscs 12 Celeriac/Celery 13 Nuts 14 Lupins 15 Oat Gluten 16 Barley Gluten V Vegetarian VG Vegan

Supporting
**WE ARE
MACMILLAN.**
**ACTS OF KINDNESS
AT CHRISTMAS**

*We are the **ONLY** motorised
Christmas display, operated by
visitors, in the UK!*



Picture from our 2024 display



'Switch on'
5pm Sat 6th*
Dec by
Santa Claus!

(*If rain on Sat 6th, 'switch on' will be deferred until
5pm Sun 7th. If in doubt please check our Facebook
page)

**New for 2025.....Christmas Carousel and
'Whats my reindeer name'**

**Please visit our Facebook page,
www.facebook.com/westbournelights
(Page updated daily during the display)**




Westbourne Lights

Our motorised Christmas display will run from Saturday 6th Dec until Sat 27th Dec. The lights will be on from 5pm to 8pm each evening (unless there is rain, due to the motors)

Our chosen charity this year is, once again, the Macmillan support team, at Southend Hospital.

We know things are especially difficult this year, but if you can donate a little to this great cause, it would be very much appreciated. We will have card readers available for anyone wishing to make a kind donation.

Last Christmas you raised the magnificent amount of £8600. On behalf of Southend Macmillan, we thank you.






*We hope you have a wonderful Christmas,
and a happy and healthy 2026*



**Our Partners below have very kindly donated to our
2025 Macmillan appeal, or helped sponsor our event
in some other way. Please support them if you can.**

Paul Robinson - solicitors
Urban Print - printing
Royal Mews - dental practice
Creative design - CNC cutting
Grouts - bakers
Adventure Island - theme park
Essex Mobility Centre - Scooters
Hometec - windows and doors
Beechfield - hats and caps
Medivet Southend - vet services
Accord - trade union
Maplin - timber supplies
Your Southend - Internet News

Christmas Programme 2025 (Parents & Families Version)

| Date | Activity | Further information |
|---|--|--|
| Sunday 7 December | Church choir at St Helen's | <i>Church choir will be supporting the 9.30 liturgy at St Helen's</i> |
| Monday 8 December | KS2 Choir singing at the Cliffs Pavilion | <i>Miss Paice will advise families of details nearer the time</i> |
| Tuesday 9 December  | Year 2 Christmas Presentation - <i>please note that times for this performance vary slightly from the original published time</i> | <i>Year 2 families invited. Performances are at 10am and 5.30pm. Maximum 2 guests per family at each performance. Please arrive in good time. Toddlers are welcome at the morning performance.</i> |
| Wednesday 10 December | ***HALF DAY FOR PUPIL PROGRESS CONFERENCES*** GATES OPEN FOR COLLECTION AT 1.15pm | |
| Friday 12 December | Choir performing at Brentwood Cathedral | <i>Miss Paice will advise families of details nearer the time</i> |
| | Reception Stay & Play 2.30pm | <i>Parents of children in reception invited to make Christmas cards</i> |
| Monday 15 December  | KS2 Choir singing at Alston Court | <i>Miss Paice will advise families of details nearer the time</i> |
| | Year 1 Christmas Presentation – <i>please note that times for this performance vary slightly from the original published time</i> | <i>Year 1 families invited. Performances are at 10am and 5.30pm. Maximum 2 guests per family at each performance. Please arrive in good time. Toddlers are welcome at the morning performance.</i> |
| Tuesday 16 December | Reception Nativity | <i>St John Fisher & St Margaret Clitherow will present their nativity at 10am. Families of children in reception are invited.</i> |
| | Years 3 & 4 Carols outside | <i>This begins at 2.30pm and families of children in Years 3 and 4 are invited.</i> |
| Wednesday 17 December | Years 5 & 6 Nine Lessons and Carols Service | <i>This is at St Helen's Church at 6pm and is open to the whole school community</i> |
| Thursday 18 December  | Christmas Dinner – All staff to serve dinner to the children. Three sittings. Details TBC | <i>Children will have a traditional Christmas Dinner. Staff and children are invited to wear their Christmas jumpers and join in the festivities. Classes will have Christmas parties or films in class in the afternoon.</i>  |
| Friday 19 December | Carols Round The Tree  | <i>The whole school will gather round the tree in the hall to sing a variety of festive songs and carols before they go home for the Christmas holiday.</i> |

ST VINCENT'S CENTRE, SOUTHEND

Christmas Hamper Appeal 2025

Join Us To Lift Families Up
This Christmas

This Christmas we will be supporting many families with hampers. These are the items we need to create a hamper for a family in need.

- **Pasta**
- **Chocolate spread or jar of jam**
- **Packet of cream crackers**
- **Packet of sweets/biscuits**
- **UHT milk**
- **Jar of instant coffee**
- **Bottle of ketchup**
- **Cereal**
- **Mince pies**
- **Christmas crackers**
- **Tins of custard**
- **Jar/packet instant hot chocolate**
- **Jar of pasta sauce**
- **Gravy granules**
- **£10 voucher – Tesco, Sainsburys or Lidl**

Last donations 15th December 2025

Unit 9, Victoria Business Park, Short Street, SS2 5BY
Charity No: 1053992

Values Children

RESILIENCE

EMPATHY

SERVICE

PATIENCE

ENJOYMENT

COURAGE

TRUSTWORTHINESS

| | |
|-------------------------|--|
| R St John Fisher | Ethan Emil-Courage -he has really come out of his shell lately, and started to answer questions on the carpet. |
| R St Margaret Clitherow | Niko Gawlik- Trustworthiness - for helping others and making good choices. |
| 1 St Augustine | Caitlin Farrell-Trustworthiness -Caitlin can always be trusted to try her hardest with her learning in class and remain focused. This week she has been impressive in phonics when spelling words and sharing her knowledge with the class. |
| 1 St Ursula | Zach Economou-Resilience - Zach is awarded the resilience badge for persevering with his reading skills. He has demonstrated new techniques and invented games to help him to further develop his segmenting and blending skills. We are very proud of him. |
| 2 St Thomas Becket | Darcie Rickwood-Empathy - not only was Darcie enthusiastic about our 'Great fire of London Day', she kindly lent her hat to a child who hadn't worn a costume that day and shared the items she had made. |
| 2 St Cedd | Alexandros Mattas-Enjoyment - Alexandros really enjoyed our 'Great Fire of London' experience day. He remembered lots of the historical vocabulary and really impressed us with his knowledge! Well done! |
| 3 St Bede | Sarah Stamate-Courage -for doing an excellent job reading at the Sorry Service and having courage even though she was nervous. Well done Sarah! |
| 3 St Swithun | Kristelle Martin- Enjoyment -she always works hard independently and is really maturing in year 3. Her spelling has improved greatly and her presentation of work is always beautiful. We hope you enjoy the curling today Kristelle! |
| 4 St Columba | Dia Subin-Service -during our craft day, Dia took great care of younger children, helping them with their activities and ensuring everything was tidy afterwards. Dia is always kind, polite and brings a positive attitude to everything she does. |
| 4 St Alban | Joshua Orazulume- Service -Miss Paice nominated Joshua as he was extra helpful and polite in her Christmas Art activities. Thank you for helping tidy, sort and organise. |
| 5 St Anne Line | Lara Xavier Ventura-Resilience - Lara has not given up during our maths lessons and has even used her morning time to work on time gaps, repeatedly checking her method and asking for more questions to make sure she knew what she was doing! |
| 5 St Osyth | Alveena Benny-Enjoyment -she has shown a real sense of enjoyment in our class this whole term, she tackles tasks and clearly enjoys the challenges that year 5 throws at her. She helps others and is courteous all of the time and watching her at work she always has a smile on her face. Well done Alveena. |
| 6 St Sebbi | Lordina Owusu-Service -for consistently supporting and encouraging others; showing care and 'lending a hand' during the craft extravaganza. |
| 6 St Boniface | Elizabeth Riley-Hawkins-Patience -well done Elizabeth, for sitting so patiently with the younger children during Wednesday's Christmas Craft Day and guiding them with all their beautiful creations throughout the event. You really impressed all the adults you worked with. Keep it up! |
| MDA award | Cameron Noriega-R St Margaret Clitherow-Service -for always being polite. |
| MDA award | Amayra Yumnaat-6 St Sebbi-Service -for being kind to others. |
| SLT award | Chloe Groshiti-6 St Boniface-Patience. |
| Staff SLT award | Mrs Walton-Patience |