



We are growing
our learning

St John's Green Primary School

Learn to Live, Live to Learn

Newsletter

We ♥
Maths

We are all
writers ...

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Please remember that today is the last day of the Summer Term. The Autumn term starts on Monday 5th September.

08.45 for children in Foundation, Year 1, 5 & 6 (Abbey Field)

09.00 for children in Year 2, 3 & 4 (Town)

Goodbye Year 6

For many of our Year 6 children, we have known them from pre-school, so the very last day is always a day of mixed emotions. Happiness, that we're finally getting rid of them and sadness because they will no longer be a part of their school—although we hope they will always remember us.

Year 6 we wish you the very best of luck at your new schools.



Goodbye then: Alexei Abdrafikov, Ellii Bates, Rosie-May Brook, Oliver Brown, Leyla Cansec, Ben Chang, Kalaum Corani, Thomas Cornell, Ayana Curtis, Frankie Dawood, Alice De La Cruz, Piper Freeman, Peter Gaine, Isobel Gilson, Ben Goodwin, Jacob Hicks, Ella Horgan, Jessica Johnston, Tilly McIver, Liam Mitchell, Marci Nicoll, Bradley Prior, Ethan Readhead, Serkan Roper, Samir Shafiy, Kayla Simmonds, Ruby Sunderland, Bobby Taft, Kai Thompson, Sinead Winsborrow.

Year 6 Leavers Cricket Match



The Year 6 children took on the staff last night in our annual staff v's children cricket match. One of the rules we use is that you can't be out first ball.

This was just as well as quite a few members of staff did succumb very quickly at the wicket and if they hadn't had a second go, the victory would have

been even greater. Brilliant play by year 6 knocking up a very respectable 204 runs. Very disappointing from the staff with a humble 99. Well done children.

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Diary Dates

Thursday 21st July. Last day of Summer Term.

Monday 5th September. First day of Autumn Term.

At the end of the day, the most overwhelming key to a child's success is the positive involvement of parents.

Jane D. Hull

Team Points

Children have been vying for those coveted Team Points for honour of being crowned Team Point Champions and securing the non uniform day for their team only. It was close but well done Team Priory with 5916 points who are this terms victors.

TEAM POINTS – Summer Term

1	Priory	5916
Joint 2	Abbey	5593
	Temple	5593
4	Colne	5572
5	Siege	4856

Best Class Attendance for the Year

Class	%
Oysters	97.9%
Iceni	97.9%
Jumbo	97.7%
Roses	97.5%
Dutch	97.4%
Trinovantes	97.4%
Claudius	96.9%
Circus	96.9%
Mercury	96.8%
Star	96.7%
Castle	96.6%
Eagles	96.6%
Chariot	95.1%

Best Class Attendance

Everyone knows how important good attendance is as it makes such a significant difference to the children's learning. When children miss school, they miss key bits of learning. I fully appreciate how much parents value the importance of this and strive to make sure there children are in school come rain or shine.

Really well done to classes Oysters and Iceni—whose attendance this academic year is quite exceptional. Go Bananas—here you come.

Reading

Reading is the cornerstone to everything we do and it is one of the biggest things that parents can do to support their children in their learning. We will continue to push for 100% of our children reading 5x a week at home as we know what a difference this makes to the success of our children. Parents we really can't do it without you—please do keep reading with your children over the summer (The library Summer Reading Challenge) and making sure your children continue to write/draw.

Really well done Mercury for a really good percentage of children reading 5x a week at home.

READING PERCENTS SUMMER		
Position	Class	Percent
1	Mercury	98.5 %
2	Claudius	97.1 %
3	Dutch	96.3 %
4	Star	94.2 %
5	Oysters	93.8 %
6	Roses	93.4 %
7	Castle	93.0 %
8	Trinovantes	92.8 %
9	Iceni	92.0 %
10	Eagles	91.3 %
11	Jumbo	88.9 %
12	Circus	87.9 %
13	Chariot	80.7 %

Soaking

The annual travesty of justice took place once again yesterday, when I was once again selected for the soaking by Year 6. This year I didn't even get to plead a case for the defence. It was only by some very strong coercion at the end of the night that I didn't face the torrents of water alone and Miss Pickard also stepped into the fray.



And Finally

I think we're exceptionally lucky as a school to have the brilliant teachers and support staff that we have. As a school we do employ over 60 members of staff which is too many to list on one newsletter but everyone of them plays a vital role in continuing to make our school so successful. We are also very appreciative of the extra work and support that you, as parents, put in with your children to help them with their learning. The children in Foundation, Year 1, Year 2 and Year 6 have performed magnificently in the assessments/tests that they have had to undertake this year and they should all be very proud of what they have achieved. So on behalf of all the staff, our profound thanks for everything you do for your children. And to my staff—I think you're all brilliant.

Have a very good summer

Simon Billings

Is your child part of the Children's University yet?

By Nicola Roberts

(Mum of 4 and St John's Green Parent Governor)



Did you know that St. John's Green school is part of the Essex Children's University and that all children aged 5 and over can sign up for just £4.50.

Your child will receive a passport that they can have stamped for doing various fun learning activities outside of school hours. Once they gain 30 hours they will be invited to attend a Graduation Ceremony at Essex University, complete with gown and mortarboard and a full day of fun. Last time this included a Mad Science session, story telling, drama and much more. You can collect learning hours from all St. John's Green after school clubs and many other places; including Colchester zoo, First Site, Colchester Castle, various Rainbows and Beaver groups, dance clubs, sports clubs etc. For more details and to keep up to date with their news, (including special Summer holiday activities coming soon) follow Essex Children's University on Facebook.

Please visit the school office and order your passport today!

Why I signed up my kids to the Children's University.

I first heard about the Children's University in 2011 when I saw a child getting their passport signed in the Colchester Natural History Museum and was interested to find out more, so I got in touch with them by email. When they explained that children could earn hours just by doing the things they loved best, like out of school football, I signed up my son straight away. He was 8 when I took him to his graduation ceremony and even though he didn't know anyone else there he enjoyed the ceremony immensely and from a proud parents point of view the kids all looked great in their coloured robes and mortarboards. His favourite bit was throwing his hat up into the air at the end, just like you see on TV for American High School graduations!

Roll forward to 2014 and by now I was a parent governor. Mrs. Bourne and I met to discuss some future plans for the children at the school. We both believe that school isn't just about learning Maths and English, but somewhere kids should come to enjoy learning and be given opportunities to try many new things and realise learning is something we all do over a lifetime not just in the classroom, so we got talking about the Children's University and we decided that the school should join and become a Learning Destination. Both my daughters are now members and have collected hours from computer club and dance club in school and brownies plus other places out of school. Both managed to attend their first graduation last November and have continued to collect hours since then and hope to attend again this year! I think the Children's University has helped them understand that you don't have to be taught to learn, it's something you can do for yourself and enjoy, and also that in line with St John's Green's core values you should be proud of your achievements having worked towards something, collecting their hours in order to graduate.

Some of the activities my kids have taken part in as part of the Children's University.

- Meeting and drawing with Korky Paul, Illustrator of The Winnie the Witch books
- A science experiment where they could see their own brain waves
- Hosting a gallery opening night featuring their work at First Site
- Den building and bug hunting at Fingringhoe Wick
- Having a picture selected for exhibition at Art Exchange (Essex University Art Gallery)
- Essex libraries summer reading challenge
- Sponsored swim with Essex Fire Brigade
- Taking part in a world record attempt with Taylor's School of Dance
- Trampolining at Colchester school of gymnastics
- Making slime with some 'Mad Scientists'
- School cheerleading club
- Christmas lectures at the Essex University
- Multi skills club with Colchester United
- Learning to apply fake wounds and movie makeup

And finally, what do the kids themselves think ?



I asked Naomi year 2 about the Children's University and graduation ceremony. She said, 'when I graduated I was nervous at first but it was very exciting, the best bit was when we threw our hats up in the air. I like the Children's University because you get to do lots of fun activities and you get to achieve things for doing them!'