

• 24th Feb 2020 22nd May 2020

Bank Holiday change – 4th May 2020 now 8th May 2020

2020-2021

- 2nd Sept 2020 23rd Oct 2020 4th Jan 2021
- 22nd Feb 2021 28th May 2021

Fiona and Sam J from 4H model their excellent home learning projects! We have been thrilled to see the quality and range of projects across the school and will share more in the coming weeks.



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New school leadership roles

I am delighted to write this week's newsletter in my new role as Head of School. It has been professionally fulfilling and personally rewarding to have worked at my local school in the last 5½ years as Deputy Headteacher. I have enjoyed teaching and working with every year group of children that have been part of the school in that time and getting to know parents and other family members. I am looking forward to building on our success this year together with pupils, parents and staff, and both Mr McTaggart and I are grateful for the words of support and encouragement received from across our school community. As Executive Headteacher, Mr McTaggart will remain an integral, visible and hands-on school leader and, as ever, both of us are available to talk with parents.

Mr McIntosh, Head of School



Curriculum presentation dates

As part of our revised curriculum aims, content and outcomes in each year group, we have planned opportunities to invite parents into school. This will be close to the culmination of the inquiry question that has driven the children's learning this term. We would like to invite parents to attend on the following dates:

Year group	Inquiry question	Date	Time
3	Was there a Neolithic settlement on	Monday 9 th	3pm
	the current site of Chelmer Village?	December	
4	Which invaders had the greatest	Monday 16 th	2.30pm
	impact?	December	
5	What was it like to be an Ancient	Wednesday 11 th	2pm
	Egyptian?	December	-
6	Is war ever worth it?	Thursday 5 th	3.30pm
		December	

Year 3 and Year 4 Christmas concerts

Year 3 and Year 4 will be presenting a simple retelling of the Christmas story to family members on **Wednesday 11th December** at the Church of Our Saviour. Year 3's concert will be at 9.30am and Year 4's will be at 11am. More details will follow in a letter to parents soon.





Children in need - non-uniform day

Friday 15th November is Children in need day and pupils may come in their non-school clothes in return for a donation via ParentPay. There is no particular theme or colour for clothing.





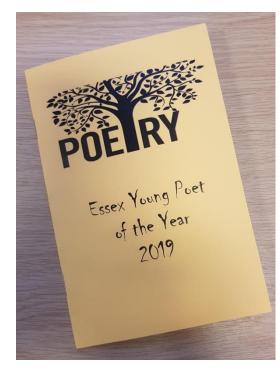
Essex Young Poet of the Year competition

We were very pleased that two of our entries in the 2019 Essex Young Poet of the Year competition were recognised as 'Highly Commended' within the 11 and under age category and secured spots in the annual publication. Congratulations to Ellie S (now in Year 7) and Aaron A in Year 6 - we are really proud of you. Aaron's entry is reproduced below and is very appropriate for this time of year:

It's cold and it's wet, Lots of friends I have met, I'm lonely and tired, Lots of bullets I have fired, It's horrible, it stenches, Came a voice from the trenches.

I have seen so much death and killing, This Great War is far from thrilling, I attach a bayonet to my rifle, Going over the top is frightful, And all this to help out the French, Came a voice from the trench.

Letters from loved ones, fill me with joy, I shouldn't be here, I'm just a boy! The war rages on, will it ever end? I want to be home with my family and friends, But that's just a daydream from here on my bench, Just a daydream...came a voice from the trench.





Poppies on sale

We are still selling poppies this week, leading up to our joint observation of Remembrance Day on Monday 11th November with the Infant school.

Outdoor play

As the weather is turning colder and the rain continues to visit frequently, it is important that all pupils come to school with coats and appropriate footwear for outdoor play. Trainers will need to be worn if we are to continue to use the field when it might be muddy, so please ensure your child has a pair in school that can be used for this purpose.

Our table tennis equipment is very well-used and we are pleased that there has been such interest in this sport. However, we need to ask children to not use their own bats and balls **at lunchtime** from now on and to use the school's instead. This is to ensure fair access to the tables by anyone who wishes to play and so that no one's personal equipment is at risk of going missing or being damaged. Our MDAs and play leaders will try to make sure there are ample bats and balls available.



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