

Newsletter No. 17 2025-26 – Thursday 12th February 2026

Star of the Week

Well done to our 'Stars' for this week, who all received their certificates in assembly today

BIRCH CLASS: Ashvik Sood

WILLOW CLASS: Polly Clark

SYCAMORE CLASS: Deontay-Prince Wilson

LARCH CLASS: Florence McCormick

CEDAR CLASS: Ari-Isabella Che

BEECH CLASS: Rhys Morgan

OAK CLASS: Oliver Andrews

REDWOOD CLASS: Alex Mancinelli

CHESTNUT CLASS: Ciara Royce

ROWAN CLASS: Arthur Ryland

MAPLE CLASS: Aran Sarath



Half Term Round Up

It is hard to believe that we are now at the half way point of this academic year – where has the time gone? The children have all been very productive, even though this has been a relatively short half term. The staff and I hope that you were able to see this in your child's work if you came to Parent Teacher Consultations this week. We hope that this was also a useful opportunity for you to discuss your child's progress with their teacher.

Thank you to everyone who came along to our Year 3/4 Shared Learning session last Thursday – we hope that you enjoyed learning alongside your child and can see just how important quick recall of multiplication tables is.

Tomorrow is a non-pupil day and I hope that everyone has a safe and enjoyable half term break – hopefully without any rain! We look forward to welcoming the children back to school on **Monday 23rd February**.

Miss Griggs


REMINDERS

When we return, the MENU will be

WEEK 2

Please pre-order by 24/02/26 for **WEEK 3.**

Attendance this week
(up to & including Thursday)

Birch Class	98.4%	
Willow Class	95.5%	
Sycamore Class	94.2%	
Larch Class	91.6%	
Cedar Class	93.3%	
Beech Class	98.2%	
Oak Class	94.6%	
Redwood Class	97.8%	
Chestnut Class	95.8%	
Rowan Class	98.5%	
Maple Class	99.3%	
WHOLE SCHOOL	96.1%	

Check Email and Bookbags
for...

* No additional letters sent this week



Children's Mental Health Week

Children's Mental Health Week has become a key part of our Spring Term activities each year and we have enjoyed seeing an array of outfits today as the children have celebrated 'Come As Yourself' Day. Throughout the week, classes have explored a range of activities, including our very popular 'Walk and Talk', where classes have teamed up with one another (usually a younger class with an older class) to chat and share conversation.

Huge thanks to Miss Pender and Mrs. Richardson for all their hard work in preparation for this week.

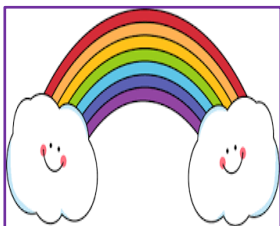


Please remember that children's water bottles must contain still, plain water only. Squash or juice is not permitted in classroom water bottles.

Please also remember that metal water bottles are not allowed at school. These can be heavy and pose a safety risk. Thank you for your co-operation.

'FREE TUCK FRIDAY'

WELL DONE to **MAPLE CLASS** who will have Free Tuck on Friday 27th February



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 **JASPER** in Chestnut 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 **ARAN** in MAPLE CLASS.



VIP Table



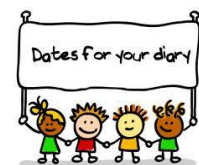
Each week, one child from each class is chosen by Miss Griggs for their kindness, good manners and sensible

attitude. Well done this week to:

Birch Class	Georgie
Willow Class	Atharv
Sycamore Class	Paul
Larch Class	Fife
Cedar Class	Lukas
Beech Class	Emily W
Oak Class	Muhammad
Redwood Class	Amiya
Chestnut Class	Ruby
Rowan Class	Molly-Rose
Maple Class	Anisha
Windmills	Flora

Diary Dates

Fri 13th Feb – **NON PUPIL DAY**
Mon 16th – Fri 20th Feb – **HALF TERM**
Mon 23rd Feb – Children return to school



Roadworks & changes to road layout/parking

Next week, some major school safety improvement works will be carried out by Essex Highways to Raven Way and Mill Road which will have an effect on parking in the vicinity of the school.

The works are scheduled to start on **Saturday 14th February** for nine days, between 8.00 a.m. and 5.00 p.m. A second round of works will also be carried out from **Saturday 28th March**, again for nine days.

These measures are designed to enhance safety for our pupils, families and anyone travelling to and from our school.

What improvements are being introduced?

- **Red route parking restrictions** outside the school, operating from **8.30 – 9.30 a.m.** and **2.45 – 3.45 p.m.**, helping to reduce congestion and improving visibility during busy drop-off and pick-up times.
- **Widening of the existing footway**, with pencil bollards installed to provide increased space and protection for pedestrians.
- Introduction of a **20 mph speed limit** along **Mill Road and Raven Way**, supported by road markings to encourage safer driver behaviour.
- New **'Child Crossing' road markings** to increase driver awareness near key pedestrian routes.

More information can be found at <https://letstalkessexsustainabletravel.co.uk/mill-road-colchester>

CHESS TOURNAMENT

FEATURED HEAD-TO-HEAD

Mayor Mike
'The Rook Whisperer'
Lilley

PAM
'Queen's Gambit'
Cox MP

VS

The Moot Hall at Colchester Town Hall. **SATURDAY 21st February**

Championship Chess Tournament.
Kids' Fun Chess with CSC.
Social Chess Play. Exhibition Match.

CSC
Chess in Schools and Communities

ALL APPLICATIONS TO: contact@colchester.org.uk
Raising funds for the Colchester City Mayor's chosen charities

QR code

ARE YOU THE NEXT BANKSY?

COLCHESTER ART COMPETITION
4 FEBRUARY - 18 MARCH 26
AGES 2 - 18

1. Paint a picture of your choice on the blank side of a CD.
2. Take your finished masterpiece to a Colchester drop off point and pay £2 online (£5 for 3 entries) by 18 March.
3. Keep your fingers crossed as the independent panel of judges search for the next Banksy across 3 age categories 2-7, 8-11 and 12-18. Prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places!
4. Congratulations! The masterpiece you've entered is guaranteed to be displayed in a Colchester shop window! Go and look between 28 March-11 April and spot the Banksy CD hidden amongst the entries and find the framed Banksy art work in one window too!

BRANDLER GALLERIES

LITTEGARTH

FIND OUT MORE & ENTER NOW!

QR code



We have had a couple of cases of headlice in school this week. Please check your child's hair and treat as necessary. Further information can be found at

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/head-lice-and-nits/>