



## Reception News

This week in Reception we have been exploring the story of 'Owl babies'. Some of the activities we have enjoyed this week are; exploring the habitat tuff spot with feathers, logs and leaves for the baby owls to play in, writing about the story and painting our own owls. We have been using different resources in maths to explore our number skills—matching amounts to numerals.

Next week we will be reading the story of 'Stick Man'. We will be thinking about all the places he visits and all the things he is used for. We may design and make our very own stick men! I wonder what adventures they could get up to!

We will also be celebrating St. Andrew's Day next week.

## Challenges!

**NEW Homework folders:** Each Friday your child will come home with some homework sheets to support their learning. Please return homework folders by Thursday each week.

**Reading:** Please read at home each night and record this in your child's reading record. Your child's reading book will be changed weekly. You can record any story that you read or share together at home.

**Bedtime story:** Please log on to Tapestry this evening and every Friday for a bedtime story read by one of our team for you and your child to enjoy together. This can be recorded as a 'read' in your child's reading record.

**Phonics video:** Each week we will send home a phonics video for your child to watch and join in with at home recorded by our Phase leader Mrs Templar.

**Tapestry:** Don't forget to add your adventures to Tapestry—the children love sharing their photos on the big board and this really helps to support their speaking and listening skills.

## Weekly Routines

**PE** will be outside on a Monday afternoon while the weather is dry. Please make sure all jewellery is removed.

**Reading books**—reading books will be changed weekly. Other books can be recorded in you child's reading record.

**Library books**—Our library circle time takes place each Friday. Please make sure your child returns their book each week in order to choose a new one .

**Water bottles**—Please make sure your child has a named water bottle with them in school every day.

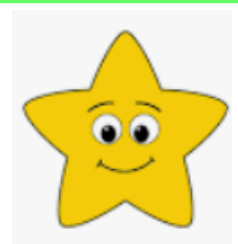


## Certificate winners

School value: Millie, Olivia, Elena

Superstar reader: Lorenzo, Jayla, MJ

Superstar writer: Sienna, Oliver, Scarlett,



## Reading winners

**The winning class this week are ..... RTR!!!! Again!!!!**

Well done for collectively achieving the most reads at home this week. Your class will be caring for our special reading bear this week as a reward :-)

## Nursery news

This week in the Nursery we have been reading the story of The Leaf Thief. It's about a little squirrel that starts to panic when he notices that one of his leaves is missing from his tree collection. The children have found the squirrel very funny and have loved observing and remembering all of the colours of the leaves in the pictures.

Our Nursery is full of Autumn leaves, garlands and twinkling lights and the children have been super creative making their own red, gold and orange window leaves. They have practiced the letters in their names using paint and cotton buds as paintbrushes, played various number games matching number to quantity and been imaginative with playdough, sand and straw.

We have also been talking about Autumn harvest and have been looking at all the different vehicles that farmers use to prepare their crops in the field, as well as make scarecrow faces!

### Tapestry & Class Charts

Thank you to everyone who has already uploaded photos of their child and their news. It really is appreciated and helps with communication during carpet time. Please keep them coming! If you have yet to access either Tapestry and/or Class Charts, then please let one of the Nursery Team know.

### Bottles/Welly boots

Please ensure that your child has a named drinks bottle that it is filled with water before coming to Nursery, plus a pair of named spare welly boots.

## Dates for the diary

Reception reading café—2.30-3pm Tuesday 5th December

Reception Christmas craft afternoon—2pm-3pm Tuesday 12th December (more info to follow)

Reception Christmas Carols—2pm-3pm Thursday 14th December (more info to follow)

Nursery Christmas celebrations— Friday 15th December (details will be shared on ClassCharts)

Last day of term—Wednesday 20th December

### NHS Speech drop in

If your child is under 5 years old and you have any concerns about your child's speech, language, communication or interaction skills please contact NELFT at Great Oaks for an appointment to support your child on the contact details below.

Email: [drop-in@nelft.nhs.uk](mailto:drop-in@nelft.nhs.uk)

Telephone: 0300 300 1544



### Talk, Listen, Cuddle—TLC

TLC is an Essex campaign helping parents, carers and families give their young children the best start to life, developing their communication skills through playful learning at home.

On the website there is information about milestones for different age groups, tips, activities and resources to use at home.

For more information visit: [www.tlc-essex.info](http://www.tlc-essex.info)



## Reporting absences

**Please make sure to report your child's absences each day that they are off using PA Connect.**

**This should be reported by 8.30am each day.**

## Additional advice and support available for parents

### GOOD BEGINNINGS COURSE

Good beginnings is a 10 week course run for parents by Essex county council. It is aimed at parents of children who have Autism (ASD) and social communication needs and are aged 5 and under (no diagnosis necessary).

#### Spring term sessions:

Wickford on Tuesday mornings 9.30 –11.30 am Or

Online Tuesday mornings 9-10am.

For further information and to book a place please visit the Essex SEND website at [www.send.essex.gov.uk](http://www.send.essex.gov.uk)

### BOSP TOTS

BOSP run groups for children and parents with additional needs or disabilities age 4 and under.

They currently run sessions at Wat Tyler country park (by the RSPB building) on a Tuesday from 10am-11am.

For more information check out the web address below:

<https://www.bosp.co.uk/community/bosp-brighter-opportunities-for-special-people-13333/news/new-baby-toddler-group-25543>

### CHILDRENS CENTRES

We have a few children's centres local to us who are able to offer a great deal of support to families. They run lots of sessions and groups for different aged children as well as parents. Please check out time website below—there is a timetable of events available on this page.

<https://essexfamilywellbeing.co.uk/hubs/northlands-park-family-hub/>



**Essex Child and Family Wellbeing Service**

### SNAP

SNAP is a charity based in Brentwood which offers advice and support for families with children with additional needs or disabilities.

They always have a great range of groups and events for children and siblings are welcome.

More information can be found at the web address

below:

<https://www.snapcharity.org/>

## Health visitor and Family wellbeing team contact details (hcrq care group)

For support and advice with a range of issues including toileting, sleep, diet and behaviour please contact 0300 247 0013 and ask for Katy Taylor who is based in Fryerns family hub and has links with our school.

### Who can I speak to at school?

As well as your child's class teacher there are other people in Early Years who can support you with concerns about your child.

**Mrs S Templar**—EYFS Phase leader (curriculum/ behaviour/ class worries)

Contact details: [admin@willows.essex.sch.uk](mailto:admin@willows.essex.sch.uk) (please mark FOA Mrs Templar)

**Mrs K Rumball**—EYFS SENDCO (support and advice for children with any additional needs or disabilities)

Contact details: [sendmailbox@willows.essex.sch.uk](mailto:sendmailbox@willows.essex.sch.uk)

**Mrs T Clay**—Sensory Nurture lead/ Autism Champion

Contact details: [tracey.clay@willows.essex.sch.uk](mailto:tracey.clay@willows.essex.sch.uk)

**Mrs J Smith**— Family support worker/ Parent liaison/ Senior mental health lead/ Antibullying ambassador

Contact details: 01268 470880 Ext.208 Email: [jacqui.smith@willows.essex.sch.uk](mailto:jacqui.smith@willows.essex.sch.uk)