



The Friday Flyer John Bunyan Primary School & Nursery



Thursday 17th December, 2020



As the term closes I wanted to say how wonderful all your children have been this term. It has been hard for everyone staying in their bubbles and adapting to so many changes but they have all been so resilient. I am so fortunate to work with such a dedicated team and everybody; teaching staff, admin team, site team and the catering team have all played their part in keeping our school open, safe and secure during these very challenging times. We thank you too for all your support and understanding.

On behalf of all the staff and governors, may I wish you and your family a happy and peaceful Christmas break, we look forward to welcoming everyone back on 4th January 2021.

Season's Greetings,

Mrs Bailey

Keeping Your Child Safe on TikTok

TikTok is used by many teenagers and sometimes children younger than 13, despite its terms and conditions. The new Family Pairing feature can allow parents to guide their child's TikTok experience in a safer way. Features include:

- Search: Decide what can be searched for. This includes content, users, hashtags or sounds
- Screen Time Management: Sets how long your teen can spend on TikTok each day
- Discoverability: Decide on the account being private (you decide who can see their content) or public (anyone can search and view content)

To find out more information about TikTok's Family Pairing feature and to download a helpful poster, go to: <https://swgfl.org.uk/magazine/tiktok-update-parental-controls-with-family-pairing-feature/>

COVID-19

Stay safe. Please refer to the letter sent on 10th December if any problems arise. A copy of the letter can be found on our website

www.johnbunyan.co.uk

PE kits

When we return to school in January, children in all year groups will need to bring in a PE kit of shorts, T shirt, plimsoles/trainers. Years 2 - 6 will also need joggers and a sweat shirt for outdoor PE and they will be able to change into their trainers for break and lunch if they play sport, which will save their school shoes.

Please make sure your child is in full school uniform from January, including school trousers (not joggers). We thank you for your support.

Support Agencies Open Over the Christmas Period

As Christmas approaches, many support agencies close. If you find yourself in a situation where you need support below is a link to agencies that are open:

<https://6282.s3-eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/HelpLines+Directory+-+December+2020.pdf>

School Applications for Reception Year

You can now apply for a school place for your child for Reception Year in September 2021.

Applications are open until 15th January 2021, via www.essex.gov.uk

School Dinners

Week commencing Monday 4th January 2021:

Week 1 of Winter Menu

Week commencing Monday 11th January 2021:

Week 2 of Winter Menu

A copy of the school dinner menu is available on the school website www.johnbunyan.co.uk (click the "Parents" tab).

Emergency Living Fund

Please find attached a flyer about emergency support available from the Essential Living Fund (ELF) to people hit by the pandemic. The ELF is receiving extra funding from the Covid Winter Grant Scheme to help people living in Essex with energy and water bills, food and other essential household items. They want to make sure that anyone who might be struggling and needs emergency support knows where to go for help.

Free Mental Health Support Sessions- Stormbreak

Stormbreak is a charity which “aims to improve children’s mental health through movement; equipping them with sustainable, transferable skills and coping strategies to thrive during the complex demands of growth into adult life”. The charity is led by Dr Martin Yelling in partnership with Bournemouth University, University of Winchester, Dorset CAMHS, Public Health Dorset, DragonFish, schools, teachers and children.

The Stormbreak challenges help primary-aged children develop resilience, relationships, self-worth, self-care and hope and optimism. Find out more here: <https://www.stormbreak.org.uk/>

Essex Library Service – Winter Reading Challenge

Essex Library Services are hosting a Winter Reading Challenge to encourage the love of reading. Very much like the Reading Agency’s Summer Reading Challenge, Essex Library Services are providing large bookmarks which will be stamped for each book the child reads. The aim is to read 6 books over the winter period. This year’s theme is the Animals of Snowy Wood where Connie the fox and her friends will help Fraser the squirrel to get a good night’s sleep. Please collect a bookmark from any Essex library and fall in love with reading this winter.



Diary Dates

Friday 18th December – Non-pupil day for staff training

Monday 4th January 2021 - Return to School



Term Dates for 2020-2021 Academic Year

Autumn Term:	Wednesday 2 September 2020 – Friday 18 December 2020 <i>Half Term 26 October – 30 October</i> <i>Non-pupil days 2 September, 23 October, 18 December</i>
Spring Term:	Monday 4 January 2021 – Friday 26 March 2021 <i>Half Term 15 February - 19 February</i> <i>Non-pupil day 12 February</i>
Summer Term:	Monday 12 April 2021 – Wednesday 21 July 2021 <i>Half Term 31 May – 4 June, and May Bank Holiday 3 May</i>