



The Friday Flyer John Bunyan Primary School & Nursery



Friday 12th January 2024

Welcome Back

It has been lovely to see everyone back in school this Spring term, looking smart and ready to learn! We hope that 2024 is a happy and successful year for all our children and families. We have some wonderful new clubs planned for this term together with all sorts of fun-filled activities; World Book Day, cross country running and the Year 6 residential trip, to name but a few.

Happy New Year everyone!

Reminder

It is very important that parents/carers phone the school if their child will be absent or late (01376 321814). The School Office opens at 8.15am if you need to speak with us or you can leave a message on the absence line (option 1) at any time.

After School Clubs

After school clubs start week commencing 15th January.

Due to staff training, there will be no clubs on Thursday 25th January.

Reminder

Stay and Play with your Key Stage 1 child every Monday from 8.40 – 9.00 am



Come and Read with your Key Stage 2 child every Friday from 8.40 – 9.00 am



School Dinners

WINTER 2023 MENU

Week commencing Mon 15th January – Week 3

Week commencing Mon 22nd January – Week 1

Week commencing Mon 29th January – Week 2

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

Reminder – PE Kits

Please ensure that your child has a named PE kit in school at all times. The kit should include a plain white T shirt, green or black shorts and plimsoles or trainers. Pupils can wear a dark coloured tracksuit, jogging bottoms or similar for outdoor PE lessons, if they wish. Please take out earrings on PE days if your child cannot do so themselves, and remember small stud earrings only should be worn in school at other times.

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.

Trips and Activities now booking

- Permission to walk home alone (Years 5&6)
- Home School Agreements
- Hedingham Castle for Year 1
- Year 4 swimming
- Book bags, PE bags, swim hats
- Snack
- Victorian Day for Year 2

Year 1 Trip

Year 1 children will be visiting Hedingham Castle on Tuesday 16th January 2024 for a day packed with activities. Please ensure your child has a packed lunch, warm coat and sensible shoes on this day.



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 29th January

Monday 26th February

Monday 25th March

Come along for an informal chat



School Applications for Reception Year 2024

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

Victorian Day for Year 2

Year 2 will be visiting Braintree Museum on Wednesday 28th February 2024 for their Victorian Day.



We would like the children to dress up as Victorian children for this day. We suggest that boys wear long trousers or jogging bottoms tucked into their socks, 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/or a shawl. Children will need to have comfortable shoes and a warm coat as we will be walking to and from the Museum.

Year 1 Story Time

Year 1 story time sessions resumed this week. Parents and Carers are welcome to come into school and enjoy a reading session with their child at 2.30pm, led by the class teacher.

Larches Class – Tuesdays with Mrs Willox

Cedars Class – Wednesdays with Mrs Adams

Elders Class – Thursdays with Miss Hawes



Smoking

Please could you not smoke directly outside the school gates when waiting to collect children or dropping off. Thank you.

USAR Dog

Some of our classes had a visit from the Urban Search and Rescue Team with their search dogs this week. They gave us a demonstration of how they search for people and objects, all over the world, and this was thoroughly enjoyed by all who participated.



Attendance Matters

At John Bunyan we value good attendance and punctuality.

Leave of Absence

The school is not permitted to grant leave of absence during term time, unless there are **exceptional circumstances**. Evidence of exceptional circumstances needs to be provided alongside a completed leave of absence form. Forms are available from the School Office. If you have any queries, please ask the School Office.

If an absence request is not authorised and the holiday is taken, the Local Authority can issue a penalty notice.

Be Punctual

We expect pupils to be in school before the gates close, ready to start learning. If pupils are on time they will be calm and ready to begin learning. They will not miss out on the vital introduction to a lesson or feel anxious about walking into a classroom once the lesson has started.

Let us know

We do understand that children become ill! If that is the case, please remember to phone the school by 9.30am on the first day of illness.

Absence Line: 01376 321814, option 1

Illness:

Children should not be in school:

- For 48 hours after vomiting or diarrhoea
- If they have anything contagious. Your doctor or the school will be able to advise you on when they should return.
- Until you have discussed any broken bones or fractures with the school

If you are not sure, please speak to the school.

Please think carefully before keeping your child at home

**90% ATTENDANCE = ½ DAY MISSED EVERY WEEK.
1 school year at 90% = 4 WHOLE WEEKS OF LESSONS MISSED!
Learning and achievement will be severely affected.**

Attendance

Attendance is important
Together we can achieve the best for each child
There is advice and support for parent/carers
Establishing good habits from the start
Not being in school affects life opportunities
Discuss with your child what goes on in school
Arriving late can be disruptive
Notify the school when your child is absent
Celebrate good attendance
EVERY DAY COUNTS

Above all we want your child to be happy and successful at school and we believe that only by working in partnership with you, will this be possible.

Diary Dates

Tuesday 16th January – Year 1 trip to Hedingham Castle
Friday 19th January – Conifers class to Braintree Library
Friday 19th January – School Choir trip to Young Voices at the O2 Arena
Friday 26th January – Willows class to Braintree Library
Friday 2nd February – Oaks class to Braintree Library
Monday 19th – Friday 23rd February – Half-Term holiday
Monday 26th February – Back to School
Wednesday 28th February – Year 2 to Braintree Museum for Victorian Day (further details to follow)
Friday 1st March – Elders (Y1) and Chestnuts (Y5) to visit Braintree Library
Thursday 7th March – World Book Day
Friday 8th March – Cedars (Y1) and Birches (Y5) to visit Braintree Library
Week commencing Monday 11th March – Termly Learning Conferences
Friday 15th March – Larches (Y1) and Spruces (Y5) to visit Braintree Library
Tuesday 19th – Friday 22nd March – Year 6 residential trip
Thursday 28th March – Last day of term, break up for the Easter holidays

Term Dates for 2023-2024 Academic Year

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