



'BIRCHANGER BUZZ'

'Learn to Love, Love to Learn'

Friday 2nd December

Christmas Is Coming....

This week we started thinking about the season of advent – a time for getting ready for Christmas and, for Christians, a time for quiet reflection on the Christmas story and its meaning.

In school we have started opening our advent nativity and lighting our advent candle in assemblies.

Our school PTA are busy preparing for our Christmas celebration after school, 3.30 – 5.30pm on Tuesday 20th December. There will be cakes, crafts, carols and of course Father Christmas in the grotto!

Thank you to everyone who has agreed to donate toward the hamper raffles – sign-up sheets are in the playground. Could donations be brought into school next week please so hampers can be made up.

Children in Ladybirds and Hedgehogs Class are working hard on their nativity play. You will have received a letter about tickets for the performances on Tuesday 13th and Wednesday 14th December.

Clubs

Next week will be the last session for all clubs.

Next week is also the last swimming session for Year 2 and the last Forest School for Reception and Year 1. After Christmas, Year 3 children will be swimming and Reception and Year 1 children doing Forest School.

December Birthdays

Happy Birthday to Brett, Ben, Eva, Stanley, Maisie, Abbie, Alexander and Nieve who celebrate birthdays this month.

Parent Coffee Morning

I would like to invite parents to meet with me at an informal coffee morning on **Tuesday 6th December at 9am**. This is a termly event where I can give updates about the school and there will then be an opportunity for informal discussion and general questions about the school.

100 years of cubs

On 16th December it is 100 years since the cubs section of Scouting was formed. There will be celebrations in our local cub groups and cubs are invited to wear their cub uniform to school on Friday 16th December.

Class Assemblies

Parents are welcome to join us in our Friday assembly each week at 2.50pm when we celebrate the achievements of the children.

Our final class assembly of the term was today with Badgers Class sharing their learning. Dates for Spring Term class assemblies will be arranged in January.

Catering Assistant

TCS Catering, our school meals provider, are recruiting a catering assistant. Monday – Friday for 1 ½ hours a day, 7 ½ hours a week. For more details ask in the school office or contact TCS on 01474 338739.

Diary Dates

- Ladybirds and Hedgehogs Nativity Play – Tuesday 13th and Wednesday 14th December at 2pm
- Christingle Service in Church – Thursday 15th December at 9.30am
- School Visit to the pantomime – Monday 19th December at 1pm
- Christmas Parties – Wednesday 21st December

Term Dates

Autumn term on Wednesday 21st December at 3.15pm

Spring Term starts on Thursday 5th January at 8.45am

Full term dates for this year are below.

Term dates for 2017-18 can be found at

<http://www.essex.gov.uk/Education-Schools/Schools/Dates/Pages/Term-Times-Holidays.aspx>

Have a lovely weekend

Helen Coop

Essex County Council School Term and Holiday Dates for Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools

Academic Year 2016 - 17

September 2016							October 2016							November 2016							December 2016						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
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							31																				
January 2017							February 2017							March 2017							April 2017						
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9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28					27	28	29	30	31		24	25	26	27	28	29	30		
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May 2017							June 2017							July 2017							August 2017						
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15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
29	30	31					26	27	28	29	30			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30	31			
														31													

= Schooldays / Weekends

= School holidays

= Bank holidays

INSET days