



Chinese New Year Themed Week 9th-13th February

I am delighted to share with you that we will be undertaking a themed week about China and the Chinese New Year in the week before half term.

Every class will be able to participate in some planned activities which will contribute to our pupils improving their knowledge and understanding of Chinese language and culture. Activities being planned include sessions of Tai Chi, cookery, calligraphy, tangrams and folk songs. Some of these activities are being run for us by outside providers and we will be requesting a small donation of £2 via ParentPay to contribute towards the costs.

Additionally, in this themed week and the previous week, our school will be privileged to host a group of 15 children from China who will be visiting Chelmsford and the UK for an educational and cultural experience. They will be spread amongst our Year 4 classes and Class 3, and during their two-week stay, will engage in all the same lessons and activities that their host class would normally do. Though this visit comes at no cost to the school, we will benefit in numerous ways, particularly in improving our global outlook and understanding of, and interaction with, people of other cultures. We look forward to welcoming them and their adult helpers into our school community.

Club notice: We currently have spaces in our Mandarin clubs—please contact the office if you would like to attend the Y3&4 club on Thursday lunchtimes or the Y5&6 club on Wednesdays 3:15-4:15pm.




HEADLICE

We have had some unwelcome visitors recently. Please check your child's hair regularly and use either wet-combing or medicated products. For more advice go to www.nhs.uk



Other Updates

- Thank you to those who gave constructive feedback on the opening of the gate at the top of our site. We have reviewed our procedures and can now open this gate between 8:45 and 8:55am each morning.
- The images from the recent Head's Holiday homework are on the website and well worth a look. Thanks to all those who submitted images under the title 'Special to me'
- Parent Governors are currently helping the school to devise our updated homework approach. More details soon.
- Parent Consultation appointment letters will be sent out next week. Please return them promptly!
- Parent Voice met yesterday, minutes will be on website soon
- **Tuesday 3rd February 6:30pm** Y5 Mersea Visit meeting
- **Tuesday 3rd February 7:15pm** Y6 Isle of Wight/SATs meeting

We currently have spaces in our Breakfast Club. 7:30am—8:45am daily in the Barn. Details at Main office.



Anglia Ruskin
University
Cambridge & Chelmsford

Free action-packed day at University

Anglia Ruskin University is inviting anyone aged 6-16 years and their family who are interested in exploring a university campus setting to attend a 2015 UniFest event.

Saturday 7th March—Cambridge campus 10am-3pm

Saturday 21st March—Chelmsford campus 10am-3pm

Book your place at www.anglia.ac.uk/unifest_schools

Vacancy

Ashlyns, in conjunction with both Barnes Farm schools, is seeking a

General Kitchen Assistant. 4 hours per day @ £6.50 per hour. Application pack from Office or www.ashlyns.co.uk Closing Date 23rd January 2015

Stranger Danger in 2015

Thursday 12th March 7—9pm

DS John Woodley and DC John Staines from Essex Police will be presenting an information evening for parents in the school hall covering all aspects of keeping children safe. They are highly-regarded amongst Essex schools for their expertise and we would recommend your attendance at this event.

Other Key dates

Mon 5th Jan	Pupils return
Thurs 5th Feb	Class 8 Assembly 9:15am
Mon 23rd Feb	Non-Pupil Day 3
Fri 6th Mar	Class 7 Assembly 9:15am
Thurs 12th Mar	Class 9 Assembly 9:15am
Fri 13th Mar	Red Nose Day 2015
Fri 27th Mar	End of Spring Term
Thurs 7th May	Closed due to Polling Day
Fri 22nd May	Non-Pupil Day 4
Tues 21st July	End of Term
Weds 22nd July	Non-Pupil Day 5