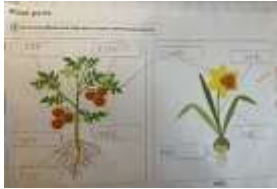




Dear families

In EYFS this week, the children have been reading Shark in the Park and discovering interesting facts all about sharks. Did you know..... sharks can lose more than 30,000 teeth in a lifetime?! In P.E the children competed in relays and really enjoyed being part of a team where they could cheer for each other. In maths they have been exploring what two numbers make 10. Linked to our topic of Shadows and Reflections, the children have been observing their shadows in the glorious sunshine in our outside area. They have also been making magical potions using our giant cauldron adding petals and scents like cinnamon etc.



We've had a great time this week in Year 1. Our cress and sunflowers are growing particularly well, and we've loved identifying wild plants around the school as well as labelling planted plants. In PE, we've started mastering holding and using a racket as part of our net and wall games unit. We also spent some time in



PSHE celebrating different types of families, discussing how every family is unique and special.

Year 2 explored micro habitat in the Animal Survival unit this week. They explored the garden areas of Fairhouse Primary to investigate how many micro habitats we have and what creatures live in them. They saw beetles, ants, worms and many more!

This week, year 4 have been making the most of the lovely sunshine during their PE lessons. The children have been developing their catching and striking skills through a range of fun and active games. They have been practising throwing and catching with accuracy, improving hand-eye coordination, learning how to strike a ball using bats and rackets, and working on teamwork and communication. It has been wonderful to see everyone staying active, building confidence, and enjoying outdoor learning together.

This week the children in year 5 have been investigating the properties of materials and conducted an experiment measuring the change in temperature of water within their science lessons. In maths, they completed their unit on division and began their new unit learning about common factors and multiples. In writing, they completed their Greek God biographies and took pride in writing it into their publishing books.

Year 6 have been working incredibly hard as they prepare for their upcoming SATs exams. In maths, the focus has been on angles, with pupils practising how to measure them accurately and calculate missing angles in a range of polygons. Their determination and positive attitude towards revision have been fantastic to see, and they should be very proud of the effort they are putting in.

Year 6 Parents and Carers will be aware that the KS2 SAT's exams will be taking place from Monday 11th - Thursday 14th May. A Studybugs message has been sent out today with more information regarding the exam timetable and also a FREE breakfast club that will be available to all Year 6 pupils during SAT's week. We do hope you will take up the offer of the FREE breakfast club for your Year 6 child as it's a great way for them to have a relaxed start to their day and spend time with their peers with Year 6 staff on hand to help settle any nerves. It also helps ensure they are in school, on time with a good tummy full of food.

The children who signed up for our Performing Arts Club are working very hard to put on an original production of a show called 'The Worry Circle'. They will be performing this in July to an audience of their parents, siblings and peers. This will be a ticketed event at a cost of £2 per adult and free entry for children, all proceeds raised will be put towards purchasing props for future performances and a school banner for our Young Voices Choir to display when they attend the O2. We do hope that as many of

you as possible will come along to support our budding young performers and witness their emerging talent in action! Tickets will be on sale towards the end of June, more information about this will be shared with you all in due course.

Last week, our year 5/6 girls team took part in their second league match of the academic year against Northlands Primary School. Despite being a fairly new team, the girls fought gallantly and made tremendous progress throughout the match. A big shout out to Ella in year 5 who worked tirelessly throughout. Well done, girls!



On Thursday a group of six year 4 children walked to The Willows School to partake in a trust wide Orienteering event. They were split into 6 groups and had to work together to look at picture clues of where to find a letter and a colour. Once they had found all the letters they had to work together and find the worded answer. They all successfully found that the answer was: 'Search and you will find'. Congratulations to Oscar C who came first, Ollie who came second and Oscar P who came third. A huge well done to all who took part in the event including April, Ivy and Samia.

Recently we appear to have a lot of children arriving at school after the gates have closed each morning. Entry to school after 8.50 am is classed as "late". We regularly have large numbers of children arriving late to school. This affects our office staff hugely as they are disrupted from their tasks in order to see children in, take lunch orders and escort them round to class. It also means that children do not get the same start to the day as everyone else, missing out on early morning learning and arriving late to their lessons. Please ensure your child arrives at school as close to 8.40 am as possible to give them the best start to the day. If you would like to talk about any issues you have with arriving on time, please do speak with a member of our team. In the coming weeks we will be booking meetings with individuals with regular late attendance to unpick any issues that may be contributing to their lateness.

Finally, please remember that on Tuesday we have our class photographs. This is a lovely way of capturing memories of your child with their classmates. You have got to be in school to be part of it so please make every effort for your child to be in school on time so they can be part of the class photos.

I hope you all enjoy a wonderful bank holiday weekend and I look forward to seeing you all back in school on Tuesday.

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 One

5th - 8th May 2026

Tuesday

Cheese & Ham Quiche

Cheese & Onion Quiche

Jacket Potato with Cheese & Beans

Chicken Baguette

Pancakes & Sauce

Wednesday

Roast Chicken, Yorkie Pud & Gravy

Quorn Roast, Yorkie Pud & Gravy

Jacket Potato with Cheese & Beans

Cheese Wrap

Pineapple Upside Down Cake

Thursday

Mexican Beef Chilli

Veggie Mexican Chilli

Jacket Potato with Cheese & Beans

Jam Sandwich

Ice Cream Tub

Friday

Fish Fingers

Veggie Fingers

Jacket Potato with Cheese & Beans

Egg Mayo Wrap

Fruity Friday

Fairhouse Weekly Attendance Table

Elephants	87.9%
Pandas	95.6%
Hedgehogs	96.7%
Tigers	91%
Macaws	95.4%
Rhinos	88.6%
Jaguars	97.6%
Vaquitas	95.5%
Belugas	99.7%
Sea Otters	98.1%
Gorillas	96%
Saolas	93.5%
Galapagos Penguins	95.3%
Sea Turtles	98.3%

Well done to Hedgehogs (KS1) and Belugas (KS2) who have earned the company of our attendance bears Fred and Freda in class next week. Also to Belugas, Sea Otters and Sea Turtles 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	Teo	Respect
Sea Turtles	Ryan	Respect
Gorillas	Florence	Responsibility
Saolas	Donald	Responsibility
Belugas	Mohammed	Courage
Sea Otters	Destiny	Courage
Jaguars	Elliott	Responsibility
Vaquitas	Logan	Kindness
Macaws	Henry	Responsibility
Rhinos	Louise	Courage
Hedgehogs	Lewis	Courage
Tigers	Bobby	Responsibility
Elephants	Dulcie-Lea	Courage
Pandas	Tymon	Responsibility



Dates for your Diary



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 June 2026

Year 4 Class Assembly - 2.40pm

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

Tuesday, 7th July 2026

The Worry Circle Performance - 4pm

Wednesday, 8th July 2026

Zones of Regulation Workshop - 9-11.30am

Thursday, 9th July 2026

The Worry Circle Performance - 4pm

Thursday, 9th July 2026

Year 3 & 4 District Athletics

Tuesday, 14th July 2026

Open Evening 3.30 - 5.30pm

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.



Activities / Achievements



Marnie earned a medal this week in her Gymnastics Class. Well done Marnie!

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
 MERRYLANDS – AUTISM SUPPORT CENTRE LEAD TEACHER closing date 13th May
 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

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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

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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**



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MESSAGE US ON FACEBOOK OR INSTAGRAM TO GET BOOKED IN

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MAY HALF-TERM SWIMMING COURSE



£40 for 4 Days

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Small focused classes
Experienced instructors
Starting from 3 years and over, adults.
Lovely venues

0333 577 6362 | allaboutswimming.co.uk

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

A weekend of wildlife discovery!

WILDERNESS FOUNDATION UK

Bio Blitz



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



Tel: 03012 123 3073 | www.wildernessfoundation.org.uk

COMMUNITY FUND SEND Parent Support Groups MyOTAS

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 25 th 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 10.30am 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

Basildon Community Foundation | Essex County Council | MyOTAS

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

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or enquire online at www.southsexgymnasticsclub.com

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- FREE FOR 4 TO 11 YEAR-OLD GIRLS
- OPPORTUNITIES TO JOIN TEAMS
- AWARD WINNING COACHES
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- ESSEX FA "WILDCATS PROGRAMME PROVIDER OF THE YEAR" 2020

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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/>