



# WRITTLE SCHOOLS NEWS

FRIDAY 9TH OCTOBER 2026

Dear Parents,

This week felt very autumnal as we celebrated our Harvest Festival with Year 1 and 2 at All Saints Church on Thursday morning. Thank you to the many parents and family members who attended and donated to our collection for the Link Club, we raised £141.51. Our thanks also go to Reverend Tony for hosting this event and reminding us that we all have much to be grateful for at this time of year. Both schools are collecting donations for Chelmsford Foodbank during the Harvest season. There is a list of items they would love to receive below, please drop these off at either office. Thank you in advance for your support.

On Tuesday morning, 23 children from Year 4 had a very enjoyable morning playing Tag Rugby at ARU Writtle. After a brisk walk down to the playing fields, the children were put into two teams and played a number of games. The children played really well with all of them showing great sportsmanship. It was a very active morning on a beautiful sunny day and everyone came back full of beans! Well done to everyone who took part.

Many of our Year 6 children are visiting new schools at the moment, a reminder that the [deadline for secondary applications](#) is 31st October 2026. After half term we will hold further [open days at the Infant School](#), as well as meetings at the Junior school for children starting Year 3 in September 2027. The primary school application window runs from [9th November to 15th January](#).

Have a lovely weekend, take care and for those of you running the Chelmsford Half/ Full Marathon, good luck and I may see you there.

*NP Taylor*

## LINKS TO IMPORTANT INFORMATION

CLUBS - Our clubs timetable and booking details are here: [Infant School](#) | [Junior School](#)

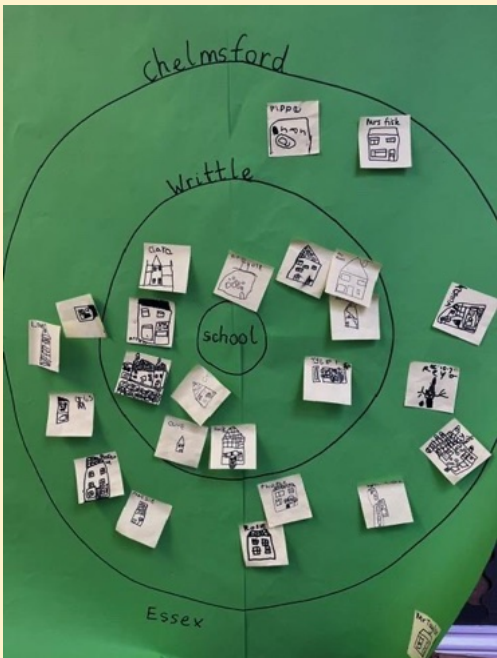
SCHOOL LUNCH MENU - [Please click here for our school menu, w/c 12th Oct is Week 3](#)

COMMUNITY NEWS - [Please click here for local events, resources and charity updates.](#)

## CELEBRATIONS!

|                                                                                   |                             |                           |                             |                                 |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|
|  | SQUIRRELS - Marta, Robert   |                           | FOXES - Eli C, Brody        |                                 |
|                                                                                   | TURTLES<br>Abigail, Fynnley | PARROTS<br>Charlie, Olive | DOLPHINS<br>Teddy and Emily | SHARKS<br>Ellie, Simeon, Hallie |
|  | 3LS - Kitty                 | 3RT - Noah                | 4SW - Darcy                 | 4KH - Martha                    |
|                                                                                   | 5HA - Hayden                | 5JC - Henry               | 6SL - Mae                   | 6SH - Violet                    |

## NEWS FROM THE CLASSROOM

|           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
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| RECEPTION | <p>This week the children have been learning the next 4 graphemes - g,o,c,k. The children are really showing a love of learning phonics and try so hard with their letter formations. In our mastering number sessions, we have been exploring numbers up to 4 using the phrase '...1 and another 1, and another 1,...and... another 1 makes 4'. Have a great weekend!</p> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| YEAR 1    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | <p>Continuing with our wonderful book, <i>Super Duper You!</i> by Sophie Henn, we have been enjoying thinking about our families and homes. We all wrote messages on postcards for someone we love and decorated them with pictures of our homes.</p> <p>We also thought about our addresses and where we live in the country. We made a great display to represent this.</p> <p>We have been working on "less than" and "greater than" in maths with the help of some cheeky class puppets!</p> <p>In phonics, we have been revising our new alternative digraphs: ay / oy / ou / ea. We have been working hard, reading and writing words containing them. Have a lovely weekend!</p> |

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| YEAR 2 | <p>Year 2 have been busy singing Harvest songs and sounding fabulous all week. The children made us very proud at the church and we hoped you enjoyed our little harvest celebration if you were able to make it. Aside to all that lovely singing, the children have been learning to subtract from a two-digit number using their knowledge of number to help them. They have written some super recounts about the Harvest festival, added to their computer skills by importing pictures onto their document and have even proved their amazing fitness skills in circuit training. It's been another great week in year 2.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| YEAR 3 | <p>This week in year 3 we have been continuing our topic of 'Let's Grow into Year 3'. In English, we have been learning more about the Old Man and his fascinating invention - the Tin Forest - focusing on all the different verbs we have come across and using them in different tenses. In maths, we have completed our place value topic and have now begun addition; learning to add and subtract 1s, 10s and 100s.</p> <p>In our plant's topic, we have set up our hydroponics experiment (growing bean plants without soil) and concluded our germination investigation using cress seeds. In art we have produced some beautiful pieces inspired by the work of Georgia O'Keefe, using oil pastels and developing the technique of blending.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| YEAR 4 | <p>It has been another busy week in Year 4! In maths, we have been learning to round numbers to the nearest 10, 100 and 1,000, developing our understanding of place value through games and challenges.</p> <p>In English, we have been writing persuasive letters from rainforest animals to Amazon loggers, encouraging them to stop cutting down the trees. We have used emotive language, repetition, rhetorical questions and strong arguments to make our writing convincing.</p> <p>In PE, we have been enjoying Tag Rugby, developing our passing, attacking, defending and teamwork skills.</p> <p>We have also been working hard to improve our times tables, becoming faster and more confident with our multiplication and division facts.</p> <p>In art, we have been designing Christmas cards ready for printing and developing our drawing skills by creating colourful toucan pictures. What a fantastic week of learning!</p>                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| YEAR 5 | <p>Mike Culley from Space Horizons visited Year 5 on Monday 5th October. He shared with us his love and enthusiasm for science and space travel.</p> <p>We learnt about key figures in the space race, including some of the animals that went into space. Each class explored and handled meteorites and rock samples including lunar and martian samples. We were able to use robotic arms just like the astronauts on the I.S.S. and we looked at original American, English and Russian newspaper articles from 1969 about the moon landings. The was the chance to try and dock a space module onto the I.S.S. which was trickier than it looked.</p> <p>Mike was really excited to come to W.J.S. again and the children asked some amazing questions. During the week, we are continuing to look at our key artist Vincent Van Gogh. We are beginning our Starry Night paintings and we hope to share some of them soon.</p> <p>Parents' Evening is not too far away and we look forward to meeting you all and giving you the opportunity to share your child's work with them. Appointment times should go live next week.</p> |
| YEAR 6 | <p>As we continue our exciting journey through our World War Two topic, we have been exploring the idea of "Make Do and Mend" and finding out how people during the war had to be creative,</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |



resourceful and careful with the things they had. A huge thank you once again for all of your wonderful donations — they have been put to fantastic use and have really helped to bring this part of our learning to life!

We have now begun creating our very own wartime-inspired bunting, using fabric scraps and developing our sewing skills along the way. The children have been learning how to carefully thread needles, practise different stitches and join pieces of fabric together, while thinking about how people during the war would have reused and repaired materials rather than throwing them away. It has been wonderful to see their concentration, patience and creativity as they work on their individual pieces.

We are also thinking about how bunting would have been used to celebrate important moments and bring communities together. Our finished bunting will be a colourful reminder of the celebrations that took place when the war finally came to an end. We cannot wait to see all of our individual pieces come together to create one fantastic display — and, of course, to celebrate our own little victory when it is finished!

In the final week of term we will be celebrating VE Day and the children will be invited to wear World War II clothing, sharing food and dancing the war away. More details to follow.



## CHELMSFORD FOODBANK DONATIONS

### Food Items

Small jars instant coffee

Long-life fruit juice

UHT milk

Tinned meat

Instant mashed potato sachets

Tinned vegetables

Tinned potatoes

Tinned pulses, tinned spaghetti

Cup soups and tinned soup

Ketchup and mayo

Tinned rice puddings

Sponge pudding - long life

Instant custard sachets and tinned custard

Jam and spreads

Savoury crackers

Cereal bars and chocolate biscuit bars

Packets of sweets

*Please note: We have sufficient pasta and baked beans*

### Non-Food Items

Washing up liquid

Toilet rolls

Deodorant  
Shower gel  
Shampoo  
Conditioner  
Shaving foam  
Laundry tablets/pods  
Anti-bac and surface cleaners