



# 'BIRCHANGER BUZZ'

*'Learn to Love, Love to Learn'*

**Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March**

On Tuesday and Wednesday this week we had our OFSTED inspection. Thank you to all the parents who completed the parentview survey and spoke with the OFSTED inspector on the playground. I was extremely proud of all our children during the inspection who were so eager to talk about all they enjoy in school and to share their learning. All the staff and governors have worked incredibly hard this week and I would like to thank them for their commitment and hard work. We are pleased with how the inspection went and look forward to receiving the report in a few weeks time. The report will be sent to parents as soon as it is available.

This really has been a busy week!

All children have taken part in special events for Book Week. Children in Years 2 to 6 have all visited the Bishops Stortford College Festival of Literature - listening to different authors and finding out how authors find their inspiration and craft their stories. Children in Ladybirds and Hedgehogs Class took part in drama workshops by 'Perform Theatre Group.'

Today we are all dressed up as book characters and children are enjoying showing off their costumes and sharing their favourite books with friends in different year groups.

Our Second Hand Book sale was a big success – thank you to parents who donated books and bought books.

We also had the Stort Valley Trust volunteers visit us for a WOW assembly, Year 4 children at Lord Butler Leisure Centre in Saffron Walden for Sports Hall Athletics and Reception children visited Tesco for a 'Farm to Fork' workshop.

## **Miss Shirley**

I would like to let you know that Miss Shirley will be leaving Birchanger School at Easter. After over 18 years working at the school Miss Shirley has decided it is time to step back and retire from her role here. Miss Shirley does an amazing job keeping our school clean and safe and doing lots of little extra jobs behind the scenes that keep things running smoothly. We all wish Miss Shirley well in her plans for the future and we will all miss her.

### ***Recruitment update from Mrs Sue Haggerwood-Bullen, Chair of Governors***

*We had a very good response to our Head teacher advert and have now shortlisted a number of candidates to interview at the end of February.*

*I would also like to take this opportunity, to thank the pupils, staff and Governors for all their hard work during this weeks Ofsted inspection and parents for taking the time to complete the Parent view survey. The report will be published in a few weeks.*

### **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.

### **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>

**Next week is half term. Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February is an INSET day. Teachers will be in school for training but children return to school on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> February.**

Have a lovely half term

Helen Coop

### **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 24<sup>th</sup> February - Badgers Class

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March – Hedgehogs Class

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March – Ladybirds Class

# 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
			1	2	3	4						1	2		1	2	3	4	5	6				1	2	3	4
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						
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			1	2	3	4	5			1	2	3	4	5						1	2
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			
														31													

= Schooldays / Weekends

= School holidays

= Bank holidays

INSET days