



St John's Green Primary School

Learn to Live, Live to Learn

Newsletter

We  Maths We are all
writers ...

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At the end of the day, the most overwhelming key to a child's success is the positive involvement of parents.

Jane D. Hull

Welcome back to all our children and parents. I trust you all had a good Christmas break and wish you the very best for the new year. As an aside to that, winning the lottery this weekend would probably help!

Practice Time

$$5 \times 5 = 25$$



As I have mentioned before, I want your children to do their very best whilst they are at our school and achieve their very best. To do that, your parental support is absolutely vital in helping your children reach their full potential.

Class Teachers have been and will be continuing to set both times tables and spellings for your children to learn weekly. These are not randomly plucked from the air by the teachers but are the expectations from the National Curriculum.

It is absolutely vital, that you as parents practice, both the spellings and the times tables with your children because the children will be having a weekly test in school.

If children don't get 80% in these tests, then we will use some of their lunchtime each day to enable the children to practise their learning of them.

All children have the potential to succeed and we must work together to unlock that potential. Being able to spell and apply multiplication facts are key elements of every child's learning.

I am almost begging you as parents to please spend 30 minutes each day, practising with your children their reading, spellings and times tables. Thirty minutes is almost no time at all, to support your children and their education.

Growth Mindset

A few extra playground markings have appeared on both our sites this week. As well as a pirate island in the Foundation Stage and a grapheme pool at Abbey Field, both sites have had our Growth Mindset motifs installed.

Part of Growth Mindset is thinking positively about our capabilities rather than embedding negative vibes in our children. If we tell them that they will never be any good at something because we weren't any good at it as parents, then it's very hard for that child to motivate themselves in that subject.

Positive praise...



Diary Dates

Wednesday 13th January. 3.30p.m.—4.00p.m. Open School. (A chance to come and have a look at your children's work in the classroom)

Monday 18th January. Open Morning. 9.00-10.15a.m. at both sites. (A chance to see the whole school in action)

Friday 22nd January 2016. Non Pupil Day, The School is closed.

Friday 29th January. Non Uniform Day, Purple Pinkie. £1. (Be as purple/pink as you can in support of the Rotary Club and End Polio Now campaign)

Wednesday 3rd February. 3.30p.m.—4.00p.m. Open School.

Week Beginning Monday 1st February. Writing Themed Week.

Week Beginning Monday 8th February, Inter House Team, Sports Competition Week.

Monday 15th—Friday 19th February. Half Term.

Monday 1st to Wednesday 3rd March. Life Bus at Abbey Field.

Week Beginning Monday 7th March. Book week. Including theme day on Friday 11th March. (More details to follow)

Tuesday 8th March. Assessment Period 2 Reports to Parents.

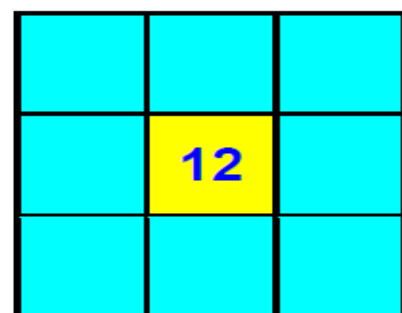
Wednesday 9th March. 5.00p.m.—7.30p.m. Parents Evening.

"Catch Up sessions for Primary School Flu Vaccinations"

An open session is offered at Primary Care Centre, Turner Road, Colchester on Tuesday 12th January from 3.00—5.00 p.m. for any children who were absent or for parents who forgot to sign the consent form.

Maths Challenge

This weeks challenge.



Can you put the numbers 1 to 8 in each of the squares so that each side adds up to the middle number?

Answers on Mr Bates' door if you are at Town site and on Mr Green's door if you are at Abbey site.

The winning entry each week from each phase will get to choose a free book or maths prize.

Awards

Tigger Award (Trinovantes) - Ethan Readhead

Eeyore Award (Oysters) — Ethan Peek

Winnie the Pooh Award (Castle) - Jadiya Turay

Rory the Lion Award (Dutch) - Freddie Sjaz

Pluto Award (Iceni) - Caitlyn Smith

Sully Award (Mercury) - Zarah Gray

Diddle Award (Claudius) - Teegan Monks

Scrappy Award (Eagles) - Freddie Barnes

Bumble Award (Circus) - Aman Fatima

Simba Award (Roses) - Thomas Smith

Stitch Award (Chariot) - Brandon Mcree

Hathi Award (Star) - Keaton Southern Wilson

Mickey Award (Jumbo) - Sonny Gaine

Heads' Award — Star

Spot— Wyatt Swain

School Dinners

I am especially proud of the school dinners and the incredible variety and options that children have when having school dinners at our school.

We do, though, need some help. Our Foundation and KS1 dinners are funded by the government based on children who have a free school meal regularly.

The majority of children do regularly have a school meal but about 20% of children don't. If those children could have a school dinner at least once a week (twice would be even better) then it means that we get full funding for our catering, which does make a significant difference in our catering budget. Friday, for some strange reason is a very popular day, and Wednesday is not far behind!

For children in KS2, the Governors of the school, have always been committed to keeping the costs as low as possible to support parents. £2.00 is not a lot for a school dinner and we are one of the cheapest schools in Colchester, with, in my humble opinion, some of the best quality. Please do use this service if you are able. Again—even if it's only once a week.

And Finally ...

It has been back to a traditional approach to teaching today as our entire computer system, including the Wi-Fi completely crashed this morning and at the time of writing is still being very unhelpful. Fortunately, we have an excellent teaching staff, who barely batted an eyelid as they reverted to the more traditional white board and pen approach.

Have a good weekend

Simon Billings



AFTER-SCHOOL CLUBS - SPRING TERM

If you are interested in your child joining a club, please confirm your child's place with the School Office.

Parents do need to confirm their interest in these clubs. There are restricted numbers on all clubs. Places will be on a strictly, first come, first served basis. Waiting lists will be kept for some clubs if necessary!

The following clubs will start week beginning Monday 11th January.

DAY	CLUB
MONDAY - AF - YEAR 1	JUMBLE JUNIORS - 3.15 - 4.15 p.m. - £22.50 for 9 weeks or £12.50 first half-term
MONDAY - AF - YEARS 5 & 6	DRAMA CLUB - 3.15 - 4.15 p.m. - In spare room at AF with Ms. Chapman
TUESDAY - TOWN Years 3 + 4	FOOTBALL CLUB - 3.30 - 4.30 p.m. - Chelsea Foundation 3.30 - 4.30 p.m. - £20.00 Whole Term (if paid in advance)
TUESDAY - AF FOUNDATION	JUMBLE JUNIORS - 3.15 - 4.15 p.m. - £22.50 for 9 weeks or £12.50 first half-term
TUESDAY - AF YEAR 6 ONLY	WOODWORK CLUB - 3.15 - 4.15 p.m. - £10.00 for 5 weeks (Waiting List available)
WEDNESDAY - AF FOUNDATION	DANCE CLUB - 3.15 - 4.15 p.m. - Taylor's Dance Company - £22.50 for 9 weeks or £12.50 first half-term
WEDNESDAY - AF Years 5 + 6	FOOTBALL CLUB - Chelsea Foundation - 3.15-4.15 p.m. - £20.00 whole term - (if paid in advance)
WEDNESDAY - TOWN Years 3 + 4	COMPUTER CLUB - 3.30 - 4.30 p.m. (MS) - FULL - PLACES TAKEN FROM WAITING LIST
THURSDAY - AF YEAR 1	DANCE CLUB - Taylor's Dance Company - £22.50 for 9 weeks or £12.50 first half-term
THURSDAY - TOWN YEARS 3 + 4	CHEERLEADING - 3.30 - 4.30 p.m. (SC)
THURSDAY - AF YEARS 5 + 6	COMPUTER CLUB - 3.15 - 4.15p.m. (MS)
THURSDAY - TOWN YEAR 2	MULTI-SKILLS CLUB - Colchester United Football in the Community - 3.30 - 4.30 p.m. - £22.50 for 9 weeks
FRIDAY - AF YEARS 5+6	**DANCE CLUB - 3.15 - 4.15 p.m. - Taylor's Dance Company. £22.50 for 9 weeks (Club will only run if there is enough interest!)

PLEASE REMEMBER FOR ALL CLUBS, CHILDREN NEED TO BE COLLECTED FROM THE UNDERCOVER AREA AT THE REAR OF THE SCHOOL AT TOWN SITE AND FROM THE RECEPTION AREA AT THE FRONT OF THE SCHOOL AT ABBEY FIELD.