



# WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



School Office / Absences: 01255 425344 School office email: [office@st-clares.essex.sch.uk](mailto:office@st-clares.essex.sch.uk)

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

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had another very busy week here at St Clare's.

On Monday, we had our OPAL accreditation visit, and I am delighted to announce that we received the **OPAL Platinum Award** for play. This award places our school in the top 1% of schools across the country for the quality of its play provision, and we are the first school in Clacton to achieve the OPAL Platinum Award. We are incredibly proud of this achievement, which reflects the hard work and commitment of our staff and pupils in creating outstanding play opportunities for all children.

Our Year 1 children have been busy completing their Phonics Screening Check this week. They have all worked incredibly hard with Mrs Smith, and we could not be prouder of what they have achieved. Thank you for your continued support with regular reading and phonics practice at home—it really does make all the difference.

Today, our Year 6 children visited University of Essex for a STEM experience. They enjoyed taking part in a range of engaging activities based on science, technology, engineering and mathematics, giving them an insight into future learning opportunities and careers in these fields.

Please do check the dates for upcoming events, as this term is certainly a busy one!

## St Clare's Dates for the Diary

|                 |                                     |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------|
| 15th June ·     | New entrants week beginning         |
| 22nd June-      | Year 6 transition week              |
|                 | 22/23rd St Bens, 25th Lift Tendring |
| 24th June       | Sports day KS2 10am/KS1 2.30 ·      |
| 26th June       | Summer fayre after school 3.15-5.15 |
| 29th June       | Assessment week ·                   |
| 30th June       | Robins induction 1                  |
| 1st July        | Wrens induction ·                   |
| 2nd July        | year 6 Deanery Mass Colchester      |
| 7th July        | year 6 production 9.30 ·            |
| 9th July        | Year 6 production 1.30              |
| · 9th July      | BBQ and rounders 3.30-5pm ·         |
| 14th /15th July | Year 6 CCA ·                        |
| 16th July       | Leavers Mass 10.30 ·                |
| 17th July       | Year 6 Leavers Assembly             |

## Arbor

Scopay is no longer in use so all payments and communications will be through Arbor. Please log on through the link that has been sent to you by email



Week 3 15/06/2026

All meals for EYFS & KS1 are free and for those entitled to FSM  
Please see menus on the website and in the school noticeboard



# Platinum Award

## 2026 - 2028

### Our OPAL Journey



### January– we opened our mud kitchen



### February– The digging area and water play were introduced.



### March– The cosy corner and Albert's garden were created.

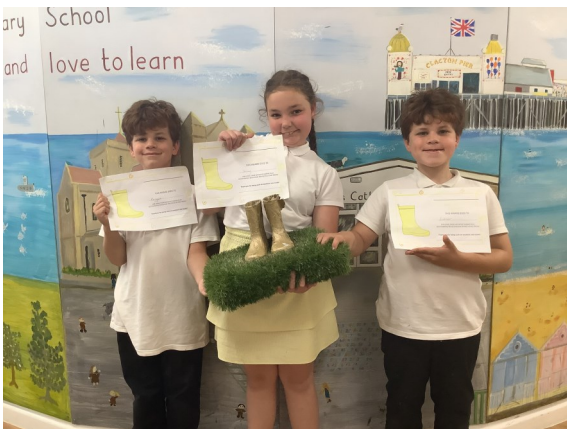
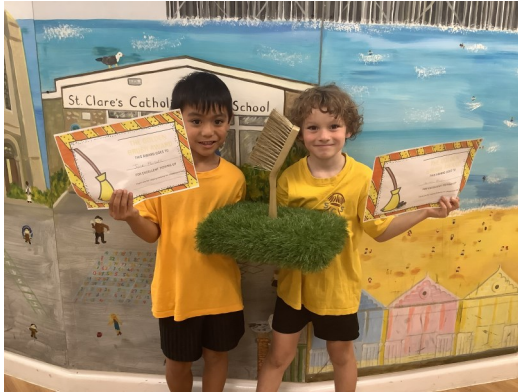


### April and May– The swing, multi gym and mound.

*June– watch this space, we still have one more thing to come!*



**Well done to all our award winners**



### **Friends of St Clare's**

Next Friday you get the chance to come to school in non uniform in exchange for a bottle. These will then be used for the Summer Fayre on Friday 26th June .

If anyone is able to help on the day, it would be greatly appreciated.

# Fr Peter Visits House Martins Class!

Fr Peter joined us for a special time of faith, learning and reflection.



"I have more joy over one lost sheep than over ninety-nine that have not lost."

He read and explained the **Parable of the Lost Sheep.**

He helped us understand how much God loves each and every one of us.



When Fr Peter asked about the teachings behind the parable...

**The children gave excellent answers!**

It teaches us that God never gives up on anyone.

God loves us so much and wants everyone to be safe and happy.

We are important to God.

We should care for others.

God forgives us and wants us to come back.

It reminds us to be kind, patient and loving.

**What wonderful thinkers and faithful hearts!**

Thank you, Fr Peter, for inspiring us!

