



We are growing
our learning

St John's Green Primary School

Learn to Live, Live to Learn

Volume 41, Issue 2
Newsletter Date:
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We ♥
Maths

We are all
writers ...



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Colchester Library

Eagles class thoroughly enjoyed their visit to Colchester Library on Monday. Thanks to all the parents that came along to support. They had a good look through the huge selection of books, shared stories with their friends and were read a story by Mr Bates. The rest of year one will visit the library on other dates through the spring term. Meanwhile, why not visit the library for a good read any day during the week.

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

Assembly Theme for Next Week:

Work well with a Partner or in a Group.

The 'Right' we will be focusing on this Half Term is Article 42:

You have the right to know your rights! Adults should know about these rights and help you learn about them, too.

Children are NOT a distraction from more important work. They are THE MOST important work.
C.S. Lewis

PTA Coffee Morning

The first PTA Coffee (and tea) morning of the new year is next Thursday (24th) morning at 9.15a.m. at the Town site. Please pop along if you can. All the coffee morning dates are on the website calendar.

Diary Dates	
Monday 21st January. Closing Date for Christmas Quiz Entries.	
Tuesday 22nd January. 5.30p.m. @ AF. Year 2 Parent Meeting for Year 2 Residential, 'Skreens Park.'	
Friday 25th January. Non Uniform day for Team Priory (Yellow) only.	
Wednesday 30th January. 3.30-4.00p.m. Open School.	
Monday 4th January—Friday 8th January. Science and Computing Week. This includes:	
- Tuesday 5th February, Safer Internet Day	
- Wednesday 6th February, Star Gazing Night at AF.	
Wednesday 13th February. Open Morning. 9.00-10.00 AF & T.	
Friday 15th February. Non Uniform Day (Purple/Pink) - Pinkie Purple. Supporting Rotary Club, End Polio Now. £1.	
Monday 18th February—Friday 22nd February—Half Term	
Monday 25th February—Friday 1st March. RE Week. Chinese New Year.	
Wednesday 27th February. 5.45p.m.—7.15p.m.—Shared Supper @ AF.	
Friday 8th April—Monday 22nd April—Easter Holiday	
Tuesday 23rd April—First Day of the Summer Term	
PLEASE REMEMBER THAT THERE ARE OTHER KEY DATES ON THE SCHOOL CALENDAR ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE.	

All Things Cold

The weather has most definitely taken a turn for the 'colder' over the last few days and the forecast is that this cold snap will remain with us for the next few weeks.

The children are pretty good at finding their coats but we do have less success with hats, gloves and scarfs. Please could I ask parents to do three things.

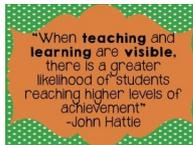
- 1, Make sure your child has a blue jumper, it is actually quite cold.
- 2, Remind their children in the morning of the 'extras' they have so that they can remember them at breaktimes and lunchtimes.



- 3, Put your child's names on all the bits and pieces they have, so that if children do become separated from a hat, we can re-unite them.

Teaching that Makes a Difference

One of the areas we are focusing on this term is immediate feedback to your child whilst they are learning.



In essence every part of the day is a teaching and learning opportunity and we are looking to maximise the times when we respond to your children about how well they have done and possible next steps.

Effective feedback we know can double the speed of the learning that takes place. This is in part because it is immediate and children can respond and act upon it straight away.

We also know that feedback needs to be repetitive because we don't always learn things right away and we need to then practise to embed that learning.

In all aspects of life, feedback is the breakfast of champions. It lets you know how you are going while also telling you how you can improve.

Awards

- Year 6 (Trinovantes) - Whole Class (MM)
- Year 6 (Cymbeline) - Marcel Rayner (RR)
- Year 5 (Oysters) — Riley White (MM)
- Year 5 (Magnets) - Zander Hart (MM)
- Year 4 (Castle) - Corey Allder (MM)
- Year 4 (Cavalier) - Nathaniel Wojak (MM)
- Year 4 (Garrison) - Evie-Leigh Ganjehbaf (MM)
- Year 3 (Dutch) - Finley Bateman (MM)
- Year 3 (Iceni) - Sonny Gaine (RR)
- Year 3 (Paxman) - Aimee Carr (RR)
- Year 2 (Mercury) - Chanel McPherson (MM)
- Year 2 (Claudius) - Stanley Curtis (MM)
- Year 2 (Romans) - Mia Ghuman (RR)
- Year 1 (Eagles) - Emily McGivney (RR)
- Year 1 (Circus) - Ivy Hull (CC)
- Year 1 (Roses) - Ivy Brice (MM)
- Foundation (Chariot) - Julia Oscik (MLM)
- Foundation (Star) - Hugo Littlechild (RR)
- Foundation (Jumbo) - Isabelle Holbrow (MM)
- Heads' Award — Castle, Cavalier & Garrison
- Attendance — Oysters, Magnets and Trinovantes

Parachute Regiment Band

All children in the school received a treat yesterday morning as the Parachute Regiment Band popped in to regale the children with some classic tunes and the stories behind the them. The musical serenade included the Mexican Hat Dance and both the Circus and Cats theme tunes.

Did you know that the Mexican Hat dance, also known as 'Jarabe Tapatio' is often referred to as the National Dance of Mexico! (Me neither—we never stop learning)



Attendance

At this time of year parents thoughts invariably turn to warmer climes and the happy thoughts of a family educational visit to somewhere with sea and sand. For the school to authorise a leave of absence your child's attendance must be 97% or above in the 14 weeks preceding the request. We do try and work with parents on this, but please be aware that our hands are tied and we do have to pursue fixed penalty notices for unauthorised absence.

I suppose that's a polite way of saying please make sure your child is in school!

Newsletter Challenge

The ability to reflect on our learning is a really important skill, the key is to then make it better next time.

We often write things down, which aren't quite right, but can't see it ourselves when we read back through it.

The newsletter Challenge for this next half term is to 'Reflect' on the sentence written below but more importantly write it out again correctly with the errors corrected.

As it's the start of term, I'll tell you what the errors are this week. All you need to do is write the sentence out correctly and hand it in.

'Mr and Mrs Brown first met paddington on a railway platform. In fact, that was how he came to have such an unusual name for a ber, for paddington was the name of the station.'

(4 spelling mistakes, 2 capital letters)

A bonus prize for someone from each phase who makes the sentence even better. Answers, with your name and class popped in the folder outside Miss Salmon's door at AF and Mrs O'Shea's door at Town.

As always, the winning entry from each phase will be chosen and that child will then be able to choose a free book.



And Finally,

Possibly understandably, I'm not given all that responsibility at home but I am expected to carry out my duties well. Sadly a catastrophic error of judgement saw me confined to the dog house on Wednesday night. Karen had been to a gym class and I was in charge of dinner; a combination of three elements: a stew, broccoli and puff pastry toppers. 'Is dinner ready,' my wife asked. 'Nearly,' I replied, 'we're just waiting on the puff pastry things.' I did what any self respecting man would do in the circumstances and turned the oven up to encourage them to cook a little quicker. When you do that it's normally best to keep an eye on what's going on. For some reason, burnt puff pastry toppers is not an ideal accompaniment to beef stew and broccoli and my suggestion of a slice of bread was not well received!

Have a good weekend

Simon Billings