

Attendance, Attention and Achievement

Weekly Newsletter

Date: 8th December 2023



Dear Parents/Carers,

This week exemplifies what makes Essex Primary such a special place to be. Pupils' learning has been further enriched by visiting the Victoria and Albert Museum and the Jamla Mosque; they have participated in a music masterclass with some of the world's greatest musicians and today they tucked into a delicious Christmas dinner all dressed up in Christmas jumpers which they will get to wear right the way through to the end of term! What's more, there are plenty of other fun, festive activities coming up, including the Christmas Bazaar on Wednesday 13th December. Please remember to collect your child promptly at 1:30pm on Wednesday.

Music Master Class

On Wednesday, pupils participated in a Music Masterclass delivered by celebrated world class musicians who were also in London to perform in a sell out concert later in the week. Omar Puente is a Cuban violinist known worldwide for both classical and jazz performances and pupils were amazed to hear him switch effortlessly from Vivaldi's Spring to the sounds of the Buena Vista Social Club. He was joined by musicians from the Alex Wilson Quartet; Alex has been involved in many music projects at Essex in the past as well as composing for film and performing worldwide with various artists. It was a very aspiring and engaging session during which pupils were introduced to a range of percussion instruments by the percussionist, Edwin Sanz, and were challenged to add to his drum pulse using their bodies as instruments, stomping and clapping and adding movement to his latin beats. Some were lucky enough to be chosen to conduct their groups. During their sessions, pupils asked some insightful questions and found out where some of the music originated from including the unusual bass played by Greek musician, Dimitri Christopoulous. The day was thoroughly enjoyed in equal measure by staff and pupils whom we hope will be inspired by the musicians' stories to follow their own journeys of musical discovery.



Year 2 visit to Jamia Mosque



Year 2 has been learning about Islam and this week they visited the local Jamia Mosque. Staff and pupils were warmly welcomed and then seated in the part of the mosque that conducts celebrations of births, weddings, funerals, community gatherings and a space for general get-togethers. The group then was taken to the part of the mosque where women prepare for prayer. This is known as ablution and also called wudu. Staff asked the pupils many questions about what they know about being a Muslim. Staff told us about the washing of nostrils, hair, hands and feet and placing their hands on their hearts to cleanse. Pupils then

moved to the main space where the men practise. Once again, the pupils were questioned about what they knew. Many of them were already familiar with the Five Pillars of Islam and could already recite some of the holy Quran in Arabic. Pupils were given the opportunity to sit next to the mihrab and acknowledge things that they like about school. They were told about various prayers and the times that they take place. Lastly, they were given a short lesson about ways in which names are written in Arabic. Ibrahim, Yahya, Safiyyah and Sara were just a few that we learned. Pupils were also taught that the writing in Arabic is from right to left. It was a very engaging visit and all pupils left much more knowledgeable about Mosques and Islam.

Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Lunch

The Christmas events countdown began with Christmas Jumper Day!



The lights on the Christmas trees bring a sense of joy and festivities.

Today we tucked into a delicious Christmas lunch with all the trimmings including crackers which pupils were so excited to pop and share some cheesy, cheery Yuletide jokes.





Star of the week (KS1)

KS1 are extremely proud of the children's achievements.

Nabila (Bumblebee)	Umar (Butterfly)	Banmeet (Beetle)	Maryam (Moth)
All of Anaconda class	All of Crocodile class	All of Gecko class	All of Tortoise class



Green leaves (KS2)

KS2 are extremely proud of the children's achievements.

Fabio (Vendace)	Arjan (Lamprey)	Ruwaizah (Halibut)	Murtuza (Bluefin)
Jacob (Kiwi)	Anika (Grebe)	Namasvi (Nightingale)	All of Puffin
Clemency (Baobab)	Haytam (Chestnut)	Yusuf (Maidenhair)	Vilosh (Redwood)
The whole class (Orchid)	Denis (Clary)	Hassam (Helleborine)	Aryan (Wintergreen)

Walk to School

Classes with the highest percentage of walking:		Classes that have been the most active:	
1st	Rhino pm, Maidenhair & Anaconda (100%)	1st	Rhino, Anaconda, Vendace, Kiwi, Baobab, Maidenhair & Wintergreen (100%)
2nd	Clary (98%)	2nd	Lamprey, Helleborine & Wintergreen (99%)
3rd	Chestnut (97%)	3rd	Beetle & Tortoise



Important Dates

Date	Event / Information
Tuesday 12th December 2023 (9:00 -10:00 am)	Eating, Dressing and Sleep Workshop in KS1 Hall
Wednesday 13th December 2023 (2:00 - 4:30 pm)	Winter Bazaar (Please come to the KS2 gates Sheridan road) School closes at 1:30pm - please collect your child promptly
Monday 18th December 2023 (afternoon session)	Class Party
Monday 18th December 2023 (10am)	Reception Nativity performance (Reception Parents Only)
Wednesday 20th December 2023	School closes at 1:30pm

Attendance Matters!



Every Student, Every School, Every day

Here is our attendance chart. Thank you to all the parents who have sent their children to school during this time. Sending your child to school plays a vital role in your child's development.

Class	%	Class	%	Class	%	Class	%
Nursery Tiger(am)	80.9	Year 1 Bumblebee	93.3	Year 3 Lamprey	91.0	Year 5 Baobab	97.0
Nursery Rhino(am)	69.1	Year 1 Butterfly	88.6	Year 3 Halibut	89.3	Year 5 Redwood	84.8
Nursery Tiger(pm)	75.6	Year 1 Beetle	90.3	Year 3 Bluefin	91.8	Year 5 Maidenhair	96.3
Nursery Rhino(pm)	70.7	Year 1 Moth	93.1	Year 3 Vendace	94.6	Year 5 Chestnut	94.7
Reception Dolphin	87.9	Year 2 Anaconda	94.3	Year 4 Grebe	99.0	Year 6 Orchid	94.8
Reception Vaquita	91.8	Year 2 Crocodile	91.0	Year 4 Puffin	94.7	Year 6 Clary	90.0
Reception Turtle	93.3	Year 2 Gecko	94.3	Year 4 Nightingale	96.7	Year 6 Helleborine	98.3
Reception Penguin	93.3	Year 2 Tortoise	93.1	Year 4 Kiwi	95.2	Year 6 Wintergreen	98.6
Whole School			92.4%				

School Clubs (Week beginning 11th December)

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<u>Before School Club</u> 8:00-8:45 Year 1&2: Football Year 3&4: Table Tennis <u>After School Club</u> 3:30-4:30 KS1: Girls Football Year 3&4: Girls Football Year 5&6: Girls Football	<u>Before School Club</u> 8:00-8:45 Year 1&2: Netball Year 3&4: Yoga <u>After School Club</u> 3:30-4:30 KS1: Dance Year 3&4: Hockey Year 5&6: Hockey	<u>No Clubs</u>	<u>No Clubs</u>	<u>No Clubs</u>

Mrs Cecilia Mojzes
Executive Head Teacher

Mr Rick Probett
Chair of Governors

Mrs Amber Ilyas
Associate Head Teacher