



The Friday Flyer John Bunyan Primary School & Nursery



Friday 15th December 2023



Message from Mrs Waters

Further to the communications sent out to the individual classes, I would like to make you aware of the staff that will leave us at Christmas.

Mr Cullum leaves for promotion at a school nearer his home; we wish him the very best for his new role. Mrs Lovett is taking her well-earned retirement, which we hope is full of fun and special times, Mrs Powell will leave the classroom to take over this role. Miss Rice and Mrs Wane are both leaving us to pursue new careers outside of schools. We wish all our leavers the best of luck with their future roles and thank them all for their commitment and dedication to John Bunyan, our pupils and their families.

We are looking forward to welcoming back Mrs Ledwell, who returns from her maternity leave. Ms Duffy and Ms Moshtagh-Kahnamoi will be joining the teaching staff.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish you a very happy Christmas and New Year, and we look forward to welcoming the children back to school on Thursday 4th January 2024. We are already planning some exciting activities and trips for the Spring term!

Reminder

Last day of term: Wednesday 20th December
(normal collection time)

Back to School: Thursday 4th January 2024

School Dinners

WINTER 2023 MENU

Week commencing Monday 18th December –
Special Christmas week menu (see attached)

Christmas Holidays

Week commencing Thurs 4th January – Week 1
Week commencing Monday 8th January – Week 2
Week commencing Mon 15th January – Week 3

FS and KS1 mini market

On Monday 18th December we will be holding our annual Mini Market for **Nursery, Reception Year, Year 1 & 2 pupils**. Children will be able to buy Christmas presents for members of their family – mums, dads, grandparents and siblings!

On the day the children can buy up to 3 gifts, prices will range from 50p to £1.00, money should be brought in a named purse or envelope. After shopping the children will wrap and label their presents. This will be an exciting cross-curricular learning opportunity whilst being great fun! We do hope all the children will have the opportunity to participate.

Farleigh Hospice Reindeer Run



On 18th December (weather dependent) we will be holding a sponsored Reindeer Run in aid of Farleigh Hospice, our local hospice charity. This is for our youngest 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 will be sent home soon. Please bring your donations into school in a sealed envelope on 18th December and give to Mr Stoneham and Mr Taylor on the gate, which will prevent mixing up donations and Mini-Market money.

Poppy Appeal

Thank you to everyone who donated to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. We raised a fantastic **£207.19**.



Christmas jumper/wear something festive day

We invite everyone to wear a Christmas jumper or something festive to school on Tuesday 19th December. Please do not buy something especially for the day – a top dressed up with tinsel/decorations will be great!



Donations can be made to Save the Children online at

www.savethechildren.org.uk/donate-here

School Applications for Reception Year 2024

From 6th November 2023 you can apply online for your child to join us in reception year in September 2024. Applications are open until 15th January 2024, via www.essex.gov.uk

Swimming

The next group of swimmers (Oaks class and the second half of Conifers) will start their swimming lessons on **15th January**. Swim hats are available to buy from the school via ParentPay.

SEND Parents

Support for parents and carers with children of any age with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities:

Drop in coffee afternoon and chat in school
1.45pm – 2.45pm on
Monday 18th December
Come along for an informal chat



Trips and Activities now booking

- Permission to walk home alone (Years 5&6)
- Home School Agreements
- Hedingham Castle for Year 1
- Year 4 swimming



ParentPay

After School Clubs

New clubs will start for the Spring Term when we return to school in January and we will notify you when these are available for children to choose.

MENU CHANGE

Monday 18th December – Christmas Party Day

Sausage roll or veggie sausage roll
Crisps
Sweetcorn
Salad bar
and
Christmas chocolate cracknell

Tuesday 19th December

Santa Pasta (tomato pasta with cheese) or jacket potato with cheese/tuna
Sweetcorn or broccoli
Salad bar
and
Christmas shortbread

Wednesday 20th December

Festive fish and chips or Christmas crispy nuggets (v)
Chips
Beans or peas
and
ice cream tub

PTFA

Thank you to everyone who came along and supported the PTFA Christmas fayre yesterday, we hope you had a lovely time.



Tech

Are you planning on giving your child a new games console, mobile phone, tablet, or computer game this Christmas? Or do you have friends or family who are?

Visit www.essex.police.uk/sortyoursettings for practical things you can do to help make your child's new device safer when they are online.

Reminder

Children should not be wearing make up for school. Please support us by making sure your child isn't wearing make up or nail polish.

Winter Reading Challenge

This year's Essex Libraries' Winter Reading Challenge is now underway, so do get involved! The challenge invites children aged 0-11 to take part in various activities, which support literacy and creativity, to earn stickers to fill up their special booklet. Children can also follow the challenge storyline on social media, where they will travel around the world with Lyra the penguin to meet different endangered animals and learn all about them.

Pop along to your local library or find out more information about the challenge at

<https://libraries.essex.gov.uk/news/winter-reading-challenge>

Diary Dates

Monday 18th December – Mini Market for Nursery, Reception Year, Year 1 and Year 2, in school time

Monday 18th December – Farleigh Hospice Reindeer Run for Nursery, Reception Year, Year 1 and Year 2

Tuesday 19th December – Christmas jumper day

Wednesday 20th December – Last day of term, break up for the Christmas holidays



Term Dates for 2023-2024 Academic Year

Autumn Term: Tuesday 5th September 2023 – Wednesday 20th December 2023

Half Term Holiday Monday 23rd October to Friday 27th October

Non-Pupil Days: Monday 4th September and Friday 20th October

Spring Term: Thursday 4th January 2024 – Thursday 28th March 2024

Half Term Holiday Monday 19th February to Friday 23rd February

Summer Term: Monday 15th April 2024 – Friday 19th July 2024

Half Term Holiday Monday 27th May to Friday 31st May

Non-Pupil Days: Friday 24th May, Monday 22nd July and Tuesday 23rd July

Bank Holiday: Monday 6th May