

The Edith Borthwick School Newsletter

Newsletter – Autumn Half Term 2

Head's update

I can't believe that we have arrived at the last day of the autumn term so quickly! This has been a very long term (the learners and staff are tired and ready for the holiday!) but also in many ways, it has rushed by.

This half term, we have had two governors' meetings, and governors have been in school monitoring everything that goes on in school. **Our Governing Body are an important part of making sure that the school runs smoothly. We are lucky to have two fantastic Parent Governors, Tasha and Robin**, who give up their time to represent the school population. **Thank you for everything that you are both doing!**

During half term, our car park gates were finished (finally!), and they are fantastic at keeping the school secure. We also had our inside stairs adapted, to make sure that they were safe and secure for our learners. **Please could I ask that parents do not tailgate and follow other cars through the gates, as this means that we do not know who is on site. Parents should not be arriving for pick up in the afternoon before 2.50pm.** When parents come earlier than this, it holds everything up, as it prevents the buses from parking.

In November, **we held our Disney Fun Day to raise money for one of our families.** The learners enjoyed dressing up, seeing their staff dressed up, and taking part in a Disney disco and cake sale. **We raised over £1,300, which was fantastic.**

Also in November, **our Friends of Edith Borthwick School (FOEBS) held their annual general meeting (AGM).** We discussed the fundraising for the year and looked at what we wanted to spend the money on over the coming year. The trustees voted for the positions and the following people are now in post:

- Zoe - Chair of FOEBS
- Sarah - Treasurer
- Julie - Vice chair
- Stacey - Secretary
- Frances - Trustee

I have had to step down from being a trustee whilst I am on secondment, so that position will be filled by Sam, our new Headteacher.

The end of term has been fun and filled with Christmas activities. On Wednesday 10th December, **we held our Christmas fair and I have just heard that we raised an amazing £2,250.50!** Thank you to everyone who came and supported the event, bought tickets and saw Santa. This is one of our two main fundraising activities (the other being our Fun Sports Day), but we also want it to be an event where learners and their families can come together to enjoy themselves.

On Thursday 11th December, **we had our Christmas dinner**, which looked as lovely as usual!

Across this week, **lots of classes have had parties and fun activities.** On Wednesday 17th December, **Santa visited every class and gave out presents**, funded by our FOEBS. Today, **we welcomed Bocking Brass**, who played for our learners in three different slots, giving everyone the chance to come and watch. At lunchtime today, **Dunmow Round Table organised for Santa came on his sleigh and the children went outside to see him**, which was exciting.

We finish this term happy and looking forward to Christmas! **I would like to thank everyone for their kind words and gifts. It is with very mixed emotions that I leave this fantastic school to go on secondment with the local authority for two years. I will miss so much about the school but I know that it is in safe hand with our SLG, school teams, governors and with Sam, the new Head.** I will be popping by when I can, to keep in touch.

Edith Borthwick is an amazing school, with an amazing community.

I wish you all a very restful and fun holiday and we look forward to welcoming our learners back on Monday 5th January.






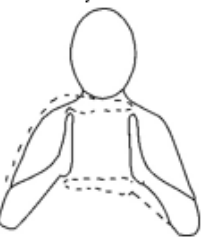


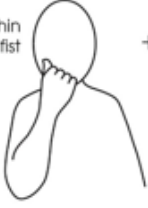






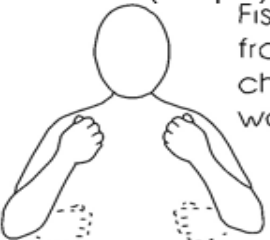






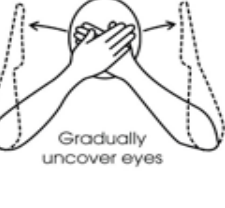

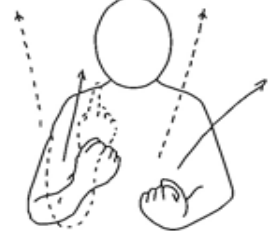
Best wishes,

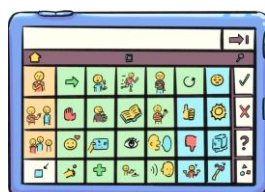
Maggie

At The Edith Borthwick School, we **respect**, **encourage**, **achieve**, **care**, and **have fun!**

Edie's area

Signs of the half term

World Jellyfish Day (Jellyfish)  Hand quivers and moves to the left	Guy Fawkes Night (Guy Fawkes)  +	Remembrance Sunday (Brave) Flat hand moves slightly forward to GOOD hand 
Anti-Bullying Week (Bully) Index finger remains in contact with chin as index finger pushes sharply up and down 	Doctor Who Day (Telephone box)  + 	St. Andrew's Day (Bagpipes) Right elbow moves in and out from side of body while hands mime playing pipes 
National Tree Week (Christmas tree) 	Advent Begins (Advent calendar) Tap chin once with fist + Mime turning page  + 	International Day of People with Disabilities (People with disabilities) Hand moves down slightly + Right hand makes 'D' against left index finger. Twist right hand forward pivoting on thumb tip  + 
St. Nicholas Day (Feast) Bunched hands move alternately to mouth 	Human Rights Day (People)  + 	Christmas Jumper Day (Jumper) Fists 'jump' from upper chest to waist 
Hanukkah (Light shines) Bunched hands in front of body 'spring open' 	Summer Solstice (Summer)  + 	Winter Solstice (Winter) 
Christmas (Christmas day)  +  +  Gradually uncover eyes Slide dominant hand over back of non-dominant hand towards body, then close dominant hand and place on back of non-dominant hand	Kwanzaa (Celebrate) Hands twist at wrists, move up for 'To Celebrate' 	New Year (Fireworks) 



Word for the next half term



seasons

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Tortoise class enjoyed making candles for the Christmas fair, choosing colours and scents. They were very sensible and careful when mixing the hot wax!

Heathrow class made cinnamon rolls – yum!



Stansted class have been busy serving staff lunches as part of our Enterprise unit of the 'Moving on' curriculum.

This term, we have sold a total of:

- 92 pitta bread pizzas
- 125 hot dogs
- 115 slices of crispy cake

We have received £522.00 in total, with a profit of £208.49!

Thank you to all the learners (and staff) in Stansted for working so hard and to all the staff who have had lunches



[Play now](#)

The School Council enjoyed visiting St Mary's church in Bocking to decorate our tree for their Christmas tree festival!

The theme this year was 'joy'.

Each class decorated their class animal/aeroplane template with things which bring them joy. We hung them onto the tree with the other decorations.



SEND FORWARD

Information event aimed at students transitioning to further education, employment, supported living or social care provisions

Wednesday 21st January 2026
10am - 4pm
Marks Tey Village Hall, CO6 1EJ

For more information contact:
sendforward@lexdensprings.essex.sch.uk

Over 40 stalls, cafe, goodies and more...!

Brought to you in collaboration with:

Colchester Institute, Doucecroft School, Market Field College, Lexden Springs, St. Mary's Church, Bocking, Essex, and others.