

"Essex in Touch"

Our first 'Essex in Touch' project links the school with elderly, vulnerable adults in the local community (arranged through Manor Park Community Neighbourhood). The purpose of this project is to break down generational stereotypes, putting children together with our elderly neighbours who have become reluctant to leave their homes.

On Thursday 4th May 2107 we were delighted to invite these neighbours into school for home-baked cakes and drinks, and we are very pleased to report that this first meeting was a huge success! Our neighbours and pupils were soon deep in conversation and sharing experiences with each other.

For example, one of our visitor's children attended Essex Primary School 40 years ago, so it was interesting for the pupils to hear all about the school from the perspective of a parent from the past. All are looking forward to our next meeting, where we are sure more exciting exchanges of knowledge will happen.



School Clubs

First week back after half term - all clubs will continue as normal.

Lost Property

Lost Property will be open after school on Friday 26th May in the KS1 playground between the hours of 3.00 pm and 3.30 pm ONLY. Anything not claimed at the end will be disposed of.



Essex Primary School

Newsletter May 2017

Every Child Matters

**Everyone valued, everyone challenged,
everyone achieving**

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ **Holiday Dates** ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

SUMMER TERM

Half term: Monday 29th May 2017 to Friday 2nd June 2017

School term: Monday 5th June 2017 to Friday 21st July 2017

Eid—UI-Fitr: Monday 26th June 2017 (**SCHOOL CLOSED**)

INSET: Monday 24th to Wednesday 26th July 2017 (**SCHOOL CLOSED**)

Summer break: - Thursday 27th July to Friday 1st September 2017

AUTUMN TERM 2017 START DATE

INSET: Monday 4th September 2017 (**SCHOOL CLOSED for CHILDREN**)

SCHOOL RE-OPENS FOR CHILDREN: Tuesday 5th September 2017 at 8:45 am

INSET: Friday 15th September 2017 (**SCHOOL CLOSED for CHILDREN**)

Important Dates for your Diary

Nursery Closed—Thursday 8th June 2017

Nursery will be closed all day Thursday 8th June due to polling day (General Election)

Refugee Week 12th June to 16th June 2017 (Concert on 16th June for Year 5 parents)

School Reports to Parents—Friday 14th July 2017

Parents Evening Drop in Session—Monday 17th July 2017 3:30pm-4:30pm

Dropping your children at school for Before School Clubs

Some pupils are arriving very early for before school clubs and are sometimes being left at the main school entrance door unattended. The children are not allowed in until a staff member of the clubs, lets them into the school at 7:55 am.

Please ensure your child is not left alone.

Year 1 Barley/Barkway Primary School visit Essex

On Thursday 11th May, children from Barley/Barkway Primary School (Hertfordshire) came to visit Essex Primary School. The purpose of their visit was to explore our multicultural, inclusive learning environment.

Firstly, we took the children/staff to visit our local Sri Murugan Temple and the children were really excited about it. While they were there, they were fascinated by how the Temple looked. They were fully embracing the whole experience, even directing questions at the Priest. The Temple kindly provided refreshments for everyone.



After coming back from the Temple, the children had lunch with Essex Primary children. The children were really eager to go into the playground and play with our children. Our children welcomed and enticed them to play in the playground. The children from both Essex and Barley/Barkway fully enjoyed playing alongside each other.



In the afternoon, children spent their time creating a variety of pieces of artwork in all four year 1 classes. This included producing various art pieces depicting what they saw at the Temple. The main activity in each class was making a mural that all children from Essex and Barley/Barkway contributed to. They all got a chance to put a pattern on the mural and we will use this piece of artwork for our display. The mural reflected the things they saw in the Temple.

Upon their return, Barley/Barkway contacted us and stated how much they enjoyed their day. They were really impressed with how inclusive our school is and how well behaved our children are. The children at Barley/Barkway were all talking positively to their parents about what they had seen throughout the day.

Year 1 visit to Colchester Zoo

On the 22nd and 23rd May, Year 1 children visited Colchester Zoo. Children travelled to the Zoo by coach. This educational visit was planned by the Year 1 teachers to consolidate children's learning in literacy and science about different animals. It was a day filled with fun packed educational activities; children are still talking about the visit in class as well as in the playground.

During the visit the children had an opportunity to see many species of animals. Their visit included a fact finding session led by the teachers. As we explored the zoo, children were asked to put animals into different categories and sort them into herbivores, carnivores and omnivores. They also had the chance to see the amazing work the zoo does in protecting the endangered animals.

The weather was beautiful and it really contributed to the day being even more memorable. As usual, the children's behaviour was outstanding and they should be very proud of themselves!



Year 2 Mosque Visit

Year 2 visited East London Mosque to learn more about places of worship. They were taken on a tour throughout the day and had an amazing time exploring different parts of the Mosque.

The visit involved a tour of the Main Prayer Hall, the Ablution Area, the Dome and Minaret, a Cartoon on the 5 Pillars of Islam. All pupils were enthusiastic and eager to learn more; many were very inquisitive and asked sensible and relevant questions about the Mosque. Some even made cross-curricular links with science and discussed the materials that some objects were made of. Everyone talked about how much fun they had and how much they had learnt. Overall, the visit to the Mosque was a great success.



Year 3 Gurdwara Visit

On Monday 15th and Tuesday 16th May, Year 3 children visited the 'Dashmesh Darbar Gurdwara' on Roseberry Avenue, Manor Park. This visit supported the children's learning about Sikh symbols and beliefs as part of their unit 'What do Sikh symbols and sayings tell us about Sikh beliefs'.

The children were able to handle a Kara (bracelet), Kanga (comb), Kirpan (knife) and Kachera (shorts), as well as find out why they are important to Sikhs. The children were shown how to wear a turban as well as pictures of Guru Nanak (the first Guru) and the outside and inside of the Sikhs Golden Temple.



Finally, the children were able to observe what Sikh people do when they go to a Gurdwara. The visit was a great success and allowed the children to learn more about a religious group in their local area.

Year 6 SAT Exams

Well done to all our Year 6 children who worked incredibly hard in preparation for and taking their SATs exams this half term. The staff are very proud of the dedication, hard work and mature attitude they have shown. Thank you to all the parents who made sure that their children were in school on time and ready to do their best.

Summer Uniform

The weather is beginning to warm up so please remember to ensure your child brings a water bottle to school and if they require sun screen please apply in the morning before school.

Children should also bring sun hats into school.

