The Friday Flyer
John Bunyan Primary School & Nursery
Friday 13th November 2026

Advance Notice
Last day of term: Friday 18th December, **1.30pm**
Return to School: Monday 4th January 2027

After School Clubs
After school clubs will not run on Wednesday 18th November, due to the sibling school photos taking place.
Evergreen wrap around care will still be available.

Children in Need Day
Donations to Children in Need can still be made via ParentPay at https://app.parentpay.com/ParentPayShop/Foc/Default.aspx?shopid=22046



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
- Trip to Colchester Castle for Year 1

ParentPay

School Dinners
Winter 2026 Menu
Week commencing 16th Nov – Week 3
Week commencing 23rd Nov – Week 1
Week commencing 30th Nov – Week 2



Christmas Dinner
Wednesday 9th December
Roast chicken and chipolata sausage, or
Vegan no-sausage roll
Yorkshire pudding
Roast potatoes
Carrots/broccoli/peas/sprouts
Gravy

Chocolate muffin with snowflake shortbread
Christmas crackers



Christmas Party Day
Wednesday 16th December
Sausage roll, or
Veggie hot dog
Salad sticks, sweetcorn
Crisps
Chocolate milk shake
Jelly and ice cream



Year 1 Story Time



Story time for Spruces class (Mrs Cutmore) takes place 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.





Christmas Diary Dates

Christmas diary dates are attached for your information.

💛 **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.

Christmas jumper/wear something festive day

We invite everyone to wear a Christmas jumper or something festive to school on the last day of term, Friday 18th December. Please do not buy something especially for the day – a top dressed up with tinsel/decorations will be great! Children can wear non-uniform with their Christmas jumper.



Donations can be made to Save the Children online at www.savethechildren.org.uk/donate-here

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.

Parking

If you drive to school, please park with consideration to other road users and our neighbours near the school. Please do not park in front of driveways or on the paths or grass verges, even for a few minutes.

EVERY MINUTE COUNTS!

Please ensure all children arrive at school by 8:55am.
Being on time is about more than just getting through the school gates – it gives every child the best possible start to their learning day.
Why does punctuality matter?
Learning: Lessons begin straight away. Children who arrive late risk missing important teaching, instructions and activities.
Confidence: Arriving on time allows children to settle in calmly, feel prepared and start the day positively.
Belonging: Children have time to connect with friends, join in morning routines and feel part of their class.
Good habits: Punctuality helps children develop responsibility and important life skills for the future.
Did you know?
Being just 5 minutes late every day adds up to over **16 hours of lost learning across the school year!**
Let's work together!
We understand that mornings can sometimes be challenging, but we ask all parents and carers to make every effort to ensure children arrive by **8:55am**.
A prompt start makes a real difference to your child's learning, confidence and wellbeing.
Every minute matters. Every child matters. Every day counts!
Thank you for your continued support.

Diary Dates

Wednesday 18th November – School photos (individual and sibling groups)
Wednesday 2nd December – Nursery Christmas celebration, 11.00am and 2.30pm
Friday 4th December – PTFA Christmas non-uniform day
Wednesday 9th December – Whole school Christmas dinner day
Thursday 10th December – PTFA Christmas Fayre
Monday 14th December – Farleigh Hospice Reindeer Run (Nursery, Reception, Year 1, Year 2)
Monday 14th December – Cherries class Christmas celebration, 9.15am
Monday 14th December – Poplars Christmas performance
Tuesday 15th December – Maples Christmas performance, 9.15am
Tuesday 15th December – Beeches Christmas performance, 2.30pm
Wednesday 16th December – Whole school Christmas party lunch
Thursday 17th December – Year 1 Christmas performance, 9.15am and 2.15pm
Friday 18th December – Christmas Jumper Day
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