



The Friday Flyer John Bunyan Primary School & Nursery



Friday 15th September 2023

Welcome Back

Dear Families,

It has been lovely to have the children return to school, fresh and ready to embrace the opportunities that the new school year will bring. I want to thank you all for supporting us with smartening up the uniform - the children look fantastic and the difference across the school is noticeable. Many of you have queried the white polos and as a school we are saying white polo shirts are preferred, but as many of your children have green polo shirts from last year these will continue to be acceptable too throughout the year. The weather has been lovely and the children have been amazing in coping with the hot temperatures in school and settling into their new classes and routines. As the weather is now set to change, please ensure your child also has a green jumper and suitable coat with them each day. Thank you for your continued support.

Attention: New Parents

Welcome to our newsletter. This is the only newsletter you will receive in paper form, we are a paperless school and all flyers and letters will come out to you via ParentPay. It is therefore very important that you activate your ParentPay account as soon as possible, if you have not already done so, so that you don't miss out on any important information or exciting events going on in school.

If you have misplaced your ParentPay activation letter, please ask a member of the office team to re-print it for you.

After School Clubs

After school clubs start week commencing 18th September.

Clubs will not run during the week commencing 30th October due to Termly Learning Conferences taking place in school.

Tesco Stronger Starts

We are really excited that our application to Tesco Stronger Starts for a grant towards a sensory garden for our SEN children has been successful and will now go to an in-store vote. This means that when you make a purchase at a local Tesco store (from the first week of October to mid-January) you will receive one of the blue tokens which can be popped into the voting container to support our school's application. Stores taking part are: Braintree Town Centre, Mark's Farm, Great Notley and Tesco Express at Coggeshall. Please tell all your friends and family to vote for us!



School Dinners

Week commencing Monday 18th September – Week 3
Week commencing Monday 25th September – Week 1
Week commencing Monday 2nd October – Week 2

Copies of the school dinner menu are always available to view on our website www.johnbunyan.co.uk and paper copies are available from the school office.

Stay and Play with your Key Stage 1 child every Monday from 8.45 – 9.00 am



Come and Read with your Key Stage 2 child every Friday from 8.40 – 9.00 am



Harvest

Harvest assemblies will be held in school on Friday 6th October. We would welcome any donations of tinned or packet food (not fresh food), which will be passed to Braintree Food Bank to help local families in need. If you are able to make a donation of food, please could your child bring this into school on **Friday 6th October**.



Trips and Activities now booking

- Permission to walk home alone (Years 5&6)
- Year 6 residential trip 2024
- Home School Agreements
- After school clubs



ParentPay

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

Attendance is important

Together we can achieve the best for each child

There is advice and support for parent/carers

Establishing good habits from the start

Not being in school affects life opportunities

Discuss with your child what goes on in school

Arriving late can be disruptive

Notify the school when your child is absent

Celebrate good attendance

EVERY DAY COUNTS

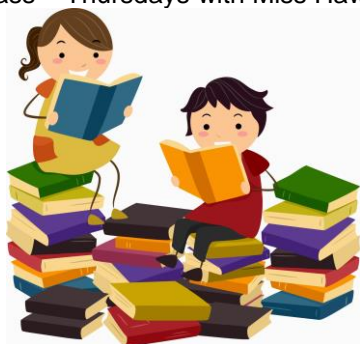
**Above all we want your child to be happy and successful at school
and we believe that only by working in partnership with you, will
this be possible.**

**Foundation Stage Parents and Carers
(Reception Year and Nursery)**

Please remember to bring in your child's birth certificate or passport to the school office for us to check we have their correct date of birth on our computer system.
Many thanks.

Year 1 Story Time

Year 1 Parents and Carers are welcome to come into school and enjoy a reading session with their child at 2.30pm, led by the class teacher.
Larches Class – Tuesdays with Mrs Willox
Cedars Class – Wednesdays with Mrs Adams
Elders Class – Thursdays with Miss Hawes



SEND Parents

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

Drop in coffee afternoon and chat in school
1.45pm – 2.45pm on
Monday 25th September
Monday 16th October
Monday 27th November
Monday 18th December
Come along for an informal chat



School Applications – Year 6 Parents

The new secondary school admission round opened on 12th September, for parents of current Year 6 children to apply for a secondary school (Year 7) place for September 2024. The closing date for applications is **31st October 2023**.

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

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

Diary Dates

Monday 19th – Tuesday 20th September – Bikeability for some Year 6 pupils
Monday 25th – Tuesday 26th September – Bikeability for some Year 6 pupils
Friday 6th October – Harvest Assemblies
Monday 30th October – Thursday 2nd November – Termly Learning Conferences
Friday 3rd November – Elms class to visit Braintree Library
Tuesday 7th November – Flu immunisations
Friday 10th November – Sycamores class to visit Braintree Library
Thursday 16th November – School photographs
Friday 17th November – Firs class to visit Braintree Library
Wednesday 20th December – Last day of term, break up for the Christmas holidays

Term Dates for 2023-2024 Academic Year

Autumn Term: **Tuesday 5th September 2023 – Wednesday 20th December 2023**

*Half Term Holiday Monday 23rd October to Friday 27th October
Non-Pupil Days: Monday 4th September and Friday 20th October*

Spring Term: **Thursday 4th January 2024 – Thursday 28th March 2024**

Half Term Holiday Monday 19th February to Friday 23rd February

Summer Term: **Monday 15th April 2024 – Friday 19th July 2024**

*Half Term Holiday Monday 27th May to Friday 31st May
Non-Pupil Days: Friday 24th May, Monday 22nd July and Tuesday 23rd July
Bank Holiday: Monday 6th May*