



Friday 16 January 2026

# NEWS & VIEWS

Kindness, Honesty, Confidence, Perseverance, Safety

Headteacher: Miss V Townsend



## Headteacher's Comment:

This week I was delighted to celebrate attendance with our children. Over 30 children enjoyed a hot chocolate and biscuit to celebrate 100% attendance, and a further 14 children were recognised for improved attendance. It was really lovely to sit together, chat, and enjoy a hot chocolate as a group. Moments like these remind us how much children value being in school and being celebrated for their efforts.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support with attendance. We kindly ask that you continue to telephone the school office on the morning each day that your child is unwell and unable to attend. We also ask that parents follow NHS guidance when deciding whether children are well enough to come to school. Clear communication helps us to support families and children effectively. This guidance can be found [here](#).

A reminder about the start of the school day: although the school gates open at 8.25am, classroom doors do not open until 8.30am, and the gate closes at 8.40am. The beginning of the day is an important time for children to settle, connect with their class and teacher, and prepare for learning. Arriving on time really helps children to start the day calmly and confidently. I would also like to take this opportunity to remind parents about school uniform expectations. Wearing the correct uniform helps children feel part of the school community and supports a calm, purposeful start to the day. Please ensure that children are wearing the correct school uniform each day, including appropriate footwear, and that all items are clearly labelled. If you are experiencing any difficulties with uniform, please speak to the class teacher, SLT or the school office in confidence.

Parent consultations are coming up, and we would strongly encourage all parents to book an appointment. These meetings are an important opportunity to discuss your child's progress, strengths, and next steps, as well as to ask any questions you may have. If you are experiencing any difficulty booking an appointment, please speak to your child's teacher or contact the school office, who will be happy to help. We look forward to seeing you at the consultations.

This week we have also noticed a small number of toys being brought into school. We would like to remind parents that toys should not be brought into school, unless specifically requested by a teacher. Toys can become a distraction, may get lost or damaged, and can sometimes cause upset between children. Thank you for your support with this.

Finally, a reminder about parking. We ask all parents and carers to park considerately, being mindful of our neighbours as well as the safety of our children at drop-off and pick-up times. Where possible, please use the Village Hall car park, we are very lucky to have access to this space, and it helps to keep the area around the school safe for everyone.

Thank you for your continued support. Wishing you all a very restful, safe and happy weekend.



## Diary Dates

**Wednesday 28 January** – Year 5 class assembly  
**Friday 30 January** – Year 2 start Forest School  
**Wednesday 4 February** – Year 4 class assembly  
**Tuesday 10 & Wednesday 11 February** – Parent's Evening

**Friday 13 February** – PTA Art Exhibition  
**Monday 16 February – Friday 20 February** – HALF TERM  
**Wednesday 25 February** – Year 6 Harry Potter trip  
**Wednesday 25 February** – Year 3 class assembly  
**Please note that some dates unavoidably may change.**  
**Apologies if this does happen.**



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**Chief Executive Officer: Mr R Duff**

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## Weekly Attendance

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Class	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Whole School
Attendance	98%	94.7%	93.5%	95.9%	82.1%	92.1%	93.7%	92%

1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Reception	Year 3	Year 1



## Yearly Attendance

### Yearly Attendance – from 1 September

Class	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Whole School
Attendance	98%	96.5%	98.2%	94.7%	89.9%	92.7%	95.3%	94.7%

1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Year 2	Reception	Year 1



## Stars of the week

Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Lottie	Blake	CJ	Charlie	Finn	Isabella	Sidney T



## Miss Townsend's Headteachers Award

This week's Headteacher Award goes to Harriet in Year 6, for always treating others with kindness, respect and demonstrating good manners, setting an excellent example to others. Well done!



## Important reminders

If you move house, or update your email address or phone number, please ensure you inform the school office so we have the correct contact details for you and you receive all communication from us.

**No jewellery is to be worn except a watch from Year 3 onwards.** Children who come to school with jewellery, including earrings, will be asked to remove it and it will be kept in the office until the end of the day.



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## Reading at Home

Class	This table shows the number of children and percentages of children that have read this week. Number of times children have read this week						Percentage reading 4 times or more
	0	1	2	3	4	5 or more	
Reception			2 (20%)	1 (10%)	4 (40%)	3 (30%)	7 (70%)
Year 1			1 (6%)	1 (6%)	4 (26%)	7 (46%)	11 (73%)
Year 2	2 (8%)	2 (8%)		3 (14%)		16 (70%)	16 (70%)
Year 3	4 (18%)		3 (13%)	1 (5%)	4 (18%)	7 (32%)	11 (50%)
Year 4		1 (4%)	1 (4%)	3 (13%)	2 (9%)	17 (70%)	19 (79%)
Year 5				3 (11%)	4 (21%)	13 (68%)	17 (89%)
Year 6	1 (4%)				14 (56%)	10 (40%)	24 (96%)
Well done to Year 6, where 96% of their pupils read four times or more this week.							

Essex County Council Libraries

**10 January to 22 February 2026**

# Winter Reading Challenge

Children across Essex are being challenged to read and get creative at their local library this winter!

Explore our Pawfessionals' amazing careers as you progress through the challenge.

Choose from twelve fun activities to complete. For each one, you'll get a sticker! Complete six, and you'll receive a certificate and get to enter our prize draw for the chance to win some incredible goodies!

Plus, you can join in with themed events and activities at the library!

Find out more about how to take part in this free activity on our website: [libraries.essex.gov.uk](http://libraries.essex.gov.uk)



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