



Reception News

Thank you to everyone who was able to join us for the Christmas craft afternoon and Christmas carol afternoon this week—it was lovely to share some festive cheer with you all!

This week we have been learning all about Christmas. We have been writing lists using our phonics, learning about the traditional nativity story, finding out about who the Jolly Postman delivers to at Christmas and using our shapes to make reindeers.

Next week we are at school for the final three days of the year. On Monday morning we will be having a festive movie time. On Wednesday we will be taking part in Christingle in school and having class celebrations.

Challenges!

No homework for Christmas—Please just enjoy making memories with your families and send us lots of photos to share in the new year on the big board.

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 eve 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.

Weekly Routines

PE will be outside on a Monday afternoon while the weather is dry. Please make sure all jewellery is 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: Poppy, George, Oliver

Superstar reader: Ava, Connor, Arnie

Superstar writer: Chloe, Kareem, Evelyn



Reading winners

The winning class this week are RTR

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

In the Nursery this week we have been learning more about Christmas and reading the story of Stick Man who helps a special visitor at this time of year out of a chimney!

The children have been making cards, tinsel messy play, decorating baubles, playing Christmas games using their number knowledge and practising their name writing.

Thank you to everyone who was able to join us for the Christmas craft sessions on Friday. It really was so lovely to share some festive cheer with you all!

Next week we are at school for the final three days of the year where the Christmas festivities will continue, including taking part in Christingle in school and having class celebrations.

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, especially over the Christmas period! 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

Last day of term—Wednesday 20th December

Return to school—Thursday 4th January

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

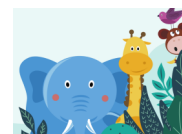


Talk, Listen, Cuddle—TLC

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/ Antibullying ambassador

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