



# The Friday Flyer John Bunyan Primary School & Nursery



Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2026

## Car Park Gates

For safety reasons, please avoid gathering in front of the car park gates. Vehicles are regularly entering and exiting this area, and parents and children waiting there may be at risk. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation.

## School Dinners

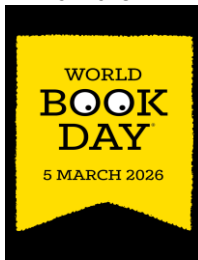
### WINTER MENU

Week commencing Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> March – Week 2  
Week commencing Mon 9<sup>th</sup> March – Week 3  
Week commencing Mon 16<sup>th</sup> March – Week 1

Copies of the school dinner menu are always available to view on our website [www.johnbunyan.co.uk](http://www.johnbunyan.co.uk) and paper copies are available from the school office.

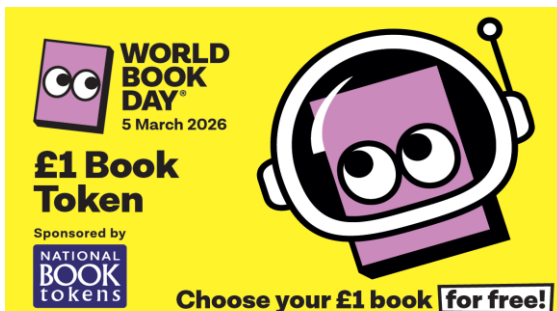
## World Book Day

World Book Day will be celebrated in School and Nursery on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March. The children can dress as their favourite book character and we are busy organising a fun-filled day for the children.



The official World Book Day website contains a lot of ideas and information about enjoying books, including dressing up ideas for the day and it shows the exciting selection of new and exclusive £1 books that children can get for FREE with the £1 book token which they will bring home on the day.

Just visit [www.worldbookday.com](http://www.worldbookday.com)



## Online Safety

We have been asked to share details of two online safety webinars for parents - one for parents of primary age children and one for parents of secondary age children. These are being led by online safety expert Alan Mackenzie (<https://www.esafety-adviser.com>) and take place on Monday, 9<sup>th</sup> March.

These webinars are free to attend.

### **Primary School Parents**

5pm – 6pm / Early risks, healthy screen habits, and simple security. To book, please see <https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/9894c0d8-1360-42ac-a603-9e94fdeab412@3a4af158-b8a5-4bc8-833c-d973205f2bc2>

### **Secondary School Parents**

6:30pm – 7:30pm / Social media, digital reputation, and open conversations. To book, please see <https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/3d25c788-10d7-46d6-a831-a96e1653ae10@3a4af158-b8a5-4bc8-833c-d973205f2bc2>

## Open Afternoon

We hope you enjoyed the opportunity to come into school on our open afternoon before the half term holiday. Our next whole school open afternoon will be on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March, from 2.30pm.

## Termly Learning Conferences

Termly Learning Conferences for the Spring Term will take place during the week commencing Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March. Please book online via School Cloud – details sent by ParentPay message.

**There will be no after school clubs during that week.**

### Number Day

Number and Times Table Rock Stars Day was a fantastic success! Pupils came to school full of enthusiasm, dressed as numbers and rock stars, showing great determination as they took on their number and times table challenges.

Special mentions to times table finalists Jimmy (Y6), Eashwar (Y5), Mia (Y4) and Lourenço (Y3). Congratulations to Eashwar - our overall champion! Thank you to Mr Town and Mrs Ledwell for organising a fun-filled day.

Our Catering Team got involved by making these lovely stars and numbers biscuits for our dessert on Number Day!



### Trips and Activities now booking

- Permission to walk home alone (Years 5&6)
- Home School Agreements
- Year 4 swimming
- Book bags, PE bags, swim hats
- Snack
- Year 5 trip to Layer Marney Tower
- Year 1 trip to Colchester Castle
- Sports events



### Parking

If you drive to school, please park with consideration for our neighbours near the school. The parking spaces at Wingate Close are residents' spaces and we have been asked to remind parents that you should not be using these spaces, even for a short time. Thank you.

### Comic Relief

We will be celebrating Red Nose Day on **Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March**. Children can come to school wearing something red on this day. If they do not have something red, they can come in their own clothes.

Donations to this charity can be made via ParentPay

<https://app.parentpay.com/ParentPayShop/Foc/Default.aspx?shopid=20444>

or via the official Comic Relief website at [www.comicrelief.com](http://www.comicrelief.com)

Please do not send cash donations into school.



### SEND Parents

Parent Support Group

Support for parents and carers with children of any age with Special Educational Needs & Disabilities

Drop in Coffee Afternoon

1:45pm – 2:45pm

Wednesday 18th March 2026:

SEND Provision in School

Come in for an informal chat - Contact Mrs Powell or Mrs Lewis for further details



### PTFA Events

We would like to say a huge thank you to our PTFA for the recent school discos, which have raised £1,025. We are delighted that this money has already been allocated towards new play equipment for the children to enjoy.



## Attendance Matters

At John Bunyan we value good attendance and punctuality.

### Leave of Absence

The school is not permitted to grant leave of absence during term time, unless there are **exceptional circumstances**. Evidence of exceptional circumstances needs to be provided alongside a completed leave of absence form. Forms are available from the School Office. If you have any queries, please ask the School Office.

If an absence request is not authorised and the holiday is taken, the Local Authority can issue a penalty notice.

### Be Punctual

We expect pupils to be in school before the gates close, ready to start learning. If pupils are on time they will be calm and ready to begin learning. They will not miss out on the vital introduction to a lesson or feel anxious about walking into a classroom once the lesson has started.

### Let us know

We do understand that children become ill! If that is the case, please remember to phone the school by 9.30am on the first day of illness.

**Absence Line: 01376 321814, option 1**

Illness:

Children should not be in school:

- For 48 hours after vomiting or diarrhoea
- If they have anything contagious. Your doctor or the school will be able to advise you on when they should return.
- Until you have discussed any broken bones or fractures with the school

If you are not sure, please speak to the school.

Please think carefully before keeping your child at home

**90% ATTENDANCE = ½ DAY MISSED EVERY WEEK.  
1 school year at 90% = 4 WHOLE WEEKS OF LESSONS MISSED!  
Learning and achievement will be severely affected.**

### Attendance

**A**ttendance is important  
**T**ogether we can achieve the best for each child  
**T**here is advice and support for parent/carers  
**E**stablishing good habits from the start  
**N**ot being in school affects life opportunities  
**D**iscuss with your child what goes on in school  
**A**rriving late can be disruptive  
**N**otify the school when your child is absent  
**C**elebrate good attendance  
**E**VERY DAY COUNTS

**Above all we want your child to be happy and successful at school and we believe that only by working in partnership with you, will this be possible.**

# Diary Dates

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March – Boys Football Team match (home game against Notley Green Primary)  
Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March – World Book Day  
Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March – Oaks and Elms classes to Braintree Library  
Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March – Girls Football Tournament  
Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March – Conifers and Firs classes to Braintree Library  
16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> March – Termly Learning Conferences  
Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March – Boys Football Tournament  
Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March – Willows and Sycamores classes to Braintree Library  
Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March – Wear Red for Comic Relief  
Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March – Year 5 trip to Layer Marney Tower  
Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March – Year 1 trip to Colchester Castle  
Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March – Whole School Open Afternoon – Parents are welcome in School from 2.30pm  
Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March – Break up for the Easter holidays  
Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April – Back to school

## Term Dates for 2025-2026 Academic Year

**Spring Term:** *Monday 5 January 2026 – Friday 27 March 2026*  
*Half Term 16 February - 20 February*

**Summer Term:** *Monday 13 April 2026 – Friday 17 July 2026 (1.20pm finish)*  
*Half Term 25 May – 29 May*  
*May Bank Holiday - 4 May*  
*Non-Pupil Days Friday 22 May, Monday 1 June, Monday 20 July*