

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we come to the end of our first half term back at school, it is a time to reflect on all the children have learnt, and what a busy half term it has been! The children have experienced a performance from the Shakespeare Company, had an amazing insight into the life of the Egyptians, been physical with our visiting athlete, represented the school at local events and Year 6 even had time to build trenches on the local field! I wonder what next half term will bring...!

Wishing you all a restful break and we look forward to seeing you back in school on Tuesday 5th November.

Lyndsey Wood

GENERAL MESSAGES

INSET DAY

Monday 4th November 2019

PARENT CONSULTATION EVENINGS

Tuesday 19th November 3.40pm – 6.30pm

Wednesday 20th November 3.40pm – 6.30pm

Secondary School Applications for September 2020 – Reminder for Year 6 Parents

As you may be aware, the statutory closing date for applications from parents of Year 6 children (for a secondary school place in Year 7 from September 2020) is **31st October 2019**. All applications should be submitted by 31st October 2019.

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

Week Beginning 4th November



Your child should come home today with new Autumn/Winter menus starting week commencing 4th November. We will start with Menu 1. Please note, that the baguette and jacket potato option is not available everyday on the new menus.

Please note on our first day back, Tuesday 5th November, we have a special Bonfire menu of Hot dogs in warm buns, potato wedges, corn on the cob or baked beans. Dessert is Sparkly Glitter cake and chocolate milkshake with marshmallows.

REMINDER- Uniform

A number of children have been wearing trainers this half term. Trainers are not part of our school uniform policy. The policy states:

'Flat black sensible school shoes. Shoes are to be plain with no coloured logos. Plain black trainers, crocs or open toed sandals are not acceptable. Children may wear boots to school but these **MUST** be stored in a bag and indoor shoes worn whilst inside the building.'

When we return after the half term break, the children are expected to wear the winter school uniform which does not include blue gingham dresses or shorts. Letters will be sent home where a child is not wearing the appropriate full school uniform. This also applies to the children having full PE kit every week.

Help raise funds for our new school library



We are in the process of relocating our school library so that it is a focal point of the school building but we need your help! We need to purchase equipment, such as bookshelves and comfy seating to make the area as vibrant as possible! We will be holding various fundraisers in the coming half term to help raise funds so watch this space and please support us by giving generously.

This week, I have been speaking to the children about our new school principle, 'The right to be safe. The right to learn. The right to respect', and what this means to us. The children have been discussing this with their teachers to help them to understand how the principle will serve as a foundation within all areas of school life. The school Behaviour Policy has been updated to include our new principle and is on the website to view.

Forest Schools - Changes

For one week (week commencing 4th November)

Wednesday 6th November – Siberian Tigers instead of Thursday 7th November

Thursday 7th November – Snow Leopards instead of Wednesday 6th November

"I do believe something very magical can happen when you read a good book."

-J.K. Rowling



Good

School Clubs

Yoga – Monday lunchtime will continue.

Netball – Monday lunchtime will continue.

Zumba for all age groups (Reception – Year 6) – Every Monday 3.30pm – 4.30pm. Payments will be on the SchoolMoney website .

Zumba for Reception/Years 1 and 2 on a Tuesday will be CANCELLED.

Sports Zone – Every Wednesday 3.30pm – 4.30pm. Need to book a place. Contact school office if you haven't completed a booking form.

Running Club – Friday lunchtime will continue.

CONGRATULATIONS



House Winners

House winners for the week ending 18th October 2019 are St Thomas.



Attendance Winners Attendance Winners for the week ending 25th October 2019 = **Turtles = 96.96%**

Punctuality Winners

Punctuality winners for the week ending 25th October 2019 = Snow Leopards and Siberian Tigers = 0 Lates

Stars of the Week



Our stars are awarded on Monday assemblies to children who have shown particular commitment to our school values during the week. To say thank you we ask them to come to the front in our assembly and they can sit on the bench that day.

Class	Name	Value(s)
Siberian Tigers	Tia Bevis	Respect and Kindness (For supporting others and being the best she can be).
Pandas	Eden Wigg	Perseverance (For working really hard in Maths and English)
Snow Leopards	Beau Dudley	Respect (For being respectful towards school rules)
Turtles	Willow Dudley	Perseverance (Trying really hard with her writing and showing pride in her work)
Pangolins	Ivy Wigg	Friendship (For being a good friend and including other children)

E-SAFETY TIP OF THE WEEK

Privacy and information security

As parents, we are most concerned about the effect of the online world on our children's emotional and physical wellbeing. Children are susceptible to information security threats that can cause financial harm. These are the exact same threats that adults face: **malware and viruses, phishing scams, and identity theft.**

The issue is children are far less experienced and are generally far more trusting than us cynical adults. To kids, sharing their personal details, like their full name or where they live, may not seem like such a big deal. **They may even be tricked by a malicious third party into sharing your credit card details.**

There are a number of ways that hackers and thieves can get information out of children. Free downloadable games, movies, or even ringtones that market themselves to children can place viruses onto your computer and steal your information.

Hackers posing as legitimate companies like Google send emails purporting to ask for your child's password. Or, they may pose as one of your children's friends.

What should you communicate to your child?

- **Have a discussion with your kids about the big threats online today.** Make sure they know what a phishing attack and a disreputable games website looks like, so they know not to fall for these scams.
- Make sure they keep all of their information private and that they never publish their full name, phone number, address, or school they attend in a public place.
- Talk to your kids about passwords. [Having a strong password](#) is the first and best measure to prevent hacking and identity theft. Using a [secure password generator](#) like the one we created is great for this occasion, and trying out passwords together is a fun way of ensuring your child's password is as strong as possible.
- Tell your kids to [avoid using public wifi](#) – this is an easy way for hackers to get into their devices.

What you can do to create a safe environment:

- Install a strong antivirus program on your home computer and the devices of all family members.
- Think about installing a VPN on your computer. A VPN, or [virtual private network](#), encrypts your connection and anonymizes your web browsing. This makes it far harder for hackers to access and steal your private information.
- If you and your kids use a lot of different devices around the house, consider [installing a VPN on your router](#). That way, all internet traffic that goes through the router will be protected, without having to install the VPN on every device.
- Install an [ad blocker](#) so your children won't have to face deceptive advertising that encourages them to download malicious programs onto your computer.
- If your kids have smartphones, make sure that their [security settings](#) are set to maximum.

PHOTO GALLERY OF THIS WEEK'S EVENTS IN SCHOOL



Snow Leopards Egyptian Workshop

Siberian Tigers re-enacting World War 1 in the trenches

