



Dear families

Well, here we are at the end of a very long and very busy term. This week has been a very busy one all by itself. We have had so many happy children this week. On Monday, we have a visiting pantomime for Reception and key stage 1. We also took the children in key stage 2 to the Towngate Theatre to see a pantomime. All of the children had the most wonderful time. The children in key stage 1 watched in awe and loved the live performance. They sat so well and enjoyed every minute of entertainment.



The children in key stage 2 were in complete awe of the live performance in the theatre and especially the audience participation with Mr Howard. Their feedback included "This has been the best day of my life", "Can we please do this again?" and "That was the best day ever".



This is all only possible due to your generosity and the

generosity of our staff in giving time to fundraise. We continue to raise funds throughout the year in the hope that we can repeat this opportunity for our children again next year. Every penny we fundraise for school, goes back to the children to give them the extras that a school budget cannot give.

This week we also held our school discos and the children had a brilliant time – showing off their best dance moves and being wholly entertained. It was wonderful to see them all enjoying themselves.



Today, we had the privilege of taking key stage 2 children to the local church for a carol service. Some of our children were very brave and gave readings in church. The children have been practising their songs and sang these beautifully. They all enjoyed their church experience and it brought a lovely close to our Christmas celebrations at school.



We have finally drawn our raffles in school this week. There were lots of winners – you will have been notified if you were one of the lucky ones!

In other news this week: year 1 have been learning more about the seven continents this week. We have been completing facts files on each of them using a range of sources for our information. We have used globes, atlases and videos to get information on the climate and wildlife of each continent. We learnt how countries closer to the equator have a more tropical climate to those that are further away.



Year 6 children have been busy designing Father Christmas a brand-new, state-of-the-art sleigh! In their writing lessons, they carefully designed and annotated their ideas before writing a persuasive letter - packed full of persuasive features- to Father Christmas, convincing him to choose their sleigh.



Year 4 have been making healthy snacks as part of their DT topic. They made hummus, fruit skewers, vegetable sticks and fruity popcorn and used a range of cooking techniques like peeling, tearing, slicing and chopping. They were really tasty.



Today we say goodbye to Miss Bradford, who leaves us for a world beyond school. We also say goodbye to Mrs Hardy (for now – we are sure she'll be back!). We thank them both for their hard work and commitment to Fairhouse over the years. When we return, we will be joined by our new Deputy Headteacher, Mrs Argent. Please do say hello when you see her on the gate!

We wish all those celebrating, a very merry Christmas and wish you all a very happy new year. Have a wonderful break and we look forward to welcoming you all back to school on Monday 5th January.

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.

Dates for your Diary

Monday, 22nd December 2025 - Friday, 2nd January 2026

Christmas Holidays

Monday, 5th January 2026

Back to School

Wednesday, 7th January 2026

Zones of Regulation Workshop - 9-11.30am

Wednesday, 11th February 2026

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

Monday, 16th - Friday, 20th February 2026

Half Term

Wednesday, 25th February 2026

Young Voices Concert at the O2 Arena

Wednesday, 15th April 2026

Setting Boundaries Workshop - 9-11.30am

Essex County Council
Libraries

Winter Reading Challenge

10 January to 22 February

Join at your local library!

libraries.essex.gov.uk

Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube icons

Essex County Council
ESSEX YEAR OPPORTUNITY

WINTER SPORTS CAMPS

FAIRHOUSE COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL
LONG RIDING, BASILDON, SS14 1QP
22ND, 23RD, 24TH & 26TH DECEMBER, 10AM - 2PM

4 Action Packed Days
Activities include

- Archery
- Glow in the Dark Dodgeball
- Laser Tag
- Football
- Ultimate Frisbee

HAF PLACES **PARENT PAID**

FREE! **£15 Per Day**

HAF Places for Children who qualify for free school meals, includes lunch

southessex@sportscool.org [07707861027](tel:07707861027)

MEGA CAMPS

CHILD CARE FROM 8AM - 6PM
AGES 4-14

CHRISTMAS CAMP 2025

CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR DISCOUNTS AND OFFERS

INFLATABLE FOOT DARTS
KIDS FAVOURITE

AXE THROWING

NEF GAMES

INFLATABLE FUN

DIFFERENT MEGA ACTIVITIES, ARTS & CRAFTS AND SPORTS AVAILABLE EACH DAY

ST JOHNS SCHOOL BILLERICAY

BOOK ONLINE NOW!
WWW.MEGACAMPS.NET
OR CALL 0333 012 4378

Ofsted Registered
ESSEX YEAR OPPORTUNITY
ALL OUR STAFF ARE DBS CHECKED

BERLESDUNA ACADEMY TRUST – VACANCIES

CANEWDON – CLEANER closing date 6th January

CANEWDON – CARETAKER closing date 6th January

CANEWDON – MIDDAY ASSISTANT closing date 6th January

FELMORE – SEND LEARNING SUPPORT ASSISTANT/MIDDAY ASSISTANT closing date 4th January

MERRYLANDS – CLEANER closing date 6th January

ST NICHOLAS – CARETAKER closing date 8th January

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

COMPASS

A partnership of domestic abuse services providing a response in Essex

Essex Domestic Abuse Helpline:

0330 333 7 444

Make a referral:

AGENCY

or

SELF REFERRAL

General enquiries: enquiries@essexcompass.org.uk

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.

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!

Essex Wellbeing Service

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





COMMUNITY FOUNDATION



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 much more.
- Special Guests: meet Colchester United players and club mascot Eddie the Eagle!
- Exciting Rewards: every participant will receive a Colchester United signed shirt, with additional medals and trophies available to be won.

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