

We have had a wonderful themed week which has provided lots of practical opportunities for the children to develop their Geography skills. They have enjoyed an array of activities which included orienteering, map reading, visits to the park (for some) and the opportunity to work with the children at Buttsbury Infant School; the latter is always a highlight. Kenya Day was also very successful with the children getting the opportunity to experience life in Ciamanda School in the morning and a taste of beans for lunch (not their favourite part of the week) with the afternoon being spent finding out more about the Geography of Kenya. Hopefully, we will have also raised lots of money to send to Ciamanda School - they have so little, every penny we can send will make a huge difference. Thank you to Miss McCarty, Miss Woodland (Geography Subject Leader at BIS) and Mr Graves for planning the week and to all the staff for their flexibility. Tomorrow is a non-pupil day - once again, the staff teams from both the infant and junior schools will be working together; they will be looking at ways to adapt the curriculum so that all children can access tasks and then, developing team work, by having a go at orienteering! Thank you, as ever, for all your support - I know we keep you on your toes with all the activities we do - but, hopefully, the children's smiling faces makes it all worthwhile!

Wishing you all a lovely half-term break - let's hope the rain stays away and we can enjoy some lovely dry days.

Parents' Evening

It was lovely to see so many parents at our meetings on Tuesday, with lots of parents booked in for this evening too. I hope that you found the meeting helpful and that the report was informative. If you have any questions at all, relating to Parents' Evening or progress measures, please don't hesitate to contact me. Don't forget that we have our Maths 'Drop-In' meetings on Monday 4th March too.

Finish Time

Just a further reminder that school will finish at 3.20pm after half-term. Thank you.

Nail Polish and Footwear

Just a reminder that nail polish is not permitted at school. Children should be wearing black shoes to school - not boots or trainers unless they have an evidenced medical exemption. Thank you.

Reading Awards

Unfortunately, two children accidentally missed out on receiving their awards last week - so - apologies to Zachary and Oliver - but - one week late, I am pleased to share that Zachary Mackenzie has achieved his **BRONZE** award and Oliver Wilson has achieved his **SILVER** award. Well done!



Next Week's Diary Dates

School Dinners - Week 2

Friday 16th February

- School closed for staff training
Monday 19th February - Friday 23rd February (inc) Half-Term

Monday 26th February

- Children return to school
- Year 6 Maths Booster Classes start - 7.45am
- Year 6 RE-focus day - Buddhism

Wednesday 28th February

- 4H and 4M commence swimming lessons

Thursday 29th February

- Year 6 Literacy Booster Classes start - 7.45am
- Lesley Williams (Basildon Youth Theatre) working with all classes throughout the day

Friday 1st March

- Film Night 'Trolls Band Together' - 5.30pm - 7.30pm

Vehicle-Related Matters

Unfortunately, I have received further emails of complaint from residents living in Chestwood Close. Last week, there was literally chaos around the section of Perry Street/ Chestwood Close between Newlands Road and Hillhouse Drive. Unfortunately, it is the same people every day who park/leave their cars directly opposite or on the junction of Chestwood Close and directly on the junction of Newlands Road. The Highway Code says DO NOT stop or park opposite or within 10 metres (32 feet) of a junction. In the past, I have had to stand in the middle of the road and direct traffic in this area as the problem has been so bad - I am no longer willing to do this as I see my place to be at the school gates. If you are one of the parents who I am referring to in this email, please be aware that you are putting lives at risk by simply not being prepared to park a little further away - or - perhaps even walk?

I am sure you can see how frustrated by this I am - I receive regular emails of complaint from residents - some vociferous in nature - and it takes up my time responding to them and trying to resolve issues which are out of my control.

After-School Collection

We have lots of measures in place to ensure children are collected safely after school but, from time to time, a parent might be delayed or a child might forget that they should be attending a club. We regularly remind children to go back to one of the adults on duty if they are unable to see who usually collects them - we then take them to the office and make calls etc as required. Recently, there have been occasions when other parents, wanting to be of assistance, have intervened, and contacted the parent directly or 'scooped' the child up within their own family group. Please can we ask you to assist us by reminding children to go back to the teachers on duty - this is far more helpful than any other measure. Thank you.

*'Maximum Effort for
Maximum Achievement'*



Inter-House Orienteering Results

Year 3 - **Jaguars** and **Lions**
 Year 4 - **Jaguars**
 Year 5 - **Lions**
 Year 6 - **Lions**
 Overall - **Lions**

Well done to everyone who took part in our exciting events!



6R 'Parents to Lunch'

On Monday, the parents and grandparents of children in 6R joined us for lunch. Both meals - chicken korma or macaroni cheese - seemed to be very popular with smiling faces across the hall. Thank you to our catering team, our Middy Assistants and Mrs Hall, for facilitating the event.

Afternoon Tea

As ever, the children eagerly waited to make their way to the staff room for this week's afternoon tea. They talked with great enthusiasm about their work and also posed lots of relevant questions to their peers whilst enjoying sampling the different treats on offer.



Geography Themed Week

This week was Geography themed week and we had great fun carrying out lots of Geography activities inside and outside of school. We have visited Lake Meadows, carried out orienteering on the playground, visited Buttsbury Infant School and have become more confident using our mapping skills to locate places on a map. On Thursday, we had our Kenya day where we were able to wear the colours of the Kenyan flag. It was wonderful to see all of the children embracing the Kenyan style of learning which involved sitting in rows in the classroom and having no technology during the morning. Overall, the children have thoroughly enjoyed their Geography themed week. Thank you for your continued support with the activities we have carried out.

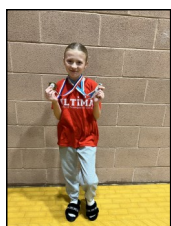
Thank You!

Thank you very much to our Friends' Association who recently purchase new atlases for the children.



Out of School Success

- * Well done to Grace Pierce (6P) who moved up from J2 to J3 at horse riding so more jumping from now on.
- * Congratulations to Harrison Wooder (4C) who earned his 3rd star medal from the ESF ski school.
- * Well done to Lara-Mae Austin (4M) who competed in her first trampolining competition on Sunday where she was placed 3rd individually and her team from Ultima came 1st overall.
- * Congratulations to Ben McIlquham (5C) who has been made a Sixer for 3rd Billericay Cub Pack.



House Points



This week's winning house:
PANTHERS

This half-term's winning house:
LEOPARDS

The children in **Leopards** house will have 20 minutes extra lunch break on Friday 1st March.



This year's attendance figure so far is: 96.5%!

This year's attendance target is 97.0%.

A special 'Well Done' to Class 4H who have the highest attendance this year - 97.7%! Congratulations!



Rainbow Awards

Congratulations to this week's **BLUE** award winners this year:

Benedict Iweka

Freddie Beckwith

Ryan Martin

Well done to this week's **GREEN** award winners:

Julio Ferreira Melo

Samuel Hall

Congratulations to our **YELLOW** award winners:

Fred Cronjaeger
Archie Alderton
Chloe McGibbon
Bodhi Seabrook
Nellie Amos
Charlie Vail

Preston Mills-Martin
Bradley Bloomfield
Brooklyn Nelson
Oscar Turner
Kayn Bowerman

Ava Pardoe
Vince Drury
William Rebel
James Wright
Cameron Grindrod

Gethin Arentsen
Jude Goad
Arun Sawhney
Scarlett Welch
James Lyons

Well done to this week's **ORANGE** award winners:

Rory Atkinson
Summer McMahon Aronson
Rosie Hadassi
Emilia Escudero Bradshaw
Finley Paton
Florence Cable
Jude Phillips
Amelia Walton

Lola Cohen
Isla Sanders
Hannah Lister
Alfie Asfour
Albie Rancecroft
Thomas Dyer
Zachary Phillips

Albie McCarthy
Bluebell Cole
Amelia Mangan
Oliver Baker
Megan Shipton
Layla Faris
Darcy Shorey

Heath Tanner
Florence Costello
Felix Halder
Andrei Aldea Nicolaescu
Summer-Rose Smith
Joshua McCarthy
Ruby Warren-Gunn

Cancer Research UK

Thank you to everyone who has returned sponsor money so far - we have already raised £2171.75 which is fantastic. If you haven't had a chance to send in your money yet, it's not too late to make a donation via ParentPay.

Billericay Family CVL Netball Tournament

On Wednesday afternoon, 14 of our Year 6 girls took part in the rearranged second of three CVL netball tournaments, which was held at The Billericay School. The girls thoroughly enjoyed playing against all the other schools, including South Green, Stock, Brightside, Quilters and Sunnymede.

All of the girls worked hard continuously, despite the weather conditions and there were some great interceptions made. In addition, some super shooting was seen from the girls too.

Overall, we finished 2nd and 7th!

Thank you to Miss Pretty, Mrs Lee and Mrs Coughlan for assisting with the Girls Netball Club weekly and for overseeing the teams at the tournament.

A big thank you to Mrs Foley, Mrs Baker, Mrs Lee, Mrs Webb and Mrs Coughlan for supporting the event with transport too.

Tag Rugby

On Tuesday, the Year 4 Tag Rugby team got their opportunity to compete at Mayflower High School. The team played three games and showed a fantastic level of team work. There was some wonderful rugby on show and the children really showed their joy at participating in this event. We finished the tournament in second place, collecting the same points as top but losing on points difference. Mr Tweedie and Mr Nation couldn't be more proud of how the children conducted themselves and represented the school. Well done to all our players and thank you to Mr Tweedie and Mr Nation for coaching the team.



Kenya Day

