



Newsletter 2 – 18th September 2026

Headteacher: Mrs Tina Bourne Deputy Headteacher: Mrs Helen Ford

This week saw the start of lunch and after school clubs, it was good to see the children's enthusiasm while learning new skills and making new friends. Our assemblies this week have been themed on 'Telling the Truth', next week we are exploring 'Respect', feel free to continue with discussing our weekly themes at home if you would like to. Several children are not wearing the correct footwear, I appreciate that parents wait until the start of the school year before purchasing school shoes due to foot growth over the holiday. School shoes should be black soled – black trainers are permissible. The autumnal weather is taking hold in the mornings, so please ensure your child has suitable outdoor clothing, with a hood, for outside play. Unless the rain is very heavy the children will be outside at breaktimes getting essential fresh air and free space to move their bodies.

Well done to teachers for organising lively school council elections this week. We now have a new school council – their inaugural meeting next week will discuss menu ideas and half termly rewards for the class with the highest attendance.

Wishing you a happy and positive weekend.

Tina Bourne

AUTUMN TERM DATES

Autumn Term 1

03/09/26 – 23/10/26

Half Term: 26-30 October

Autumn Term 2

03/11/26 – 18/12/26

Non-Pupil Days for Autumn:

1st and 2nd Sept, 2nd Nov

*Proposed other non-pupil days 04/01/26,
21/07/26 subject to agreement by
Governors on 22 September meeting*

- Fri 25 Sept, 8.50-10am
Macmillan Coffee Morning in Hall
- Tue 29 Sept, 10.45 – 11.30am
Harvest Festival @ St Barnabas,
parents welcome
- Thu 1 Oct, Super Mario Lunch !
- Wed 14 & Thu 15 Oct, Parents'
Evening, 3.30-6.30pm
- Thu 15 Oct, Individual pupil photos
- Fri 23 Oct, OHSA Halloween Disco



**Our first parent
event of the year**

THIS FRIDAY 25TH 8.50-10am

Drop children off and join us in the hall for cake, refreshments and a chat – preschoolers, grandparents, aunties & uncles all welcome!

Help us to raise funds for Macmillan Cancer Support, our fundraising page is here
<https://cm26.macmillan.org.uk/fundraising/cm26041127>

Unfortunately, we cannot accept homemade cakes in school. If you would like to donate shop bought cakes with the allergen list on the packet then we will happily receive them on the day or in the school office.



If you are unable to join us, please consider donating using this QR code

New Parent Governors

Welcome to our new parent governors!

Ben Wills and Eleanor Todd

Ben and Eleanor join the Governing Board this week, the first meeting is on Tuesday.



PE Kit - Please

provide a labelled PE kit in a bag for your child to keep in school during the week! It takes a long time to find spare kit of the right size, delaying the start of the PE lesson.

Did you know? ... Mrs Collins applied for the Music Mark of Recognition which we received this week.

Thank you to Mrs Collins for ensuring our pupils continue to enjoy music and singing !



**TELL THE TRUTH & SHOW RESPECT
THINK OF OTHERS AND TRY OUR BEST**



School Council Elections

Well done to all the children who put their name forward and made excellent speeches! Our new school councillors are ...

Year 1	Ben C and Eliza S
Year 2	Ada W and Oscar K
Year 3	Bobby J and Bella F
Year 4	Miles B and Betty E
Year 5	Idris W and Jannel A
Year 6	Flo O and Connor K

We are looking forward to hearing pupil ideas for improving our school.

Coming soon ...

HARVEST FESTIVAL TUES 1ST OCT

We are collecting for Colchester Foodbank. Children can bring their non-perishable items to school ready for the 1st October. See below for ideas of what to bring ...



Chess in Schools and Communities

We are very grateful to CSC who sent us 6 free packs of boards and chess pieces for our new Chess Club and some excellent study books too. Check out their website

<https://www.chessinschools.co.uk/ches-s-at-home> Anyone interested in setting up a weekend Chess tournament for the Spring term, please contact Mrs Bourne.



2027 SECONDARY SCHOOL PLACES OPEN NOW !

If you have a child in Y6, you will need to apply for a Y7 place before 31 October 2026.

Use this link to read about priority admissions areas and find the link for the application form <https://www.essex.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools/admissions/secondary-school-places>
Don't leave it until the last minute. If you need any help, then please ask in the school office.

2027 PRIMARY SCHOOL PLACES OPEN from 9 November

If you have a child needing to start school in September 2027, you will need to apply for place before 15 January 2027.

Use this link to read about priority admissions areas here <https://www.essex.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools/admissions/primary-school-places>

Mrs Bourne will begin parent tours before half term, please book a tour with the school office.

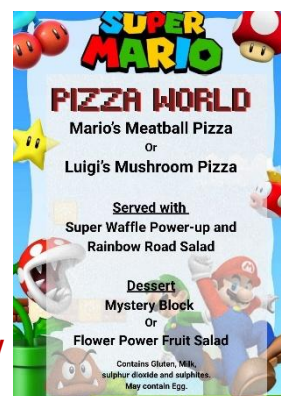
Parent of 9-14 Year Old?

Essex County Council would like to hear from parents and carers about youth vaping to help evaluate a recent campaign. The survey responses are anonymous and takes no longer than 10 mins to complete
<https://shorturl.at/IDqni>

CENSUS DAY MENU

THURS 1st OCT

Book Now



BEST ATTENDANCE

Week ending 11 Sep

YEAR 5

97.4%

WEEKLY AWARDS

Week ending 11 Sept

GOLDEN AWARDS

EY – Dominic
Year 1 – Ben
Year 2 – Oscar
Year 3 – Ayla
Year 4 – William M
Year 5 – Kenny
Year 6 – Nancy

OLD HEATH HEART AWARD

EY & KS1 – Gino Y2
KS2 – Ellie Y3