



12th January 2024

HEADTEACHERS MESSAGE

Happy New Year to you! We have had a wonderful start to this year and the children have come back full of enthusiasm. It has been lovely to see them looking very smart in their uniform. Please see below a summary of what your child's learning theme is this half term and a summary of the key knowledge they will be learning. We are really excited to see all of their achievements this half term and the knowledge they learn.

In the last week of term there was no newsletter, but from our social media posts you would have seen the exciting news that Jade Vickers had an interview at the end of the Autumn term for the deputy headteacher role. I was delighted to share with you on social media and Class Dojo that she was successful in the appointment of this role. Miss Vickers completed her teacher training at Westwood Academy and taught her first class at Winter Gardens in 2015. During her time here, Miss Vickers very quickly showed her passion for teaching and learning and her ambition to be a leader, starting as PE lead and then the Early Years Foundation Stage Leader. After four years of teaching Reception, Miss Vickers began teaching in year 2, and leading maths across the school.

Miss Vickers has played a very big role in the growth and journey that Winter Gardens has been on and we are excited to see the continued impact she will have on the children in our care. Miss Vickers will now be leading and driving the curriculum to ensure the best opportunities and experiences for our children.



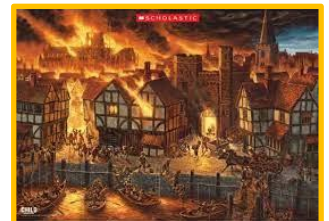
Reception



Our topic in Reception this half term is 'Frosty Frozen Fun'. The key story the children are learning is Lost and Found. The children will be learning all about The South Pole and comparing this to where we live, looking at similarities and differences such as the weather. The children will be developing their Geographical knowledge and locating key places on a map.

Year 1

We are learning about The Great Fire of London. Year 1 will be learning all about the great fire. When did it happen, how did it start and what did we learn from it and what changes were made.



Year 2



Knights, Castle and Dragons is Year 2s new learning theme with a key focus on the subjects of History and Geography. The children will learn about The Battle of Hastings 1066, how castles were built with good defences to keep out enemies, use simple fieldwork and observational skills to study human and physical features of their environment and develop an understanding of map skills and aerial photographs.

Year 3

Our topic for this half term is all about forces and magnets. We will be investigating magnets, pushes, pulls and friction in science. In Geography we will be looking at different countries using globes and atlases and comparing human and physical features. In French we will be learning to count, read and write numbers and apply these to games. In DT we will be exploring the effects of static electricity and using this to create a game of our own design! The children will be looking at different families and how our families work, support and how relationships can be managed in PSHE.





HEADTEACHERS MESSAGE

Year 4



Year 4 are learning all about the rainforest this half term: where they are located; the climate and characteristics of the rainforest; and the human impact on our environment. We are carrying this on in our Science lessons where we will be grouping animals by their characteristics; learning the difference between vertebrates and invertebrates; and using classification keys to identify animals. We will also be looking at staying safe online and understanding the importance of privacy settings to help keep us safe

Year 5

This half term for our curriculum theme, we are learning all about the ancient civilization of the Mayans. We are going to be learning about the many gods and goddesses that the Maya worshipped and how they each contributed to the Mayan way of life. We are taking on the roles of scientists this half term as we are going to be conducting a range of investigations to compare materials based on their solubility, hardness, transparency, conductivity and response to magnets.



Year 6



This half term the topic for Year 6 is 'The Human Body'. We will be learning all about the circulatory system and how our diet affects our health.

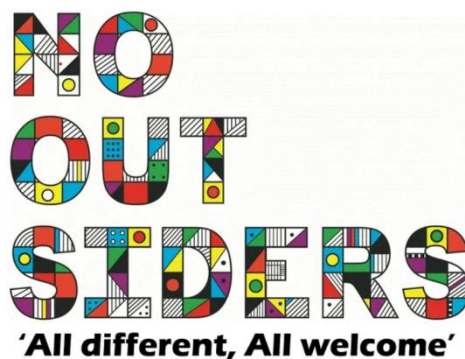
No Outsiders Workshop

Next week we will be the parent/carers workshops for our new scheme, 'No Outsiders. This will be in the dinner hall so please enter via the school office. This workshop will be for parents only.

Tuesday 16th January = Reception, Year 1 and 2 at 2:30pm

Wednesday 17th January = Year 3 and 4 at 2:30pm

Thursday 18th January = Year 5 and 6 at 2:30pm



Timetable Rockstars

Just a reminder that next Friday, all children from Reception to Year 6 are to dress up as Times Tables Rockstar's for our special Rockstar's day. This is all about times tables. Please see the letter on Class Dojo that came out this week regarding the workshops next week.

We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at our workshops.

Thank you for your ongoing support. Have a lovely weekend.

Katie Herbert



Reading top tip!

DOTS AND DASHES

You may hear the children talking about dots and dashes. These are the 'sound buttons' that children use to help them to read and write. They help the children to identify single sounds (e.g. m, a, s, d) and 'special friends' which are made up of more than one sound (e.g. sh, the, ng, ire, igh, ay). They are a really useful tool to help children identify the sounds and read the word and are used daily in our RWI lessons.

w <u>ing</u>	<u>ch</u> in	th <u>ick</u>
<u>ch</u> op	<u>ch</u> at	<u>qu</u> it
<u>qu</u> iz	<u>s</u> ing	th <u>ing</u>
<u>b</u> ang	th <u>is</u>	th <u>in</u>
<u>f</u> ix	<u>s</u> ix	z <u>ag</u>
<u>z</u> ip	<u>f</u> ox	<u>b</u> ox



BRONZE READING BADGE

Well done to the children who have read 50 times

Willow (Scotland)
Theo (Italy)
Taylor (Kenya)
Cooper, Elise & Millie (USA)
Lily-Rose, Molly (Mexico)

SILVER READING BADGE

Well done to the children who have read 50 times

Stanley (Wales)
Ivy (Scotland)
Jack, Millie & Lenny (NI)
Theo, Ella & Emily (Italy)
Charlotte, Phoebe (Brazil)
Elsie, Gracie, Lexi I & Molly (USA)



CELEBRATION ASSEMBLY

Well done to your child who received a celebration certificate this week

George & Luna (Scotland)
Imogen & Elliott (England)
Jude & Arlo (N. Ireland)
Kobie & Thomas (Wales)
Dougie & Ralph (Italy)
Mia & Mason (India)
Taylor & Alfie (Kenya)
Harry & Ruby (Brazil)
Zak & Khalid (Egypt)
Liam & Lacey-Rose (USA)
Teddy & Freya (Mexico)
Sydney (Greece)
Alysia & Summer (China)





Great news...South Essex Academy Trust is now on social media!

If you are happy to, please follow us and like/comment on and share our posts. It will help to promote the trust/schools and share with you and the school communities what we are getting up to!



The Dinner Menu for w/c 15th January 2023 will be Week 2 from the menu. Cold packed lunches are required to be ordered in advance.

https://www.instagram.com/south_essex_academy_trust?utm_source=qr



<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100088042883442>




GET IN TOUCH

Penn Sports Ltd T/A PENN UK
15-17 Kents Hill Road,
South Benfleet, Essex
SS7 5PN

Tel: 01268 751724
Email: sales@pennuk.com



PRIMARY SCHOOL ADMISSIONS

The new a primary (reception) school place starting September 2024 can be made between 6 November 2023 and 15 January 2024.

Before you apply

You should:

check you live in the [Essex administrative area](#)

read the [primary school admissions booklet](#).

You may want to check [the priority admission catchment area schools](#).

You can also watch our video on applying for a primary school place.

Contact the School Admissions Team

Telephone: 0345 603 2200

Email: admissions@essex.gov.uk



**DRINK YOUR WAY TO BETTER HEALTH. DRINK WATER, STAY HYDRATED
REMEMBER YOUR WATER BOTTLE!**





CALENDAR

Monday 15th January 2024	Young Voices O2 Trip
Tuesday 16th January 14:30	YF, Y1 & Y2 Parent/Carers No Outsiders Workshop
Wednesday 17th January 14:30	Y3 & Y4 Parent/Carers No Outsiders Workshop
Wednesday 17th January 8:45 to 9:45	Y5/6 Parent Maths Presentation
Thursday 18th January 14:30	Y5 & Y6 Parent/Carer No Outsiders Workshop
Friday 19th January 8:45 to 9:45	Y2, 3 and 4 Parent Maths Presentation
Friday 19th January	Time Table Rockstars & Numbots Dressing Up Day
Tuesday 23rd January	Scotland RWI Parent/Carer Workshop
Wednesday 24th January	England RWI Parent/Carer Workshop
Thursday 1st February	Year 6 Cyber Safety Workshops
Wednesday 7th February	Y5 to Castle View School High School Musical
Wednesday 7th February	Athletics Hall event Y5 & 6 at Deanes (selected pupils)
Thursday 8th February	Y5 & Y6 Anti-Bullying Drama Workshop
Friday 9th February	YEP Photography in for individual child and sibling photos
Monday 12th February	Y2 to Colchester Castle
Tuesday 13th February	Y4 Spirit of the Wild
Wednesday 14th February	Badminton event Y5 & 6 at Deanes (selected pupils)
Monday 19th to Friday 23rd February	February Half Term
Monday 26th February	School reopens
Tuesday 27th & Wednesday 28th February	YF Height, Weight and Vision Checks
Wednesday 6th March	Y6 Height and Weight Checks
Wednesday 13th March	Football event Y2 at Waterside (selected pupils)
Friday 15th March	Infant Music Festival
Monday 1st April to Friday 12th April	Easter Half Term
Monday 15th April	School Reopens
Monday 22nd April	Mini tennis event Y5 & 6 (selected pupils)
Tuesday 23rd April	Y4 Swimming Lessons start
Monday 13th to Thursday 16th May	Y6 SATS
Wednesday 22nd May	Rounders event Y6 at Deanes (selected pupils)
Monday 27th to Friday 31st May	Half Term
Monday 3rd June	School Reopens
Wednesday 26th June	Quad Kids event Y3, 4, 5 & 6 (selected pupils)
Tuesday 25th and Wednesday 26th June	Induction days - King John, The Deanes and the Appleton School
Wednesday 10th July	Y5 Creativity Day at Cornelius Vermuyden
Monday 1st to Thursday 4th July	Y6 Residential Trip to Bradwell Outdoor Centre

