



'BIRCHANGER BUZZ'

'Learn to Love, Love to Learn'

Friday 7th October

On Monday we welcomed 'Sports For Schools' who ran an event involving the whole school. All the children took part in a fitness session with visiting GB athlete Sam Brearey and 'Sportivator' James cheering them on. A circuit of star jumps, press ups, leg drives and spotty dogs gave everyone a workout and Sam talked about how important, and enjoyable, exercise and fitness is. Sam then spoke to the whole school about the challenges he faced in his career as a sailor. He explained how he overcame disappointments and had to make sacrifices to be the best he could be. The children had some great questions about his inspiration and ambitions. Sponsor forms were sent home last week - if you would like to sponsor your child and contribute to this please could sponsor form and money be sent into school by Monday.

October Birthdays

Happy Birthday to Poppy, Jack, Marcus, Elliott, Archie, Alyssa, Anna-Maria, Sianna and Harry.

Attendance

Thank you to all parents who support children's learning by ensuring good attendance - we are pleased that overall our school attendance remains in line with National and Essex expectations and we have a reduced number of unauthorised absences.

Good attendance is important and has a clear impact on wellbeing, learning and achievement. You will have received a leaflet today with further information about attendance. Please come and see me if you have any questions about this.

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 11th November – Ladybirds Class Reception
Friday 2nd December – Badgers Class Year 3

Harvest Festival

Our Harvest Festival will be held at St Mary the Virgin church in Birchanger on Tuesday 18th October at 9.30am. All parents are welcome to join us.

This year we will again be collecting for East Herts YMCA - a charity that supports local young people.

Any donations of tinned and packet foods would be gratefully received to pass onto the YMCA. A list of suitable items is attached.

Harvest Tea

Wednesday 19th October at 2pm

We would like to invite grandparents, Birchanger residents and friends of the school to join us for a harvest tea.

Tea and cake served by children in the school hall with harvest songs performed by the school.

Please pass on this invitation to grandparents and neighbours who would like to come along.

Reminders:

Playground Equipment

The playground equipment is not supervised before or after school and children should not play on it at these times. The large castle is suitable for Key Stage 2 children, can parents please ensure the safety of toddlers by not allowing them on the equipment when waiting to collect siblings from school.

Medicines

If children need regular doses of prescription medicine (4 times a day or more) we are able to administer these in school. Please leave the medicine, in its original container, at the office and fill in a consent form. Unfortunately we are not able to administer non-prescription medicines. Please don't send children to school with medicines, including throat pastilles etc, in their bags. There are clear dangers if these are found and eaten by other children!

School Uniform

We have a huge amount of un-named uniform in lost property already. Please check names haven't washed out of clothes - we are able to quickly return named items.

Diary Dates

Our final non-pupil INSET day for the academic year has been set – Monday 20th February

Parents consultation meetings will be held on Wednesday 16th November 5 – 8pm and Thursday 17th November 3.30 – 5.30pm. Further details will be sent nearer the time.

Have a lovely weekend

Helen Coop

Open Morning Friday 4th November 2016

For prospective parents and children due to start school in September 2017.

Tours of the school from 9.30am with a short presentation and opportunity for questions at 10.15am.

Application is online at

<http://www.essex.gov.uk/Education-Schools/Schools/Admissions/Pages/Apply-Online.aspx>. The application system opens on 14th November.



Thank you for your support of our

East Herts YMCA Residents

Our food cupboard has no refrigerator and so therefore the following non-perishable items are very welcome:

- Pasta
- Tinned ravioli
- Tinned tuna
- Tinned spaghetti
- Baked beans
- Tinned meat (sausages, corned beef, meatballs)
- Instant noodles
- Pasta sauces
- Tinned fruit
- Tinned vegetables (sweetcorn, peas, potatoes, carrots, tomatoes)
- Rice
- Couscous
- Mayonnaise and other shelf-stable condiments
- Breakfast cereals
- 'Pour-over' sauces
- Crackers
- UHT/long life milk
- Biscuits
- Instant coffee
- Tea bags
- Tinned soup
- Spreads (jam, honey, peanut butter, marmalade, marmite)

The following toiletries are also very useful to our 'Crash Pad' residents:

- Toothpaste / Toothbrush
- Shower gel / Shampoo
- Deodorant
- Toilet Paper
- Comb / Brush
- Toilet bags

The residents, staff, trustees and volunteers are very grateful for any support you can offer.

Thank you!