



Myland Primary School



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www.myland.essex.sch.uk

Newsletter No. 13 2024-25 – Friday 20th December 2024

Star of the Week

Well done to our final 'Stars' for 2024 who all received their certificates in assembly today:

BIRCH CLASS: Martha Varletta

WILLOW CLASS: Alpha Katherine Sales

SYCAMORE CLASS: Emily Rapley

LARCH CLASS: Mila Parry

CEDAR CLASS: Olivia Watson

BEECH CLASS: Millianna Tipple

OAK CLASS: Beau Benson

REDWOOD CLASS: Juliet Graham

CHESTNUT CLASS: Emily Banks

ROWAN CLASS: Baylee-Blue Benson

MAPLE CLASS: Saanvi Singh



Merry Christmas!

We have come to the end of a long and busy term, jam-packed with many highlights and successes. The children have all worked extremely hard over the past four months and we are all delighted to see just how well our children in Reception have settled into school.

Today in assembly, we thanked Mrs. Lugar for all that she has done at Myland, wished Mrs. Long a happy and healthy retirement, gave our best wishes to Miss Barten as she starts her maternity leave and wished Miss Webber a very happy wedding day for just after Christmas. I am sure you would wish to join the staff and me in sending best wishes to these members of staff.

On behalf of the staff, very many thanks for your cards, generous gifts and good wishes – we hope that everyone has a very happy and healthy Christmas and New Year and we look forward to welcoming children back to school on **Monday 6th January 2025**. Merry Christmas!

Miss Griggs

REMINDERS

When we return in January, the MENU will be

WEEK 1

Please pre order by **TUESDAY 07/01/25** for **WEEK 2**.

Attendance this **TERM**
(up to & including Thursday)

Birch Class	87.4%	
Willow Class	92.0%	
Sycamore Class	97.8%	★
Larch Class	96.7%	
Cedar Class	97.6%	
Beech Class	96.8%	
Oak Class	96.0%	
Redwood Class	97.7%	
Chestnut Class	96.3%	
Rowan Class	96.8%	
Maple Class	96.4%	
WHOLE SCHOOL	96.0%	

Check Email and Bookbags for...

- * School Meals
- * Staffing Update



Reception – September 2025

Please remember that, if you have a child due to start school in September 2025, applications close on

Wednesday 15th January 2025

All applications must be made online and further details can be found at

<https://www.essex.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools/admissions/primary-school-places>

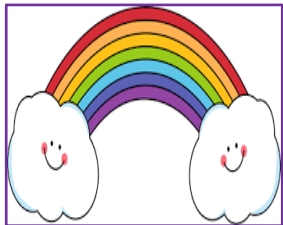


On Wednesday we enjoyed a delicious Christmas Lunch. Huge thanks to Miss Barton and her team in the kitchen for all their hard work. Thanks also to the PTA for providing crackers for everyone.

After a few technical issues, our new school website will be ready to launch on Monday 6th January 2025. In the interim, newsletters and important documents can still be found on the current website.

'FREE TUCK FRIDAY'

WELL DONE to **SYCAMORE CLASS** who will have **Free Tuck** on **Friday 10th January 2025**



Mrs. Richardson presents her 'Rainbow Award' each week in Friday's Star of the Week assembly. This is given to a child who has made a significant contribution when working in a group with Mrs. Richardson. Well done this week to **VICTORIA** in Redwood Class.

ROCKER OF THE WEEK

Each week, Mrs. Carter chooses our 'Rocker of the Week' – this is a pupil who has made significant improvement over the course of the week in any aspect of their times tables knowledge. Well done to **JAMIE** in MAPLE CLASS.



VIP Table



Each week, one child from each class is chosen by Miss Griggs for their kindness, good manners and sensible

attitude. Well done this week to:

Birch Class	Alfie
Willow Class	Jacob
Sycamore Class	Rufus
Larch Class	Oscar
Cedar Class	Arthur P
Beech Class	Harry
Oak Class	Kareem
Redwood Class	Caiden
Chestnut Class	Darcy-Ann
Rowan Class	Grace
Maple Class	Chelsea
Windmills	Catherine

Diary Dates

Fri 20th Dec - **LAST DAY OF TERM**

Mon 6th January 2025 – Children return to school



Top Tips for SETTING UP PARENTAL CONTROLS ON NEW DEVICES

In children's eagerness to start enjoying new digital gadgets immediately, it can be easy to overlook setting up the type of parental controls that can help to protect them online. If you don't sort those out from the very start, it can be an uphill battle – technologically and psychologically – to impose such controls later. Here's our rundown of what to look for when setting up the various internet-enabled devices that might be lurking under the tree at this time of year.

IPHONE

If your child's lucky enough to be getting their own iPhone, parental controls can help avoid issues like screen addiction and unsuitable content. Go into the settings and scroll down to 'Screen Time'. From here you can customise important settings including time limits on using the device, communication restrictions and content blockers. You can also lock your changes behind a passcode.

ANDROID

With Android devices, Google's Family Link app is your friend. You'll need a Google account – and a separate one for your child, which you should use when first setting up the device. Then, in Family Link on your own device, select 'Add Child' and enter their account details. This lets you specify limits on daily usage, restrict certain apps, block particular content and more.

PLAYSTATION

You can prep for a PlayStation before it's even unwrapped. At my.account.sony.com, create an account, then go to Account Management > Family Management > Add Family Member to set up your child's account, which you'll use to sign in on the console. You can restrict the age ratings of the games they can play and who they can talk to. On the PS5, you can make exceptions for any games you think are acceptable despite their high age rating.

IPAD

iPad parental controls are identical to those on iPhones. However, if you've got a shared family iPad and want to ensure your children aren't seeing anything age-inappropriate after you hand them the device, there's a feature called Guided Access (under Settings > Accessibility > Guided Access). With this switched on, young ones can only use the app that's currently open.

XBOX

The Xbox Family Settings app helps you manage which games your child can play (and when). You'll need to set up the console with your own account and then add a child profile. Make sure your account's password protected, so your child can't alter your choices later. You'll be walked through the functions at setup, but you can also reach them manually via Settings > Account > Family Settings.

NINTENDO SWITCH

Download the Nintendo Switch Parental Controls app on your phone, and you'll be shown how to link it to the console. Once that's done, you can limit how long your child can play each day, decide what age ratings are permitted and more. You'll also get weekly updates on how often they've used the device. These controls are accessible through the console itself, but the app is usually easier.

WINDOWS 11 PCS

On Windows 11, account management is key. Set up the device with your own account as the admin. Then go to Settings > Accounts > Family and Other Users and create your child's account (if you've already done this on a previous PC, just log in with those details). Microsoft Family Safety (either the app or the site) then lets you control screen time, what content children can view and more.

CHROMEBOOKS

Chromebooks' parental controls are managed via the Family Link app. Unlike an Android device, however, you need set up the Chromebook with your own account first, then add your child's. Go to Settings > People > Add Person and input your child's Google account details (or create a new account). Your child can then log in, and you can monitor what they're up to via Family Link.

MACS

Like iPhones, parental controls for Macs are managed via the Screen Time settings. Again, the crux here is to set yourself up as the administrator before adding any child accounts. In the settings, look for Users & Groups to create your child's account, then – while on their profile – use the screen time options to place any boundaries around apps, usage and who your child can communicate with (and vice versa).

SMART TVS

Smart TVs typically have their own individual parental controls. One of the most popular brands is Samsung – and on their TVs, you can control the content available to your child. In the Settings menu, under 'Broadcasting', you can lock channels and restrict content by its age rating. Even this isn't foolproof, however: some apps (like YouTube) might still let children access unsuitable material.

Meet Our Expert

Barry Collins is a technology journalist and editor with more than 20 years' experience of working for titles such as the Sunday Times, Which?, PC Pro and Computeractive. He's appeared regularly as a tech pundit on television and radio, including on BBC Newsnight, Radio 5 Live and the ITV News at Ten. He has two children and writes regularly on the subject of internet safety.



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Essex County Council
Libraries

Essex Library Service



Winter Reading Challenge

The Dragons' Adventure!

Arriving in your local library this January!

Children across Essex are being challenged to complete 6 challenges (from a choice of 12) to help some mischievous Dragons make their way home!



For every challenge you'll get a sticker and if you complete 6 you will receive a certificate and a pencil prize. You'll also be able to enter our prize draw for the chance to win some wonderful prizes such as tablets, book tokens, and arts and crafts packs!

Thursday
2 January
to Saturday
22 February

Find out more about how to take part in this free activity on our website: libraries.essex.gov.uk

