



# The Friday Flyer John Bunyan Primary School & Nursery



## Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July 2026

### Headteacher's Message

As we come to the end of a successful school year, I would like to thank our incredible staff team and dedicated PTFA for their hard work, commitment and support. Together, they help make our school such a positive and enriching place for all our children.

I would also like to thank you as parents and carers for your continued support and partnership throughout the year. Most importantly, I want to celebrate our wonderful children, who have shown Pride, Achievement, Resilience and Kindness every day and made us incredibly proud.

Thank you for being part of our school community. We wish all of our families a happy, safe and relaxing summer break and look forward to welcoming you back in September.

### Fond Farewell

As we come to the end of another successful school year, we say goodbye to several valued members of our staff and thank them for their dedication and commitment to our school community.

Moving on to **pastures new** are **Mrs Hatch, Mrs Elmer** and **Mrs Flynn**. We wish them every success and happiness in their new ventures.

We congratulate **Mrs Walker** on her **retirement** and thank her for her many years of service. We wish her a long, happy and well-deserved retirement.

We wish **Mrs Martin** all the very best as she **relocates**, and **Miss Moshtagh-Kahnamo** every success as she begins an exciting **teaching opportunity abroad**.

We are also delighted to congratulate **Miss Hougham** and **Miss Palmer**, who are both starting **new teaching posts**. We know they have bright futures ahead and wish them every success in their teaching careers.

To all of our departing colleagues, thank you for everything you have contributed to our school. You will be greatly missed, and we wish you all the very best for the future.

### Free School Meals

#### **For parents of current Year 3-5 pupils**

We would like to inform you of changes to Free School Meal (FSM) eligibility from September 2026.

Under the new criteria, your child may be eligible for free school meals if you receive any amount of Universal Credit payments.

If you believe you may be eligible, please complete an application using the link below:

<https://apply.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/johnbunyan>

### School Dinners

#### **SUMMER 2026 MENU**

Week commencing Monday 13<sup>th</sup> July – Week 2

Paper copies of the dinner menu are available from the school office, or it can always be viewed on the school website.

### Menu Change

Year 6 Celebration Lunch will be held on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> July.



Year 6 pupils have voted for their favourite meal and this will be served to the whole school. The menu will be:

Build your own burger with optional cheese, onion rings, gherkins, lettuce, ketchup and burger sauce (vegetarian burger option available)

Build your own ice-cream with optional wafer, chocolate sauce and sprinkles



When we come back to school in September, we will start on Week 1 of the existing Summer menu. However, on the first day back (Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September) the menu will be:

Homemade pepperoni pizza or homemade cheese and tomato pizza or jacket potato with tuna or baked beans  
Sweetcorn, salad bar  
Fruit ice lolly

### Attendance

One of our key priorities for the coming academic year is improving attendance across the school. While we know that children will occasionally be unwell, our overall attendance remains well below where we need it to be, and we know that every day in school really does make a difference.

**Good attendance is about so much more than academic progress. Being in school every day helps children build confidence, develop friendships, establish positive routines and feel part of our school community. Even missing just a few days can make it harder for children to keep up with learning and can affect their wellbeing and sense of belonging.**

From September, we will be working more closely with families whose children have attendance below 90%. Our aim is to understand any barriers, offer support where we can and work together to improve attendance. We know that every family's circumstances are different, and we are committed to approaching these conversations with care, understanding and a shared focus on achieving the very best outcomes for every child.

### Year 6 Leavers Performance

We are delighted to invite Year 6 parents and carers to the Year 6 End of Year Production, *Shrek: The Musical*, to be held on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2026 at 6.00pm in the Key Stage 2 Hall. The children need to arrive back at school at 5:30pm to change into their costumes. Parents will then begin to be seated at 5:45pm. We kindly request that only 2 people, per child, come to watch the show, no need to book seats.

In addition, our annual awards assembly for Year 6 will be at 9:30am on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> July. Parents are invited to attend the awards assembly, but again no more than 2 attendees per child. Please arrive via the Key Stage 2 hall.

### Sports News

John Bunyan KS2 boys football team displayed excellent skills in another win against Great Bradfords. The boys remain top of the league and will be crowned back-to-back league champions if they avoid defeat against White Court next week. A dominant attacking display saw the team score seven goals in an impressive performance. Jack starred in both halves, completing a clinical hat-trick, with James providing a couple of assists.

The second half brought more of the same as Dylan added the fourth, again set up by James.

Maxwell got in on the action with some crunching slide tackles and Jimmy netted on his return to the team via a Frankie assist. James rounded off the scoring after being played through by Jack, capping an excellent all-round display. Despite this well taken goal, his request to the manager to play upfront must have got lost in the post. As well as dominant attack, the defence held up throughout the game, led by Damon.

A couple of mentions for Frankie and Max, whose hard work and creativity were rewarded with an assist and another clean sheet in a strong team performance. Final score 7-0.

Thank you to Mr Stoneham and Mr Taylor for coaching, Ms Stock for supporting and Mr Town for officiating.

Match report written by Mr Town.

### Wrap Around Care

We are delighted to be able to offer Wrap Around Care from September, 2026.

The provision will run from 3:15pm to 5:45pm and will be available to pupils in Reception Year through to Year 6. The cost will be £12.00 per day, which includes a light tea. A sibling discount will be available, with additional siblings charged at £10.00 per day. Initially, we will have 30 places available. If demand is high, we hope to increase capacity and offer places to more pupils. If you would like to register, please complete the form sent out via ParentPay or get a paper one from the office.

### Year 6 Parents

Essex Child and Family Wellbeing Service has asked us to share with you a questionnaire relating to your child's transition to senior school. Please see the link or scan the QR code below:

[Year 6 Health and Emotional Wellness 26 – Fill in form](#)



Essex Child and Family Wellbeing Service



## Do you have a child who is starting secondary school in September?

If so, we invite you to complete a brief questionnaire by scanning the QR code below.

The questionnaire will help us understand key aspects of your child's health, wellbeing, social and emotional development. If any areas where your child may need extra support are identified, a member of our Healthy Family Team will reach out to offer tailored advice, guidance, or resources.

We ask that you complete the questionnaire within 2 weeks of receiving this letter. For further information or support, please visit: [www.essexfamilywellbeing.co.uk](http://www.essexfamilywellbeing.co.uk)

Thank you for taking the time to help us support your child's smooth transition into secondary school

Please scan the QR code below to complete the online questionnaire



Commissioned by





**Saturday 18 July to Saturday 5 September**  
**At your local Essex library or mobile library -**  
**see [libraries.essex.gov.uk](http://libraries.essex.gov.uk) for library opening times**



National  
Year of  
Reading  
2026



ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND

Delivered in partnership with libraries  
[summerreadingchallenge.org.uk](http://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk)

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Essex County Council  
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**READ**  
to the  
**BEAT**



Read to the Beat illustrations by Harry Woodgate, illustrations and logo © The Reading Agency, 2026

**Turn up the volume on reading this summer!**

**We invite children throughout Essex to discover the joy of reading through Read to the Beat! — the music-themed Summer Reading Challenge 2026. Read six books to receive a certificate and medal!**

**Saturday 18 July to  
Saturday 5 September 2026**

**Find out more about how to take part in this free activity:**

**[libraries.essex.gov.uk/news/summer-reading-challenge](http://libraries.essex.gov.uk/news/summer-reading-challenge)**



# Code Club

Braintree Library  
Wednesdays, 3.30-4.30pm

- Do you have a favourite computer game?
- Would you like to learn how to make your own computer games?
- Learn how to make cool games, animations and websites!



Suitable for ages 9-13

For further information contact  
Essex Libraries on 0345 603 7628  
or visit [libraries.essex.gov.uk/events](http://libraries.essex.gov.uk/events)



## Diary Dates

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> July – Year 6 Leavers Performance at 6.00pm

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> July – Year 6 Awards, 9.30am

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July – last day of term, break up for the summer holidays, **finish at 1.20pm**

Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September – Back to School – start of the Autumn Term

Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September – Nursery starts back

## Term Dates for 2025-2026 Academic Year

**Summer Term:** *Monday 13 April 2026 – Friday 17 July 2026*  
*Half Term 25 May – 29 May*  
*Non-Pupil Days Friday 22 May, Monday 1 June, Monday 20 July*