



'BIRCHANGER BUZZ'

'Learn to Love, Love to Learn'

Friday 3rd March

Book Week

Next week is our school Book Week. Badgers Class made an early start with a visit today to Bishops Stortford College to hear a talk from the author Marcia Williams. Next week children in Years 2, 4, 5 and 6 will also visit the college to hear talks from a range of authors. Please look out for letters about this and return promptly. Children will not be able to attend the visit if we have not received a reply slip.

Children in Ladybirds and Hedgehogs Class will be visited in school by the Perform Drama Group who present interactive retellings of traditional stories.

Book Sale - Tuesday 7th February at 3.15pm

Please remember to sort your bookshelves and dig out any good quality books you would like to donate to the second hand children's book sale. Come along on Tuesday to buy a bargain.

Dress Up Day

Friday is dress as a book character day and children can bring in their favourite book to read with a friend in our Big Read morning.

Online Safety

Year 5 and 6 children in Owls Class have been focussing on online safety in their Computing Lessons. Next week in their class assembly they will share some of their learning – all parents are welcome to this. Talking to the children they are developing an understanding of how to keep safe online – these are some of their ideas:

'If I see cyberbullying I press the 'report' button'

'I'm not allowed people I don't know as buddies'

'You must report bullies online'

'My mum is in the room when I'm online'

'I'm only allowed games my mum agrees'

'I use the games where you put your name and age then you're only allowed to use certain language or you get kicked off, no 'bad' swearwords'

'I only play games with no chat. I can play against other people but you don't chat with them'

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. Class assemblies will take place on the following dates, starting at 2.45pm

Friday 10th February – Owls Class

Friday 24th February - Badgers Class

Friday 3rd March – Hedgehogs Class

Friday 17th March – Ladybirds Class

'I only used my webcam with people I know'

Sainsbury's Vouchers

We are collecting Sainsbury's Active Kids vouchers again this year. Please bring vouchers into school and we are able to use them to buy PE equipment, playground games etc.

Snacks

Thank you for supporting our school in encouraging healthy eating. This week most children in Key Stage 2 have brought a piece of fruit to eat at playtime and Key Stage 1 children are provided with a fruit snack. As well as being healthier, this means we can be certain that snacks are 'nut free' and has also meant a considerable reduction in litter blowing around from cereal bar wrappers etc.

Emergency School Closures

In the event of a school closure due to bad weather or other emergency, School closures will be published on the Essex County Council website – [essex.gov.uk](http://www.essex.gov.uk) The direct link is:

<http://www.essex.gov.uk/Education-Schools/Schools/Dates/Pages/Emergency-School-Closures.aspx>

In the event of severe weather or other circumstances, parents should also check the school website where information regarding school closure will be updated.

Term Dates

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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5	6	7	8	9	10	11	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30				26	27	28	29	30	31		
							31																				

January 2017							February 2017							March 2017							April 2017						
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2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
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		
30	31																										

May 2017							June 2017							July 2017							August 2017						
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
1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4						1	2		1	2	3	4	5	6
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
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			
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= Schooldays / Weekends



= School holidays



= Bank holidays



INSET days