



The Friday Flyer

John Bunyan Primary School & Nursery

Thursday 22nd October 2026



Reminder

Non-Pupil Day: Friday 23rd October 2026
Half Term Holiday: 26th – 30th October 2026
Back to school: Monday 2nd November

Clubs

After-school clubs and tutoring will start again straight after the half term holiday, week commencing 2nd November.



Poppy Appeal

Poppies will be sold in school each afternoon when we come back to school after the half term holiday (week commencing 2nd November).



Termly Learning Conferences

Thank you to all parents and carers who attended their child's termly learning conference this week. We hope you found this useful in supporting your child with the next steps in their learning.

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 at the O2
- Year 6 trip to Duxford
- Sibling photos



School Dinners

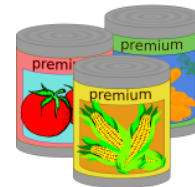
****NEW WINTER 2026-7 MENU****

Week commencing 2nd Nov – Week 1
Week commencing 9th Nov – Week 2
Week commencing 16th Nov – Week 3

The winter dinner menu will start after the half term holiday. We attach a copy for your information.

Harvest

Thank you for your generous donations of tins and packets of food, which have been passed to Braintree Food Bank to help local families in need.



Year 1 Story Time



Story time for Birches class (Miss Walton) has now finished for this year.

Story time for Spruces class (Mrs Cutmore) will start after the half term holiday on Tuesdays from 3rd November to 8th December.

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



School Photographs

Individual school photographs will be taken on Wednesday 18th November. We cannot accommodate sibling group photos during the school day, but you can request a sibling photo to be taken after school on that day, on a sit-and-wait basis. This must be requested via ParentPay. This can include siblings who do not attend our school.

Save the Date

Pupils can wear something spotty for Children in Need on **Friday 13th November**. If they do not have something spotty, children may wear their own clothes for the day. Donations to Children in Need can be made via ParentPay, the link will be available nearer the time.



School Applications – Year 6 Parents

If your child is in year 6, you can apply for a secondary school (year 7) place now, 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.

Reception Year 2027 Intake

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.

Thank You

We want to say a huge thank you to our fabulous PTFA for purchasing new play equipment for the Key Stage 2 playground, including new basketballs and a basketball hoop.

♥ Kindness Week: 16th–20th November ♥

Get ready to spread a little kindness! ☀️
From **16th–20th November**, our children will be celebrating **Kindness Week**, with lots of fun activities designed to encourage them to think about the importance of being kind, caring and thoughtful towards others.

From little acts of kindness to making someone smile, we'll be exploring how even the smallest gestures can make a BIG difference! 😊

Keep an eye on our **school website blog** to find out more about the activities taking place and how we're spreading kindness throughout our school community.

Bikes and Scooters

Please **do not** leave scooters outside the KS1 gate or in the Spring Nursery area. Please either take them home or put them in the bike/scooter park on the school grounds, outside the KS2 entrance.

Weather

Please ensure your children have clothing for cold/wet weather with them each day, including a named warm coat and suitable shoes.



Christmas Diary Dates

Christmas diary dates will be sent out when we come back from the half term holiday (week commencing 2nd November).

Assorted 'squishy' and 'squashy' toys

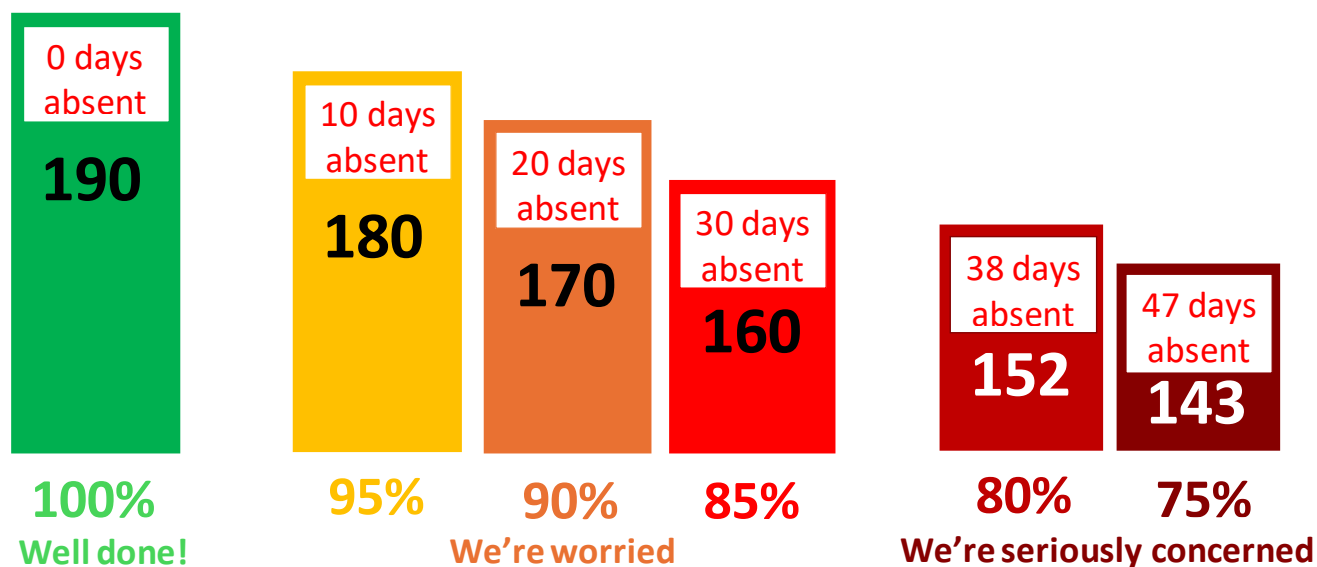
There have been a number of safety alerts issued about various toys over the previous months. These relate to toys which are either squashy or squishy, and were intended to be used as sensory, fidget or stress ball type toys. Children collect some of these toys, especially the squishy dumplings.



Some of these toys contain a banned toxic substance (Benzene). Other toys have exploded and caused nasty burns to children. There is also an emerging social media trend encouraging children to cut into the squishy toys to examine the filling, which could be contaminated with asbestos. You can report any concerns to Trading Standards.

Good attendance means ...

Being in school at least 95% of the time



We are only in school 190 days out of 365 per year so
EVERY DAY COUNTS

Diary Dates

Friday 23rd October – Non-pupil day
Monday 26th – Friday 30th October – Half Term Holiday
Monday 2nd November – Back to School
Wednesday 11th November – Reception Year heights and weights
Friday 13th November – Children in Need Day – Wear something spotty
Friday 13th November – Year 6 trip to Imperial War Museum Duxford
Wednesday 18th November – School photos (individual and sibling groups)
Friday 4th December – PTFA Christmas non-uniform day
Monday 14th December – Farleigh Hospice Reindeer Run (Nursery, Reception, Year 1, Year 2)
Friday 18th December – Break up for the Christmas holidays (1.30pm finish)

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