

November 2024

Head's update

Welcome to our first monthly newsletter - it has been a busy month and we seem to have done a lot since we returned to school from half term!

Please have a look at the photos from Children in Need (Friday 15th November) on the last page - many of our staff and learners dressed up in Pudsey or spotty clothes, or as superheroes! Everyone looked great!

In assemblies, we have looked at Children in Need, anti-bullying, and World Kindness Day. This week was about Advent - we will be focusing on winter and Christmas over the next few weeks!

- A couple of weeks ago, **Southend class spent the day working with volunteers from Halstead Rotary Club to completely re-vamp our sensory garden**, which had become a weed garden! They cleared all the dead plants, put down some fresh compost and planted lots of sensory plants that had been **donated by Olivers Nurseries in Witham. We would like to say a massive THANK YOU to Olivers and to the Rotary Club for their generosity.** It looks lovely and we can't wait until next summer to see what it will look (and smell!) like!
- **Yesterday Flamingo class went to St. Mary's Church in Bocking to decorate the church with Christmas trees!** This is a tradition that the school have done for a long time and we are proud to still have links with the village that the school started in. Please see photos on the last page!
- **Orangutan class have started working towards their Duke of Edinburgh's Bronze Award**, which they seem to be enjoying!
- **Ostrich and Wolf classes visited Skylark church in Chelmsford for socializing and stories.** It is fair to say that they charmed the adults and made us proud, as usual!

Today we have the Travelling Librarian going into classes for exciting storytelling - the learners really enjoy it and seem to get a lot from it!

Our Friends of Edith Borthwick (FOEBS) held their AGM this week. The charity do a great job at supporting the school, but they are always looking for volunteers to support with ideas! **Please let Tracey know if you need any more information.**

Over this term, **we have welcomed a number of staff from a variety of local schools to come and see the amazing things that we do at Edith Borthwick.** Staff are always amazed at how engaged our learners are and what fun they have! **They always complement us on what a lovely feel the school has**, which is a credit to our learners and staff.

Tasha, our Family Worker Lead, has asked me to put out a reminder about the next Coffee Morning on Friday 6th December. All parents/carers are welcome and the last two sessions have had a great turn out. Parents/carers have enjoyed supporting each other and meeting people in similar positions to themselves.

Next week we will be full steam ahead for our Christmas activities! We are starting to film our show next week and are beginning to make items to sell at for our Christmas Fair on Wednesday 18th December. **Remember to keep the day free, as younger learners will not be able to attend without an adult from home. Please send in any raffle prizes (last year we had an amazing raffle!) and any children's toys for our pre-loved toy stall and soft toy tombola.**

Finally, **our Save the Children's Christmas Jumper Day will be on Thursday 12th December.** The suggested donation is £1.00 - more information to follow!

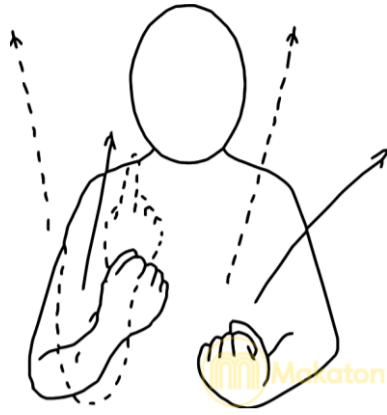
Wrap up warm and enjoy your weekend!

Best wishes,

Maggie

Signs of the month

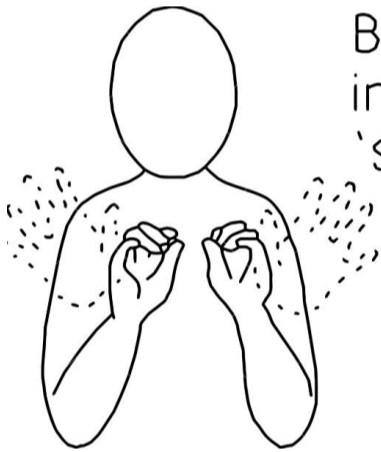
Fireworks (Bonfire/Fireworks/Guy Fawkes night)



Soldier (Remembrance Day)



Light (Diwali, festival of light)



Bunched hands
in front of body
'spring open'

Eco update

If you have completed the 'Cut your Carbon' initiative that was sent out recently, **please send the form back as soon as possible!**

Join our monthly lottery!

'Your School Lottery' was set up to raise money and make a difference for our amazing learners - for every ticket you play, 74.2% goes to our school and prizes!

It's only £1 per ticket with the chance to win a £25,000 grand prize!

[Your School Lottery](#)

Thank you to everyone who chose to donate their winnings to our school!

Don't forget, **our monthly coffee morning takes place on Wednesday 6th December at 9.30am!**

It's the last one of 2024 and all parents/carers are welcome - the last two coffee mornings have had a great turn out!

Some of our parents/carers who have been with us for a while have been really helpful for our new parents/carers who needed some support and guidance - and just to hear that they are doing a great job!

Some of the students in **Ostrich and Wolf class** have really enjoyed visiting a social group at Skylark Church on a Monday morning!

We've enjoyed songs, stories and interacting with members of the public who also attend the group!



Children in Need



Southend class have been at Danbury this half term – they have been brilliant at supporting each other, communicating and working together!

They have tackled their fears, boosted their confidence and persevered each week and should be very proud of themselves!



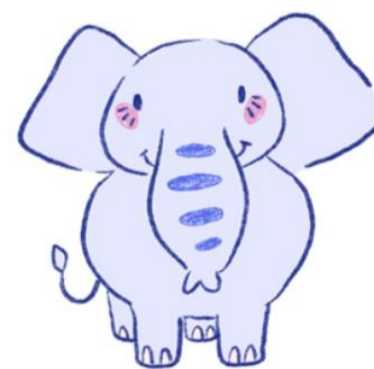
Attendance reminders

If your child will be absent from school for any reason,
please ring the absence line (option 1) before 9.00am.

Flamingo class at Mary's Church in Bocking, decorating the church with Christmas trees!



Edie's corner



Word of the month



Winter

Edie's joke of the month

What do you call a duck that loves fireworks?

A firequacker! (*Firecracker!*)