



# The Friday Flyer John Bunyan Primary School & Nursery



## Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2025

### Christmas message from Mrs Waters

Dear families,

As we end the Autumn term, I just want to say a big thank you to you all for your support and positivity. It really makes such a difference to the children and staff. I am delighted to feel that the new school values are becoming embedded, and it's been wonderful to see the children showing **Pride** in their learning, celebrating their **Achievements**, demonstrating real **Resilience**, and filling our school with **Kindness** every day (**PARK**). It's been lovely watching the children grow, learn and look out for one another. I hope you all have a happy, restful Christmas and a wonderful New Year. Enjoy the break, make some special memories, and I can't wait to see everyone back in January.

Please remember that we close early at **1.30pm next Friday, the 19<sup>th</sup> of December.**

Warm wishes,  
*Mrs Waters*  
Headteacher

### Reminder

Last day of term: Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December, **1.30pm**  
Return to School: Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026

### School Applications for Reception 2026

You can now apply online for your child's Reception Year school place for September 2026. Applications are open until 15<sup>th</sup> January 2026 and should be made online via [www.essex.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.essex.gov.uk/admissions).

All of the application information is available on the website above or search the Essex County Council website.

We will be holding another open morning for parents of children who will be starting Reception Year in September 2026. Come along for a tour of our Foundation Stage area and ask any questions:

**Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2026 10.30am - 12.00pm**

Please share this with any friends who may have a school aged child.

### Christmas jumper/wear something festive day

We invite everyone to wear a Christmas jumper or something festive to school on the last day of term, Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December. Please do not buy something especially for the day – a top dressed up with tinsel/decorations will be great! Children can wear non-uniform with their Christmas jumper.



Donations can be made to Save the Children online at [www.savethechildren.org.uk/donate-here](http://www.savethechildren.org.uk/donate-here)



### PTFA

A huge thank you to the PTFA for an amazing Christmas fayre. Your hard work and dedication are appreciated, raising valuable funds for our school with lots of fun along the way! The funds will buy much-needed resources benefitting all children in the school. More information about this will follow in the new year.

We would also like to say a great big thank you to our Year 6 helpers who supported the Christmas Fayre this year. Your enthusiasm, teamwork, and dedication while running the stalls made a tremendous difference.



### Christmas Tree Festival

We will be taking part in the Christmas Tree Festival and Market at St Mary's Church, Bocking on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> December. We will have a tree on display, decorated by the children, and our wonderful choir will be singing at the event.





# John Bunyan Primary School and Nursery

## Early Years Open Day

Is your child starting school in September  
2026, don't miss the boat, come visit us  
before the application deadline!

**Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2026**

**10.30 - 12.00**

Call to secure your slot

01376 321814

Visit our Reception classrooms, outdoor area and  
whole school tours.

Our school is a place where kindness leads,  
resilience grows and every learner is inspired to  
achieve their full potential with purpose and pride.



## School Dinners

### Winter Menu

Week commencing Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December – Week 1

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Week commencing Monday 5<sup>th</sup> Jan 2026 – Week 1

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**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December:** Party Food Day Sausage roll/vegan sausage roll, salad sticks and crisps.  
Dessert: crinkle cookie.

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December:** Fish finger wrap or Quorn nugget wrap, sweetcorn and salad bar.  
Dessert: ice cream tub



It was lovely to see so many children enjoying their Christmas dinner, there were lots of nice comments about the lunch and the handmade and hand decorated Christmas tree biscuits. We had Christmas songs playing in the background, Christmas crackers and party hats too! Thank you to our super kitchen team for producing over 350 delicious Christmas dinners.

### After School Clubs

After school clubs have finished for this term.

New clubs will be available for children to choose when we come back to school in January. The new clubs will start on 12<sup>th</sup> January. The Year 6 homework clubs will also start back during the week commencing 12<sup>th</sup> January.

### Trips and Activities now booking

- Permission to walk home alone (Yr 5&6)
- Home School Agreements
- Book bags, PE bags, swim hats
- Snack
- Next year residential trip (current Year 5)
- Year 4 swimming



### Poppy Appeal

Thank you to everyone who donated to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. We raised a fantastic **£192.77**.



### Farleigh Hospice Reindeer Run

On Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December (weather dependent) we will be holding a sponsored Reindeer Run in aid of Farleigh Hospice, our local hospice charity.

This is for our children in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. The children can take part by walking/jogging our 'Golden mile' wearing their reindeer antlers, which Farleigh Hospice will provide.

Farleigh Hospice provides care to people affected by life-limiting illnesses and bereavement across mid Essex, free of charge. All of the money we raise will help the Farleigh doctors, nurses, therapists and counsellors to continue to support local people in their time of greatest need.

Sponsor forms have been sent home. Please bring your donations into school on or before 15<sup>th</sup> December



### Reading

Please keep reading with your child over the Christmas holiday. Comics, story books and fact books all count!  
Turn the Subtitles on and help your child learn to read!

Research shows that by simply turning on the subtitles on your television exposes children to countless words. This can help your child learn to read by helping them to establish a link between the written word and the spoken word.

### Turn On The Subtitles

Read As You Watch



So curl up on the sofa this holiday, watch a family film and **TURN ON THE SUBTITLES!**

## Christmas diary dates 2025

Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	Reindeer run for Nursery, Reception, Years 1 and 2
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	Performance of Jesus' Christmas Party 2.15pm – Spruces Class (No need to book)
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	Performance of Jesus' Christmas Party 2.15pm – Birches class (No need to book)
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 2 Carol service on the playground at 2.30pm (No need to book)
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 1 Performance of Away in a Manger 9.15am & 2.15pm (Please book via ParentPay)
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Jumper Day Donations to Save the Children (online please)
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	Last day of term, <b>finish at 1.30pm</b>



## **Diary Dates**

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> December – Choir singing at Bocking Christmas Tree Festival  
 Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December – Farleigh Hospice Reindeer Run for Nursery, Reception, Years 1 and 2  
 Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Jumper Day/wear something festive/Non-uniform  
 Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December – Last day of term, break up for the Christmas holidays at 1.30pm  
 Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December – Mental Health Support Team Workshop 'Understanding Autism' 9.00am – 11.00am

## Term Dates for 2025-2026 Academic Year

**Autumn Term:** Monday 1 September 2025 – Friday 19 December 2025  
 Half Term 27 October – 31 October  
 Non-Pupil Days Monday 1 September, Friday 24 October

**Spring Term:** Monday 5 January 2026 – Friday 27 March 2026  
 Half Term 16 February - 20 February

**Summer Term:** Monday 13 April 2026 – Monday 20 July 2026  
 Half Term 25 May – 29 May  
 May Bank Holiday - 4 May  
 Non-Pupil Days Friday 22 May, Monday 1 June, Monday 20 July

... and finally

We wish all our families a very happy and restful Christmas

