



Newsletter

2nd October 2026

Diary Dates

October

- 8th - Poetry Slam (selected children)
- 9th - Yr5-6 Football match v Eversley (H) (selected children)
- 12th - Phonics meeting for Reception parents at 9am or 3:30pm - KS1 Hall
- 14th - Reception and Year 3 Dental visit in school
- 14th - Year 6 parent meeting - KS2 Hall @ 15:30
- 15th - Year 5/6 Dodgeball competition (selected children)
- 16th - School Council training (selected children)
- 16th - Year 5 Wonderdome workshop in school
- 20th - Reception Halloween Disco 15:10-16:15
- 20th - Year 3-4 Halloween Disco 16:30-6pm
- 21st - Year 3 Harvest Festival performance (9:15am & 2:30pm)
- 22nd - Pupil Voice - Head Boy and girl
- 22nd - Year 5-6 Sports Hall athletics (selected children)
- 22nd - Year 1-2 Halloween Disco 15:10 - 16:15
- 22nd - Year 5-6 Halloween Disco 16:30-18:00
- 23rd - Last Day of Half Term

Inset Dates - 2nd November 2026, 27th & 28th May 2027

We've made it to the end of another week, and half term is quickly approaching. The children have all made so much progress since returning to school after the summer break, and it's wonderful to see how they've settled into their learning.

You will have received a letter from Berlesduna Academy Trust to highlight the ten year anniversary of its constitution. In school to celebrate, the children have been designing their own biscuits and have had a muffin each to recognise the birthday. It's been lovely to see their creative designs and share in this special milestone with the Trust.

This week, we have had some of our online Meet the Teacher meetings. Thank you to everyone who has attended. This helps you to get to know vital information for the year ahead, and we really value the opportunity to connect with you and share our plans for your child's learning.

Some of our Year 6 children have been busy taking part in Bikeability this week where they have been learning to ride their bikes safely on the road with staff from Essex County Council. This training is crucial for ensuring that children understand the rules of the road and that they use them safely. They thoroughly enjoyed the training and have developed important skills that will serve them well beyond primary school.

Today, our Year 3 children visited Thorndon Park to take part in activities based on understanding the world around us. They had a fantastic day and the weather gave us its full support. The children engaged brilliantly with the outdoor learning activities and returned to school full of enthusiasm about what they'd discovered.

Wishing you all a relaxed weekend.

Mr Wade
Headteacher



Talk it Topic

'Talk it' topics are an opportunity for children to discuss an issue or idea throughout the week which is linked to 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.

The coming week's topic is:

EYFS - How can the food we eat help us to stay healthy?
KS1/KS2 - Who should decide what we have for school lunch?

The topics are linked to one of the following British Values: Individual Liberty, Rule of Law, Democracy or Mutual Respect & Tolerance

Well done to the following children

Certificate of Achievement

Buttercup - Nathaniel
Daffodil - Ronnie
Primrose - Alaya
Bluebell - Ela A
Rose - Teodor-George P
Tulip - Zeenat
Lavender - Olivia-Mae
Orchid - Ryan R
Sunflower - Dominic S
Birch - Isa
Hawthorn - Cheyenne
Pine - Stefan M
Ash - Finnley P
Chestnut - Buddy Mc
Maple - Poppy-Rise S
Olive - Poppy C
Sycamore - Amelia S
Willow - Oliver
Elder - Lilliana G
Elm - Leah
Oak - Stefan

Reader of the Week

Bluebell - Alfie P
Rose - Violet G
Tulip - Mikayla
Lavender - Gracie
Orchid - Marnie C
Sunflower - Heidi S
Birch - Harry M
Hawthorn - Michaela
Pine - Lenny I
Ash - Jessica K
Chestnut - Elizabeth L
Maple - Vlad C
Olive - Chidibube E-O
Sycamore - Mariam F
Willow - Tommy
Elder - Holly H
Elm - Freya P
Oak - Daisy



Reading Corner

Next week, we will be reading....

Reception - Bringing the Rain to Kapiti Plain

Year 1 - Supertato

Year 2 - The Bear Under the Stairs

Year 3 - The Boy who Grew Dragons

Year 4 - Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the witch and the wardrobe

Year 5 - The Boy at the Back of the Class

Year 6 - Windrush Child

Berlesduna vacancies



BERLESDUNA ACADEMY TRUST – VACANCIES

SEN LEARNING SUPPORT ASSISTANT closing date 9 October

MERRYLANDS – FIXED TERM CLASS TEACHER closing date 11 October

WHITMORE – PART TIME CLASS TEACHER closing date 5 October

WILLOWS – CATERING ASSISTANT closing date 9 October

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



Phonics

We're teaching every child to read with Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised
A complete SSP validated by the Department for Education



Please scan the QR code or click the link to take you to the Little Wandle Parents page where you will find how we teach a new sound, how we teach children to read decodable words and tricky words. You will also find how to pronounce all GPCs your children learn.

<https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>



Reception	This week, Reception have been learning the sounds g / o / c / k in our phonics lessons. We have been exploring different objects that start with these initial sounds and have been practising orally blending words containing these sounds e.g. d-o-g. We have also been blending cvc words using the sounds that we have learnt so far.
Year 1	Phonics- we have been reviewing CVCC words. CCVC words, CCCVC words and words with long vowels. We have reviewed the tricky words was, they, some, come, were, there, sure, pure.
Year 2	This week, year 2 have been continuing their phase 5 phonics focusing on the following graphemes and words: /or/ augh our oar ore daughter pour oar more. Plus, concentrating on the tricky words - move improve parents shoe thought whole who

TTRS Class of the week - Chestnut Class - 93%

Player of the week—

Lavender - Evie C

Orchid - Zidan A

Sunflower - Nathaniel O

Birch - Melvin

Hawthorn - Yasmin

Pine - Noah L

Ash - Alberto H

Chestnut - Zyva A

Maple - Riley R

Olive - Jonathan K

Sycamore - Azlan I

Willow - Hunter

Elder - Bogdan C

Elm - Zoe

Oak - Alfie F



Numbots Class of the week - Tulip Class - 29%



Player of the week—

Bluebell - Ela A

Rose - Callum T

Tulip - Odin





Year 6 Secondary School information -

the new secondary school admission round opened recently, for parents of current Year 6 children to apply for a secondary school (Year 7) place for September 2027.

The statutory national closing date for applications is 31 October 2026.

Applications can be made online via www.essex.gov.uk/admissions. 99% of parents in Essex applied online last year.

All of the application information is available on the website above.

Secondary School Open Dates

De La Salle - by appointment during the day only

Harris Wickford - 8th October



Reminder!

We require access to our site at all times of the day/evening, please do not park in the school driveway or in front of the gates.

The final photos for the Year 6 residential trip are now available online to the parents whose children attended.

