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# **DIARY DATES**

ALL CLUBS ON AFTER HALF TERM

FRI 14<sup>TH</sup> FEB, 3.10PM School closes for half term

MON 24<sup>TH</sup> FEB
Non Pupil Day: school closed

WED 26<sup>™</sup> FEB, 12.05PM Sharks Parents Lunch

TUE 3<sup>RD</sup> MAR, 9.10 – 9.40AM Foxes Class Assembly

	Parents Lunch	Class Assembly
	✓	3 Mar
	<b>√</b>	23 Jun
16	4 Mar	✓
***	✓	10 Mar
	26 Feb	<b>✓</b>
C	✓	30 Jun

## **SCHOOL LUNCH**

Next week's lunch menu will be Week 2 – details here.

## **SHOOTING STARS!**

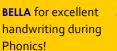
MASON for a brilliant attitude towards his learning!



**GRACE** for beautiful artwork in the style of Kandinsky!

persevering with his reading!

BERTIE for wonderful work appreciating Kandinsky!





## MESSAGE FROM MRS CASTELL

Well that half term whizzed by! Many thanks to parents for joining us for Family Learning Time this week. We are very grateful to see so many of you make the effort to come along. Thank you to Parrots parents who joined us for lunch on Wednesday.

We also had an incredible Valentine's disco on Wednesday and thank you to WISPA for organising it and to our staff who helped. We raised £260. WISPA have already funded Seesaw (an app which records children's work in Years One and Two), as well as a theatre group in school and we are looking forward to receiving some lovely board games for each classroom, chosen by the children. We did find that some children headed straight for the quiet room and found the disco experience a bit overwhelming - at one time there were over 30 children in the quiet room which caused staffing issues. Please consider whether a disco is something your child will enjoy when we ask for numbers next term. We will be discussing whether we are able to offer a quiet room at future events, as staffing ratios for that number of children across two rooms presents a challenge.

It is World Book Day on Thursday  $5^{th}$  March and we will be asking the children to dress up as book characters in return for a £1 donation to be used for new books in school. We will hold a special assembly, a quiz and activities in class. Your child will bring home a £1 book tokem after half term, which can be used to buy one of the special World Book Day books available, or towards the cost of other books.

A reminder on our policy for administering medicines. Medicines must be delivered to the school office rather than the classroom, so that the appropriate consent form can be signed by the parent / carer and the medicine can be properly stored (often in the fridge). We cannot send medicines home with the children, they must be collected from the office by an adult. Our office is very busy and medicine has to be administered with two adults present. Many schools have a policy of not administering medicines unless prescribed, however we want to be as helpful to parents as possible. Please consider whether the medicine does have to be given in school time, for example if it is three times a day it can be given at breakfast, at pick up and in the evening. Our full policy is on our website.

Monday 24th February is an INSET day - please do not come up to the school on that day as all staff are in training. We look forward to seeing the children again on Tuesday 25th. A reminder that it is the turn of Sharks parents to join us for lunch on Wednesday 26th February. Next half term we continue our invitation to parents to read with their children from 8.45 on Monday mornings - you are welcome to come as many or as few sessions as you can manage.

Finally a reminder that my son Ollie is running the Brentwood half marathon and half of money raised will go to our hub appeal. If you would like to sponsor him his page is <u>justgiving.com/crowdfunding/ollie-castell</u>.

Have a wonderful half term break.

## **YEAR 2 NEWS**

It was so lovely to see so many of you at Family Learning Time this week. We hope you found it useful to see the children using some of the strategies for solving multiplication and division word problems. Everyone had fun planning and writing their own adventure for Wendell Lightfoot and Princess Opal. We were impressed with the quality and quantity of their writing. This week, our Art focus was the artist Kandinsky. The children created their own paintings in his style whilst listening to the music of Vivaldi. Our half term ended with finding out about

**ISLA** for showing a great improvement in her writing!

BENJI for using technical vocabulary in Science!
SAMUEL for super partitioning in Maths!

HOPE for excellent improvement in reading!

LOLA for learning some of her sounds – well done!

ZARA for super construction skills & working beautifully in a small group!
TEDDY for super creative work, making models using scissors & sellotape really well.

#### **READERS OF THE WEEK!**

LUCIA, CHLOE, EVELYN M, CHARLOTTE, BENJI U, EDIE STO

#### LISTENERS OF THE WEEK!

EDUARDA, FAITH, CODY, IRIS BI, LUCA, GEORGIA

## **COMMUNITY LINKS**

GET IN! FEBRUARY HALF TERM HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES leaflets are in reception from Chelmsford City Sports. You can also find information on their website here: <a href="mailto:chelmsford.gov.uk/leisure-centres/who/kids-activities/">chelmsford.gov.uk/leisure-centres/who/kids-activities/</a>

Christopher Cockerell's invention of the hovercraft. It was quite a sight to see so many hovercrafts zooming around the classroom! Ask them all about it. We hope you all have a restful half term. Please remember to bring back your full PE kit and your activity passports so that you can receive your half termly certificate.

Home learning and spellings are published on our website.

## **YEAR 1 NEWS**

What a fantastic end to the half term! It was lovely to see so many of you during Family Learning Time. You all created such lovely and imaginative pieces of writing on how we can help the environment. It was lovely for you to show your adults how your writing has come on too! This week we revisited our knowledge of high frequency words and common exception words, well done to all of you for remembering most of them and trying your best! Year One have really worked hard this half term and it has shown in their work. Thank you to those that have continued to use Bug Club at home, the children have really enjoyed sharing their stories in class. If you need help accessing your online account please let us know. In Maths we have continued to develop our subtraction skills and different ways we can tackle difficult number sentences. After half term our PE days will be Mondays and Tuesdays. We hope you all have a fun and safe week off and we will see you on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> February!

Home learning and spellings are published on our website.

## **FOUNDATION STAGE NEWS**

Thank you for the amazing turnout at 'Family Learning Time' this week, the children enjoyed reciting the poems with you and we enjoyed seeing that you knew so many! This week we have learnt the poem 'Furry, Furry Squirrel' and have learnt all about squirrels. During PE we practised our throwing and catching skills as well. In maths we have learnt about the number 9 and the pairs of numbers that make 9. We have spoken to the children about internet safety and will put some more information on Tapestry for you to read about. We were worried about the number of children who said they sneak their iPads etc in their rooms at night! Please keep a look out, Mrs Fisk has to with her son so she understands the problem.

We hope you have a wonderful half term.

This week's Tapestry Challenge is published on our website.

## **NOTICES**

- ★ Please check the leaflets and noticeboards in our reception area for details of local and community events, holiday childcare and support for children's health issues.
- ★ You may remember Josh's video, which made it to the finals of the Charity Film awards. All votes have now been reset to zero, so Josh's family are asking for your support again. Healthwatch Essex are the only local charity in his category so they need Essex people, clubs and companies to get behind him to get him to the final and make his dream come true! You can vote at <a href="mailto:charityfilmawards.com/videos/joshua-his-healthwatch-hero">charityfilmawards.com/videos/joshua-his-healthwatch-hero</a>

## **ATTENDANCE** (Target 97%)















"A very special place, where learning has no limits."