



The Friday Flyer

John Bunyan Primary School & Nursery



Friday 11th September 2026

Welcome Back!

It has been wonderful to welcome our children back to school and to see the classrooms and corridors filled with their energy, enthusiasm and smiles once again. We hope you have all had a happy and restful summer, and we are already looking forward to all that the new school year will bring. We were absolutely delighted with the academic results achieved by our children last year, which were a wonderful reflection of their hard work, determination and resilience, alongside the dedication of our staff and the support of our families. As we begin this exciting journey together, we are proud to continue putting our school values at the heart of everything we do. We want every child to take pride in themselves and their school, strive to achieve their very best, show resilience when faced with challenges and, above all, treat others with kindness and respect.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support and partnership — we are excited for a fantastic year ahead!

Mrs Waters

Clubs

After school clubs start next week (week commencing 14th September). Clubs will not run during the week commencing 19th October, due to Termly Learning Conferences taking place in school. Evergreen after school childcare will be running as normal.

School Dinners

SUMMER 2026 MENU

Week commencing Monday 14th Sept – Week 3
Week commencing Monday 21st Sept – Week 1
Week commencing Monday 28th Sept – Week 2

The school dinner menu is always available to view on the school website

www.johnbunyan.co.uk and paper copies are available from the school office.

Open afternoons

This year again we would like to invite parents and carers into school once per half term at 2.30pm, for a special afternoon session where your child will be able to share a range of their work with you. These sessions provide an opportunity for children to showcase what they have been learning across the curriculum.

Our first open afternoon of this academic year will be **Friday 16th October**.

We hope that you will continue to enjoy coming into school to celebrate your child's achievements.

Reception Year 2027 Intake

We will be holding an open morning for parents of children who will be starting Reception Year in September 2027. Come along for a tour of our Foundation Stage area and ask any questions:
Saturday 3rd October, 9.30am – 11.30am.

From 9th November 2026 you can apply for a Reception Year place for a September 2027 start. Applications close on 15th January 2027.

Applications can be made online via www.essex.gov.uk/admissions.

All of the application information is available on the website above.

Snack

The school provides a nutritious snack to all Foundation Stage children (Reception & Nursery) each day. We kindly ask parents to make a small contribution of £1 per week towards the cost of this, payable via ParentPay. Key stage 1 pupils (Years 1 and 2) have fresh fruit available every day and Key stage 2 pupils (Years 3 - 6) continue to have Fruit Friday. Pupils may bring in a healthy snack from home, to eat at morning breaktime. This should be a piece of fruit or a fruit based cereal bar please. Thank you for your support.



Trips and Activities now booking

- Permission to walk home alone (Years 5&6)
- Home School Agreements
- Book bags, PE bags, swim hats
- Snack
- Young Voices
- Swimming – Larches



ParentPay

Year R and Year 1 Phonics Meetings

We would like to invite you to a friendly phonics meeting. This will be an opportunity to explore your child's early reading journey and find out more about how we teach phonics at John Bunyan Primary.

We will also share some simple ways you can support your child's reading at home.

Reception Year Phonics Meeting
Tuesday 29th September, 2.30pm

Year 1 Phonics Meeting
Tuesday 6th October, 2.30pm

The meetings will be held in the Key Stage 1 Hall. Entry via main reception.

School Applications – Year 6 Parents

If your child is in year 6, you can apply for a secondary school (year 7) place from tomorrow (12th September 2026) until 31st October 2026.

Applications can be made online via www.essex.gov.uk/admissions.

All of the application information is available on the website above or search the Essex County Council website.

Year 6 Parents

If you are considering Notley High School for your Year 6 child from next September, they have an Open Morning on Saturday 26th September, 9.30am – 12.30pm. No need to book. Please contact Notley High for further information.

Tours of the school will take place every Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, 9.00am to 9.40am throughout October. To reserve your place on a tour, please use the following link:

[Year 6 Parents and Carers School Tour - Intake September 2027 Tickets, Multiple dates | Eventbrite](#)

Reminder – PE Kits

Please ensure that your child has a named PE kit in school at all times. The kit should include a plain white T shirt, green or black shorts and plimsoles or trainers. Pupils can wear a dark coloured tracksuit, jogging bottoms or similar for outdoor PE lessons, if they wish. Please take out earrings on PE days if your child cannot do so themselves, and remember small stud earrings only should be worn in school at other times



Reminder

Please remember we are a nut-free school. Please make sure your child's lunch box does not contain nuts or foods with traces of nuts in them such as Nutella chocolate spread. Thank you for your support.

Year 1 Story Time



Teacher-led story time sessions with your Year 1 child will be held in the school library every Tuesday, on a half-termly basis as follows:

Birches (Miss Walton) - Tuesdays from 15th September to 20th October.

Spruces (Mrs Cutmore/Mrs Wright) - Tuesdays from 3rd November to 8th December.

These story time sessions will run from 2.40pm to 3.00pm.



Welcome to Evergreen Club!

Our new wrap around childcare provision is now up and running. This takes place from 3.15pm to 5.45pm, Monday to Friday.

The children receive a snack and light tea and they have a wide variety of toys and activities to keep them busy!



If you are interested in your child attending Evergreen Club after school, either every day or on a part-time basis then please email for a registration form in the first instance.

Any queries, please email:
wraparoundcare@johnbunyan.co.uk

EVERY DAY MATTERS



Make every school day count.



Every school day builds learning, friendships and confidence.



Missing even a few days can make a difference.



ATTEND TODAY, ACHIEVE TOMORROW!



Parking

If you drive to school, please park with consideration for other road users, pedestrians and our neighbours near the school. Please do not park across driveways or on pavements. The parking spaces at Wingate Close are residents' spaces and parents should not be using these spaces, even for a short time. Thank you.

Diary Dates

Monday 14th September – After-school clubs commence
Thursday 17th September – Flu immunisations
Sunday 20th September – Choir to sing at St Peters Church Fete
Monday 21st September – Larches class start swimming lessons
Tuesday 22nd September – Rearranged Inflatables Afternoon and school fete
Thursday 24th September – Netball Festival
Tuesday 29th September – Year R Parent meeting
Tuesday 6th October – Year 1 Parent meeting
Monday 12th - Tuesday 13th October – Year 6 Bikeability (Group 1)
Friday 16th October – Whole School Open Afternoon
Monday 19th – Tuesday 20th October – Year 6 Bikeability (Group 2)
Monday 19th – Thursday 22nd October – Termly Learning Conferences
Wednesday 21st – Thursday 22nd October – Year 6 Bikeability (Group 3)
Friday 23rd October – Non-pupil day
Monday 26th – Friday 30th October – Half Term Holiday
Monday 2nd November – Back to School

Term Dates for 2025-2026 Academic Year

Autumn Term:	Tuesday 1 September 2026 – Friday 18 December 2026 Half Term 26 October – 30 October Non-pupil days: 1 September, 23 October
Spring Term:	Monday 4 January 2027 – Thursday 25 March 2027 Half Term 15 February - 19 February
Summer Term:	Monday 12 April 2027 – Wednesday 21 July 2027 Half Term 31 May – 4 June, May Bank Holiday: Monday 3 May Non-pupil days: 28 May, 20 July, 21 July

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

