



We are growing
our learning

St John's Green Primary School

Learn to Live, Live to Learn

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Newsletter Date:
Friday 12th January 2018

We ♥
Maths

We are all
writers ...



Newsletter

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A very warm welcome back to everyone following the festive break and wishing you the very best for the New Year.

Abbey Field

We have had several reports this week of parents driving across Abbey Field rather than using the road.

Please can I remind parents that the Abbey Field is not a public highway and for parents to drive across here either before school or after school to save a few minutes of time is inexcusable.

Those parents that drive across Abbey Field will be reported directly to the police.

There can be no excuse for putting anybody's life in danger, children in particular, by irresponsible actions and I'm sure those very few parents who are doing it, would be the very first to complain, should it be their children who were walking.

Forest School

Congratulations to our very own Mr Bates who passed his assessment yesterday as a Level 3 Forest School Leader. This means that Mr Bates can now lead Forest School sessions by himself and he joins Mrs O'Shea and Mrs Minshall as Forest School Leaders. Year 1, I think it safe to assume that Mr Bates will be leading some Forest School sessions for you, in the very near future.



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.

Article 29 Your education should help you use and develop your talents and abilities. It should also help you learn to live peacefully, protect the environment and respect other people.

Colchester United—Cardio Active

Colchester United will be working with our Year 4 children over the next few weeks. The project will teach the children about the importance of having a healthy heart and the dangers that poor lifestyle choices can have on their heart health. Sessions will also cover preventative measures, like interpreting food labels, so that heart health becomes an essential part of day to day life.



Awards

Year 6 (Trinovantes) - Maliha Khanom
Year 5 (Oysters) — Ede Jones
Year 5 (Magnets) - Samuel Anderson
Year 4 (Castle) - Elliot Bridges
Year 4 (Cavalier) - Michael Manktelow
Year 3 (Dutch) - Aman Fatima
Year 3 (Iceni) - Bibhuti Aryal
Year 3 (Paxman) - Kushal Patilola
Year 2 (Mercury) - Stanley Piper
Year 2 (Claudius) - Madison Austin-Gooding
Year 2 (Romans) - Shaneil Campbell
Year 1 (Eagles) - Jennifer Tran
Year 1 (Circus) - Freddie Reames
Year 1 (Roses) - Madison Ring
Foundation (Chariot) - Violet Hanrahan
Foundation (Star) - Habib Odunaike
Foundation (Jumbo) - Mia Rose
Heads' Award— Castle & Cavalier
Attendance — Oysters



Swimming

Really well done to our Year 4 children who had their first swimming lesson of this academic year this week at Colchester Leisure Centre.

A reminder please to parents, and this is the same for all year groups.

As per the school policy, boys must wear swimming trunks, not shorts. There are two main reasons for this.

1, Hygiene. Boys will often keep their underwear on under their swimming shorts.
2, They're learning to swim. Swimming trunks allow the legs far more movement and do not create as much drag.

Please remember these are swimming lessons—where children are being taught to swim.



Clubs

Please see page 2 of the newsletter for clubs running this term. As always, any questions. Please just ask either of the school offices.

You have BRAINS in your HEAD!
You have FEET in your SHOES.
You can STEER yourself any DIRECTION you CHOOSE.
—Dr. Seuss

Bar Modelling Challenge

Can you answer the question below using Bar modelling?

1 Sam sells ice-creams.

Ice-cream 79 pence	Ice-cream and flake 95 pence

How much does the chocolate flake cost?

Answers on Miss Salmon's door if you are at Abbey site and on Mrs O'Shea's door if you are at Town site.

The winning entry each week from each Year Group will get to choose a free book or writing prize.

Diary Dates

Friday 12th January. 9.00 a.m. and 2.45p.m. Year 1 Phonics Information Session for Parents. @ AF.

Wednesday 17th January. Open School. 3.30p.m.—4.15p.m. AF & T.

WB 5th February—Poetry Week.

WB 5th February—Safer Internet Week.

6th February. Safer Internet Day.

Friday 9th February. Non Uniform Day (Purple) in support of Rotary Club—End Polio Now. £1.

Monday 12th February—Friday 16th February. Half Term.

Tuesday 20th February—Year 3 visiting local Synagogue.

Wednesday 21st February—Open School. 3.30p.m.—4.15p.m. AF & T

Thursday 1st March. World Book Day. Book Character Day. Come to school as a book character.

Thursday 29th March. Last day of Spring Term

Tuesday 17th April. First day of Summer Term

PLEASE LOOK ON THE CALENDAR OF THE SCHOOL WEBSITE FOR OTHER DATES/EVENTS THIS TERM

Reminders

• From Wednesday 3rd January, cash payments will no longer be taken for Breakfast Club. Parents must pay for this please by Sims Agora.

Maths—Bar Modelling

Fundamentally the concepts we teach don't change but as we learn more about the ways children learn, through research, the ways we teach them do.

Maths is a prime example of this as numbers will always be numbers. However the way we teach the concepts has developed and changed.

Bar models are pictorial representations of problems or concepts that can be used for any of the operations: addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. In word problems, bar models hold the huge benefit of helping children decide which operations to use or visualise problems.

Teaching staff have all been trained in using Bar Modelling and the skill of using it is becoming more fundamental in our teaching of maths.

A long pre-ambles I know—but our newsletter challenges this half term will all be based on bar modelling.

If you're interested, you can find out a little bit more by watching:

<https://www.theschoolrun.com/what-is-the-bar-model-method>

Books are the bees
which carry the pollen
of thought from one
mind to another.

James Russell Lowell (Poet.)

And Finally,

Mrs O'Shea and myself have had a few conversations this week, primarily about Mrs O'Shea's lack of sleep due to her son teething. My one bad nights sleep this week was solely due to one of our cats. Having searched everywhere at bedtime, the assumption was made that the cat must have gone out. At about 1.30a.m. it became clear that the cat hadn't gone out as it was trying to escape from the wardrobe where it had ensconced itself. Unceremoniously the cat was dumped back in the kitchen, with both Karen and myself too tired to decide whose fault it was that the cat was in the wardrobe anyway. Probably mine!

Have a good Weekend

Simon Billings

AFTER-SCHOOL CLUBS – SPRING TERM 2018

Parents do need to confirm their interest in these clubs. Please enquire at the school office at Town Site and Abbey Field Site.

There are restricted numbers on all clubs. Places will be on a strictly, first come, first served basis. Waiting lists will be kept for some clubs if necessary!

DAY AND YEAR GROUP	CLUB
MONDAY – TOWN YEARS 3+4	DANCE CLUB – Louise Walmsley 3.30 – 4.30 p.m. PAYABLE
MONDAY – AF YEAR 1 –	MULTI-SKILLS(Jumble Juniors) – 3.15 – 4.15 p.m. PAYABLE
MONDAY – AF YEAR 5	ART CLUB - Artypants 3.15 – 4.15 p.m. PAYABLE
MONDAY – AF YEAR 6	SQUASH CLUB – 3.15 – 4.15 p.m. PAYABLE
TUESDAY – TOWN Years 3 + 4	FOOTBALL CLUB – 3.30 – 4.30 p.m. - Chelsea Foundation PAYABLE
TUESDAY – AF FOUNDATION	MULTI SKILLS - JUMBLE JUNIORS 3.15 – 4.15 p.m. - PAYABLE
TUESDAY – AF YEAR 1	SPANISH (KIDSLINGO) 3.15 – 4.15 P.M. - PAYABLE
WEDNESDAY – AF YEARS 5/6	FOOTBALL CLUB – Chelsea Foundation – 3.15-4.15 p.m. – PAYABLE
WEDNESDAY – AF FOUNDATION	DANCE – Taylor’s Dance Company 3.15 – 4.15 P.M. PAYABLE
WEDNESDAY – AF YEAR 5	COMPUTER CLUB – 3.15 -4.15 p.m. - FREE
THURSDAY – TOWN YEAR 2	MULTI-SKILLS CLUB – Colchester United Football in the Community – 3.30 – 4.30 p.m. - PAYABLE
THURSDAY – TOWN YEAR 3	COMPUTER CLUB 3.30 – 4.30 p.m. - FREE
THURSDAY – AF YEAR 1	DANCE CLUB – Taylor’s Dance Company 3.15 – 4.15 p.m. - PAYABLE
FRIDAY – AF YEARS 5+6	DANCE CLUB – Taylor’s Dance Company 3.15 – 4.15 p.m. – PAYABLE
FRIDAY – TOWN YEAR 2	DANCE CLUB – Louise Walmsley 3.30 – 4.15 p.m. - PAYABLE

PLEASE REMEMBER FOR ALL CLUBS, CHILDREN NEED TO BE COLLECTED FROM THE UNDERCOVER AREA AT THE REAR OF THE SCHOOL AT TOWN SITE AND FROM THE RECEPTION AREA AT THE FRONT OF THE SCHOOL AT ABBEYFIELD SITE.