Oakwood Infant and Nursery School

Newsletter: 6th November 2026

Newsletter

Dear Parents/Carers

This Week

It was wonderful to see all the children back to school this week after the Half Term break. On Monday the children attended an assembly focusing on Diwali. I spoke to the children about what Diwali represents and how Hindus celebrate the story of Rama and Sita together with Lakshmi, the Goddess of Wealth. We also talked about how Hindus celebrate Diwali, such as spring cleaning their homes, wearing new clothes, exchanging presents and sharing special meals with friends and family.

On Tuesday and Thursday we received a visit from the Ramayana Workshop. The children enjoyed doing Ramayana dancing, which is an Indian Hindu dance (or ballet) which tells the ancient story of The Ramayana. The children were told the story of Rama and Sita and were introduced to all the different characters in the story. Each character had their own dance which all the children learned. They then put the story together with all the different characters and performed the dance. The children were very well behaved and remembered the dance at the end.

On Thursday Year 1 took part in a special event linking in with their Frozen Planet Topic. They enjoyed spending time with the Arctic Village, Arctic animals and Arctic Small World.

Next Week

Next week is Remembrance Week. The children will take part in a variety of activities and attend a Remembrance Assembly on the 11th November.

It is also Children in Need Day next Friday, so please check page 2 for details of our Dress up Day to support this worthy cause.

There will be a Bible Story and Drama for all the children, and Year 2 children will take place in a Wild Science workshop.

Reception/Year 3 Places—September 2027

If your child is starting Reception Year or Year 3 in September 2027, you will need to apply through Essex County Council **www.essex.gov.uk/admissions**. Applications will open on Monday 9th November and will close on Friday 15th January 2027.

I hope you have a lovely weekend.

Kind regards

Mrs K Maguire-Egan: Head Teacher

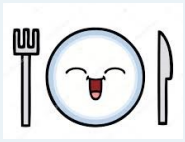
Key Dates	
	October
9th-13th	Remembrance Week
10th	Bible Story and Drama
11th	Remembrance Assembly and Lunch
12th	Wild Science—Year 2
13th	Children in Need—Dress Up Day
16th-20th	Anti-Bullying Week
16th-20th	Book Scrutiny Week
27th	Non Pupil Day
Menu	**WC 9th November Week 2**

Attendance

The class winners this week were Squirrels in first place, followed by Goslings and Nightingales.

Well done to all classes but especially Squirrels, whose reward will be decided by their teacher.

New Dinner Menu



A reminder that we now have a new dinner menu. You can collect a paper copy from the school office or view it on the school website.



Labels & Coats

Due to the change in weather, please ensure your child comes to school in a warm coat every day.

Please also ensure all their clothes and other items are labelled clearly, so lost items can be easily returned.

Please also remember that water bottles should contain just water, not juice or other types of drinks.

Teach Your Child to Read

We will be holding some sessions where you can learn how to teach your child to read, followed by reading with your child afterwards. A leaflet giving more information will follow shortly. Please contact the school office for more information or to book a place.

Vacancies

We currently have vacancies for Relief Mid Day Assistants and Volunteer Readers. Please contact the school office for more details.

Parking

We have had complaints that some people are parking on the pavements around the school, which have resulted in the safety of the children being compromised. Please do not park on the pavements around the school and make every effort to be mindful of the children in the area, ensuring you drive safely. Thank you.

Children in Need—Friday 13th November

Friday 13th November is Children in Need day. (Nursery children will celebrate on the 11th November instead). All of the children are invited to come into school wearing colourful or spotty clothes to support the event. Donations for this worthy cause can be sent in directly to the class teacher. Thank you for your contributions.



The school menu will remain the same but will have a special Pudsey dessert instead.

Reception & Year 3 Admissions for Academic Year starting in September 2027

If you need to apply for a Reception/Year 3 place for your child, please note this needs to be completed online. Applications open on 9th November and you must complete your application by the statutory national closing date of 15th January 2027. Applications can be made online via **www.essex.gov.uk/admissions**

Please note we will only be having a 1 week October Half Term in 2027 and not 2 weeks like some other schools.

Reducing Our Carbon Footprint

Below are this week's tips on how to save money and reduce our carbon footprint.

THIS WEEK'S ENERGY SAVING TIPS

- Minimise use of tumble dryers as they are very expensive to run.
- Turn down radiators.
- Turn your thermostat down by 1 degree.

extra

Scan to book your free place

Coping with Behaviour that Challenges Workshop

This workshop will help parents/carers to understand and navigate their child's behaviour by exploring how children think, feel and experience the world.

We will explore possible triggers for behaviour and learn practical strategies to support connection and improve relationships within the home.



Karen - Parent Service Manager



Rebecca - Associate Facilitator

Alton Park Junior School, CO15 1DL

Wednesday 2nd December 2026
9.30am - 11.30am



admin@extrasupportforfamilies.co.uk
01255475001
www.extrasupportforfamilies.co.uk/
Registered in England No: 1158891

Funded by...

Recipe4Health

HOME START
Colchester Jaywick and Clacton





An early-help support project helping children 5-11 years living in Tendring. Providing funded workshops and activities that build confidence and local connections aswell as parenting support for parents.

- Improves emotional wellbeing
- Routines and boundaries
- Parenting confidence
- Social connection
- Life skills

To register email Office@homestartcjc.co.uk

Supported by Essex County Council through
the Families First Neighbourhood Grants Programme.