



Dear families

Happy new year to you all. It has certainly been a wet and cold start to the new year but that has not dampened the fun and excitement of our new term and our new learning topics.

I would also like to take this opportunity to formally welcome Mrs Argent, our new Deputy Headteacher to our school. You will see Mrs Argent on our school gate in the morning. Please do say hello!

Today, you should have received new curriculum information about the learning your child will be doing over the spring term along with their knowledge organisers. This has been sent out via Studybugs.

As always, it is vital that, for progression and securing knowledge and skills, children attend school regularly. Breaks in attendance make learning difficult and gaps in knowledge appear, that are hard to close and have a lasting impact. Please do continue to send your child to school each day, even if they are "under the weather", have a cough, cold, sore throat, tummy ache etc. I promise we will take good care of them and let you know if we feel they are not coping and need to be at home. We are happy to administer top ups for Capol/Nurofen if needed to help them get through the day. We know that at this time of year, there are lots of viruses etc. going round and we want to do our best to keep children in school. Obviously, if your child is vomiting, please keep them at home.

This week, Year 2 used role-play, photographs on the board and a special script to imagine we were on a summer trip to the coast. We role played a coach ride, making sandcastles, exploring the sea wall and more. We spoke about the things we saw that are physical features in geography and human features in geography.



Traveling on the coach



Building sandcastles



Swimming in the sea



Enjoying an ice cream!

In year 4 this week, the children have been looking at landscapes as part of their learning in art. They researched some well-known landscape artists and used a viewfinder to focus on a specific area of the paintings, recreating them using pencil. Here are some fantastic examples by Elsie and Marcie.



Looking up at the lighthouse



Feeling sleepy on the way back to school!

This week, in Year 1, we have been introduced to our 'Bright Lights, Big City' topic! We have looked at different categories of landmarks in Geography, including places of worship, entertainment venues, engineering structures and physical feature landmarks. In science, we talked about the seasons and went on an environment walk where we collected some items to use in other lessons. We used the leaves, twigs and stones we collected to create some transient art of weather symbols - we had some brilliant rainbows, clouds with rain droplets, snowflakes and (wishful thinking) some sun!



Have a wonderful weekend.

ParentPay

Please ensure you keep your ParentPay account in credit to cover any dinners booked for your child.

If your account accrues arrears of two meals (£4.80) your child WILL NOT be able to book any further school dinners and you MUST provide them with a packed lunch until the arrears are cleared.

School Dinner Menu - Week Two

12th - 16th January 2026

Monday

Spaghetti Bolognese

Green Pesto Pasta

Jacket Potato with Cheese & Beans

Egg Mayo Wrap

Seasonal Fruit Medley

Tuesday

Chicken Curry

Seasonal Vegetable Curry

Jacket Potato with Cheese & Beans

Jam Sandwich

Eton Mess

Wednesday

Roast Chicken, Yorkie Pud & Gravy

Winter Vegetable Pastry Parcel, Yorkie Pud & Gravy

Jacket Potato with Cheese & Beans

Cheese Baguette

Lemon Drizzle Cake

Thursday - Census Day

Pepperoni Pizza

Cheese & Tomato Pizza

Jacket Potato with Cheese & Beans

Turkey Bap

Chocolate Doughnut

Friday

Fish Fingers

Veggie Fingers

Jacket Potato with Cheese & Beans

Ham Wrap

Fruity Friday

Fairhouse Weekly Attendance Table

Elephants	94.8%
Pandas	86.8%
Hedgehogs	93.8%
Tigers	85.2%
Macaws	90%
Rhinos	98.9%
Jaguars	94.6%
Vaquitas	95.7%
Belugas	87.9%
Sea Otters	92.1%
Gorillas	90.3%
Saolas	96.6%
Galapagos Penguins	89.3%
Sea Turtles	91.3%

Well done to Rhinos (KS1) and Saolas (KS2) who have earned the company of our attendance bears Fred and Freda in class next week. Also to Rhinos who have earned a spin on the attendance prize wheel for achieving over 98% attendance this week. Well done!



A special mention to the children below who have displayed some of our core values this week:

Class	Child	Core Value
Galapagos Penguins	Ava-Rose	Responsibility
Sea Turtles	Alina	Kindness
Gorillas	Annie	Responsibility
Saolas	Jayden	Kindness
Belugas	April	Responsibility
Sea Otters	Casey	Kindness
Jaguars	Lenny N	Responsibility
Vaquitas	Finley	Responsibility
Macaws	Emira	Responsibility
Rhinos		
Hedgehogs	Maddison	Responsibility
Tigers	Ryan	Respect
Elephants	Franklin	Responsibility
Pandas	Ivy	Responsibility



Dates for your Diary



Monday, 12th January 2026

Year 6 Knife Crime Workshop

Thursday, 15th January 2026

Multiplication Tables Check Parent Workshop
9.15am & 2.40pm

Monday, 19th January 2026

KS1 Rugby Workshop

Tuesday, 20th & Wednesday, 21st January 2026

Reception Weigh, Measure & Vision Check

Monday, 26th January 2026

KS2 Rugby Workshop

Wednesday, 11th February 2026

Talking So Your Children Will Listen Workshop - 9-11.30am

Thursday, 12th February 2026

Berlesduna Spelling Bee

Monday, 16th - Friday, 20th February 2026

Half Term

Monday, 23rd - Friday, 27th February 2026

Scholastic Book Fair - More info to follow

Wednesday, 25th February 2026

Young Voices Concert at the O2 Arena

Tuesday, 3rd March 2026

Year 5 Trip - Lambourne End

Thursday, 5th March 2026

World Book Day

Thursday, 12th March 2026

Berlesduna Science Challenge

Wednesday, 18th March 2026

Year 6 Crucial Crew Workshop

Wednesday, 18th & Thursday, 19th March 2026

Parent's Evening - More info to follow

Friday, 20th March 2026

Comic Relief / Red Nose Day

Monday, 30th March - Friday, 10th April 2026

Easter Holidays

Wednesday, 15th April 2026

Setting Boundaries Workshop - 9-11.30am

Thursday, 30th April 2026

Berlesduna Orienteering Event

Monday, 4th May 2026

Early May Bank Holiday

Monday, 11th - Friday, 15th May 2026

Year 6 SATS

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club **MUST** be pre-booked via ParentPay. Bookings should be made 24hrs in advance.

Breakfast club runs from 8am - 8.40am and costs £2 per child per day. Last entry is at 8.15am.

Parents **MUST** accompany their child to the main doors by the office where they will be met and registered by a member of staff. Various breakfast options will be available such as cereal, toast & crumpets as well as fresh juice & milk.

Parking in the local area

Please drive with caution and be aware of children outside the school, there have been a few near misses with vehicles driving and reversing at speed.

Please also be considerate of our neighbours when dropping off and collecting your children from school. We have received a number of complaints from local residents due to parents parking on & blocking the entrances / driveways at Fairhouse Court and Napier Close at drop off and pick up times.

Fairhouse Primary School & TESCO

The Fairhouse Eco-Council would like to ask for your support please. We have been nominated within the local area to receive the blue tokens via customer votes for our Wildlife Garden Project.

If we are successful the school will be award up to £1,500 towards this project. We really need your support to achieve this as the more votes we get the more likely we are to succeed. Every time you shop you are awarded a blue token.

If you would like to help us, please give us your vote!! You can find our blue token boxes within the following Tesco stores:

114 Rayleigh Express SS6 7BY
3060 Pitsea Extra SS13 3JU

3264 Wickford Silva Island Express SS12 9NR
3448 Wickford Southend Road Express SS11 8EE
5377 Benfleet Road Express SS7 5TJ
6516 Rayleigh London Road Express SS6 9BN

You are able to vote for this project from the 1st October 2025 - mid January 2026

If you would like more information about this project please contact the school office.
Thank you for your continued support.

**Stronger
Starts.**

Important information - Term time holidays

Improving school attendance is a key priority for all schools across Essex. Where families choose to take a **family holiday during term time, this can detrimentally impact a pupil's progress and can prevent them** from fulfilling their true academic potential. Our school attendance policy, available via our school website, clearly sets out the process that parents should follow if they wish to apply for leave during term time. Please note that applications should only be made, if you feel that there are exceptional circumstances which mean that the leave cannot be taken during the school holidays. We would ask all parents to note that, where families choose to go on holiday during term time and the absences are coded as unauthorised, Essex County Council may not issue penalty notices and may instead proceed straight to prosecution and place the case directly before the Magistrates for their consideration in court. If found guilty by the Magistrates, parents could face a fine of up to £2,500 and/or 3 months imprisonment.

Studybugs

Studybugs

Fairhouse are using a more efficient and secure system for messaging parents, called Studybugs. The website & app has an easy to use messaging service which allows us to set up a chat feature with parents to notify you of anything you may need to know about and answer any queries you may have. It is also our absence line service allowing parents to easily notify school of their child's absence.

Please download the free Studybugs app, or register on the Studybugs website.

If you need any assistance in setting this up on your phone, please call into the school office and we will be happy to help.



Break Time Snack

Our snack shop has a range of healthy snacks available daily. Each item costs 50p and children are limited to one item each. If you wish to send your child in with a snack from home please do try to make sure it is something from our approved snack list.

Key Stage 1 children will continue to receive a piece of fruit as part of the healthy schools initiative.



School Uniform

Our school uniform consists of the following:

- Grey trousers, skirt or pinafore.
- White polo shirt
- Bottle green jumper or cardigan.
- Grey tights.
- Black, grey or white ankle socks.
- Grey shorts or green and white checked summer dress in summer months.
- Black school shoes or **ALL BLACK** trainers (including black soles - no big logos or brand names).

Leggings are **NOT** part of the school uniform and should **NOT** be worn to school.



Essex County Council Libraries this is a digital poster, please do not print



SEND Support Drop-in

Basildon Library

Tuesday 20 January, 11am to 12noon

- A free service for parents and carers wanting information, support or assistance with issues surrounding parenting and advocating for children with special needs and disabilities
- Representatives attending from SNAP, SPACE, The Essex Child and Family Wellbeing Service, and the NHS Children's Continence Service. This drop-in is supported by Brave
- No booking or diagnosis required. Children are welcome



libraries.essex.gov.uk

Essex County Council Libraries



Winter Reading Challenge

10 January to 22 February

Join at your local library!




libraries.essex.gov.uk

[facebook](https://www.facebook.com/essexlibraries) [instagram](https://www.instagram.com/essexlibraries) [youtube](https://www.youtube.com/essexlibraries) [essexlibraries.org.uk](https://www.essexlibraries.org.uk)

Essex County Council

ESSEX YEAR OF OPPORTUNITY

COMPASS

A partnership of domestic abuse services providing a response in Essex

Essex Domestic Abuse Helpline:

0330 333 7 444

Make a referral:


or

General enquiries: enquiries@essexcompass.org.uk

Essex Wellbeing Service

Find out more at:
essexwellbeingsservice.co.uk

or contact us on:
0300 303 9988

Below 90%
Serious Concern.
Persistent absence.

90 - 95.9%
Concern. Low
Attendance.

At least 96%
Expected
attendance.

**Expected attendance means
having no more than seven
days off this school year!**

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

CLICK HERE TO BOOK



Premier League Disability Football

INCLUSIVE U'S FOOTBALL CAMP

WHO? Young people aged 5-16 with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities
WHEN? Tuesday 27th May & Wednesday 28th May, 10am-2pm
WHERE? Shrub End Community and Sports Centre, CO2 9BG
COST? Earlybird price is £30 for both days or £18.50 for one day.

WHAT TO EXPECT?

- **Expert Coaching:** sessions will be led by our FA-qualified coaches, who are experienced in working with SEND players.
- **Skills Development:** enhance your skills through fun football drills, including passing, dribbling, shooting and match play.
- **Special Guests:** meet Chelsea's Premier League players and club mascot Kicker the Eagle!
- **Exciting Rewards:** every participant will receive a Chelsea's Premier League t-shirt, with additional medals and trophies available to be won.