The Buzz

Keeping you up to date with our weekly news bulletin

Earls Colne PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY

JAKKI SIBLEY HEADTEACHER

10TH NOVEMBER 2023

WOW, WOW, WOW! FIREWORKS GALORE!

What a fantastic firework display we had last weekend! It was really amazing to see so many people come out to support and enjoy, what we think, were the best fireworks EVER!

None of this could happen without the hard work and dedication of our Friends of ECPS team and to them we send a huge thank you and appreciation for all they do for our school.

Key dates – 2023-24	
November 2023	
16th	Year 3 trip to Colchester Castle
17th	Children in Need
20th	Flu Immunisations – Whole School
23rd	Year 1 trip to Hollytrees Museum
24th	Keyboard Assembly 2:30pm
December 2023	
5th & 6th	'Prickly Hay KS1 Nativity' - 1:45pm
7th	Reception Nativity – 2pm
11th	Rock Steady Concert – 9:30am
19th	EY & KS1 Carol Concert 9am KS2 10:15am (Both at St Andrews Church)
20th	Christmas lunch Last day of Term!

Well done for working so hard!

Oscar Finch – Super writing progress. Oscar's letter to the 'Felt tips' was just brilliant!

Edison Gawne, Violet Minors and Hayden Burkhill – For fantastic letter writing in English about the mysterious disappearance of the felt tip pens!

3PR Weekly Totaliser Champions!

This week's winners are **3H** Class!

Attendance champions

Congratulations to **6S classe** whose attendance was an amazing **99%** for this week!

Every class was again over 90%! KEEP IT UP!

NATIVITY TICKETS

Nativity tickets for both the KS1 and Reception productions are available to book via School Cloud. These will be available to book until Friday 1st December and all allocated tickets will be sent home week beginning Monday 6th December. Allocation is the usual 2 tickets per family.

If you have any issues at all logging onto your School Cloud account, please contact the school office who are happy to book tickets on your behalf.

We are holding a waiting list in the school office for those who would like additional tickets, if available. These will be allocated once all other tickets have been issued and only if we have any spare.

Both year groups have made a request for raffle prizes to raise funds to cover the cost of props/ costumes etc. The raffles will be drawn after each performance and all donations can be left with the school office.

BOOK YOUR CHRISTMAS LUNCH!

The lunch menu for the last week of term is now available on School Grid and includes the Christmas Lunch for Wednesday 20th December - please note that the Christmas lunch meal, will be at an increased cost of £2.50 for all KS2 pupils.

As with all meals, please book as soon as possible with cut off being at midnight on the Wednesday the week before.

PRIMARY SCHOOL APPLICATIONS 2024

Just a reminder that the primary school (Reception) admission round opened on **Monday 6 November 2023**, for parents of children to apply for a Reception school place for the academic year that starts in September 2024.

The statutory national closing date for applications is **15 January 2024**.

From 6 November 2023, applications can be made online via www.essex.gov.uk/admissions. with 99% of parents in Essex applying online last year!

All of the application information is available on the above mentioned website, where you can also find a copy of the Primary Education in Essex 2024-25 booklet and the Schools Admissions Policies Directories which contains details of all school admission policies.

SCHOOL PHOTOS ARE LIVE!

If you pre-registered with Carmel Jane, you should have now had an email with your unique access link. If you didn't, please contact Carmel Jane Photography via the following link:
https://www.carmeljane.co.uk/pre-registration-support/

Please quote registration code: **JRUMPWA**

All photographs will be sent straight to home address with limited discounts available for the first 14 days.

For any queries please e-mail: info@carmeljane.co.uk or telephone 01277 822674 (9am-5pm) Carmel Jane Photography

FLU IMMUNISATIONS – REMINDER!

The team will be visiting school on Monday 20th November and all consents must be received by Thursday 16th November. Any received after this date will sadly result in your child being unable to have the vaccine this year in school, so if you haven't already completed and returned the form, you have until the 16th November.

LOST PROPERTY

We have had a lot of requests of late for lost jumpers etc. As a school we do not hold a central point for lost property. All named items which are found around the school are sent back to the relevant classes and each class has a lost property collection in each of their cloakroom areas.
If at the end of a term there is a collection of un-named items which haven't been claimed, these will go to the 'It Takes a Village' shop in the village. Please name all your child's belongings – we cannot return items which are not named.

CHILDREN IN NEED 2023

With the challenge of 'Bearpees' set and accepted – all donations can be made via our link on ParentPay - https://app.parentpay.com/ParentPayShop/Foc/Default.aspx?shopid=12542

All donations made are completely anonymous – new/ additional sponsor forms can be picked up from school reception if needed. Good luck everyone!

Agents of CHANGE

Politics Special!

Our Year 5 and 6 children have been thinking hard about how they would like the world to be in the future- and at the same time earning their 'Write an article to inspire'.

They have been asked to think about what there 3 priorities would be if they were the Prime Minister!

Their suggestions have been amazing and would have been amazing additions to the Kings Speech in parliament earlier this week.

We are going to collate all of their ideas into an Earls Colne Party Manifesto and send it off to a number of politicians and journalists to see what they think of our ideas!

Our children's political priorities include:

- Free heating for the over 60s- to be paid for by increasing taxes
- More cheap houses to be built in order to help homeless people find a home to live in
- Increasing the age at which people can buy cigarettes and vapes so that the youth of the country can be healthier
- Funded meals for the homeless and government money to support foodbanks
- Price limits to help end the cost of living crisis
- Gender pay equality for all jobs- children should be paid based on what they do rather than who they are
- 30 minute sessions every day where people can talk to someone else
- Campaigns to encourage people to recycle more

It would be great to hear more ideas from children from all year groups about how they would improve the country if they were Prime Minister. It is the ideas that are important not how they are presented.

We will be posting more of their ideas on our Agents of Change Instagram account which can be found here.

ECPSAGENT

CHANGE For the better

Dear Parents and Carers,

You will hopefully be aware of the fantastic work that Friends of Earls Colne Primary School and Nursery are doing to continually raise funds for our school.

We wanted to take this opportunity to highlight **employer match funding schemes** and how a little bit of your time could potentially double the funds for "Friends" and therefore, the school children.

If you work for an organisation that has a match funding policy, any money you raise could be matched by your employer. Companies may match the fundraising total for an event, or for the stall that their employee is working on. Usually, the employee will need to supply them with a letter from the Friends/PTA detailing the date and nature of the event, together with the total raised. High street banks, building societies, supermarkets and large corporations are likely to do match funding, but these schemes are not exclusive to the major corporate companies. If you work for an independent company, they may be interested in charitable giving through match funding too.

Some of the companies who run match funding schemes are as follows: Barclays, Halifax, Vodafone, M&S and Tesco. Some companies will also pledge time and resources instead of money, so enabling their employees to support a cause during their working week, for example, doing a school ground tidy up day, putting storage sheds together etc.

We would be hugely grateful if you could find out if your employer operates a match funding scheme, or if they are willing to match fund any of our events. If you can't help at our events, but you know the company you work for has a match funding policy, please let us know. This will be very beneficial for "Friends" to help us raise money for all our fundraising targets during the year.

If you can help, please contact Rebecca Ayre on friendsof.ecpsandnursery@gmail.com

Thank you for your support.

Friends of Earls Colne Primary School and Nursery.