



Reception News

This is the first newsletter of the year so we would like to firstly take the opportunity to wish you a happy new year and say a huge well done to the children for working hard in their first full week back to school!

Our topic this term is 'People who help us' and this week we have been looking at people in our community who help us such as the lollipop person. We have taken this opportunity to learn the importance of road safety too. The children should be able to confidently tell you to stop, look, listen and think before crossing the road.

On Thursday we had our first set of visitors in, we were very lucky to have a paramedic and a nurse come in to see the children. They loved trying the stethoscopes and wearing slings!

Next week we will be learning more about these professions and be having some more special visitors in to visit.

Challenges!

Homework folders: Each Friday your child will come home with some homework sheets to support their learning.

Please return homework folders by Thursday each week.

Reading: Please read at home each night and record this in your child's reading record. Your child's reading book will be changed weekly. You can record any story that you read or share together at home.

Bedtime story: Please log on to Tapestry this evening and every Friday for a bedtime story read by one of our team for you and your child to enjoy together. This can be recorded as a 'read' in your child's reading record.

Phonics video: Each week we will send home a phonics video for your child to watch and join in with at home recorded by our Phase Leader Mrs Templar.

Tapestry: Don't forget to add your adventures to Tapestry—the children love sharing their photos on the big board and this really helps to support their speaking and listening skills.

Weekly Routines

PE is now indoors on a Thursday. Children should come to school in their PE kits with all jewellery removed.

Reading books—reading books will be changed weekly. Other books can be recorded in you child's reading record.

Library books—Our library circle time takes place each Friday. Please make sure your child returns their book each week in order to choose a new one .

Water bottles—Please make sure your child has a named water bottle with them in school every day.

Certificate winner

School value: Eva, Nura, George

Superstar reader: Ava, Finn, Maisie

Superstar writer: Dolcie, Danny, Naomi



Reading winners

The winning class this week are RC with 114 reads!!!!

Well done for collectively achieving the most reads at home this week. Your class will be caring for our special reading bear this week as a reward :-)

Nursery news

Welcome back everyone and a Happy New Year! It was lovely to see all of the children back in the classroom and playing together again with their friends. This term in the Nursery we are celebrating a new season and learning all about Winter and the changes that we see, feel and hear. The children have been talking about the warmer clothes that they are now wearing, played themed number games, practiced their name writing, dressed up in woolly clothes alongside their friends and been creative by making their own wintry clothes washing lines! We have also been reading the story of 'Lost and Found' which has allowed the children to make their own cardboard lighthouses!

Tapestry & Class Charts

Thank you to everyone who has already uploaded photos of their child and their news. It really is appreciated and helps with communication during carpet time. Please keep them coming! If you have yet to access either Tapestry and/or Class Charts, then please let one of the Nursery Team know.

Dates for the diary

Thursday 18th January - Favourite Dinner Day

Tuesday 6th February –Safer Internet Day

Friday 1st March—St David's Day

Week of 4th March—Book Week

Thursday 7th March –World Book Day dress up day

Wednesday 6th and Thursday 7th March—Parents evening

Week of 10th March—British Science Week

NHS Speech drop in

If your child is under 5 years old and you have any concerns about your child's speech, language, communication or interaction skills please contact NELFT at Great Oaks for an appointment to support your child on the contact details below.

Email: drop-in@nelft.nhs.uk

Telephone: 0300 300 1544

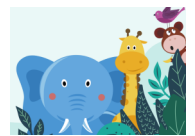


Talk, Listen, Cuddle—TLC

TLC is an Essex campaign helping parents, carers and families give their young children the best start to life, developing their communication skills through playful learning at home.

On the website there is information about milestones for different age groups, tips, activities and resources to use at home.

For more information visit: www.tlc-essex.info



Reporting absences

Please make sure to report your child's absences each day that they are off using PA Connect.

This should be reported by 8.30am each day.

Additional advice and support available for parents

GOOD BEGINNINGS COURSE

Good beginnings is a 10 week course run for parents by Essex county council. It is aimed at parents of children who have Autism (ASD) and social communication needs and are aged 5 and under (no diagnosis necessary).

Spring term sessions:

Wickford on Tuesday mornings 9.30 –11.30 am Or

Online Tuesday mornings 9-10am.

For further information and to book a place please visit the Essex SEND website at www.send.essex.gov.uk

BOSP TOTS

BOSP run groups for children and parents with additional needs or disabilities age 4 and under.

They currently run sessions at Wat Tyler country park (by the RSPB building) on a Tuesday from 10am-11am.

For more information check out the web address below:

<https://www.bosp.co.uk/community/bosp-brighter-opportunities-for-special-people-13333/news/new-baby-toddler-group-25543>

CHILDRENS CENTRES

We have a few children's centres local to us who are able to offer a great deal of support to families. They run lots of sessions and groups for different aged children as well as parents. Please check out time website below—there is a timetable of events available on this page.

<https://essexfamilywellbeing.co.uk/hubs/northlands-park-family-hub/>



Essex Child and Family Wellbeing Service

SNAP

SNAP is a charity based in Brentwood which offers advice and support for families with children with additional needs or disabilities.

They always have a great range of groups and events for children and siblings are welcome.

More information can be found at the web address

below:

<https://www.snapcharity.org/>

Health visitor and Family wellbeing team contact details (hcrq care group)

For support and advice with a range of issues including toileting, sleep, diet and behaviour please contact 0300 247 0013 and ask for Katy Taylor who is based in Fryerns family hub and has links with our school.

Who can I speak to at school?

As well as your child's class teacher there are other people in Early Years who can support you with concerns about your child.

Mrs S Templar—EYFS Phase leader (curriculum/ behaviour/ class worries)

Contact details: admin@willows.essex.sch.uk (please mark FOA Mrs Templar)

Mrs K Rumball—EYFS SENDCO (support and advice for children with any additional needs or disabilities)

Contact details: sendmailbox@willows.essex.sch.uk

Mrs T Clay—Sensory Nurture lead/ Autism Champion

Contact details: tracey.clay@willows.essex.sch.uk

Mrs J Smith— Family support worker/ Parent liaison/ Senior mental health lead/ Antbullying ambassador

Contact details: 01268 470880 Ext.208 Email: jacqui.smith@willows.essex.sch.uk