



Dear families

Firstly, I would like to wish Eid Mubarak to all our Muslim families who are celebrating Eid-UI-Fitr today!

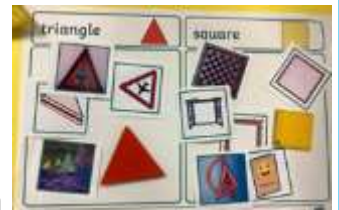
This week, some of our children have had some great adventures.

On Tuesday, our year 2 children took a trip to Basildon library. Before the visit, children were given forms that allowed their parents to sign them up for a free library card. This card was then waiting for them when they arrived. Those that already had their card could bring it with them and borrow an extra book. The children all walked beautifully there and back in the sunshine and enjoyed story time in the library's huge, well-stocked children's section. They were able to use the sensory equipment and explore all the different sections of children's books, taking those that interest them most and having a good read on their own or with a friend. Please remember that a library card is completely free, can be organised in just a few minutes and allows children to borrow up to FOURTEEN BOOKS for three weeks! Basildon Library is open until 5 o'clock after school every day and is open 9-5 on Saturdays. They also run lots of free, fun events for families.

On Thursday 19th March the children in year 5 had a fantastic opportunity to visit Woodlands school to see their performance of Shrek Jr. The children had an incredible time and were blown away by the talented performers.



EYFS have been busy, busy, busy this week. Our book of the week is 'If I had a Dinosaur'. On Wednesday, the children all worked together to build a huge train track. They explored and discussed the best ways to connect and test using trial and error. In



maths they have been learning all about 2D shapes and their properties, exploring the EYFS environment inside and outside. In music we have been listening to different genres of music and learning to play the glockenspiels.

This week in Year 3, pupils explored D&T mechanisms by learning all about axles. They put their new knowledge into action by designing and building their own moving carts. The children showed fantastic resilience as young engineers—working together, testing ideas, and solving problems with creativity and determination. Well done, Year 3!

Our year 4 children continued their journey with the Archie Project this week. The Archie project, is designed to raise awareness of dementia and promote dementia-friendly communities by linking primary schools, care homes, sheltered housing, businesses, and community members. Central to the project is Archie, a brightly coloured knitted scarecrow, which serves as a comforting and familiar figure for people living with dementia. The mascot helps illustrate the effects of dementia in a relatable way, making it easier for children and adults to understand the condition. The children visited the residents of Mundy House and took part in storytelling, board game playing and discussions, sharing memories and interests. These interactions help children gain confidence in communicating with older adults and develop a deeper understanding of dementia, while residents benefit from social engagement and intergenerational companionship. Our children demonstrated such a fantastic sense of connection and empathy and were an absolute credit to themselves.



This week, Year 6 have been busy planning a powerful piece of historical writing based on the Titanic. Taking on the role of a survivor, the children have carefully considered whether their character travelled in 1st, 2nd or 3rd class, using this to shape their experiences and viewpoints. They have thoughtfully planned two contrasting diary entries: one set aboard the Titanic before the disaster, and another written after the sinking. Through this, pupils are exploring how emotions can change dramatically, capturing both the excitement of the journey and the fear, loss and reflection that followed.

I would like to say how wonderful it was to see so many of you come along to our parents' evenings this week. I hope you found the information sharing useful.

Finally – it was great to see so many people joining in the fun of Comic Relief/Red Nose Day today. It was wonderful to see so much red – hear funny jokes (you can read some of our favourites below) and, of course, tuck into a red-nose themed cup-cake! We appreciate your donations to this great charity, together we have raised the fantastic sum of £400!

Have a great weekend everyone!

“Why is 6 afraid of 7?”

“Because 7 8 9!”

- Jordon, Rhinos

“How do we know the ocean is friendly?”

“Because it waves!”

- Archie, Pandas

“Why did Spider Man pick his nose?”

“To look for the Green Goblin!”

- Kiyaan, Elephants

“Knock knock”

“Who’s there?”

“Domino”

“Domino who?”

“Domino who who!”

- Finley, Vaquitas

“Why was the millipede late for school?”

“Because it was still putting on it’s shoes!”

- Samia, Sea Otters

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

23rd - 27th March 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

Rainbow Cake

Wednesday

Roast Chicken, Yorkie Pud & Gravy

Winter Vegetable Pastry Parcel, Yorkie Pud & Gravy

Jacket Potato with Cheese & Beans

Cheese Baguette

Lemon Drizzle Cake

Thursday

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	95.2%
Pandas	93.6%
Hedgehogs	96.2%
Tigers	91.8%
Macaws	87.9%
Rhinos	94.6%
Jaguars	93.8%
Vaquitas	91.4%
Belugas	95.2%
Sea Otters	95.8%
Gorillas	88.3%
Saolas	96.8%
Galapagos Penguins	97.3%
Sea Turtles	90.3%

Well done to Hedgehogs (KS1) and Galapagos Penguins (KS2) who have earned the company of our attendance bears Fred and Freda in class next week. Unfortunately, this week, attendance was lower than it has been recently, meaning that none of our classes achieved 98% to earn them a spin on the wheel.



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

Class	Child	Core Value
Galapagos Penguins	Saj	Courage
Sea Turtles	Enes	Responsibility
Gorillas	Connor	Kindness
Saolas	Joshua	Courage
Belugas	Adnan	Kindness
Sea Otters	Isabelle	Kindness
Jaguars	Elroi	Responsibility
Vaquitas	Osaze	Kindness
Macaws	Ioana	Responsibility
Rhinos	Harry D	Kindness
Hedgehogs	Mahbubah	Responsibility
Tigers	Teddie	Courage
Elephants	Ruben	Kindness
Pandas	Roman	Responsibility



Dates for your Diary



Wednesday, 25th March 2026

Year 6 Weigh & Measure

Thursday, 26th March 2026

SEN Coffee Morning - 9am - 10am

Pupil Voice - British Values

Fairhouse Uniform Bank - 3.15 - 4.00pm

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

Easter Holidays

Wednesday, 15th April 2026

'Setting Boundaries' Parent Workshop - 9am - 11.30am

Thursday, 30th April 2026

Berlesduna Orienteering Event

New Intake 2026 Welcome Meeting 5 - 6pm

Monday, 4th May 2026

Early May Bank Holiday

Wednesday, 6th May 2026

EYFS Trip - Barleylands Farm Park

Monday, 11th - Friday, 15th May 2026

Year 6 SATS Week

Wednesday, 20th May 2026

Year 2 Trip - Hever Castle

Monday, 25th - Friday 29th May 2026

Half Term

Wednesday, 3rd June 2026

'Routines Rule' Parent Workshop - 9am - 11.30am

Year 1 Trip - Call of The Wild Zoo

Tuesday, 16th June 2026

Year 3 Trip - Colchester Castle

Thursday, 18th June 2026

Berlesduna Football & Netball Tournament

Wednesday, 24th - Friday, 26th June 2026

Year 6 Residential Trip - Danbury Outdoors Centre

Wednesday, 1st July 2026

Berlesduna Swimming Gala

Thursday, 2nd July 2026

Year 5 & 6 District Athletics

Monday, 6th July 2026

Year 4 Trip - Horniman Museum

Wednesday, 8th July 2026

Zones of Regulation Workshop - 9-11.30am

Thursday, 9th July 2026

Year 3 & 4 District Athletics

Friday, 10th July 2026

Fairhouse Summer Bounce Event 3.30 - 5.30pm

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.

SEN Coffee Morning

On Thursday 26th March at 9am, we will be holding our next SEN Coffee Morning for parents of children on our SEN register.

If you feel your child may have SEN needs and you would like to attend the event please do come along.

The Coffee Morning is an opportunity for parents of children with SEN to meet with Mrs Cooper (SENCO) and other parents of children with SEN in an informal atmosphere.

We will not have a guest speaker for this session, it will just be a nice opportunity for a cuppa & a chat and to check in with everyone before the Easter break.

We will provide plenty of tea & coffee and a few tasty treats so please do join us!



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 school tuck 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 make sure it is something from our approved snack list which can be found on our school website.

Key Stage 1 children receive a piece of fruit as part of the healthy schools initiative. They are not permitted to bring in their own break time snack.



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.



BERLESDUNA ACADEMY TRUST – VACANCIES

CHERRY TREE – EYFS TEACHER closing date 14th April
 FAIRHOUSE – SEN LEARNING SUPPORT ASSISTANT closing date 23rd March
 FAIRHOUSE – CLASS TEACHER closing date 14th April
 MERRYLANDS – LEAD TEACHER for AUTISM SPECTRUM CONDITIONS closing date 19th April
 MERRYLANDS – CATERING ASSISTANT closing date 17th April
 WHITMORE – CLASS TEACHER closing date 22nd March
 WILLOWS – CLASS TEACHER closing date 24th April

For more information and to apply for any of these exciting opportunities, please follow the link to our website [Vacancies - Berlesduna Academy Trust](#)



COMMUNITY FOUNDATION



CLICK HERE TO BOOK

Premier League
Disability Football

INCLUSIVE U'S FOOTBALL CAMP

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 touch runs.
- Special Guests: meet Colchester United players and club mascot Fido the Dog!
- Exciting Rewards: every participant will receive a Colchester United t-shirt and prize, with additional medals and trophies available to be won.

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? Ladybird price is £30 for both days or £18.50 for one day.

Essex Wellbeing Service

Find out more at:
essexwellbeingsservice.co.uk
 or contact us on:
 0300 303 9988



COMPASS

A partnership of domestic abuse services providing a response in Essex

Essex Domestic Abuse Helpline:

0330 333 7 444

Fully Funded School Support Course



STUDY SMART
Free Online Courses

Fully Funded Course



www.studysmartuk.online

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!**

Fairhouse Primary School Uniform Bank



The school Eco Council will now be running a uniform bank from the school.

Come and visit us after school at 3.15pm-4.00pm
On Thursday 26th March 2026



If you require any further information please speak to Ms Baldock or Mrs Blackwell

GO BONKERS

SUMMER INFLATABLE FUN DAYS!

EVENT TIMES 1-4PM

NORTHLANDS PARK, PITSEA
DD13 1DD

RUNWELL SPORT & SOCIAL CLUB, WICKFORD
DD11 7DA

LAKE MEADOWS, BILLERICAY
CM12 0BW

PRICES

2YRS AND UNDER
£4.00 PER SESSION
(TODDLER AREA ONLY)

3YRS AND OVER
£12.50 PER SESSION

IMPORTANT: CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF 8 YEARS MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A PARENT OR GUARDIAN OVER THE AGE OF 18

FOR DATES & MORE INFORMATION:

GOBONKERSINFLATABLES.COM



Essex Fire Museum Open Day

2026



29th and 31st Of March
10:30AM To 4:00PM

Fire Station, Hogg Lane, Grays
RM17 5QS



Book Now
Free Entry



Museum@essex-fire.gov.uk

Easter Fun at

THE HIVE COMMUNITY CAFÉ!

CHILDREN EAT FOR £1!

Colouring Competition -
WIN AN EASTER EGG!

Guess the Name
of the Bunny!

CRAFTS & ACTIVITIES

9.30 AM - 12 PM

WEDNESDAY 1ST APRIL 2026

EVERYONE WELCOME - YOUNG & OLD!

The Hive, 6 Honeypot Lane,
Basildon, SS14 2JZ