



Dear families

What a relief it is to be back at school with all our pupils and staff. It was a wonderful feeling to welcome everybody back on Tuesday. Children have been amazing and picked things straight back up with resilience and determination. Staff have planned learning carefully to support the transition back and the children have had a wonderful week. This week, the children have had creative curriculum day, which means additional time for more creative, messier learning opportunities. We have seen lots of painting and art work, and lots of food preparation and cooking!

In EYFS this week the children have continued with the story The Three Billy Goats Gruff. They have acted out the story in their role play using masks and costumes.

The children have been busy writing sentences and using capital letters, finger spaces and full stops. In Maths they have been focusing on number formation as well as one more than a given number. In Art they have



been painting on foil and mixing colours based around Starry Night and demonstrating their wonderful artistic skills. In phonics they are blending CVC words three times per day and are now becoming confident little readers. We have a brand-new construction area in our outdoor space and the children have been busy with tasks like building a house, car and super strong walls.

This week in Year 1 we have been looking for deciduous and evergreen trees around the school grounds in science. We have also been preparing to do some collagraphy by sticking down materials to create weather symbols ready to use them for printing next week.



Year 4 have been learning about the journey of a river in geography this week. They were able to identify the key features of a river, label and describe each part.

This week, Year 6 have been exploring Inuit art and printmaking, with a particular focus on the work of renowned Inuit artist Kenojuak Ashevak.

After learning about Inuit culture and studying Ashevak's distinctive style, pupils experimented with colour and design to create their own prints. They carefully cut their own stencils and used printing techniques to produce some beautiful pieces of Inuit-inspired artwork.

We hope you all have a wonderful weekend and look forward to seeing you all on Monday.

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 Three

9th - 13th February 2026

Monday

Homemade Beef Lasagne

Homemade Vegetarian Lasagne

Jacket Potato with Cheese & Beans

Turkey Bap

Seasonal Fruit Medley

Tuesday

Minced Beef & Onion Pie

Savoury Quorn Mince & Onion Pie

Jacket Potato with Cheese & Beans

Egg Mayo Wrap

Raspberry & Vanilla Cake

Wednesday

Roast Gammon, Yorkie Pud & Gravy

Quorn Roast, Yorkie Pud & Gravy

Jacket Potato with Cheese & Beans

Cheese Bap

Jam Tart Crumble

Thursday - Chinese New Year

Sweet & Sour Chicken Stir Fry

Veggie Sweet & Sour Goujons Stir Fry

Jacket Potato with Cheese & Beans

Jam Sandwich

Chocolate Doughnut

Friday

Chicken Nuggets

Veggie Nuggets

Jacket Potato with Cheese & Beans

Ham Baguette

Fruity Friday

Fairhouse Weekly Attendance Table

| | |
|--------------------|-------|
| Elephants | 96.2% |
| Pandas | 88.7% |
| Hedgehogs | 92.4% |
| Tigers | 87.8% |
| Macaws | 90.8% |
| Rhinos | 95.1% |
| Jaguars | 95.6% |
| Vaquitas | 96.5% |
| Belugas | 99.1% |
| Sea Otters | 98.3% |
| Gorillas | 94.3% |
| Saolas | 92.2% |
| Galapagos Penguins | 95.9% |
| Sea Turtles | 91.7% |

Well done to Elephants (KS1) and Belugas (KS2) who have earned the company of our attendance bears Fred and Freda in class next week. Also to Belugas and Sea Otters 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 | Brogan | Responsibility |
| Sea Turtles | Freddie | Kindness |
| Gorillas | Marcus | Responsibility |
| Saolas | Elif | Responsibility |
| Belugas | Ivy | Responsibility |
| Sea Otters | Bhagat | Responsibility |
| Jaguars | Shayan | Courage |
| Vaquitas | Jayde | Kindness |
| Macaws | Faheema | Responsibility |
| Rhinos | Oliver | Responsibility |
| Hedgehogs | Armanileigh | Courage |
| Tigers | Jacqueline | Kindness |
| Elephants | Katriel | Courage |
| Pandas | Marnie | Responsibility |



Dates for your Diary



Tuesday, 10th February 2026

Year 5 Library Visit - Saolas

Wednesday, 11th February 2026

Berlesduna Spelling Bee

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

Thursday, 12th February 2026

Year 5 Library Visit - Gorillas

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

Year 4 Library Visit

Tuesday, 3rd March 2026

Year 5 Trip - Lambourne End

Thursday, 5th March 2026

World Book Day

Thursday, 12th March 2026

Berlesduna Science Challenge

Tuesday, 17th March 2026

Reception Weigh & Measure

Wednesday, 18th March 2026

Reception Weigh & Measure

Year 6 Crucial Crew Workshop

Parent's Evening - More info to follow

Thursday, 19th March 2026

Parent's Evening - More info to follow

Friday, 20th March 2026

Comic Relief / Red Nose Day

Wednesday, 25th March 2026

Year 6 Weigh & Measure

Thursday, 26th March 2026

Pupil Voice - British Values

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

Monday, 4th May 2026

Early May Bank Holiday

Monday, 11th - Friday, 15th May 2026

Year 6 SATS Week

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.

FEBRUARY

HALF-TERM HOLIDAY CLUB

FAIRHOUSE PRIMARY SCHOOL, SS14 1QP

3 DAYS - 17TH - 19TH FEBRUARY, 10:00 - 2:00

£15 PER DAY / Free council funded spaces

Action Packed Activities

- Glow in the Dark Dodgeball
- Archery
- Axe Throwing
- Ultimate Frisbee
- Arts & Crafts
- Football

SCAN HERE

07707861027

southessex@sportscool.org





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).





BERLESDUNA
ACADEMY TRUST

BERLESDUNA ACADEMY TRUST – VACANCIES

ST NICHOLAS – SEND MIDDAY ASSISTANT closing date 9th February

WHITMORE – LEARNING SUPPORT ASSISTANT closing date 12th February

WHITMORE – MIDDAY ASSISTANT closing date 12th February

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

Essex Wellbeing Service

Find out more at:
essexwellbeingservice.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
WHERE? Tuesday 27th May & Wednesday 28th May, 10am-3pm
WHERE? Shrub End Community and Sports Centre, CO2 9BG
£15.50 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 skills, including passing, dribbling, shooting and much more.
- Special Guests: meet Calneborn United players and staff, musical artist, Edith the Dog and more.
- Exciting Rewards: money, certificates, trophies, United themed gear, with additional medals and trophies available to be won.

COMPASS

A partnership of domestic abuse services providing a response in Essex

Essex Domestic Abuse Helpline:

0330 333 7 444

MEGA CAMPS
KIDS DAY ACTIVITY CAMPS
CHILD CARE FROM 8am - 6pm
AGES 4 - 14
FEBRUARY CAMP 2026
SAVE ££'s - EARLY BIRD OFFERS END 31st JAN
MULTIPLE LOCATIONS THROUGHOUT ESSEX, SURREY & KENT

WALL CLIMBING
ANIMAL WORKSHOP
FENCING
ARCHERY & AXE THROWING
2026 DATES LAUNCHED
DIFFERENT MEGA ACTIVITIES, ARTS & CRAFTS AND SPORTS AVAILABLE EACH DAY
MEGA FUN AT A LOCATION NEAR YOU!
CHECK WEBSITE FOR LOCATIONS AND DATES
BOOK ONLINE NOW!
Ofsted Registered WWW.MEGACAMPS.NET
OR CALL 0333 012 4378
ALL OUR STAFF ARE DBS CHECKED

★K-POP DISCO★

HALF TERM HOORAY!

INTRODUCING OUR BRAND NEW
K-POP PERFORMERS

WEDNESDAY 18TH FEBRUARY 2026
START AT 2PM - 4PM



JOIN US AT PARTY
CENTRAL THIS HALF TERM
ENJOY AN AFTERNOON OF
SINGING, DANCING, GAMES,
AND FUN WITH FRIENDS!

Party Central Ltd, 25 Vikings Way,
Convey Island, SS8 9QR

Tickets £10
(purchase
tickets
online)

Essex Fire Museum Open Day

2026



17th and 22nd Of February
10:30AM To 4:00PM

Fire Station, Hogg Lane, Grays
RM17 5QS



Book Now 

Free Entry



Museum@essex-fire.gov.uk



February Half Term at Grangewaters



Discover your next adventure

| | MONDAY 16 FEBRUARY | TUESDAY 17 FEBRUARY | WEDNESDAY 18 FEBRUARY | THURSDAY 19 FEBRUARY | FRIDAY 20 FEBRUARY |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 9.30AM TO 11AM | Archery Climb Bushcraft | Archery Climb Longboat Sailing | Archery Climb Bushcraft | Archery Climb Bushcraft | Wiggly Bugs Bushcraft: Climb |
| 11.15AM TO 12.45PM | Archery Climb Canoe Raft | Archery High Ropes Canoe Raft | Archery Climb Wiggly Bugs | Archery Climb Longboat Sailing | Archery Bushcraft High Ropes |
| 1.30PM TO 3PM | Archery Climb Bushcraft | Archery Climb Bushcraft | Archery Climb Bushcraft | Archery Abseil Bushcraft | Archery Canoe Raft Climb |

All priced at £12
per person, per activity



To book go online at
grangewaters.co.uk

Grangewaters Outdoor Education Centre,
Buckles Lane, South Ockendon, RM15 6RS

 thurrock.gov.uk



Creative Family Fun Day

Join Creative Basildon and Eastgate Shopping Centre on
Saturday 14th February 2026, from 11am-3pm for a day of
FREE creative family fun!

Enjoy crafts and performances, the unveiling of a brand-new
light installation, and the launch of a two-week Owl & Cat
Trail around the centre — this is a day not to be missed.

Celebrate one year since Museum of the Moon visited
Basildon, inspired by the much-loved Owl & Pussycat clock.

