



The Friday Flyer

John Bunyan Primary School & Nursery



Friday 17th January, 2020

As this is our first newsletter of 2020 may I take the opportunity on behalf of all the staff and governors to wish you all a happy and healthy 2020. I have been visiting all classes everyday since we returned and it has been a privilege and a pleasure to see lots of excitement around our new learning units and lots of enthusiasm to work hard and achieve. I have already seen wonderful work in all areas of the curriculum including music, dance, art and drama with Mercury Theatre. This week our children participated in a hockey tournament at Braintree Hockey club and our class visits to Braintree library have begun with Larches visiting last Monday and the library visiting Nursery this Wednesday. Every day is action packed at John Bunyan! In our assemblies children have revisited our core values and our Code of Conduct, the things that underpin our curriculum and help us to be the best learners and members of our community that we can be.

I hope that we all continue to work closely together so that ensure that every person in our community is able to enjoy a happy 2020 full of new exciting opportunities.

Attendance

As a school, OFSTED have set us a target for improving attendance percentages and we are working with the Local Authority. The Local Authority have been in school supporting us to raise attendance levels. Our current attendance level is 94.6%. Our target is 96%. Please continue to provide medical evidence of illness especially if your child has been to the doctor.

Lateness has also been raised as an issue. Attendance and punctuality are vital to children and our pupils need to be in school by 8.55am ready to start learning. If your child is on time they will be calmer and ready for the day. Lateness can cause pupils to miss the important introduction to a lesson and some children can become anxious.

We would encourage parents and carers to ensure pupils arrive at school on time and use the playground entrances to classrooms.

Core Learning Skills - Developing Independence & Responsibility

Each half term in school we focus on a different Core Learning Skill. These are called 'core' because they are at the centre of all we do in school. Core Learning Skills aim to teach the children some of the essential life skills they will need for their future. This half term our Core Learning Skill is

called Developing Independence & Responsibility. By the time that children leave our school we want to make sure that they have the skills to research and complete their own small project and that they are able to look after themselves by making good life choices.

Learning units for this term and homework grids are available for you to view on the school website www.johnbunyan.co.uk

School Dinners

Week commencing Monday 20th January – Week 3
Week commencing Monday 27th January – Week 4
Week commencing Monday 3rd February – Week 1
Week commencing Monday 10th February – Week 2

Copies of the school dinner menu are available to view on our website www.johnbunyan.co.uk and paper copies are available from the school office.

Termly Learning Conferences

Termly Learning Conferences will take place during the week commencing 3rd February, as follows:

Monday 3rd February – Year 5 and Reception Year

Tuesday 4th February – Year 4

Wednesday 5th February – Year 2 and Year 3

Thursday 6th February – Year 1 and Year 6

Letters have gone out for parents/carers to request an appointment time; please return this to your child's class teacher as soon as possible.

Attention: All pre-school children parents & carers

Every Wednesday morning we hold our toddler club from 9 - 10am (free of charge). Our staff will be there to provide opportunities to engage in messy play, singing, storytelling and it is also an opportunity for you to meet other parents and carers.

This year we are delighted that Braintree Library will be coming in to the Toddler Club to run a Song & Rhyme session. These will be during the toddler club sessions on:

12th Feb, 11th March, 6th May, 3rd June, 1st July
We hope to see lots of you there.

PE Kit

Please ensure that your child has a named P.E. kit in school at all times. The kit should include white top, green or black shorts and plimsoles or trainers. A tracksuit or similar can be worn during the colder months.

The Essex County Council policy is that **NO** earrings should be worn for P.E. Please ensure that your child does not wear them on the day their class has P.E if they cannot remove them on their own. Small studs only are permitted at all other times.

Costumes

On Tuesday 11th February we have a Medieval Man coming in to our Year 1 pupils. We would love the children to get involved by coming in to school in medieval costume such as shown below, or even as a dragon or princess.



On Tuesday 25th February we have our Victorian Day for Year 2 pupils. Again, we would like the children to come in costume. We suggest that boys wear long trousers tucked into their socks or jogging bottoms, a plain shirt (old shirt with collar removed) perhaps a waistcoat and a flat cap. We suggest that girls wear a long dress or skirt and perhaps an apron and a shawl.

We do not expect parents to buy expensive costumes and hope to keep things simple. If children do not wish to dress up they should wear school uniform.

Nursery places

Our Nursery is now full, our next intake will be September. Do make sure you have registered your child, to avoid disappointment. Please call in to the Lower School office if you have any queries.

After School Clubs

After school clubs start on Monday 20th January.

Trips and Activities now booking

Now available to book via ParentPay:

- Library visits for Years 3 and 4
- Medieval Day for Year 1
- Victorian Day for Year 2



We have a small supply of school scarves and woolly hats for sale at £2.00 each. Please come to the Lower School office if you would like to buy one.

Diary Dates

Week commencing Monday 13th January – Year 6 homework clubs start
Thursday 16th January – Hazels class start swimming
Week commencing Mon 20th January – Spring Term clubs start
Monday 20th January – Elders class visit to Braintree Library
Monday 27th January – Cedars class visit to Braintree Library
Monday 27th January – SEND Support Group coffee afternoon
Wednesday 29th January – Forest School for Willows class
Wednesday 29th January – Book Fayre arrives in School for one week
Week commencing Monday 3rd February – Termly Learning Conferences. Letters have been sent home.
Monday 3rd February – Beeches class visit to Braintree Library
Wednesday 5th February – Forest School for Conifers class
Monday 10th February – Yews class visit to Braintree Library
Friday 7th February – World Number Day
Tuesday 11th February – Safer Internet Day
Tuesday 11th February – Medieval Man coming in to Year 1
Wednesday 12th February – Forest School for Oaks class
Monday 17th – Friday 21st February – Half Term Holiday
Monday 24th February – Back to School
Monday 24th February – Hazels class visit to Braintree Library
Tuesday 25th February – Year 2 Victorian Day
Monday 2nd March – SEND Support Group coffee afternoon
Thursday 5th March – World Book Day
Friday 6th March – Chestnuts class visit to Braintree Library
Monday 9th March – Year 2 Great Fire of London workshops in class
Wednesday 11th March – Forest School for Willows class
Friday 13th March – Non-Pupil Day for staff training
Tuesday 17th March – Music Festival for Poplars class
Wednesday 18th March – Forest School for Conifers class
Friday 20th March – Birches class visit to Braintree Library
Wednesday 25th March – Forest School for Oaks class
Friday 27th March – Spruces class visit to Braintree Library

Term Dates for 2019-2020 Academic Year

Spring Term: Monday 6th January 2020 – Friday 3rd April 2020

Half Term 17th February – 21st February

Non-Pupil Day: Friday 13th March

Summer Term: Monday 20th April 2020 – Wednesday 22nd July 2020

Half Term 25th May – 29th May, and May Bank Holiday Friday 8th May

Non-Pupil Day: Monday 1st June