Hatfield Peverel St. Andrew's Junior School

NEWSLETTER and HAPPY CHRISTMAS!

15th December 2023

Dear Parents and carers,

What a very busy Christmas week we have had!
Huge thanks to Mrs Robinson and her team for overcoming the challenges faced by out current situation. They managed to overcome the problems and produced a delicious Christmas meal for the children.
I would also like to thank all the school staff who worked all lunchtime in order to serve up and deliver the meals to the children.
'Christmas teamwork made the dream-work'! It was very clear that this was a huge undertaking; but the children loved it!

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.
From Mrs Black and the St Andrew's team.

Tuesday 19th December Class Christmas Parties	Children can come to school in party clothes!

A **BIG** St. Andrew's thank you to Mrs Robinson, Mrs Free, Mrs Kett & Miss Adams for managing to produce a *fabulous* Christmas lunch for the children in these most challenging times!

This is the last newsletter of 2023. Wishing you all a very merry Christmas and hoping that for all of us 2024 is a happier and kinder new year!

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING SCHOOL COMMUNICATIONS

ParentPay

You will be aware that this week we have sent communications via both Parentmail and ParentPay. This appears to have gone well with the vast majority of the school now signed up to ParentPay and (hopefully) receiving school comms. We will therefore begin to 'faze out' Parentmail with immediate effect. Needless to say if you have any queries regarding ParentPay then please do contact the school office.

Autumn Term 2023 – dates for your diary:-

Monday 18th December: JSA Christmas Raffle Draw/Christmas Crafts
Tuesday 19th December: Class Christmas Parties (party clothes can be worn)
Wednesday 20th December: Church Christmas Carol Service 11:15am **(all welcome)**
Wednesday 20th December: last day of term 1pm finish

Thursday 4th January 2024: children return to school

Year Group	Trip or Event	Deadline for response
All Years	• **Tuesday 19th December – Class Christmas Parties (children can come to school in party clothes)** • **Wednesday 20th December – last day of term – 1pm finish**	
Year 3		
Year 4		
Year 5		
Year 6	**Link to Google form for mobile phones** https://forms.gle/MU3e6bowiZVHrxi5A	

Reception admissions for academic year starting in September 2024

As you may be aware, the primary school (Reception) admission round opened on **Monday 6 November 2023**, for parents of children to apply for a Reception school place for the academic year that starts in September 2024.

The statutory national closing date for applications is **15 January 2024**.

From 6 November 2023, applications can be made online via www.essex.gov.uk/admissions. 99% of parents in Essex applied online last year.

All of the application information is available on the website above.

Even if a parent already has a sibling at the school, they need to apply if they have a child due to start Reception next September

Parents with Year 2 Children

Year 2- 3 admissions for September 2024

As you are aware, parents of current Year 2 children at an infant school need to make a formal application to the Council for a Year 3 place and can do so via the website www.essex.gov.uk/admissions.

The junior admission round opened on **6 November 2023**, for parents of children in Year 2 at an infant school to apply for a junior school (Year 3) place for September 2024.

The statutory national closing date for applications is **15 January 2024**.

From 6 November 2023, applications can be made online via www.essex.gov.uk/admissions.

Wishing a very **Happy Birthday** to those who celebrate their birthdays between:
11th December to 7th January 2024

Holly, Toby R, Isabelle A, Myles, Max D, Elliott, Isla T, Thomas O, James S, Lola-Rose, James P, Alexander D, Erin, Louis-Junior

Mrs Black, Mrs Gardiner, Miss Tuttlebury,

For more artwork please follow:
https://twitter.com/charliemackesy?lang=en

TIMES TABLES ROCK STARS

MOST PLAYED

1st	Cameron G	46,730
2nd	Elliott G	26,611
3rd	Thomas R	16,413

If you need to drop off or collect your child outside of the usual school hours, please come to the green rec gate and call the school office. ***There is no access for children or visitors through the red car park gate.***

JSA CHRISTMAS DISCO

Thank you so much to the JSA volunteers and staff for running last night's Christmas Disco.

Lots of fun was had, moves made and sweets eaten!

These are the children who have been spotted shining in school this week. We could have chosen so many children- the decisions were hard to make!
Well done for demonstrating our CARE values.

Apple – Olivia C
Birch – Hugo
Cherry - Ella
Fir – Delilah
Maple – George
Oak – Archie
Rowan – Lily
Sycamore – Bobbi

Compassion Achievement Respect Enjoyment
Every child is loved and known. Every child shines.

WELL DONE TO VINEHURST AND BERWICKS HOUSES!

Points for this week!	
Berwicks	473
Greystones	446
Priory	412
Vinehurst	473

A huge well done to Freddie who completed his PBT (a type of radiotherapy), and all with that lovely big smile on his face!

Although Freddie is not with us in class at the moment we think of him a lot and will be so excited when he is well enough to return.

CHRISTMAS DINNER FUN

ST. A BOOK CREW

It is proven that children who read daily are more likely to have accelerated progress.

Children learn 4,000 to 12,000 words per year through reading.

Children who read books often at age 10 gain higher results at age 16 than those who read less regularly.

Reading for 6 minutes a day reduces stress by 68%

Reading enjoyment is reported as more important for children's educational success than their family's socio-economic status.

All volunteers will have a DBS check and training provided.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

CAN YOU SPARE AN HOUR OR MORE A WEEK?

Here at St. Andrew's we believe that **reading is the key to everything**! Sharing a book with an adult is invaluable and we want to provide EVERY child with the opportunity to develop a love for reading.

So… we are building our **St. A Book Crew** – a fabulous group of helpers who come in every week to support reading across all classes. They hear children read and play a big part in developing the children's skills and enjoyment of the wonderful world of books!

If you would like to volunteer, please email Mrs Smith via the school office on **admin@hatfieldpeverel-jun.essex.sch.uk**

During our application for Green Flag status, the School Council of 2022-23 applied for a hedging pack of tree whips from the Woodland Trust. 420 of these tiny little plants, called *whips*, arrived in October and were healed in by our fantastic volunteer, John Clemo, so they could drink and recover from their journey.

Harry, from the Essex Forest Initiative, brought special tree dibbers which made making the holes in our hard stoney soil, a lot easier.

On Wednesday morning our baby plants were planted along the bottom of our field so they will eventually grow up into a beautiful barrier that will provide valuable wildlife habitat.

32 school councillors and deputy councillors were joined by a fantastic team of volunteers from the local community - parents, Hatfield Peverel wildlife volunteers headed by Wildlife Champion, Donna Goddard and councillor Diane Wallace. We were also privileged to be joined by a team from the Essex Forest Initiative so had the expertise of Harry and his team to ensure we got the whips planted well.

More photos will be appearing on our website next week on the School Council page!

Thank you to Mrs. Waring for organising this whole event.
We are so lucky that she shares her passion with us all.

In Collective Worship last week, children were introduced to Dame Rachel de Souza's role as Children's Commissioner and her ***Big Ambition*** project.

Find out more from Dame Rachel's video here on YouTube.

TODAY IS THE LAST DAY TO COMPLETE THE BIG AMBITION SURVEY HAVE YOU DONE YOURS?

Even though you won't directly have a vote, you can make your voice count!

Dame Rachel's role means that she wants to make sure children's views are heard by the people in government who make decisions. Since there will be a general election next year, children are being encouraged to complete Dame Rachel's ***Big Ambition*** survey so that, as candidates create their manifestos and the new government is formed, **children's opinions will count**.

Multiply Maths

TiEGr

for parents of children 7 to 11 years (Key Stage 2)

Want to support your child with their maths homework and increase your confidence in maths?

Learn how to quickly and easily help your child with their maths homework.
Increase your confidence in maths.
Lots of tips, activity ideas and resources!

St Andrews Junior School
March 12th, 19th and 26th
8:30 am - 10:30 am

Book your FREE place today!
Contact the school office or email: info@tiegr.org

Essex County Council

SKILLS FOR LIFE

MULTIPLY

A message from Essex Police:-

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.
#StaySafe

THE BIG AMBITION:

Closing date has been extended to Friday 19th January 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

Your child is invited to sign up for this year's **Winter Reading Challenge** at your local library!

What is the Winter Reading Challenge?

The Winter Reading Challenge is a fun activity put together by Essex Library Service for children aged 0-11. It encourages children and families to keep reading over the winter and to visit their local library.

They will join Lyra the penguin as she travels around the world with her magic book to find out more about endangered animals.

Children will complete 6 challenges (from a list of 12), and it's **FREE** to take part.

How can my child take part?

Visit your local library to sign up. Your child will:

- Receive their Challenge folder
- Choose 6 challenges to complete (from a list of 12)
- Earn a sticker for each challenge they complete
- When they've complete 6 challenges they will receive a certificate and, whilst stocks last, they will also receive a packet of seeds and a free book from Penguin Books.
- Over the winter we will also be releasing videos about Lyra's journey so keep an eye on our YouTube Channel (Youtube.com/essexlibraries) and social media channels (@EssexLibraries).

When?

Throughout the winter from **25 November to 3 February.** Unsure where your closest library is - use the Essex Library Service website to check.

Head to your local library this winter and sign up! You can find out more about the challenge on the library website and if you have any questions, please ask staff in the library.

We look forward to seeing you!

Best wishes

Essex Library Service

Essex County Council

NHS
Essex Partnership University
NHS Foundation Trust

FLU VACCINE CATCH-UP CLINICS

Time is running out to vaccinate your child with this season's flu nasal spray*.

The flu vaccine reduces the risk of serious illness and will top up their protection even if they've been vaccinated before.

Drop into one of our catch-up clinics for primary and secondary aged children and those eligible for a COVID-19 vaccination:

Call to book an appointment

DATE 21st December 2023
TIME 10am-3.30pm
ADDRESS St.Peters Hospital Maldon, ARU, CM9 6EG
ANY PARKING INFO Some parking available

Ring 0300 790 0597 option 1 to book

*flu injection is offered as an alternative to the nasal spray

#DOYOURBITESSEX

Active Essex | Department for Education | Essex County Council | thurrock.gov.uk

Essex ACTIVate

BOOK ONTO OUR FREE WINTER HOLIDAY CLUBS!

Eligible children and young people are invited to book onto our FREE, fun-filled activity clubs who are run by a network of locally, trusted organisations and brought to you by Active Essex, Essex County Council and Thurrock Council, on behalf of the Department for Education!

IS MY CHILD ELIGIBLE?

Clubs offer spaces to primary and secondary school aged children (4-16 years) who are eligible for benefit based free school meals. Limited spaces are available for young people who are also from 'low-income' working families, as well as children who may be vulnerable to inactivity or social isolation.

WHERE WILL THE CLUBS BE RUN?

Clubs will be running across Essex in Braintree, Basildon, Brentwood, Castle Point, Chelmsford, Colchester, Epping, Harlow, Maldon, Rochford, Tendring, Thurrock and Uttlesford!

WHAT DO THE CLUBS PROVIDE?

Clubs provide a range of different physical, enrichment and food activities to support children's physical and mental wellbeing, as well as a delicious, nutritious meal! We also offer specialist youth, SEND and mental wellbeing clubs.

HOW DO I BOOK ONTO A CLUB?

If you have received a Holiday Activities voucher code, click the link on the voucher to book your child/ren onto a club. If you're still awaiting a voucher code, please contact your school. If you aren't eligible for a Holiday Activities voucher as your child/ren do not receive benefits based free school meals, please contact a local club directly to book on by heading to our website below.

www.activeessex.org/children-young-people/essex-activate