

Attendance, Attention and Achievement

Weekly Newsletter

Date: 17th December 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

The spirit of Christmas personifies positivity, peace and all the good things that happen in the days leading up to Christmas Eve and the Nativity. At Essex, festive events have filled the pupils' week with joy as they celebrated the end of term with their class parties, a staff pantomime and the winter bazaar. However, there's still more to come next week, as we look forward to the Christmas Carol Concert and the Early Years' Nativity. Ho Ho Ho, Merry Christmas! We wish you all the seasons greetings and a peaceful, happy holiday ahead. Please remember school finishes at **1.30pm on Tuesday 21st December**.



Winter Wonderland Bazaar

Pupils spent last week busy planning, designing and making their products for the Winter Bazaar, using recycled materials which they ingeniously turned into a profit to raise money for the charity, Save the Children.



Pupils in reception were so excited to welcome a special customer who had come all the way from Lapland!



Santa was particularly impressed by their handcrafted paper plate snowglobes, made using triangle shapes to create their Christmas tree, then independently decorated with a selection of materials such as pom poms, sequins, glitter and ribbon. Pupils also enjoyed talking about whether they had seen a Christmas tree or had one at home.

In year 1 pupils made hanging reindeer keepsakes for their parents/carers and themselves as they grow up, to remind them how small they once were. Pupils enjoyed an afternoon of fun and messy play, putting their hand in a tray of paint and creating a print onto card. We then added antlers, googly eyes and a shiny red nose! Under the handprint is a short poem which we are sure you will also want to treasure. We hope these reindeer handprints will serve as a special memory in years to come! "I really like the nose because it's shiny." Kiana.



"I enjoyed making my handprint, it was fun putting my hand in the paint!" Umarah.

Year 2 created colourful calendars with a theme of 'The four seasons'. They used their drawing and decorating skills to portray the changing of the seasons depicted on trees. They also discussed key dates that they would highlight on their calendars once their parents had bought them, such as their own birthday and that of family members and key festivals that they celebrate.

Year 3 made baubles using a range of resources. Pupils used their finishing and decorative techniques to construct and assemble their ornaments. Furthermore, pupils had the opportunity to use a variety of



resources, including feathers, sequins, glitter, cellophane and colourful ribbons. They enjoyed creating their own designs and patterns. Zayan 3J - "I really enjoyed making my bauble focusing on my fine motor skill by cutting really carefully to make the shape." Hamilah 3H - "My favourite part was designing the bauble and seeing it come to life."

Ingeniously, year 4 pupils turned their old school socks into jolly snowmen embellished with a glittering array of hand crafted accessories, including hats to rival the milliner, Philip Treacy. They used a range of skills which

included measuring and filling their socks with a suitable amount of rice, sealing the product with an elastic band. The snowmen looked amazing on the display table, reflecting the children's hard work and effort.



Year 5 pupils have enjoyed designing and using recycled materials to make attractive coasters from cardboard. Their designs depicted various themes and pupils used vibrant colours to tell many stories showing their artistic flare. Well done year 5!

Year 6 pupils made beautiful, hand-made and

multi-purpose pots, with the use of Mod Roc and polystyrene cups. The cups were precisely painted with thoughtful and festive colours. Pupils followed specific instructions, in order to make the best version of their artwork. Our Year 6 pupils were proud with the end result of their pots, especially as they understood they were raising money for charity; it was great to see them so pleased at the Winter Bazaar.



We would like to thank our parents for their support and generosity to make this such a successful event once again, in spite of the challenges we are all facing in our lives. The final amount collected will be shared with you in our January 2022 Newsletter.

We would also like to share with you, a thank you from the National Autistic Society - remember when we all wore blue to school to "Light it up Blue" for autism?

Thank You!

On behalf of the National Autistic Society, thank you so much for fundraising for us and for this wonderful gift of **£382.24**. By choosing to support us you are helping to transform lives, change attitudes and create a society that works for autistic people.

Bobby Seagull Visits Essex

Monday 13th December 2021 was an inspiring day for Years 5 and 6. They had an august visitor, in the person of Mr Bobby Seagull, the nationally celebrated mathematician.

He is currently teaching mathematics in Little Ilford School and pursuing a Doctorate Degree in Mathematics at Cambridge University. Bobby's main 'mathematical' challenge, when asked by a Year 5 child, is to make every child love mathematics.



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Mr Seagull shared his childhood experiences with our pupils, narrating how he was inspired by the simple things and occurrences around him whilst he was growing up in East London. He shared video testimonies of some celebrities, who have shown resilience in the face of difficulties, to achieve their goals and become successful. Mr Seagull encouraged the children to turn 'IMPOSSIBLE' into 'I'M POSSIBLE'.

Bobby Seagull is also an ambassador for the charity National Numeracy and these three questions are from the National Numeracy Challenge, an online quiz that more than a quarter of a million people have taken to test and improve their numeracy skills. Why not have a go? You may use a calculator for them.

- 1. What is the smallest possible number of coins you need to make 73p?***
- 2. Three pieces of gold weigh 5.5g, 3.2g and 8.3g. If gold costs £25 per gram, what is the total cost of all three pieces?***
- 3. My bicycle wheels have a diameter of 65cm. How many rotations will the wheels make when I cycle 2km?*** Answers will be published in the next Newsletter.

Staff Panto

Members of staff entertained pupils across the school to their own version of Jack and the Beanstalk. After all those hours spent rehearsing before and after school, the performance was still working towards the expected standard - making it even more hilarious for the children. A big thank you to the staff who took part - you showed your commitment to ensuring pupils enjoy school as well as achieving at Essex.



Class Parties

Pupils finished the week enjoying their class parties during which they played party games, told jokes and watched a favourite film. It really was a day to remember!

Winter Reading Challenge



Newham Libraries are hosting a Winter Reading Challenge. It is easy to take part in, just visit any Newham library and ask a member of the team for details. The aim of the Challenge is for children to borrow and read three books of their choice from now until 30th January. When they join, children will receive a Reading Record to write down the names of the books they have read and to collect their sticker rewards. Each child who finishes the Challenge by reading three books or more will receive a certificate, given to them at the library.

It is important to encourage your child to read over the holidays. It has huge benefits and we really hope they will discover the joy of reading some great books.

Whole School Christmas Carol Concert Monday 20th December 2021

Please join us for our Christmas Carol Concert on 20th December 2021 via zoom.

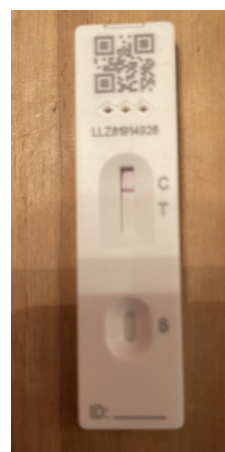
Time	Classes	Zoom Details
9:30am - 10:30am	NTam, NNam RT and RD 1K and 1A 2K and 2M 3A and 3M 4I and 4P 5M and 5P 6I and 6H	Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4980561229?pwd=WU9tcUpOZ1kzcUFZeUZTRnp3RkhrQT09 Meeting ID: 498 056 1229 Passcode: Christmas
2:00pm - 3:00pm	NTpm and NNpm RM and RF 1J and 1B 2A and 2N 3H and 3J 4A and 4H 5H and 5R 6R and 6Q	Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4980561229?pwd=WU9tcUpOZ1kzcUFZeUZTRnp3RkhrQT09 Meeting ID: 498 056 1229 Passcode: Christmas

Reception Nativity Performance Tuesday 21st December 2021

Parents of pupils in Reception are invited to our Nativity Performance on Tuesday 21st December 2021 at 9:30am. Please enter through our KS2 Gates on Sheridan Road. The gates will open at 9:15am and close at 9:25am. In order to keep everyone safe and to maintain social distance, only one parent per child will be issued with a ticket to the face to face performance.

All those parents/carers who will be attending the face to face performance **MUST**:

- Bring along their ticket- all tickets are numbered.
- Wear a mask at all times during the performance and if exempt must bring along proof of exemption.
- A photo of your negative covid lateral flow test. These tests can be obtained from any pharmacy free of charge.



Please note that you will NOT be allowed entry:

- If you do not have a ticket, mask and photo of negative LFD test
- If you arrive once the gates close

For those parents who cannot attend the performance, please join us via zoom. Here are the details:

Topic: Reception Nativity

Time: Dec 21, 2021 09:30 AM London

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4980561229?pwd=d2ptdmF3VkxVelBlcjloQk1WYTJMUt09>

Meeting ID: 498 056 1229

Passcode: Nativity

Reminders:

Date	Event
20th December 2021	Carol Concerts via zoom
21st December 2021	Reception Nativity - ticketed entry only
21st December 2021	School closes at 1:30pm
20th & 21st December	There will be no Sports Clubs (before and after school)

Covid Update:

Please do not send your child into school if they have the following symptoms:



- High temperature - A high temperature is usually considered to be 38C or above.
- New, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- Loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal
- Diarrhoea

Children do not need to self isolate if a family member tests positive for Covid-19. However, they are encouraged to have lateral flow tests taken daily. If your child shows any of the above symptoms, please take your child for a PCR covid test and inform the school immediately.

If anyone tests positive for the omicron variant, all close contacts must self isolate for 10 days.

Mrs Cecilia Mojzes
Executive Head Teacher

Mr Rick Probett
Chair of Governors

Mrs Amber Ilyas
Associate Head Teacher

5 STEPS FOR COVID-19 WELLBEING

