

If you know someone who struggles to access the newsletter, please let us know so we can help them.

Welcome back and Happy new year! Although it seems a distant memory now as we hurtle towards the end of January. Winter is definitely upon us however; the evenings are starting to get lighter albeit very slowly and there are signs of spring bulbs starting to poke through the ground so there is light at the end of the tunnel!

There will be a slight change to the dinner menu on a Tuesday on week one starting from next week. There will no longer be a jacket potato option for everyone. Dinner on this day will just be the chicken curry unless you are registered as being a vegetarian or dairy free.

Some of our Mayflower sports kit has gone Missing. Please can you look at home and in school bags to see if it is hiding. 5 Dojos per item of clothing is being awarded to any child that brings items back (They do not have to be washed first). You can drop it off at the school office. The children look so smart in their kit when they represent the school so we would be really grateful if you could help us locate it all.



Attendance for the Month of January

EYFS	95.3%	Year 4	95.6%
Year 1	96%	Year 5	92.4%
Year 2	97.3%	Year 6	94.1%
Year 3	95.5%	Whole School	95%

Well done year 2!

To report your child's absence, please contact the school by 8:30 am.

You can phone the main office on 01255 502444, use your 'My Child at School' app or the school website.

If you are struggling with attendance or punctuality, please contact Mrs. May-Erskine or Ms. Walker who will be able to support you.



Mayflower House Points

Beach Hut



11516

Pier



12574

Lighthouse



11466

Port



10904



Monthly Assemblies

We have had some meaningful discussions in our assemblies this month. Ask your child to tell you about the stories behind our assembly pictures and how they link to our British Values.



**NO
OUT
SIDERS**
'All different, All welcome'



Non-Uniform Day for OPAL



We are holding a non-uniform day on Wednesday 5th February to raise funds to buy extra play items including scooters, skateboards, wheelbarrows, sand toys and dressing up clothes for our outdoor play programme.

Bring a **£1** donation to school (or more) and wear your own clothes!





Blue Peter Badge Winners



Congratulations to 4 pupils who have received the prestigious 'Blue Peter Book Badge'.

The badges were designed by Quentin Blake and are awarded to children who have written a review about a book they have read, drawn an illustration to go with it and written about other books and authors they have enjoyed reading.

What an amazing achievement. Mayflower is very proud of you all!



If you would like the chance to earn the 'Blue Peter Book Badge' the link is below.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/findoutmore/blue-peter-apply-for-a-book-badge>

Sibs Award

Jack T-C in year 6 has a special twin brother called Junior who has down syndrome. Jack has made an amazing PowerPoint about a charity called 'Sibs' who support siblings of children with a lifelong disability and/or neurodiversity.

We all thought it was so brilliant that we wanted to share it with the charity themselves.

This is part of a reply we received from the CEO of the Charity, Clare.

"Just wow – how amazing is this? And how wonderful that his class have been so supportive. I am both terribly impressed and touched by his work and so pleased that the information provided by Sibs has been so helpful to Jack".

There is also the possibility of Jack having a starring role in a film that the charity is presenting to Parliament in April.

Well done Jack, we are all super proud!



Free School Meals

If your child is in Year 3 or above, and you receive one of the listed qualifying benefits, your child may be eligible for free school meals.

So if you are not already claiming free school meals, please use the link below to apply. If you experience any problems please speak to the school office.

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Child Tax Credit (not Working Tax Credit), with an annual income below £16,190
- Pension Guarantee Credit
- Employment and Support Allowance, income related
- Support under part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act, 1999
- Working Tax Credit run-on, paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit, with a household income of £7,400 or less (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

<https://www.essex.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools/free-school-meals/apply-free-school-meals>

Even if your child is entitled to free school dinners they still must be booked in advance using MCAS. if you are experiencing problems with booking dinners, please speak to the school office.

Diary Dates



27 th January:	History Day
27 th January:	Pins Coffee Afternoon 2pm
5 th February:	Non-Uniform Day in aid of OPAL
11 th February:	PTA AGM 3:15pm
14 th February:	Last Day of Half Term
24 th February:	First Day of Half Term
27 th February:	Kittle Photography - Group Photographs
7 th March:	World Book Day
11 th March:	Parents Evening
12 th March:	Parents Evening
21 st March:	Diversity Festival – Off Site Education all day (letter in announcements).
25 th March:	Mother's Day Afternoon Tea
26 th March:	Mother's Day Afternoon Tea
27 th March:	Mother's Day Afternoon Tea
4 th April:	Last Day of Term
22 nd April:	First Day of Summer Term



UK Health
Security
Agency



Should I keep my child off school?

Yes

Until...

Chickenpox	at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over
Diarrhoea and Vomiting	48 hours after their last episode
Cold and Flu-like illness (including COVID-19)	they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to attend. Follow the national guidance if they've tested positive for COVID-19.
Impetigo	their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics
Measles	4 days after the rash first appeared
Mumps	5 days after the swelling started
Scabies	they've had their first treatment
Scarlet Fever	24 hours after they started taking antibiotics
Whooping Cough	48 hours after they started taking antibiotics

No

but make sure you let their school or nursery know about...

Hand, foot and mouth	Glandular fever
Head lice	Tonsillitis
Threadworms	Slapped cheek



SCAN ME

Advice and guidance

To find out more, search for health protection in schools or scan the QR code or visit <https://qrco.de/minfec>.

OPEN TRAINING



Free training with our
professional coaches

Saturday 8 February, 9.00-11.00am

Ages 7-11. All abilities welcome.

Come and experience an exciting morning of sport with our expert coaching staff! Girls are invited to train in our bespoke female Football and Netball sessions, while Boys will take on Rugby and Football. Our coaches are ready to guide players of all ability levels through games, skill development and sporting strategies to help you elevate your game.



RUGBY



NETBALL



FOOTBALL

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SWIMMING?
WANT TO TAKE IT FURTHER AND
START COMPETING?*



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DOVERCOURT SWIMMING POOL.**


**STAGES 8 AND ABOVE TRAIN
ON SUNDAY, MONDAY AND THURSDAY
EVENINGS**


to book a trial, please e-mail:
membership.hdpsc@gmail.com



Chinese New Year with Street Tag

 Dovercourt and Harwich Hub

 Saturday 1st February

 10am to 12pm



Enjoy a FREE morning of crafts, Tai Chi, and learn how to write and say 'Happy Chinese New Year' with the Chinese Society.

Come along for free refreshments and celebrate with Street Tag.



Essex Library Service



Winter Reading Challenge

The Dragons' Adventure!

Arriving in your local library this January!

Children across Essex are being challenged to complete 6 challenges (from a choice of 12) to help some mischievous Dragons make their way home!



For every challenge you'll get a sticker and if you complete 6 you will receive a certificate and a pencil prize. You'll also be able to enter our prize draw for the chance to win some wonderful prizes such as tablets, book tokens, and arts and crafts packs!

Thursday
2 January
to Saturday
22 February

Find out more about how to take part in this free activity on our website: libraries.essex.gov.uk



COMPETITION



PHOTOS: ADORSTOCK

CALLING ALL YOUNG ESSEX POETS!

Chance for youngsters to have their poems published in *Essex Life* magazine

The team at *Essex Life* magazine is giving the county's children the chance to have their poem published in our spring issue of the magazine. We are inviting Essex youngsters to send us a poem celebrating their mum – or the person who is like a mother to them. Suggested entry titles include: *Why I love my mum*; *Why you are so important to me*; and *Why I'm thankful for you this Mother's Day*.

Each entry must include the young poet's first name, age and school and should be sent as a word doc or PDF.

THE PRIZE!

Our favourite entry will win a Buyagift Family Fun Gift Experiences Voucher,

worth £49.99. The voucher offers a wide range of experiences, from solving escape room clues to bouncing at trampolining parks. A selection of entries will appear in our Mother's Day edition of *Essex Life* magazine.

Entries should be sent to: EssexLifePoet@newsquest.co.uk no later than Friday, February 21.



TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

Poems to be included in the magazine will be selected from the entries by the *Essex Life* team. The prize is given at the editor's discretion and contact information for the prize's distribution will be provided by the school of the winning child (subject to parental consent).

The competition is open to all children living in Essex and closes at 11.59pm on Friday, February 21, 2025.

The editor's decision is final.

Newsquest terms and conditions apply please visit newsquest.co.uk/prize-competition-rules

For information regarding how we will process, handle and maintain your data please visit our website:

newsquest.co.uk/privacy-policy

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TODAY**

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ACL

FREE



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Are you looking for ways to help your teen navigate the challenges of adolescence? Our free online courses are designed to provide parents and carers with the tools and knowledge to support their teens effectively.

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Sign up via our website [ACLESSEX.COM](https://www.aclessex.com) and search by course title or code

The Teenage Brain	(CODE: DOL2C45Y24)	11/02/2025
Understanding Teens	(CODE: DOL4C46Y24)	27/02/2025
Understanding Teenage Anxiety	(CODE: DOL4C47Y24)	27/03/2025

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FAMILY LEARNING**

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