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### Barnes Farm Schools Host the Mayor in Remembrance Event



On Monday 12<sup>th</sup> November, we welcomed Madame Mayor Yvonne Spence as well as Governors from both schools, to mark 100 years since the end of World War 1. All children sang a shared song and we



heard poems read by two children. School Councillors presented wreaths on behalf of both schools too. The Mayor officially opened the Barnes Farm schools friendship



bench which was provided following kind donations from the PTA. The weather was kind to us and the whole event was observed with great respect by all pupils.



### Strengthened global links with China will benefit BFJS pupils



My recent 6 day visit to China was successful in strengthening links with our partner school Zhang Qinglian Primary school. As a result of the trip, there will be a



new Engineering club starting in January 2019 to share outcomes with Zhang Qinglian and to benefit from shared feedback. The teachers there have also committed to providing extra guidance for our students when learning

Mandarin and also when learning traditional Chinese crafts. It was a busy but fascinating trip to the school where I observed lessons, gave feedback and viewed other cultural aspects of the school and local area. For the second part of the week, I accompanied 9 other Essex headteachers to represent the UK at an International



Educational forum in Nantong where there was no doubting the ambition of China to better its own education system and learn from others around the world. It has



reaffirmed my commitment to continuing to deliver

qualitative modern foreign language teaching of Mandarin as well as the additional cultural benefits that this gives our pupils for the future. I will be delivering an assembly to the children next week (and one to the Infant school) about my trip too.The trip has also demonstrated what a great job our UK teaching profession does of meeting the diverse needs of our learners within a broad and balanced curriculum.

Ross McTaggart - Headteacher



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### Trainers/Outdoor shoes

Now the field is regularly wet and muddy, we would like to remind all parents that children should have a set of trainers in school which they can change into at lunchtime if they wish to go onto the field. We would like to keep the field available as much as possible but don't want to ruin school shoes (or our carpets!) with mud and water.



# Parent Information Meetings

Thank you to all the parents who attended the recent information meetings run by the staff from each yeargroup in the school. We hope you found the sessions useful to better understand the expectations for each yeargroup as well as the aspirations for the rest of the year. Letters will shortly go out to invite parents to make individual parent consultation appointments for either Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2019 or Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2019. These appointments will be made via the online portal.



# **Christmas Craft Morning**

Friends of Barnes Farm Schools PTA are holding their annual Christmas craft morning in the Junior School Hall on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> December. There will be lots of lovely crafts to fill the morning, so please come and join in. Tickets cost £2.50 per school child which includes entrance, the first 50p craft plus a drink and a biscuit. Additional crafts are 50p each, with one £1 craft.

This is always a popular event and tickets will go on sale on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> November via ParentPay from both school on a first come, first serve basis. Children <u>must</u> be accompanied by an adult and tickets will be issued on arrival on the day.





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## Do you have a child in Year 2 or know someone who has?

#### Year 2-3 admissions for September 2019

The process for Year 2 to 3 transfers has changed for Year 3 admissions into junior schools for September 2019; parents of current Year 2 children at an infant school **need to make a formal application to the Council** and can do so via the website <u>www.essex.gov.uk/admissions</u>.

The junior admission round opens on **Monday 12 November 2018**, for parents of children to apply for a junior school (Year 3) place for September 2019.

The statutory national closing date for applications is **15 January 2019**.

From 12 November 2018, applications can be made online via <u>www.essex.gov.uk/admissions</u>.

# **Community News**

#### Childhood Illnesses workshops

Please find attached a letter regarding free NHS childhood illness workshops.

#### **Essex Music Piano Tuition**

We have some spaces available for keyboard tuition to build on the three confirmed already. If you would like to find out more - please contact the school office.



