



# 'BIRCHANGER BUZZ'

*'Learn to Love, Love to Learn'*

## **Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March**

It was lovely to welcome so many mums (and aunts and grandmas) to our Mother's Day lunch on Wednesday – I know the children enjoyed it. A big thank you to Cristina and Tracy for preparing a delicious lunch and the rest of the team for helping with the day.

### **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. Dates for next term's class assemblies will be arranged after Easter.

'Puppets Galore' presented their Easter Puppet show on Monday on the theme of 'What have eggs got to do with Easter?' There will be a Holiday Bible Club running in the Summer holidays from 7-11<sup>th</sup> August at Bishops Stortford College. For more details and to book a place see the website at [www.holidaybibleweek.co.uk](http://www.holidaybibleweek.co.uk)

Next week we will be celebrating Easter with our service in church on Thursday morning at 9.30am. Parents are very welcome to join us.

'Roots to Food' will be visiting us on Tuesday, with cookery workshops for children in Key Stage 2. Children will work in teams to prepare a healthy dish using mobile kitchen stations set up in the hall.

## **Parent Consultation Meetings**

Meetings were held this week for children in all classes. We hope you found the opportunity to look at children's work and find out about their progress useful and informative.

In July parents will receive a full written report on children's achievements and progress. If you do have any concerns about your child, teachers are always happy to discuss these with you or an appointment can be made to see Mrs Cook, our Special Educational Needs Coordinator.

## **KS1 SATs meeting**

On Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> April at 2.30pm Miss Lucas will be holding a short meeting for parents of children in Year 2 about the end of Key Stage 1 assessments and SATs tests.

## **Parent Coffee Afternoon - Monday 27<sup>th</sup> March at 2.15pm**

We will be holding our termly Parent Coffee Afternoon on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> March at 2.15pm. This will be an opportunity to discuss the OFSTED report and ask any questions you may have about this or other aspects of the school.

## Road safety

One of our neighbours called in to say she had been quite shaken when a toddler ran out in front of her car on Birchwood. This road does get very busy with school traffic and residents so please make sure you keep young children safe and don't let children wander across the road.

## Rude, Mean, Bullying.....

In Assemblies we have continued with our theme of anti-bullying. We talked about the difference between unintentional and deliberate hurt - when someone repeatedly does or says something hurtful that is bullying. Often there can be a 'power difference' such as age, size, understanding or popularity which makes the action bullying rather than a falling out between friends. Key Stage 2 children explored how banter can become bullying – if someone finds it hurtful then it is not banter. We are pleased that incidents of bullying at Birchanger are rare but it is important that children understand what bullying is so we can make sure children are safe now and in the future.

When someone says or does something *unintentionally* hurtful and they do it once, that's...

**Rude**

When someone says or does something *intentionally* hurtful and they do it once, that's...

**Mean**

When someone says or does something *intentionally* hurtful and they *keep doing it* - even when you tell them to stop or show them that you're upset, that's...

**Bullying**

## Planning Notice

You may have noticed a planning application sign up next to the school. This is because the planning permission for one of our two demountable classrooms needs to be renewed - there is no new building or demountable classroom planned but please do contact the school if you have any queries about this.

## 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>

## INSET days for 2017-18

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2017, Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2017 and Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2018 will be non-pupil INSET days. Two further INSET days will be set in due course.

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
			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