



Friday 7th December 2018

Melanie Vine, Headteacher



Christmas Fayre

TODAY - 3.30pm in the school hall

Meet Father Christmas, listen to the choir, eat mince pies, secret gift room, games, face painting and lots more. Come along and get into the festive spirit!



Attendance champions

Congratulations to Monkeys and Giraffes whose attendance was **100%** for the week commencing 26th – 30th November 2018.



Well done for working so hard!

Yvie Turner, Martha Smith, Lara Thompson, Emma Thomas – for really challenging themselves in calculating angles. **Abigail Phillips, George Burton, Ava Schwingen, Darcy Theedom** – superb diary entries about boarding the Titanic. **Joe Mortier** – mastering grid method for multiplication. **Reuben Moore** – superb work in maths.



Santa's Grotto

Tickets for meeting Santa at the Christmas Fayre that have been pre-sold will have been given to your child. Please make sure that you check your child's bags to ensure that you get to see Santa.

Lost Property

We have accumulated a large amount of lost property, which will be put out on the playground next Monday and Tuesday at 8.40am. Please check to see if any of these items belong to your child/ren. Items not reclaimed will be disposed of during the holiday period. Thank you.



Y6 Extended Trip

Parents of Y6 children who are attending the Y6 extended trip, future payment dates are as follows:

- **2nd payment** of £50 **was due** 3rd December 2018
- **3rd Payment** of £50 due 8th February 2019
- **Final Payment** of £60 due on 22nd March 2019.

We kindly ask that you send payments in on time.

Admissions 2019

You are probably aware that the statutory national closing date for applications for Reception places for the school year that starts in September 2019 is **15th January 2019**. Please note late applications made after the closing date are considered after those made on time, which can dramatically reduce parents' chances of being offered a place at their preferred school.

Applications must be made online by the closing date. Please do not assume that a place will automatically be offered. Visit www.essex.gov.uk/admissions.

Inclusion/SEND

Mrs Woolgar, Inclusion/SEND Leader works Mon-Thurs only. If you need support or to discuss a need on a Friday, please contact Mrs Vine.

Christmas jumper day



Children can wear a Christmas jumper on 14th December, however, please note this is **not** a non-uniform day.



School Council News

It's been a busy month for the School Council! Hundreds of gifts have been collected for the Project Christmas Appeal, run by the charity Emmaus and Colchester Food Bank. Mrs Thompson dropped them off to the Colchester offices and received a wonderful welcome on her arrival. The ladies who worked there just couldn't believe how much we had collected and had to help carry everything in from the car!



The School Council have also discussed many topics in our meetings. These have included:

- behaviour and being courteous to others,
- the problem of litter in the playground,
- thinking up new ideas to replace the ticket system at lunchtime,
- welcoming visitors to our school,
- discussing ideas for enhancing our curriculum, with fun activities funded by Friends.

I feel really proud of the way the School Council have worked together this term, their dedication to the cause and behaviour in meetings. The older children have supported the younger ones and everyone's ideas have been heard and respected. I can't wait to see what the Spring Term will bring! **Mrs Thompson**

Parking

Whilst we understand parking is limited by the school it is **not safe** to drop children off in running cars which holds up other drivers driving along Park Lane. Congestion caused by parents doing this often runs onto the very busy Church Road.

Can I also reiterate, for the safety of all our children, parents who do drive children to school park their cars safely and **not** on **double yellow lines** or **zig zag** markings:

- zig zag markings provide a clear space for children to cross where they can see traffic and traffic can see them
- the law states you cannot stop, wait or drop off passengers on zig zag lines during the hours given on the accompanying sign
- Civil Enforcement Officers can issue tickets on the spot if they find anyone waiting or parking on the zig zag markings.

Earls Colne has a large car park at the rear of the Co-op which offers free parking and is a short walking distance from the school.

I would also like to remind parents, that the two car parks are for **staff use only, at all times** (including dropping children off for morning clubs. Thank you.





Online Safety

We would like to make you aware of the seemingly fun site Roblox which is not suitable for young children. Roblox Studio allows users to create their own games for others to play on a platform. The games are user generated, giving the users freedom to potentially include things you do not want children to be exposed to, for example violence, weapons and even pornography. The games are aimed at 8 to 18 year old, but there are currently no age restrictions for signing up. This means that both adults and young people can play and communicate with each other. Once a friend request is accepted they can communicate with each other outside of gameplay.

Another site that is not suitable is Fortnite due to the high levels of violence.

The World Health Organisation has recently recognised gaming disorder as a condition – so it is important to carefully monitor how long children are playing such games.

For more information go to www.nationalonlinesafety.com

Key dates – Autumn 2018

December	
7 th	Christmas Fayre
11 th	Flu immunisations
14 th	Christmas jumper day
	Christmas dinner
20 th -6 th Jan	Christmas break
January 2019	
3 rd and 4 th	Non-pupil days



Christmas Crafts

Earls Colne Library
Saturday 15 December, 10am-12noon

Join in the seasonal fun and make Christmas bunting, twig trees, reindeer food, and more!
Suitable for age 3 years old and above

For further information contact
Essex Libraries on 0345 603 7628
or visit libraries.essex.gov.uk/events



Baby and Toddler Rhymetime Christmas Special

Earls Colne Library
Tuesday 18 December
2.15-2.45pm

Join in with Christmas rhymes and stories



For further information contact
Essex Libraries on 0345 603 7628

Christmas Messy Church

Craft Dance Drama
Make a puppet
Carols Finger Food

Earls Colne Baptist Church Sunday 9th December 4pm

