



We are growing
our learning



St John's Green Primary School

Learn to Live, Live to Learn

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Newsletter Date:
Friday 22nd October

We ♥
Maths

We are all
writers ...



Newsletter

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Coronavirus

We have had to send a few more letters out to classes this week with regards to confirmed cases of Coronavirus.

Essex's advice still stands for families and is as per the letter, which asks families who receive the letter to book a PCR test.

Danbury



I popped down to Danbury yesterday afternoon and evening, just to say hello and primarily because I was in charge of the campfire. Mr Bates has always set quite a high standard as far as the camp fire at Danbury was concerned and I was very conscious of not wanting to let him down. Luckily the children managed to collect a few twigs and sticks, and once again, with the help of Mr Matthews, a few larger items from the woods. Purely by chance, I managed to get the fire going and our campfire session started with a few snacks and some gentle campfire singing!



Then it was off to the woods for a night walk and a chapter from Danny the Champion of the World.

Over the last few days the children have: made their own mini fires in Bush Craft, Climbed, done the Leap of Faith, paddled and in some cases fallen in with Canoeing and Kayaking, done some Archery, been Aerial Trekking and Zip Lining and completed the Low Ropes and Obstacle courses, not to mention the early morning walks before breakfast.

My thanks to Miss Witzendorf for leading the trip and to all the staff who went, who have been with the 78 children we took 24/7 for the last few days—no easy task and their efforts and enthusiasm is very much appreciated.



As an aside—the children may need a wash on their return.

School Crossing Patrol

Firstly, just to confirm with what I know parents already think—that it's brilliant to have a crossing Patrol on the Zebra Crossing on Circular Road North.

Please see below a message from Michelle who is the supervisor for all crossing patrols across Colchester.

I wanted to explain why we are asking you and your children to dismount your bikes and why we will be asking your children to walk their scooters across the road.

Walking across the road is far safer than cycling or scooting and it is good road safety practice to ask our children to dismount their bikes or scooters; the ten seconds it takes to dismount and for the children to become aware of their surroundings before entering the road could one day save their life, and is therefore an invaluable practice for the children to become familiar with! As adults, we should also dismount and set an example to the children.

Another issue I have witnessed at several sites is that the children could clip the kerb stones and fall, or collide with a pedestrian, causing an issue that could easily be avoided; also you are not a pedestrian on a pedestrian crossing if you do not dismount.

I do hope you understand the reasons behind my lengthy request and hope you understand that we just want a safe crossing for all. Hopefully a safer crossing will also encourage more families to walk to school.

Nature Garden

Many thanks to Alice Heaffey who popped into school last week to attack and tidy up the nature garden at Town site—Transformation and very much appreciated—especially by Mr Kelly.



PLEASE



**NO PEANUTS
OR
NUT PRODUCTS**

The **Big** Question for
this Assessment Period—
Where are my Roots?

Our Jigsaw Theme for next
week—Celebrating Differences

PTA Pumpkin Trail

Our PTA are once again organising a 'Pumpkin Trail' for the Half Term Break. The Pumpkin Trail takes place on Friday 29th October.

Maps are still available to buy today after school from either School Office.

In addition, a member of the PTA will be selling maps on Friday 29th October (the day of the trail) outside the AF site from 10.00—11.00am.

There's only one prize per map.



Rotary Club Dictionaries

Once again our thanks to the Rotary Club—who have today been in to give Dictionaries to all our Year 6 children.



Awards

STAR—Alice (MLM), JUMBO—Sebastian (MM),
CHARIOT—Albie (MM)
EAGLES—Scarlett (MM), CIRCUS—Roman (MM)
ROSES—Timi (MM)
MERCURY—Kian (CC), CLAUDIUS—Theo (RREX),
ROMANS—Amelia-Rose (RROX)
DUTCH—George (RROX), ICENI—Kejda (MM),
PAXMAN—Joe (RREX)
CASTLE—Lianna (MM), CAVALIER—Georgina &
Bethany (CC), GARRISON—Bentley (MLM)
OYSTERS—Whole Class (CC), MAGNETS—Whole
Class (CC) RAEDWALD—Whole Class (CC)
CYMBELINE—Oliver (MLM), TRINOVANTES—Har-
vey (MM), LATHES—Harry (RREX)
ATTENDANCE—Cymbeline

Term Dates

Please remember next week is Half Term and the school is closed.

Half Term—Monday 25th October—Friday 29th October

Last day of Autumn Term—Friday 17th December

First Day of Spring Term 2022—Tuesday 4th January

Diary Dates

Thursday 25th November. Revised Date for Flu Vaccinations
AF & T

Saturday 4th December, 2.00p.m.—5.00p.m.—PTA Christmas Fair

Article 17 (access to information from the media)

Every child has the right to reliable information from a variety of sources, and governments should encourage the media to provide information that children can understand. Governments must help protect children from materials that could harm them.

Colchester Walks

This week's walk is 'Highwoods Country Park'



Halloween—Did you Know?

- According to History.com, the first Halloween celebrations can be traced back to the ancient Celts (2000 years ago). They lived in the area now occupied by Ireland, the United Kingdom, and northern France, and celebrated a festival called Samhain on October 31st. It marked the day before their new year, the start of winter.
- The term for having a deep fear of the holiday of Halloween is called 'Samhainophobia.' Just don't confuse it with sanguinophobia (fear of vampires), seleneophobia (fear of the moon), or skelephobia (fear of skeletons).
- Philadelphia-based trick-or-treaters traded in a sweet tooth for sweet action in 1950. In lieu of candy, residents collected change for children overseas and sent it to UNICEF. Subsequently, the Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF program was born.
- According to History.com, the tradition of dressing up as our favourite celebrities, cartoon characters, and superheroes stems from the ancient festival Samhain where people would dress up in animal heads and skins to keep ghosts away.



As parents, the most important thing we can do is read to our children often. Reading is the path to success in school.

Laura Bush

Gold Award

Congratulations to Rudra who recently won the gold award in a Hindu festival called Navratri.

Really well done to Rudra who absolutely smashed his final night performance to claim the award.



Year 6 Parents Please remember that the deadline for secondary applications is Sunday 31st October.
<https://www.essex.gov.uk/apply-for-a-secondary-school-place>



Deer

Muntjac, also known as the barking deer on account of the dog-like noise they make, can be seen in the park especially at dawn and dusk



Butterflies

Butterflies such as essex skipper, white admiral and speckled wood are found during the summer in sunny clearings in the woods on thistle, honeysuckle and other plants



Bluebells

The park's woods are well known for their spring displays of bluebells



Birds
Over 40 species of birds nest in the country park. The best place to see and hear skylarks is in the southern fields in April. Their song can last for five minutes or more



Dragonflies
Yovone's pond is a great place to see dragonflies hunting for prey on sunny warm summer days



KEY

- Park Boundary
- Blue Trail 30mins
- Red Trail 90mins
- Yellow Trail 120min
- Cycle Track
- Pedestrian Entrance
- Pond/stream
- Visitor Centre
- Toilets
- BIG Garden
- Information Point
- View Point
- Dog Bins
- Dogs on Leads Area
- Picnic Site
- Playground