

Message from Mrs Branton

KS1 and EYFS Nativity

Thank you to all the parents that came to the nativity performances on Thursday and Friday this week. The children worked so hard to put on these wonderful performances for you and a special well done to our youngest children in EYFS as it was their first nativity. They put their heart and soul into every performance!!



BASC

Please note that on the last day of term, Friday, 19th December, the after school club will be closing at 4.15pm. Please ensure that any outstanding payments are cleared before the end of term.

REMINDERS

Children's Christmas Bazaar

On Thursday 18th December, the children will be having their Children's Christmas Bazaar. This is an annual Christmas shopping event that the children absolutely love. It gives the opportunity for children to experience going shopping; making choices about what they want to buy; and managing their own money. It also raises money for the school to spend on educational resources and to subsidise the rising cost of trips.

Each class will be making things that can be sold; there will be a toiletry/ jewellery stall; and year 6 also run fun games. The children have a shopping experience where they walk around the hall with their shopping bags and money and they can buy things from the stalls that they may want to give as Christmas gifts to others or maybe keep for themselves!

On the day, please send your child into school with a bag for life or plastic bag and money in a named wallet/purse/envelope. It is entirely up to you on how much money you wish to give to your child, but please give them coins rather than notes. The prices are kept low with items ranging from 20p- £1, with the toiletry / jewellery stall costing slightly more.

A huge thank you to everyone that has donated items for this event.

Chocolate Donations

As part of our Children's Christmas Bazaar, our year 6 pupils will be running a chocolate tombola game. To run this game, we need chocolate donations. House Captains will continue to visit classrooms next week and collect any chocolate donations from the children. If a child donates a chocolate bar, they will be given a raffle ticket and can be in with a chance to win a prize which will be drawn on Thursday 18th December 2025.

Christmas Jam Jar Competition

Thank you to all those that have sent in Christmas Jam Jars already for our Children's Christmas Bazaar. Jars can be filled with sweets/ chocolates which are in packets; small toys e.g. bouncy balls, cars etc; mini stationery items e.g. colouring pencils and rubbers; or any other small items. Please bring in any filled jars by Monday, 15th December. We are running a competition to support this, and any class that brings in a number of jam jars equal to the number of children in their class will win a non-uniform day on Thursday, 18th December 2025!

Attendance Winners for the Term

Well done to Maple class for having the highest overall attendance this term.

Sports News

What a wonderful way to end the sporting calendar of 2025, a Christmas dance workshop at Shenfield High school. The JPA students choreographed a dance routine for our girls to learn and perform. We all had an amazing afternoon.

Some of our year 6 children attended a Boccia event. 15 teams from Brentwood borough battled in this target game, the children displayed great precision skills and tactics. Well done everyone.



Community News

Please see the link below to our community news page, lots of new and exciting events have been added this week: <https://www.willowbrook.essex.sch.uk/page/?title=Community+News&pid=85>

Share a thank you

Please see link below to share a special thanks for a member of staff:

<https://forms.gle/1uMKprmxmHRbe5CK8>

Your kind words make a real difference, brightening staff members' days and recognising their hard work. These messages will be shared with them next week and will be a wonderful gift to take into the holidays. Thank you for helping us spread positivity and support throughout our school community!

Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Branton



Weekly Newsletter

Friday 12th December 2025



Term Dates 2026/27

Essex County Council School Term and Holiday Dates for Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools - Academic Year 2026-2027

September 2026							October 2026							November 2026							December 2026						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
										1	2	3	4							1		1	2	3	4	5	6
	1	2	3	4	5	6	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	26	27	28	29	30	31	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	28	29	30	31				
28	29	30											30														

January 2027							February 2027							March 2027							April 2027							
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	
				1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7					1	2	3	4
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31							29	30	31							26	27	28	29	30		

May 2027							June 2027							July 2027							August 2027							
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	
					1	2												1	2	3	4							1
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30	26	27	28	29	30	31	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31				
31																												

- = Schooldays
- = School holidays
- = Bank holidays
- = Weekends
- = Non pupil days

In addition, schools allocate five non-pupil days out of the school days indicated, or the equivalent in disaggregated twilight sessions.

Autumn Term:	Tuesday 1 September 2026 – Friday 18 December 2026 Half Term 26 October – 30 October	74 days
Spring Term:	Monday 4 January 2027 – Thursday 25 March 2027 Half Term 15 February – 19 February	54 days
Summer Term:	Monday 12 April 2027 – Wednesday 21 July 2027 Half Term 31 May – 4 June, and May Bank Holiday – 3 May	67 days
		195 days

Please note:
The above dates may vary for individual schools, especially Foundation, Voluntary Aided schools and Academies.
You are strongly advised to check with your child's school before making any holiday or other commitments.



 Essex County Council
Libraries

**10 January
to 22 February
2026**

Winter Reading Challenge

Children across Essex are being challenged to read and get creative at their local library this winter!

Explore our Pawfessionals' amazing careers as you progress through the challenge.

Choose from twelve fun activities to complete. For each one, you'll get a sticker! Complete six, and you'll receive a certificate and get to enter our prize draw for the chance to win some incredible goodies!

Plus, you can join in with themed events and activities at the library!



 Find out more about how to take part in this free activity on our website: libraries.essex.gov.uk



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Merry Christmas

to all staff, children, parents and carers from all the staff at Shenfield Library.
We look forward to welcoming you to the library over the festive period and into the New Year.

CHRISTMAS OPENING HOURS

Christmas Eve	9am – 1pm
Christmas Day	CLOSED
Boxing Day	CLOSED
Saturday 27 th December	9am – 5pm
Monday 29 th December	9am – 5:30pm
Tuesday 30 th December	9am – 5:30pm
New Year’s Eve	9am – 5:30pm
New Year’s Day	CLOSED
Friday 2nd January	Normal opening hours resume



Please book in advance via SchoolGrid in order to avoid disappointment





CHRISTMAS LUNCH

December 2025

MAINS
ROAST TURKEY, STUFFING & CHIPOLATA
PUFF PASTRY CHRISTMAS CRACKER (VG)

SIDES
ROAST POTATOES, CARROTS, PEAS, SPROUTS, GRAVY

DESSERTS
STICKY TOFFEE PUDDING & CUSTARD (V)
REINDEER SHORTBREAD (VG)
FRESH FRUIT



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This week's Headteacher superstars are:

Ruby H, Quinn C and Rocco W



Well done

Word of the week

'Wonderful words of the week'

Key Stage 1

Year 1 Holly – cheer

Year 2 Elm – celebrated

Key Stage 2

Year 3 Beech - fascinated

Year 4 Whitebeam - rambunctious

Year 5 Chestnut - jubilant

Year 6 Pine - authority



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DIARY DATES

	AUTUMN TERM 2025
15 th December 2025	RockSteady Concert for parents at 2:20pm
15 th December 2025	Christmas Wonder workshop for Pine class at St Peter’s Church
17 th December 2025	Christingle Workshop for all classes
18 th December 2025	Elm Class Darkness to Light Christmas workshop for children
18 th December 2025	Children’s Christmas Bazaar
18 th December 2025	Make-up session for KS1 Music Club
19 th December 2025	Christmas dinner and Christmas jumper day
19 th December 2025	Last day of term