



Dear families

Welcome to the end of a sunnier week!

This week we opened our sandpits and the children are LOVING it! It was so wonderful to see so many children enjoying the sand together, digging tunnels, making sand castles and creating shapes and kingdoms in the sand. They were sticking well to the rules set out and a wonderful time is being had by all. We do ask for children to remove shoes to play in the sand so please try and label your child's shoes because many look just the same as each other. This is a particular problem for the younger children. Labelling them helps us to match the shoes to the right child.



Many children will be receiving 100% attendance stickers this week in EYFS – well done to all those with great attendance. The children in reception have been reading “Planting a Rainbow” and also completed many rainbow related activities. On Wednesday the children all took part in PE where they completed a mini marathon and ran around the field. In maths they have been subitising numbers between 5 and 10. In writing all the children were able to label the parts of a plant. Linked to our topic of Sunshine and Sunflowers, the children all explored the outside environment, collecting as many different types of leaves as they could find. They then created a huge leafy collage.

This week in Year 1 we planted some seeds and bulbs which we'll be watching grow this half term. The children chose whether to plant spinach, lettuce, poppy, sunflower seeds or onions bulbs. A few have already sprouted! We have also been learning about our school's history and how it has changed over time. In PE, we have been learning how to get in the ready position and keep score in games!



This week the children in year 5 have been investigating the properties of materials and making comparisons within science. In DT they have been analysing Greek architecture and learning specific technical vocabulary such as pediment, frieze and column. In maths they have been solving division problems using mental methods and short division.

Year 3 had a fantastic first experience of the Junior Mini Marathon on Thursday! There was great excitement in the air, with just a little trepidation beforehand – but it didn't last long. The children showed wonderful resilience and determination, cheering each other on every step of the way. Their team spirit really shone through as they encouraged and supported one another, proving what a supportive bunch, they are. We're incredibly proud to say that everyone completed their laps – what an achievement! Even more impressively, this all happened on the very same day as their swimming lesson. It's safe to say there were some very tired but very happy children by the end of the day; we bet they all slept well on Thursday night!

Year 4 have been busy planning their own exciting stories inspired by Ancient Egypt. They have been working hard to include expanded noun phrases, helping them to describe their settings and characters in rich detail. We are very impressed with their creativity so far and cannot wait to read their final drafts next week!

Year 6 have been fully immersed in their history learning this week, exploring the reasons why so many men volunteered to join the army during World War One. Using a range of sources, including video accounts from former soldiers, online research, and carefully selected texts, the children have developed a deeper understanding of the thoughts and feelings of those who signed up. They have worked thoughtfully to organise their ideas, ready to write a letter next week from the perspective of a soldier. In their planning, pupils have focused on incorporating a range of Year 6 writing features, and we are looking forward to seeing their creativity and historical understanding come to life in their final pieces.

This week, the Year 2 children explored prominent British monarchs as part of their history learning. They developed an understanding that, in the past, some monarchs held absolute power, meaning they could make decisions, rules, and laws without needing approval from others. Through whole class discussions, and engaging activities, the children learned about several well-known monarchs and began to compare their levels of power. They considered how different monarchs ruled and whether they had full control or shared power with others, such as Parliament. The children showed excellent critical thinking skills by making informed judgements about which monarchs had the most and least power. They worked collaboratively to rank the monarchs and were able to explain their reasoning using evidence from what they had learned. This learning helped the children build a stronger understanding of how leadership and power have changed over time in Britain.

Finally, it was great to see that Fairhouse made it to the Essex Live's top 10 schools in Basildon. There are a lot of schools in Basildon so we are very proud of this.

Have a wonderful weekend everyone!

Basildon's 10 best primary schools ranked by School Guide

1. Lee Chapel Primary School, Basildon
2. St Anne Line Catholic Junior School, Basildon
3. Greensted Primary School & Nursery, Basildon
4. Ryedene Primary and Nursery School, Basildon
5. St Teresa's Catholic Primary School, Basildon
6. Briscoe Primary School & Nursery, Basildon
7. The Willows Primary School, Basildon
8. Noak Bridge Primary School, Basildon
9. Kingswood Primary School and Nursery, Basildon
10. Fairhouse Community Primary School, Basildon

ESSEXLIVENEWS EDUCATION BASILDON

Mini Marathon 2026



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

27th April - 1st May 2026

Monday

Salmon & Sweet Potato Fishcake

Rainbow Omelette

Jacket Potato with Cheese & Beans

Ham Bap

Seasonal Fruit Medley

Tuesday

Chow Mein with Chicken Goujons

Chow Mein with Veggie Goujons

Jacket Potato with Cheese & Beans

Jam Sandwich

Chocolate & Raspberry Cake

Wednesday

Roast Turkey, Yorkie Pud & Gravy

Herby Quorn Fillet, Yorkie Pud & Gravy

Jacket Potato with Cheese & Beans

Egg Mayo Baguette

Ice Cream Tub

Thursday

Chicken & Spinach Pasta

Savoury Quorn & Spinach Pasta

Jacket Potato with Cheese & Beans

Tuna Bap

Treacle Sponge Pudding

Friday

Fish Fingers

Veggie Fingers

Jacket Potato with Cheese & Beans

Cheese Wrap

Fruity Friday

Fairhouse Weekly Attendance Table

Elephants	93.8%
Pandas	96.4%
Hedgehogs	95%
Tigers	92.3%
Macaws	96.1%
Rhinos	87.6%
Jaguars	96.6%
Vaquitas	97.9%
Belugas	95.8%
Sea Otters	97.4%
Gorillas	98.7%
Saolas	98.7%
Galapagos Penguins	95.7%
Sea Turtles	96.6%

Well done to Pandas (KS1), Gorillas and Saolas (KS2) who have earned the company of our attendance bears Fred and Freda in class next week. Also to Gorillas and Saolas 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 all displayed some of our core values this week:

Class	Child	Core Value
Galapagos Penguins	Noble	Responsibility
Sea Turtles	Courtney	Responsibility
Gorillas	Mason	Respect
Saolas		
Belugas	Sienna B	Kindness
Sea Otters	Oscar	Kindness
Jaguars		
Vaquitas	Callum	Responsibility
Macaws	Dominic	Responsibility
Rhinos	Tahaa	Responsibility
Hedgehogs	Blake	Responsibility
Tigers	Elleri	Responsibility
Elephants	Jade	Responsibility
Pandas	Ava	Respect



Dates for your Diary



Monday, 27th April 2026

Year 6 Residential Trip Parent Meeting - 4.30 - 5.30pm

Thursday, 30th April 2026

Berlesduna Orienteering Event
New Intake 2026 Welcome Meeting 5 - 6pm

Monday, 4th May 2026

Early May Bank Holiday - School Closed

Tuesday, 5th May 2026

Class Photos

Wednesday, 6th May 2026

EYFS Trip - Barleylands Farm Park

Monday, 11th - Friday, 15th May 2026

Year 6 SATS Week

Thursday, 14th May 2026

Free Play Session at 360 Play - More info to follow

Wednesday, 20th May 2026

Year 2 Trip - Hever Castle

Monday, 25th - Friday 29th May 2026

Half Term

Wednesday, 3rd June 2026

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

Friday, 3rd July 2026

Fairhouse Summer Bounce Event 3.30 - 5.30pm

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

Tuesday, 14th July 2026

Open Evening 3.30 - 5.30pm

Thursday, 16th July 2026

End of Term Disco's - More info to follow

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club MUST be pre-booked via ParentPay. Bookings can be made until 7am on the day.

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 are available such as a variety of cereal, toast, bagels, 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.

A weekend of wildlife discovery!



May Bank
Holiday
weekend



Family
Activities



Mann Wood, CM3 1PP
(just off the A131 at Great
Leighs, look for the sign!)

**SATURDAY 2ND MAY
FROM 10AM**

Join our friendly experts for hands-on adventures all day long:

- Butterfly Walk
- Fungi identification
- Plant and Wildflower Hunt
- Reptile Monitoring
- Bat Survey (from 7pm)

Family Forest Fun! Enjoy drop-in family activities.

**SUNDAY 3RD MAY
7:30AM - 10AM**

See wildlife up close with Bird Ringing & Small Mammal Surveying.



UNDER 13S
GO FREE!

Book
here

SCAN ME



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

BERLESDUNA – GOVERNOR/TRUSTEE closing date 22nd May 2026
 CHERRY TREE – SEMH ASSISTANT closing date 11th May 2026
 MERRYLANDS – HLTA closing date 10th May
 MERRYLANDS – PART TIME EYFS TEACHER closing date 10th May
 WHITMORE – ASSISTANT HEADTEACHER closing date 27th April
 WHITMORE – FAMILY SUPPORT OFFICER closing date 29th April
 WHITMORE – FIXED TERM CLASS TEACHER closing date 1st May

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



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!**

COMPASS

A partnership of domestic abuse services providing a response in Essex

Essex Domestic Abuse Helpline:
0330 333 7 444

Essex Wellbeing Service

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



First Lesson **FREE**



4 years old
to seniors welcomed

Wakarishin Ju-Jitsu

We run both junior & adult classes throughout
Essex 7 days a week

What you would gain from learning Traditional Ju-Jitsu?

- Learn self defence skills & raise interaction levels
- Boost your confidence & self esteem
- Improve self-discipline & the value of teamwork
- Improve your health & overall fitness
- Develop core values such as respect & courtesy
- Meet new friends






WEBSITE FACEBOOK SAFEGUARDING CODE DBS REGISTERED

FIND OUR LOCATIONS & TIMES WWW.WAKARISHIN-JUJITSU.COM

BASILDON KICK BOXING ACADEMY



DUTCH K1 KICKBOXING

Join one of the fastest growing martial arts clubs in the area

What We Offer :

- Opportunities To Compete
- Get Fitter & Stronger
- Nationally Recognised Grading
- Make New Friends
- Gain Confidence
- Improved Discipline
- Fully Inclusive Classes
- Nominated Sports Club Of The Year

FIRST LESSON IS **FREE**



SCAN ME!

MESSAGE US ON FACEBOOK OR INSTAGRAM TO GET BOOKED IN

CLASSES ARE HELD AT LAINDON COMMUNITY CENTRE, ASTON ROAD, SS15 6NX



1st Pitsea Rainbows Unit

Meets every Wednesday between 4.30 and 5.30 during school term times

If your daughter is interested, please contact:



Girlguiding.org.uk for more details and to register

Women Together

Join our Walk in the Woods Walk & Talk Walking Club!

Every Sat
10:15am – 12pm
Re-starting from
18th April

Thorndon Country Park
North Visitor Centre Entrance,
The Avenue,
Brentwood, CM13 3RZ

All women welcome.
Email WomenTogether.bas@gmail.com
if you'd like to attend

Essex Fire Museum Open Days 2026



Sunday 26th Of April
10:30AM To 4:00PM

Fire Station, Hogg Lane, Grays
RM17 5QS



Book Now >



Museum@essex-fire.gov.uk



SEND Parent Support Groups



Coffee Morning The Hive, United Reform Church, Honeypot Lane, Basildon	Tuesdays 14th April 5th May and 2 nd and 30th June 9.30am to 11.30am
Billericay Evening Support Group The Chantry Centre, Chantry Way, behind the High Street, Billericay	Thursdays 16 th April 14th May, 18 th June and 16 th July 8pm to 9.30pm
Wickford Coffee Morning Miracle House, Silva Island Way Wickford	Mondays 20 th April, 11 th May and 8 th June, 6 th July 9.30am to 11.30am
Wickford/Bas Evening Support Group St Peter's Church Hall, nr Sainsburys Wickford/Basildon	Thursday 23 rd April, 21 st May and 25 th June, 23 rd July and 27 th August 7.30pm to 9.30pm
1 to 1 Appointments Mother's Kitchen Cafe Felmores End, Pitsea	Tuesdays at 9.30am or 10.50am on 28 th April or 16 th June
Parent/Carer Gentle Relaxation Group Shotgate Hall, Wickford	2 nd and 4 th Tuesdays of the month 7.30pm to 8.30pm

Supporting Autism, ADHD, Anxiety, Dyspraxia, Dyslexia
No diagnosis required - Non-judgemental support
BOOKING ESSENTIAL - via our website

www.myotas.org - bookable activities

Email: info@myotas.org



Registered Charity No. 1184723



Join Us for a

Spring Bank Holiday & Family Fun Day

Crafts & Gifts Fayre

Saturday 23rd May
At Laindon Community Centre
10.30am - 7pm

You will find:

- * Inflatables,
- * Food, Cakes, Fudge, Sweets,
- * Pet Groomers, Clothes, Toys,
- * Sublimation, (make on the day)
- * Croc Charms,
- * Crystals

Refreshments with the Community Bar and loads more

Free Entry

This event is hosted by **Eller Creations Ltd**

AFTERSCHOOL CLUBS

GYM SCHOOL

Hourly classes Monday to Saturday after school

Great for **Beginners**

Children aged 4+

Learn moves & use different apparatus:

- Beam
- Bar
- Trampoline
- Floor
- Vault
- P-Bars
- Rings

Basildon Sporting Village & Eversley Leisure Centre

CALL TO BOOK!

01268 722479 or 01268 557771
or enquire online at www.southsexgymnasticsclub.com

WILD CATS

FREE GIRLS' FOOTBALL

HAVE FUN, MAKE FRIENDS, PLAY FOOTBALL

- LARGEST FA WILDCATS CENTRE IN THE AREA
- FREE FOR 4 TO 11 YEAR-OLD GIRLS
- OPPORTUNITIES TO JOIN TEAMS
- AWARD WINNING COACHES
- TRAIN AT BARLEYLAND, BILLERICAY
- EVERY SATURDAY 11:30AM TO 12:30PM
- ESSEX FA "WILDCATS PROGRAMME PROVIDER OF THE YEAR" 2020

FOR DETAILS EMAIL FCREDWINGGIRLS@GMAIL.COM OR CALL 07977 416 044

HADLEIGH YOUTH FOOTBALL CLUB

Players Wanted U11 For The 25/26 Season

- UEFA Qualified Coaching Setup
- New 3G Facility
- Relaxed, Family Orientated Club

Hadleigh Blues are a lower level, developing side, going into our 5th season.

We are a friendly, welcoming team that require attacking / forward thinking players for the transition to 9-a-side.

Training Thur 6-7pm & Sat 9-10am

If interested, then please contact Grant on 07524 505 640

We are Hadleigh Youth Football Club

Our aim is to bring a fun, friendly, learning environment for local children in the Hadleigh/Bentfleet area.

Long term player development is our objective, through enjoyable, technical based sessions.

Our commitment is to the players so they can have the best opportunity to develop into good young people and exciting footballers.

<https://www.hadleighyouthfc.com/>