

I hope that you had a lovely half-term break and made the most of not having to get up to do the school run!
During the break, we had new carpets fitted in the Reception classrooms and corridors - the areas look lovely!
At the junior site, we had some less exciting work done - repairs to the playground, following the RAAC work. I am very pleased to say that we have now completed the RAAC work, after two years of disruption, and, thankfully, the DfE paid for all the work!

We would like to wish Miss Roe all the very best as she begins her maternity leave today. We're grateful for her dedication and care, and we look forward to welcoming her back in due course. In the meantime, we send our warmest wishes for a joyful and restful time ahead.

As you know, I've been nominated in the Billericay Community Awards - Favourite Teacher - category. I am honoured to have made it this far so thank you to everyone who nominated me - but - you all know me - I am competitive - so I would love to win! If you've not had a chance to vote for me, just visit this website - www.yourbillericay.org/community-awards

I am up against some really tough competition so every vote counts - Mum, Dad, Nan, Grandad Voting closes on Monday. Thank you, in advance, for your support!

Christmas Bazaar - Year Group Competition

We will be accepting donations for the Year Group stalls from Monday:



Year 3 – Red
Year 4 – Green
Year 5 – Silver
Year 6 – Gold



Children are asked to bring in an item or items in the above colours for their year group tombola. These can be Christmas decorations, gifts, toiletries, pens, notepads, picture frames, food, jewellery, sweets etc. The Year Group that raises the most money on the day will earn themselves a **non-uniform day** on Monday 15th December so please support the stalls by donating gifts and also by visiting them during the bazaar too.

School Choirs - Christmas Bazaar - 22nd November

The children in our two school choirs will be singing during our Christmas Bazaar. Our Year 5/6 choir will perform at 1.00pm and the Year 3/4 choir will perform at 2.00pm.

Please meet in the main hall 5 minutes before the scheduled performance time.

There is no need to wear school uniform but please wear a Christmas hat if you have one!

Children in Need - Friday 14th November

To celebrate 25 years of Children in Need, children can wear Spots or Yellow on Friday 14th November for a suggested donation of £1 which can be paid via ParentPay or in cash on the day. Next week, we will be selling badges and ears in school. If your child would like to purchase one of these items, please send money in a named envelope. Badges cost £1, ears cost £3 - once they are gone, we will not be getting any more!

Next Week's Diary Dates

School Dinners - Week 1

Monday 10th November

- Flu immunisations - Session 2 - junior site - am; infant site - pm
- 'Drop Ins' with Maths Set teachers - Years 3 - 6. 3.30pm - 5.00pm. Please pre-book.

Tuesday 11th November

- Year 4 visit to Colchester Castle - school uniform, fruit for snack, packed lunch, no money, usual school times
- 3BW 'Parents to Lunch' event - 12.00pm

Wednesday 12th November

- Year 4 'Open Door' event at 2.15pm - 3.00pm
- Year 3 Inter House gala - 6.30pm - 7.15pm
- Year 5 Inter House gala - 7.15pm - 8.00pm
Both at The Billericay School

Thursday 13th November

- Lesley Williams (BYT) - Anti-Bullying Workshops for Years 3 - 6.

Friday 14th November

- Children in Need - wear Sports and/or Stripes for a suggested donation of £1
- Book Fair - junior site - open after school to all children - Reception - Year 6
- Infant Discos/Magic Shows -
Reception: 3.10pm - 4.15pm;
Years 1 and 2: 4.45pm - 6.00pm

Year 4 'Open Door' Afternoon

If you have a child in Year 4, you are very warmly invited to join them in their classroom on **Wednesday 12th November** from 2.15pm - 3.00pm. You will have a chance to experience life inside a Year 4 classroom and get a flavour of some of their recent activities - you may even have the opportunity to join in! As this is an informal, experiential afternoon, children's books won't ordinarily be available but there will be lots of work on the display boards for you to enjoy. Please could we ask that you don't bring pre-school children along as the classrooms will be very full and also that only one adult per child attends.
Please could you come in via the front entrance and sign in when you are in your child's classroom.

Private Car Parks - Trafalgar Way/Westbourne Gardens

Please don't park in these car parks - they are private and for residents only. Thank you.

Pre-Loved Uniform

If you would like to purchase any items (at a hugely reduced price) please contact Maggi (Co-Chair of the PFA) on: 07801 896254.

*'Maximum Effort for
Maximum Achievement'*

Inter-House Cross Country

Before half-term we held our first whole school inter-house event, with all children representing their house: Lions, Panthers, Leopards or Jaguars. Taking part in cross-country was a first for the children on the infant site as they completed a lap of the perimeter of the field; however, the distances ramp up on the Junior site with Year 6 completing 4 laps. The children showed great stamina, determination and support for one another during the races. Well done!

Overall Winners: **Leopards**

Many thanks go to all the teachers and support staff who helped the event run smoothly and well done to all our runners!



Parents to Lunch

On Monday, we held our first 'Year 3 Parents to Lunch' event. The parents of children in 3W had a lovely time, chatting to the children and other parents too, whilst, of course, enjoying a delicious lunch! We were also joined by PCSO Lauren Bryant who had a lovely time, enjoying lunch with the children and then listening to some of our Year 4 children read. Thank you to all the staff who played a role in the organisation/facilitation of this event.



Billericay Family CVL 2/3 Netball Tournament

On Tuesday morning, 15 of our Year 6 netball squad took part in their second of three CVL netball tournaments held at The Billericay School. All the girls showed great team spirit and were very encouraging of each other. The tournament provided another great opportunity for our netballers to grow, test their skills, and learn together — lots of positives and plenty to keep working on in training. Overall, our two teams came a solid 4th and 7th place out of 9 schools.

Thank you to Mrs Lee, Miss Burt and Mrs Coughlan for assisting with the Netball Club weekly and for overseeing the teams at the tournament.

A big thank you also to the parents supporting the event with transport.



Inter-House Swimming Galas

Tuesday evening this week saw over 70 excited swimmers, from Year 4 and Year 6, take part in our annual Inter-House galas. The competitions ran very smoothly with everyone having a great time and enjoying the competitive, but fun, atmosphere. The children were urged on by the fabulous support and encouragement from the spectators who seemed to be having just as much fun, in spite of the heat!

The Year 4 gala was won by: Lions

The Year 6 gala was won by: Leopards

Thank you very much to Alex, Will and Megan (Elites Swimming) for their assistance with the gala and to all the parents who helped with the timekeeping. Thank you also to Mrs Pretlove, Mrs Cambridge, Mrs Webb and Ms Tutton for their help with the galas! Well done to all the children who took part - I thought you were amazing! The race times will also be used to select the school swimming team - children who are successful will receive a letter in due course.

Halloween

It was lovely to have so many visitors on Halloween and see the amazing costumes and outfits. It was a good job I had so many sweets to hand out!

Thank you for including me on your trick and treat route!

#helloyellow day

Thank you for supporting #helloyellow day - it was great to see such an array of yellow and we managed to raise £478 for Young Minds which is amazing. Thank you!



Reception/Key Stage 1 Celebrations



Reception 'Stars of the Week'



Year One 'Stars of the Week'



Year Two 'Stars of the Week'



- ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
- ★ ★ Out of School Success - Left ★ ★
- ★ ★ 50 Things - Right ★ ★
- ★ ★ Good Manners - Far right ★ ★
- ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★



News from Year One

Year One have had a fantastic start to this half term! They've begun exploring their new class book, A Mouse Called Julian, and have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know the main character. The children had great fun drawing Julian and using adjectives to describe his features. They also got creative by recreating his home using materials found around the classroom.

In Science, Year One have started their exciting new topic on 'Everyday Materials'. They loved sorting through a variety of objects and grouping them based on their material.

News from Reception

This week in Reception as an introduction to our new topic of 'Lights and Celebrations', the children have been finding out about the festival of Diwali.

We have been reading the story 'The Best Diwali Ever', acting out the story and making decorations and cards. The children have enjoyed discovering how and why light is an important aspect of this festival. They have been making lanterns and cards.



News from Year Two

Year Two have started their new book 'Hidden Figures' this week. They started the week by looking at features of persuasive writing. The children had great fun reading a letter, written by Mrs Pye, trying to persuade Mrs Robinson to let them have more playtime.

Sadly, it wasn't persuasive enough!

School Council - Children in Need

The infant School Council children worked hard on designing some fun and inspiring posters for Children in Need! They will use their posters to discuss the importance of 'Children in Need' next week.

Miss Kane - Rabbits Class

Following a successful interview before half-term, I am pleased to inform you that Miss Kane will be Acting EYFS Leader, from 1st January 2026. She will continue to teach Rabbits Class so, rest assured, we do not anticipate any disruption for her class. Congratulations, Miss Kane! As this is an internal promotion, we still need to recruit a teacher for Badgers class from January - the process is underway and we will share details as soon as possible.



Celebration Assembly

'Well Done' to all the children who were awarded MERIT certificates this week.

<i>Mollie Parker</i>	<i>Mollie Smith</i>
<i>Jonny McConnell</i>	<i>Jack Wells</i>
<i>Ernie Pattison</i>	<i>Sienna Lewis</i>
<i>Jacob Spink</i>	<i>Isla Bellinger</i>
<i>Aubrey Mears</i>	<i>Conchobhar Veats</i>
<i>David Timperon</i>	<i>Rory Atkinson</i>
<i>George Costello</i>	<i>Florence Farrant</i>
<i>Mila Kent</i>	<i>George Bradley</i>
<i>Zachary Webster</i>	<i>Francesca Howe</i>
<i>Lara Isikgun</i>	<i>Xenia Puig-Villegas</i>
<i>Megan Smith</i>	<i>Teddy Chapman</i>
<i>Lily Woods</i>	



This week's 'Writers of the Week' are:

*Olivia Murley Clara Hall Archie Field
Elodie Wang Gao Barbaros Aksoy
Oliver Wilson Percy Metcalfe Freya Evans
Well done to our writing super stars!*



This week's 'Mathematicians of the Week' are:

*Iris Balkwill Ethan Hall Kayhan Kemal
Julio Ferreira Melo Aubrey Mears Lucas Brousse
Jeremiah Hernandez Ava McCarthy Kishan Lythe
Well done to our magical mathematicians!*



This week's 'Readers of the Week' are:

*Thomas Mason Ella Palmer Chloe Cambridge
Iris Balkwill Aydan Aparisi Henry Glover
Emilia Escudero Bradshaw Lorne Taylor
Well done to our enthusiastic readers!*

This week's 'Times Table Rockstars' are:

*Sophie Warden Xenia Puig-Villegas
Jack Dodge Olivia Murley Henry Miller
Jude Brodie Maisie Doyle
Mia Dias Oscar Beckwith*



This week's attendance figure is: 96.9%! Almost there!

This year's provisional attendance target is 97.0%.

A special 'Well Done' to Elm, 3M and 6B who all had 100% attendance this week! Congratulations!

50 Things To Do Before Leaving Primary School
Well done to **Theo Page** who has completed the first 10 things at home!

Congratulations to **Grace Julian** who has completed 20 things!

A very special 'Well Done' to **Dominic Senior and Archie Coote** who have completed 40 things at home!

Pen Licences

Well done to **Isabella Swift, Lara Isikgun, Amelia Korvafa Elliot Bailey and Vihaan Aggarwal** who all received their Pen Licences this week.



Out of School Success

* Well done to **Sophia Hayes (3BW)** who was awarded Player of the Week at football during the weekend.

Sharing 'Out of School Success'

If your child has an 'Out of School' achievement that they would like to share -
Reception/Year One/Two - please can they bring in their trophy/medal/certificate etc on the next Thursday morning to share in Celebration Assembly
Year Three/Four/Five/Six - please send a photo with a short note to - head@buttsburyprimary.essex.sch.uk
Please put the following email header -
Out of School Success - followed by your child's name and class. Thank you.



Year 6 - Afternoon Tea

As we are well into the term now, the range of work is getting more and more diverse and the children are becoming ever-more confident when asking each other questions about chosen work. It's a great event all round!

House Points

This week's winning house:

Jaguars



Top Table

This week, the children chosen by the Midday Assistants to sit at the 'Top Table' were:

**Vinny Cater
Callum Ovel
Henry Faux
Diego Tyler-Garcia**

Rainbow Awards

Well done to this week's **VIOLET** award winners:

Olivia Spink

Dylan Mapp
William McGee

Ethan Hall
Lucas Taylor

William Kwanzambi
Leah Muller

Chester Williams
Amelia Korvafa

Congratulations to this week's **INDIGO** award recipients:

Henry Miller
Aniyah Luthra
Stanley Dillon
Xenia Puig-Villegas
Jessica Russell
Chloe Taylor
Evie Thorpe
Penelope Webster
Esa Ahmed
Luca Clark
Nieve Dyer
Yasmin Salter
Elliot Warman

Chloe McGibbon
Ashley McSharry
Harvey Perry
Kaydee Quirk
Eduardo Chambers
Thomas Chandra
Bobby Rowling
Teddy Thomas
Teddy Youngs
Leo Campbell
Caelan Hughes
Amelia Maloney
Finley Paton

Alfie Asfour
Iris Balkwill
Julio Ferreira Melo
Ben Iweka
Dougie Kerr
Lola Prior
Alfie Smallman
Vihaan Aggarwal
Oliver Allchurch
William Astridge
Oliver Baker
Jemima Broom
Jessica Pilka

Poppy Bolt Emerson
Vince Drury
Amelia Hudson
Alfie Moclair
Rhys Povey
Rhian Powell
Albie Rangecroft
Kaiser Thorby-Mead
Harrison Wooder
Lara Isikgun
Willow Harmer
Ayda Kemal
Ariana Lazell

Arthur Hitchcock
Rory Buckle
Jude Cavanagh
Noah Dias
Thomas Dyer
Charlie Partridge
Alfie Maloney
Ava McCarthy
Percy Metcalfe
Henry Faux
Mia Dixon
Freya Evans
Lily Woods

Girls' Football - Cup Match

Yesterday, the Year 5 and 6 girls football team played in the Cup against Grove Wood in Rayleigh. Nifemi Oladele was the first incumbent of the custodians role and, within the minutes, became the busiest player on the pitch making some fine saves. Despite sterling interventions from Faith Fenton and Lily Woods in defence, the score jumped to 2-0. However, with half-time approaching, Ashley McSharry used her tenacity and strength and started to turn the tide. This continued into the second half, where Lola Cohen and Ella Tennet had more ball in the final third of the pitch and were unlucky not to score on several occasions. Eventually, Ella was able to break the deadlock and, despite further unlucky efforts from Coraline Riches and Freya Anderson, the score remained at 2-1 to Grove Wood. The girls played fantastically and were great ambassadors for the school. Thank you to the parents who drove the children and came to watch the match and to Mr Tweedie for coaching/managing the team.



Our Explorers (WrapAround Care) have been doing some Art work linked to Remembrance Day.



Badminton Tournament

On Thursday morning, seven enthusiastic children from Years 5 and 6 represented our school in the badminton tournament held at Mayflower High School. Our two teams - four boys and three girls - took part in an exciting singles competition, playing a series of round-robin matches. Each of our young athletes showed skill, sportsmanship and determination throughout the tournament. A huge well done to all our players for their brilliant performances and for representing our school so proudly!

Thank you to Mr Nation for coaching and accompanying the children.



Breakfast time activities at Explorers (Buttsbury's WrapAround Care)