



Another week in December has passed; this also means that another Year group have successfully shared their wonderful Christmas performance with their parents and family. This week, Year 2 were absolutely amazing in their performance and they would not have been out of place in the West End! Next week, we have Reception and our children in the Nursery performing to their parents which I am very much looking forward to seeing.

On Thursday, the children enjoyed watching this year's pantomime (Peter Pan) which was full of laughter for both them and some of the staff in school too. The children were talking about it in the corridors and on their way out of school so it was definitely a great success and we look forward to being able to organise next year's pantomime for the children.

I am very excited to be able to share that next week, we will be launching our new school website. I hope that the new site will be easier for visitors to navigate and locate information on. The web address will remain the same as it is now but it will direct users to the new version of the site. If there are documents or information that parents feel would be useful to have available on the website, please do come and see me so that we can make it as useful as possible.

Just a couple of reminders: next week, there will be no after school clubs—this includes tutoring. New club details will be sent out shortly before the Christmas break. We are still collecting items to add to the White Elephant stall which will be present at the Winter Workshop next Friday, so please, please drop any items that you are able to donate into the office.

Have a great weekend

Mr Wade  
Head of School



#### Diary Dates:

##### December

- 12th— Reception Christmas production to parents @9:15am
- 12th—Year 5 trip (Olive & Sycamore) to Chelmsford Museum
- 13th—Reception Christmas production to parents @9:15am
- 13th—Year 5 trip (Willow) to Chelmsford Museum
- 14th—Christmas Dinner & jumper day
- 14th—Nursery songs to parents 11 (AM) & 14:30 (PM)
- 14th—Class parties (pm)
- 15th—Year 3 Carol Concert to parents @9:15am
- 15th— Winter Workshop 15:30
- 18th—Year 4 Carol Concert to parents @9:15am
- 19th—Year 5 Carol Concert to parents @9:15am
- 20th—Year 6 Carol Concert to parents @9:15am
- 20th—Last day of term.

Inset Days—22nd, 23rd & 24th May 2024.



#### Information/ Reminders —

##### Reception September 2024 Applications

As you may be aware, the primary school (Reception) admission round opened on **Monday 6 November 2023**, for parents of children to apply for a Reception school place for the academic year that starts in September 2024.

From 6 November 2023, applications can be made online via [www.essex.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.essex.gov.uk/admissions).

The statutory national closing date for applications is **15 January 2024**.

##### The 2 Johns Online Safety session – Sunday 10 December 7pm

The 2 Johns are running a session on Sunday evening (10 December) at 7pm to launch the ESCB online safety week. The virtual session and Q&A will be hosted on Zoom and also [The 2 Johns Facebook page](#). This will be followed by a week of online safety messages and advice on the ESCB social media accounts. [Find out more about the campaign.](#)

##### 'Talk it' topics and British Values

'Talk it' topics are an opportunity for children to discuss an issue or idea throughout the week which is linked to the British Values. It encourages children's communication skills as well as debating skills and is fun. We cover a different topic in school each week. It would be fantastic if you could talk about it at home too. This week's topic will be—**What is rubbish? - This links to the British Value —Individual Liberty.**

##### Vacancies.

Please visit the following for vacancies within our trust.  
[www.berlesduna.co.uk/Vacancy.php](http://www.berlesduna.co.uk/Vacancy.php)



##### **BERLESDUNA ACADEMY TRUST – JOB VACANCIES**

CRAYS HILL – LEARNING SUPPORT ASSISTANT closing date 17<sup>th</sup> January 2024  
CRAYS HILL – SEN LEARNING SUPPORT ASSISTANT closing date 17<sup>th</sup> January 2024  
DOWNHAM – MIDDAY ASSISTANT closing date 14<sup>th</sup> December  
DOWNHAM – SEN LEARNING SUPPORT ASSISTANT closing date 14<sup>th</sup> December  
MERRYLANDS – CATERING ASSISTANT closing date 10<sup>th</sup> December  
MERRYLANDS – MEDICAL OFFICER closing date 10<sup>th</sup> December  
MERRYLANDS – SEN LEARNING SUPPORT ASSISTANT closing date 10<sup>th</sup> December  
MERRYLANDS – PART TIME TEACHER closing date 10<sup>th</sup> December  
WILLOWS – SEN LEARNING SUPPORT ASSISTANT closing date 20<sup>th</sup> December

For more information and to apply for any of our roles, please follow the link to our website [Vacancies – Berlesduna Academy Trust](#)



## Certificate of Achievement

Week of 4th December 2023

Buttercup— Maria  
Daffodil— Yasmin  
Primrose— Millie P  
Bluebell Class— Ahyaan  
Rose Class— Jessica K  
Tulip Class— Matty L  
Lavender Class— Adebanji A  
Orchid Class— Jeremiah  
Sunflower Class— Temi  
Birch Class— Azariah J  
Hawthorn Class— Tudor M  
Pine Class— Asphara S  
Ash Class— Darcey G  
Beech Class— Lily M  
Maple Class— Finley P  
Olive Class— Pareezay L  
Sycamore Class— Chloe W  
Willow Class— Twyla W  
Elder Class— Lincoln  
Elm Class— Bentley H  
Oak Class— Rory W



## Reading Corner

Year Group	This week we will be reading....
Nursery	Clump the Lump of Coal by Elanor Best
Reception	Dear Santa
Year 1	Traction Man Mini Grey
Year 2	There's a Rang Tan in my bedroom by James Sellick
Year 3	The boy who grew dragons by Andy Shepherd
Year 4	The firework maker's daughter by Philip Pullman
Year 5	The sleeper and the spindle by Neil Gaiman
Year 6	The unforgettable coat by Frank Cottrell Boyce

Class	Reader of the week...
Year 1—Bluebell	Riley P
Year 1—Rose	Lenny C
Year 1 - Tulip	Florence G
Year 2 - Orchid	Lily
Year 2 - Sunflower	Lillie-Mae J
Year 2 - Lavender	Hunter Q
Year 3 - Pine	Charlie H
Year 3 - Hawthorn	Charlie
Year 3 - Birch	Emily W
Year 4 - Maple	David C
Year 4 - Beech	Sarah I
Year 4 - Ash	Jayden J
Year 5 - Olive	Teddy P
Year 5 - Sycamore	Zahira B
Year 5 - Willow	Idris O
Year 6—Elder	Belle
Year— Elm	David T
Year 6—Oak	Reggie K

We're teaching every child to read with Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised

A complete SSP validated by the Department for Education



Please see below for what has been taught in phonics this week in your child/s year group:

Reception	This week has been a review week for phonics but we have been learning the tricky words: the, to, go, no, into and I
Year 1	In phonics this week, Year 1 have been learning to read words ending in -er and -est for example: sweeter and smartest. We have also been reviewing words with the phase 3 digraphs: ai, ee, igh, oa, oo, ar, or, ur, ow, oi and ear.
Year 2	Year 2 have been revising all sounds this week, as the children are doing their end of term assessment.

### Free Reader Friday

Please remind your child that every Friday, they can bring in their own book from home, or choose one from the book corner or school library.



## Oracy Corner



# Let's Talk



**Discuss:** If you could invent something to make life easier for people, what would you invent?

### Sentence Stems

I would invent... because...

I disagree because...

Can I challenge that?

### Challenger

Gives reasons to disagree or presents an alternative argument

Will say:

I disagree with you because...  
You mentioned X but what about...  
To challenge you X, I think...  
I understand your point of view, but have you thought about...?

### Builder

Develops, adds to or runs with an idea

Will say:

I agree, and would like to add...  
Building on that idea, I think...  
Linking to what X said, I think...

Please visit your local library and find out more about their Winter Reading Challenge.



## Recommended Reads



John Kelly and Joseph Liberis (Ages 5-6)



Ali Pye (Ages 6-7)



Marcus Rashford (Ages 7-8)



B.B. Alston (Ages 9-11)



TT Rockstars

**Player of the week—**

Lavender— Sia P

Orchid— Lainey

Sunflower— Azlan I

Birch— Sabrina L

Hawthorn— Daria P

Pine — Roziie F

Ash— Andrei C

Beech— Marley F

Maple— Simon B

Olive— Skyla N

Sycamore— Honey-Rose H

Willow— Bradley V

Elder— Samira

Elm— Elizabeth O

Oak— Ollyver B

**TT Rockstars Class of the week is Birch.**

**Player of the week—**

Rose— Jessica L

Tulip— Lexi H-S

Bluebell— Leona

**Numbots class of the week is Rose.**

## Times Table Rockstars and Numbots

TTRS Battle table for this week is below—

Battle Board	Week 6
Sycamore class	36
Lavender class	27
Pine class	24
Willow class	21
Ash class	21
Birch class	21
Beech class	18
Olive class	15
Hawthorn class	15
Maple class	15
Elder class	12
Oak class	12
Orchid class	6
Sunflower class	6
Elm class	0



### **Year 3-4 Football match v Greensted**

Year 3 and 4 had their second football match of the season on Wednesday. From the first minute, it was an exciting game with plenty of chances going both ways. In a game which we were definitely good enough to win, the result didn't quite go our way and we were unfortunate not to come out on top. The team played really together and held a great account of themselves against a good Greensted team. In only their second game together, they are playing like they have been a team for many years! We are so proud of each player and look forward to our next match in the new year. Well done everyone.

Goal scorer – Michael Z x1

Player of the match (Whitmore Vote) – Ollie W

Player of the match (Greensted Vote) – Darcey G

