

Newsletter No. 30 2024-25 – Friday 6th June 2025

Star of the Week

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

BIRCH CLASS: Elijah Quilatan

WILLOW CLASS: Fife Omole

SYCAMORE CLASS: Emily Rapley

LARCH CLASS: Indi Scott

CEDAR CLASS: Adhla Zulficar Ali Khan

BEECH CLASS: Julia Agbaza

OAK CLASS: Kareem Enstone-Watts

REDWOOD CLASS: Jack Rapley

CHESTNUT CLASS: Asher Ashong

ROWAN CLASS: Vihaan Gunnam

MAPLE CLASS: Aatika Akhtar



Welcome Back

Welcome back to the last few weeks of the Summer Term – although the weather seems to have forgotten that it is supposed to be Summer!

This half term is always exceptionally busy, so please keep an eye on the 'Diary Dates' section of our newsletter for any changes or additions to the list sent out at the start of this term.

We've had great excitement in Reception and Key Stage 1 this week, as we have welcomed several new 'pupils' – we are hatching partridge eggs as part of a conservation project and the children have been fascinated (and very excited) to watch the process. Please take a look during 'At Home' evening for Reception/Key Stage 1 on Monday.

Miss Griggs

REMINDERS

Next week's MENU will be

WEEK 2

Please pre order by
TUESDAY 10/06/25 for WEEK 3

Attendance this week
(up to & including Thursday)

Birch Class	87.1%	
Willow Class	97.9%	
Sycamore Class	94.0%	
Larch Class	98.6%	★
Cedar Class	96.6%	
Beech Class	92.7%	
Oak Class	94.0%	
Redwood Class	92.7%	
Chestnut Class	88.7%	
Rowan Class	96.8%	
Maple Class	93.3%	
WHOLE SCHOOL	93.9%	

Check Email and Bookbags
for...

* Year 6 Swimming – sent today



School Uniform

Please remember that trainers of any colour or style are not permitted as part of our school uniform. Children should be wearing suitable black school shoes please.

Could we also ask that parents/carers ensure that their child's PE kit is in school every day. There may be occasional, necessary changes to the PE timetable and all children need access to their full PE kit please.

Thank you for your support with this.

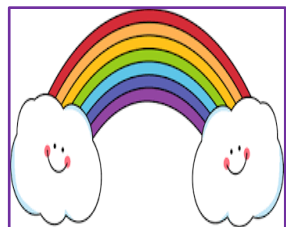
BIKES/SCOOTERS

Please remember that children (along with pre-school siblings and adults) are not permitted to ride scooters or bikes anywhere on the school grounds, for safety reasons.

Similarly, any child riding a bike to school must have a suitable helmet to wear. Children without helmets are not permitted to ride their bike to school and leave it on the premises – again, this is an important safety consideration. Thank you.

'FREE TUCK FRIDAY'

WELL DONE to **LARCH CLASS**
who will have
Free Tuck on
Friday 13th June



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 **SAMUEL** in Oak 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 **RUDY** in REDWOOD 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	Deontay-Prince
Willow Class	Alpha Katherine
Sycamore Class	Arabella
Larch Class	Eliza
Cedar Class	Elliot
Beech Class	Raf
Oak Class	Finley S
Redwood Class	Freddie C
Chestnut Class	Eli
Rowan Class	Elliot
Maple Class	Liam
Windmills	Rozalia

Diary Dates

Fri 13th June – NON UNIFORM DAY in exchange for items for PTA Summer Fair

Sat 28th June – PTA Summer Fair
12.00 – 3.00 p.m.

Wed 2nd July – Sports Day 9.30 a.m.

Thurs 3rd July – Class photographs
Wk beg 7th July – LAST WEEK FOR CLUBS

Thurs 10th July – Exhibition Evening
5.00 – 8.00 p.m.

Mon 14th July – RockSteady concert
2.15 p.m.

Tues 15th/Thurs 16th July – Year 6 production 7.00 p.m.

Fri 17th July - LAST DAY FOR PUPILS



Well done to Oliver, Freddie and Ben, who won a football tournament over half term with their team, Colchester Villa. Well done boys!





NON UNIFORM DAY FRIDAY 13TH JUNE

FRIDAY 13TH JUNE

Donate tombola items to take part:
Yr R-3 sweets and Yr 4-6 bottles

Be allergy aware (no nut products)

All bottles welcome (hic!)

No unsuitable footwear

Long hair tied back

NON UNIFORM DAY

Friday 13th June

In return for donations
for the PTA Summer Fair



*Unlimited Bounce
Wristbands*

Preorder Online
£5 per child
20% off additional
wristbands using
discount code
SIBLING at checkout



Buy your
wristbands for
the Summer
Fair in advance!



SUMMER FAIR

myland primary school
saturday 28th june 2025
12 - 3pm

games
food & drink
children's entertainer
bouncy castles
zumba demo class
raffle draw
colchester fire & rescue*
and much more!

*unless they're called out to an emergency





COMMUNITY FOUNDATION



GIRLS TALENT PATHWAY

U8-U12 OPEN TRIALS

MONDAY 7TH JULY • 6:30-8:00PM
SHRUB END COMMUNITY AND SPORTS CENTRE

U7/8 (School year 2 & 3) - colchester-united-cf.classforkids.io/info/2239

U9/10 (School year 4 & 5) - colchester-united-cf.classforkids.io/info/2240

U11/12 (School year 6 & 7) - colchester-united-cf.classforkids.io/info/2241

U8-12 Goalkeepers (School year 2-7) - colchester-united-cf.classforkids.io/info/2242

School years as of September 2025

**TO INSPIRE, ENRICH
AND UNITE OUR COMMUNITIES**

Registered Charity Number: 1159381

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#enrichourcommunities

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about EMOJIS

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Emojis are more than playful expressions — they form a fast-evolving digital language that many adults struggle to decode. For young people, this 'secret code' is central to how they communicate identity, humour and emotions. With over 5 billion emojis sent daily on Facebook Messenger alone, understanding these symbols is key to engaging meaningfully with digital youth.

GENERATIONAL MISCOMMUNICATION

An emoji like 👍 (thumbs up emoji) might seem friendly to adults, but teens often interpret it as sarcastic or passive-aggressive. These differing interpretations can create confusion or unintended tension in cross-generational conversations.

SHIELDING BULLYING OR PEER PRESSURE

When embedded in emojis, mean-spirited jokes or exclusionary language can fly under the radar. Terms like 'mid' or 'delulu' may seem harmless, but they can be used to undermine peers in subtle ways.

RAPIDLY SHIFTING MEANINGS

Emoji meanings can change overnight. A person standing emoji (👤) once signified awkwardness but might now be repurposed for something entirely different. This ever-changing lexicon can leave adults in the dark and young people vulnerable to misunderstanding or misuse.

MASKING DISTRESS OR HARM

Some emojis are used to discreetly signal troubling behaviours. For instance, 🍂 (falling leaves emoji) or 💊 (pill emoji) might suggest drug use, while 🌵 (wilted flower emoji) could hint at emotional struggles. Such usage can obscure serious issues, making them harder for trusted adults to detect.

NORMALISING RISKY BEHAVIOURS

Emojis can make harmful actions seem light-hearted or fashionable. Strings like 🍷👉👉 (fire + 'woozy' face + pill emojis) may appear humorous but can reference partying, intoxication or dangerous challenges, which might otherwise raise red flags.

Advice for Parents & Educators

LEARN THE LINGO

Stay updated with emoji trends and definitions using resources like emojipedia.org or Urban Dictionary. Knowing current meanings builds confidence when engaging with young people and helps spot potential concerns early.



CREATE SAFE SPACES FOR DISCUSSION

Encourage casual chats about emojis, online slang, memes, or social media trends. Showing interest without judgement reassures young people that they can talk about their digital world openly and safely.



ASK, DON'T ASSUME

Approach unfamiliar emojis with curiosity rather than suspicion. A light-hearted "What does 🍷 (juice box emoji) mean these days?" can open conversation and show that you respect their knowledge.



PRIORITISE TRUST OVER SURVEILLANCE

While parental controls and monitoring tools can be useful, emotional safety matters most. Be someone children and young people feel they can come to — not just someone who's watching them.



EMOJI CHEAT SHEET - The following slang terms and emojis are some common examples - please be aware this isn't an exhaustive list.

COMMON EMOJIS:

- | | |
|---|--|
| 🤡 (Clown face) Foolishness or clowning around | 🙏 (Pleading face) Over-affectionate or 'simping' |
| 😬 (Cold face) Cool, stylish or ruthless | 👁️ (Eyes) Watching drama unfold |
| 😘 (Hot face) Intense attraction or excitement | 🐐 (Goat) Greatest of all time (G.O.A.T.) |
| 😐 (Moai) Stone-faced, unbothered | 💅 (Nails) Confidence, sassiness, or indifference |
| 👑 (Crown) 'Slaying', as in doing great | 🚩 (Triangular flag) Red flag; a warning sign about someone's behaviour |

POTENTIALLY CONCERNING EMOJIS

- | | |
|--|---|
| 🌽 (Ear of corn) Slang for pornography (avoids censorship algorithms) | 🌵 (Wilted flower) Often used to convey emotional struggle or sadness |
| ❄️ (Snowflake, snowman, snow cloud) Can symbolise cocaine | 🐍 (Snake) Can represent betrayal or being 'two-faced' |
| 🗝️ (Key, lying face) Related to cocaine use | 🔫 (Water pistol) Sometimes used to reference violence or self-harm |
| 🌿 (Falling leaves, herb, maple leaf) Can symbolise cannabis | ⚠️ (Warning) Used to emphasise drama, threats or emotional turmoil |
| 💊 (Pill) May reference drug use or prescription misuse | 🍜 (Steaming bowl) Refers to nudes ('noods' is an abbreviation of noodles) |

Meet Our Expert

Keith Broni is a globally renowned emoji expert and the Editor in Chief of emojipedia.org, the world's number one emoji resource. He has an MSc in Business Psychology from University College London and an MBA from Quantic School of Business and Technology.



The National College®