

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

What a busy half term we have had! We were visited by Tumbling World Champion Jayden Paddock; had a special stop motion workshop with the Signals Organisation; supported the NSPCC number day by having a whole day of exciting maths activities and raising an amazing £220 and had a visit from our Member of Parliament, Sir Bernard Jenkin.

Next half term will be just as busy with Mother's Day afternoon tea, the Roving Bookstore and Red Nose Day! Parents Evening is fast approaching and booking is now live on MCAS so do make sure you book your slot. If you have any difficulties, please contact the school office who can help you.

Don't forget it's World Book Day on Thursday the 7th of March. We are inviting all the children to dress up as their favourite character from a book. Who will you be? Matilda, Charlie Bucket, The Cat in the Hat, Alice in Wonderland? There are so many to choose from. We can't wait to see what you come as.

Have a lovely half term and we look forward to welcoming you back on Monday 26th February.



Attendance for the month of January

EYFS	85.7%	Year 4	93.9%
Year 1	92.7%	Year 5	92.5%
Year 2	93.2%	Year 6	94.1%
Year 3	91.9%	Whole School	92.1%

Well done year 6!

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 Miss Carmen or Ms. Walker who will be able to support you.



Can you help us enhance the learning environment for our Early Years children?

We are seeking donations of shrubs or plants to transform the Early Years outdoor space. It will help us to encourage a deeper understanding of the natural world and provide great learning opportunities! If you have any spare plants that are 'child friendly' please consider donating them, they can be left at the school office between 8:30 and 3:30.

A special thank you to Morrisons who have already donated some bulbs and plants we really appreciate your continued support.



Outdoor Play



The start of a new year is a great time for a clear out and declutter. If you have any scooters, ride on toys or sand pit toys that your children no longer play with or have outgrown, we would be very grateful if you would consider donating them so our children can use them at lunchtime.

We are also looking for any items of wet weather gear that children have outgrown so we have spares to enable all our pupils to engage in outdoor play and learning.





SPORTS REPORTS



On Thursday 25th January we played at the Premier League Stars under 11s Girls Tournament in Colchester. It went well but was a bit challenging. We drew three times against all the teams in our group and unfortunately that meant we didn't qualify but we played our best. We then played a friendly and won 3:0. Eva scored one and Layla scored two. Everyone had fun, had a laugh and enjoyed themselves. We all loved it!

By special reporter: Darcey 6CH



World Champion Jayden Paddock

We were lucky enough to host a visit from Jayden Paddock, a renowned Team GB gymnast, who gave an inspiring talk and demonstration to our students.

Thank you to each and everyone of you for your generous support in raising an outstanding £903 to and Jayden on his gymnastics journey. Your contributions have made a significant impact and have helped Jayden tremendously in pursuing his dreams.

Jayden's passion for gymnastics was evident throughout his talk and he captivated our students with his awe-inspiring routines and motivational stories. He also spoke about the importance of physical fitness and a healthy lifestyle and also emphasised the value of perseverance, teamwork and goal setting. His words resonated with our students, who were thrilled to have the opportunity to meet a genuine role model and learn from his experiences.



School Council Meets Sir Bernard Jenkin

Our local Member of Parliament, Sir Bernard Jenkin recently paid a visit to our school following an invitation from the School Council who had raised a petition for a zebra crossing outside the school.

During his visit, Sir Bernard took the time to walk around the school and engage with various groups, including the ELSA, SALSA and Pastoral teams. He also made a point of visiting our School Library Bus, which he found to be a fantastic resource for our students.

We are proud to share that Sir Bernard was highly impressed with the atmosphere around the school and the exemplary politeness of our students. He also mentioned how articulate and well-informed the School Council were during their interaction with him.

Furthermore, Sir Bernard expressed his support for the Student Council's petition for a zebra crossing and he will be taking their concerns forward for further consideration! This is great news and we greatly appreciate his willingness to engage with our school community and address the issues that are important to us.



Stop Motion Workshop

Recently, Mayflower had an exciting opportunity to work with Signals Organisation who specialise in producing high-quality animated films. Through their initiative our pupils had a chance to participate in a workshop where they learned about the art of stop motion and gained hands-on experience in creating their own animation films.

The workshop was guided by professional animators who taught them the technical aspects of stop motion animation. They learned about camera angles, prop manipulation and the importance of frame rates. This was an excellent opportunity for our children to develop their creativity and enhance their digital literacy skills.

The children had an amazing time and thoroughly enjoyed making their own short animations.





Essex Fire Museum Open Days
Tuesday 20th February 2024
Sunday 25th February 2024
(10.30am to 4.00pm)



Visits must be pre-booked via:
museum@essex-fire.gov.uk

**Address: Essex Fire Museum, Grays Fire station,
Hogg Lane, Grays, RM17 5QS**

There will be opportunities for families to get involved in history trails around the museum, spot hazards in our fire safety room, partake in craft activities and sit on our fire engines (and squirt water).

The museum is free entry (but visits are by appointment only as we are on the site of an operational fire station).

Please book by emailing: museum@essex-fire.gov.uk and tell them the number in your party and the time you would like to arrive (they are open from 10:30 to 4:00pm). This is just because they must keep the main station informed of numbers throughout the day.



KIDS AT BETH CHATTO'S PLANTS & GARDENS

FEBRUARY HALF TERM 20TH-24TH
SPRING BIRDFEEDERS & GARDEN SCAVENGER HUNT

EASTER EGG HUNT TUESDAY 26TH MARCH – BANK
HOLIDAY MONDAY 1ST APRIL (NOT SUNDAY)

TUESDAY 2ND APRIL – SATURDAY 13TH APRIL
WOODLAND ANIMAL TRAIL AND PLANTING
ACTIVITIES

BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY 27TH MAY – SATURDAY 1ST
JUNE, ALL ABOUT BUGS, MAKE A BUG HOTEL,
EXPLORE THE GARDEN ON A BUG HUNT



BETH CHATTO'S PLANTS & GARDENS, CLACTON ROAD, ELMSTEAD MARKET, ESSEX, CO7 7DB
WWW.BETHCHATTO.CO.UK 01206 822007

Diary Dates



- 26th February:** **Back to School**
- 5th March:** Parents Evening **3.30pm-6pm**
- 6th March:** Parents Evening **3.30pm-6pm**
- 7th March:** World Book Day
- 12th March:** Mother's Day Afternoon Tea
- 12th March:** [PTA Meeting after school](#)
- 13th March:** Mother's Day Afternoon Tea
- 14th March:** Mother's Day Afternoon Tea
- 15th March:** Red Nose Day
- 15th March:** [Coffee Morning with Mental Health Support Team from N.E.L.F.T. ELSA's and Ms. Walker – Meet the team and find out what support they can offer you and your children. 9.00am-11.00am](#)
- 21st March:** The Roving Bookstore
- 28th March:** **Last Day of Term**