



Reception News

Dear parents and carers,

It's been a busy festive week in Reception, where children have learnt all about The Nativity story and enjoyed dressing up and re-enacting the events in class. In class this week, the children have also made their own Christingles which they proudly took home with them and most children even waited until after leaving class before eating the sweets. Hopefully they were able to tell you the meaning of the Christingle and its different parts. Children have been busy writing Christmas cards and decorating calendars to take home. Be sure to check your children's bags to see what lovely things are in there! The classes thoroughly enjoyed their Christmas meal and class parties, with the opportunity to wear festive clothes and have fun with their friends.

Wishing all of our families a very Happy Christmas .

Please ensure that the children have a warm winter coat when they return, as they will still be playing outside in colder temperatures. Please name all items of clothing; including gloves, hats and scarves so we can return lost items when they are found.

Any empty small boxes, yoghurt pots, milk bottle lids , buttons etc would be greatly received by class teachers for junk modelling!

Have a great weekend!

The Reception team

Please avoid walking through the gates in Reception when the Year 1 teachers are handing over their classes . Instead you may go onto the Key stage 1 playground via the Reception gates, closest to the main gate, where no children are being handed over to parents. Thank you.

Reporting Absence

Please report child absences using the Willows PA connect app. The school must be informed EVERY school day that the child is absent. Please ensure that you have reported your child's absence by 8.30am.

Challenges!

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: Below is the Bug Club link to the sounds and actions we will be learning this term

<https://mediaplayer.pearsoncmg.com/assets/bcpafsp2>

Phonics video: Please watch the phonics videos with your child to help them practise their reading and writing at home.

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 will be inside on Thursday afternoons, please send your child to school in their PE kit. Please remove earrings unless they have a flat back . No tape is allowed on earrings without a flat back.



Certificate winners

Reading — Harley N, Ioana S, Emily M

Writing – Adam B, Oakley C, Nicolas V

Value — Annabelle V, David P, Elvianna P-M



Nursery news

We have had a fantastic Christmassy week in Nursery this week. The children have made and learnt about Christingle and were very lucky to meet Reverend Trudy, who came to Nursery on Wednesday to visit the children.

The children have made cards for their grown ups and a very special decoration for you to keep (please check your child's bag for these) but I am sure the children's favourite activity was the Christmas party on Friday!

Thank you!

Thank you all for a wonderful first term, we look forward to seeing you all back at Nursery on the 6th January.

Coats and water bottles

Please ensure that your child brings a labelled, weather appropriate coat to school with them every day, as we love to spend time in the Nursery garden and it is getting very cold. Could children also bring a filled, labelled water bottle each day too.

Wishing you all a wonderful Christmas, from The Nursery team.

Dates for the diary

20/12/24– Last day of term

06/01/25– First day of Spring term

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



Children's 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

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.