

19.12.2025 CHJS Newsletter



Wow, what a brilliant term that was! I can't believe how much we have packed into these last 15 weeks. It has truly been a whirlwind of activities, learning, and unforgettable moments that we will cherish for years to come.

This week has been a celebration of everything that we hold dear at Chalkwell. We've spent quality time together, filled with fun, laughter, and festive cheer. From our delightful Christmas dinner to movie afternoons, and a variety of fun and games, it has been a week to remember! Not only have we enjoyed ourselves, but we've also brought our learning topics to a magnificent crescendo, showcasing the hard work and creativity of our students.

Some magical memories from this week include our enchanting Carol Concert, where the children's voices filled St Michael's & All Angels with joy and spirit. Our Christmas Dinner was a festive feast, bringing everyone together in celebration. The Drama Club's performance was nothing short of spectacular, showcasing the immense talent of our young actors. The Year 6 Windrush Pop-up Museum was a fantastic way to engage with history, allowing our students to share their learning with the whole school community. We also enjoyed the beautiful Christingle service, which reminded us of the true meaning of Christmas. And let's not forget today's Challenge Day and Santa Fun Run, which brought out the competitive spirit and festive fun in everyone! It was joyful to see all the smiling faces on the gate this morning!

I want to take this moment to express my heartfelt gratitude to my incredible staff team. Your outstanding skills and efforts this term have provided the children at Chalkwell with the very best experiences and education. Your hard work, dedication, and energy do not go unnoticed! Thank you also to our wonderful parent community; your support means so much to us and plays a vital role in our school's success.

As we approach the festive season, I want to wish you and your families the happiest of Christmases. Take this time to rest, relax, and enjoy being with your loved ones. We look forward to welcoming you all back to school on Monday, 5th January 2026, which promises to be another truly exciting year filled with new adventures and learning opportunities.

Warmest wishes to you all!



Tenacitas
Trust



SCHOOL NEWS

End of Term Challenge Day & Santa Fun Run

What a fantastic day we had today at our now famous End of Term Challenge Day and Santa Fun Run! Each class took on the challenge course around the park, bravely tackling a variety of fun activities that put their teamwork, creativity, singing skills, and problem-solving abilities to the test. And let's not forget the all-important game of Rock, Paper, Scissors!

The atmosphere was filled with laughter and Christmas cheer, making it a truly memorable event for everyone involved. It was heartwarming to see both staff and children getting stuck in, showing great sportsmanship and enthusiasm throughout the day.

A huge well done to all our wonderful students and dedicated staff for their participation and spirit! Your energy and creativity made this event a resounding success, and it was a joy to witness the community coming together to celebrate the festive season. Here's to more fun-filled events in the new year!

















Farewell for Now, Miss Sullivan!

Today, we say a fond farewell for a little while, not forever, to the wonderful Miss Sullivan, who is starting her maternity leave to welcome a beautiful baby girl expected in the New Year. To celebrate this exciting new chapter, we held a themed staff Christmas Buffet/Baby Shower, sending Miss Sullivan off in style!

We wish her and her fiancé Josh huge congratulations in advance, and we can't wait to hear the joyful news when their little girl arrives. Your warmth and dedication will be greatly missed, Miss Sullivan, but we look forward to seeing you very soon. Enjoy this special time with your growing family, and know that we are all cheering you on from here!





CHJS CHRISTMAS CAROL CONCERT

What a magical night we had on Monday at our Chalkwell Carol Concert held at St Michael's & All Angels! Our children truly shone as they took to the stage, whether as part of the choir, unplugged musicians, rock band members, or as readers. It was nothing short of amazing and completely inspirational. The children's performances were outstanding, and I must admit, the talent on display brought a huge lump to my throat. Even our staff's 'Chalk Aid' performance added to the evening's charm!

A special mention must go to our wonderful Music Team, Mrs Regester and Mrs Dubouchet. Their dedication and passion inspire us all at school, highlighting the immense power and value of music and performance in our lives. Thank you both for your incredible impact; we are so grateful for everything you do.

As mentioned earlier, our staff decided to collaborate with the rock band and choir to create our very own Chalkwell version of 'Feed the World'. This initiative aims to raise funds for our School Music Fund, ensuring we can continue to enrich the experiences and lives of our wonderfully talented children. You can download and stream this performance by scanning the QR code below and making a donation, as much as you can afford.

We sincerely thank you all for the support you give us. Your involvement makes a significant difference in our school community, and we look forward to sharing more memorable moments with you in the future!

DO THEY KNOW IT'S CHRISTMAS?

BY CHALKWELL STAFF,
ROCK BAND AND CHOIR

**AVAILABLE TO
STREAM SOON**

TO MAKE A DONATION TO OUR SCHOOL MUSIC FUND, PLEASE SCAN THE
QR CODE BELOW.



ANY CONTRIBUTION, NO MATTER THE AMOUNT, IS GREATLY APPRECIATED.

THANK YOU TO ALL STAFF, PARENTS, CHILDREN AND THE CHURCH FOR YOUR
SUPPORT IN MAKING THIS SHOW SUCH A SUCCESS.



Year 6 Windrush Pop-up Museum

Windrush Pop-Up Museum

We are incredibly proud of all our Year 6 pupils for the hard work, dedication and enthusiasm they showed in creating the Windrush Pop-Up Museum. Every child contributed to the project, working collaboratively to research and produce the A3 information displays that formed the museum.

A special thank you goes to our tour guides, who took the time to learn from other pupils' A3 work and summaries in order to confidently guide visitors around the museum. They represented the school exceptionally well, working hard, speaking with clarity and confidence, and engaging visitors with maturity and pride. They should all be extremely proud of themselves.

Well done, Year 6, on a fantastic achievement.







CHRISTMAS DINNER FUN!

On Tuesday, we all enjoyed our School Christmas Dinner in the dining hall. It was a delightful occasion where we feasted on a delicious meal, sitting together as classes and relishing each other's company. The atmosphere was filled with laughter as we shared crackers, complete with the usual array of table games and, of course, some wonderfully bad jokes!

This festive gathering was not just about the food; it was a fantastic opportunity to strengthen our school community and create lasting memories. A huge thank you to our lunchtime staff and the wonderful parent volunteers who came along to help make this event such a success. Your support truly made a difference, ensuring that the children had a memorable experience. We look forward to more joyful moments together as we celebrate the festive season!

















School Attendance - Have you got Studybugs yet?

Studybugs – report absence securely and help improve children's health

We're pleased that CHJS is using a new, more efficient and secure system for reporting your child's absence due to illness, called Studybugs.

If you haven't already, please get the free Studybugs app, or register on the Studybugs website, and use it to tell us whenever your child's ill and unable to attend school.

Get the app using the QR code below or register now (<https://studybugs.com/about/parents>)

Top 3 reasons to use Studybugs:

1. It's integrated with our systems so we know right away if your child is unaccounted for.
2. It's quick and easy to register and use and automatically reminds you to keep us posted.
3. You'll be helping the NHS and other public health organisations improve children's health.

(<https://studybugs.com/about/schools>)



Download the Studybugs app for reporting your child's absence.

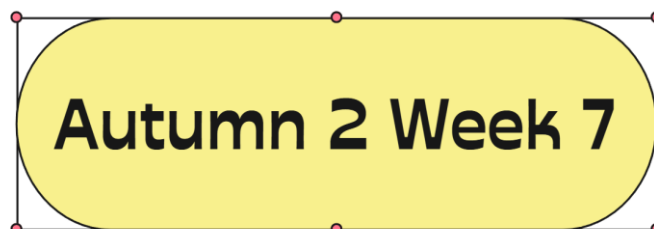
A quick and secure way to report absence due
to illness and send messages to school.



Studybugs 

Mindful Mondays, Chalkwell Character Curriculum & Core Value

Focus:



Core Value: Responsibility
SMSC/FBV: Respect and Tolerance
Learning Behaviour: Learning Environment

Chalkwell Character Curriculum: Why do we clean up?



Why do we clean up?

Today, we'll learn why it is important to keep our school environment clean and tidy.

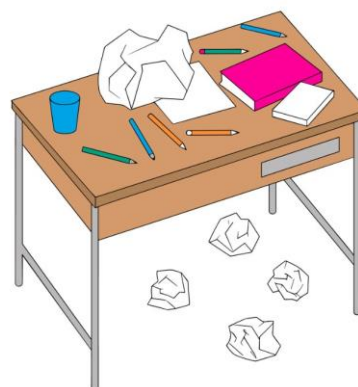


How does an untidy space make you feel?

How would an untidy classroom make it harder to learn?

What about if the playground was dirty, how could that affect your play time?

Or if the cutlery and plates in the dining hall weren't clean?



Why is it important to keep our school clean and tidy?



But don't we have cleaners?

Cleaning up shows we respect our surroundings and the people who use them (e.g., our friends, teachers, family members, **and** the cleaning staff).

It teaches us that someone else shouldn't have to clean up our personal messes - we all have a joint responsibility for our shared space.

How can you help?



Step 1: Put things you have used back where they came from.

It can be really tempting to shove things in your tray, locker or even just leave them laying around.

Tidying up is much easier if you do it as you go - when you have finished using one thing, put it back in the correct spot before taking another.



Step 2: Pick up items from the floor (even if it isn't yours!)

If you see something on the floor that shouldn't be there, pick it up and return it to the correct place or put it in the bin.

If it is paper, use the recycling bin so we can look after our environment.

Things like glitter, crumbs or small bits of paper can be swept up using a dustpan and brush.



Step 3: Wipe muddy shoes on the door mats before you come in.

We live in a country that can get very wet and muddy - it's inevitable that some times our shoes will get messy.

However, we can help keep the stairs and classrooms clean by wiping our feet on the door mats as we come in and not putting football boots on for clubs until absolutely necessary.



Step 4: Minimise mess in the first place.

These are some situations that could be messier than others like eating lunch, painting or working with clay.

The best thing to do in these situations is follow instructions carefully and slowly to stop things from getting out of control. It's a lot easier to clean up a small mess than a big one!



The teacher has asked Ellie and Max to put some equipment away. They're not sure where it goes so they're thinking about leaving it in the middle of the shed.

What could they do instead?



Laura has finished her drink and goes to the sink to put her glass away. It's full and the dishwasher has just finished cleaning some other items. She leaves the glass on the side.

What could she do instead?



Erin has got a really big cookie for her packed lunch. It's crumbly and has left pieces on the desk and some on the floor. She's not worried because it's not her place. She goes out to lunch.

What could she do instead?



Harry was so excited to get the paint out for his art lesson that he squeezed way too much onto the pallet. He decides to mix it in with another colour.

What could he do instead?

This Week:

Let's leave our school environment fresh and clean to come back to in the 2026! Take time to clear out your lockers, trays and put things back where they came from.

Try to minimise the mess you're making, and remember to pick everything up from the floor when you put your chairs up at the end of the day.



Core Value - Responsibility

Clean Education!

WEEKLY WAKE UP WEDNESDAY PARENT GUIDE

At the National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

Festive Tips for a SCREEN-FREE CHRISTMAS

This Christmas, why not unplug and rediscover the simple joys of spending time together? Here are some festive, screen-free ideas to help families laugh, create, and connect in the old-fashioned way.



- 1 GET CREATIVE AND CRAFTY**
Bring out the glue, glitter, and imagination to make your home sparkle with handmade cheer.
 - **Make decorations:** Try paper snowflakes, salt-dough ornaments, or pinecone garlands for the tree.
 - **Christmas card workshop:** Design and decorate cards for friends, family, or neighbours.
 - **DIY gifts:** Craft photo frames, bath soaks, or 'kindness coupons' offering hugs, chores, or treats.
- 2 BAKE, BUILD, AND TASTE TOGETHER**
The kitchen is the heart of Christmas, and it's a little divine when everyone's baking.
 - **Festive baking:** Bake and decorate cookies, mince pies, or cupcakes together.
 - **Gingerbread challenge:** Build a gingerbread house and let the kids take charge of decorating.
 - **Sweet treat swap:** Wrap up homemade goodies to gift to friends or neighbours.
- 3 SLOW DOWN AND BE PRESENT**
The greatest gift you can give is your attention.
 - **Digital Detox Day:** Choose one day to switch off all screens and enjoy each other fully.
 - **Gratitude Gathering:** Share what you are thankful for from the past year.
 - **Momentary Moments:** Take photos with a disposable camera or sketch favourite holiday scenes.
- 4 ENJOY COSY, INDOOR FUN**
Cold outside? No problem, turn your home into a festive retreat.
 - **Family game night:** Play board or card games, from Uno to festive trivia.
 - **Hot chocolate bar:** Set up a 'cocoa station' with marshmallows, cream, and candy canes.
 - **Puzzle power:** Work together on a big 3D snow puzzle – slow, calm, and wonderfully mindful.
- 5 HOLD A FAMILY TALENT SHOW**
Let everyone shine with a little Christmas sparkle and imagination.
 - **Perform together:** Sing, dance, tell jokes, or stage a short Christmas play.
 - **Make costumes:** Use household items to design festive outfits or puppets.
 - **Award the stars:** Give fun prizes like 'Best Performance' or 'Most Festive Outfit!'.
- 6 READ, WRITE, AND IMAGINE**
Nurture creativity and quiet time with stories that come to life.
 - **Story hour:** Read holiday tales aloud by the fire or under a blanket fort.
 - **Write a story or comic:** Create Christmas adventures starring your family or pets.
 - **Book swap:** Exchange favourite books and read each other's choices.
- 7 EXPLORE THE GREAT OUTDOORS**
Wrap up warm, breathe the crisp winter air, and find magic in nature.
 - **Winter nature walks:** Spot birds, berries, and frosty patterns while collecting natural treasures.
 - **Christmas light hunt:** Take an evening stroll to admire twinkling lights in your community.
 - **Scavenger hunt:** Hide small surprises around the garden or park.
- 8 GIVE BACK AND SPREAD KINDNESS**
Christmas feels even warmer when shared with others.
 - **Kindness countdown:** Do one good deed a day, from helping at home to writing 'thank-you' notes.
 - **Donate together:** Collect food, toys, or clothes for a local charity.
 - **Neighbourly cheer:** Deliver homemade treats or cards to someone spending Christmas alone.

Meet Our Expert
Home to the world's largest CPG library for educators, The National College has transformed the way education establishments go about developing their workforces and managing compliance. Our three memberships help all phases and types of setting raise standards, save time, reduce risk, and build a culture of improvement.

See full reference list on our website

#WakeUpWednesday The National College

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HUNGRY CUPBOARD!

6DS Supporting Our Community

We are thrilled to share some uplifting news from our school! The Hungry Cupboard is a brilliant initiative designed to collect essential items for local families in crisis, and we can't wait for everyone to get involved!

Here's how it works: Each week, the Hungry Cupboard will be hosted in a different classroom. Our pupils will gather priority items suggested by SVP and fill the cupboard to the brim. Once it's full, the contents will be delivered directly to SVP Southend, ensuring that our collective efforts make a significant impact.

The Hungry Cupboard completed its Autumn Term journey in 6DS who put in a fabulous effort; filling the cupboard to bursting! Well done 6DS! In the New Year, the initiative moves on to 6AD.

Let's continue to show our support and demonstrate the strength of our community spirit!



Food Bank Items of Need

UHT Milk	Jams & Spreads
Pasta sauces	Tins of veggie food
Tins of fruit	(macaroni cheese/ veggie
Tinned Meat pies	ravioli etc)
Mayo	Sugar
Butter	Tuna
Nappies	Coffee
Wet wipes	Biscuits
Crisps/ biscuits	Cereal Bars
Tuna	Tinned Tomato
Crackers	Toiletries
Tinned meat meals	Cereal
Pot Noodles	Pasta
Pasta in sauces	Instant Noodles
Mince	Sausage
Tea	Cheese

PTA NEWS

Figures are in for this term and what a fantastic term it's been! We couldn't do it without you, so hopefully you can forgive us for all the messages 🙏 as they really do make a difference to our children! Huge thanks as always to everyone for their support, donations, volunteering and patience! Cheers to 2025! 🥂



CHALKWELL HALL SCHOOLS PTA
CHRISTMAS NEWSLETTER
2025



WHAT AN AMAZING AUTUMN TERM!!

To see the joy on all of the children's faces at our events this term, has made the months of planning worth every single moment. At times, we thought we'd over-stretched ourselves and wondered how we'd ever make it happen, but with your wonderful support, we all did it!

We've organised pre-loved uniform sales, quiz night, fund-raising, Infant Christmas cards & gifts, 28 wreath making kits, 2 Christmas Bazaars, 2 Santa's Grottos, glow sales, and hundreds of discounted theatre & attraction tickets, as well as supporting 2 Christmas lunch services & the Junior Christingle!

Not forgetting our much loved Christmas Winter Wonderland Fayre!! Both school choirs showcased their festive talents serenading us in the playground; over 100 families enjoyed the magic shows, children and adults alike enjoyed the pony cycles filling the dining hall with laughter; the Christmas Market was bustling as people searched for that special gift from local vendors; hundreds enjoyed the Christmas inflatable dome; many more danced in the disco dome as K-Pop demon hunters songs filled the air; the raffle drum was overflowing with thousands of entries, thanks to the wonderful prize donations; the chocolate and wine tombolas were a sell out; the games stalls were so popular we worried we would run out of prizes; mulled wine, prosecco and gin flowed in true Chalkwell spirit; butchers hot dogs were a sell out in just a couple of hours; waffles, hot chocolate & jacket potatoes were a huge hit again; and each PTA member clocked up over 20,000 steps on the day!!

Following on from last year's positive feedback, we again wanted to make our Christmas Winter Wonderland Fayre as inclusive as possible, ensuring our SEND children were comfortable and able to attend and enjoy the day. With this in mind, we added a SEND magic show session and also opened the Christmas Fayre half an hour earlier to ensure the quiet and comfortability for all those that needed it. Thank you to all the volunteers arriving at 11.30am to help make this possible.

A special thank you goes to the staff who gave up their Saturday to come back to school and helped on a stall, all the children (past and present Chalkwell pupils) who volunteered to help run the games stalls, as well as the ex-Chalkwell parents who helped run the wine tombola! These stalls wouldn't have been available without you!

We extend our thanks to everyone who has donated, volunteered and supported all our events this term, the PTA could not continue without you! We will be meeting in the new year to discuss the spring and summer term fundraisers and would love to welcome new ideas and energy!





THIS WEEK

The dining hall was filled with festive fun and laughter this week, as the children enjoyed their Christmas lunch! We were so pleased to be able to fund the extra side dishes & Christmas crackers to help make the Christmas lunch that little bit extra special.

On Thursday, the junior school children experienced Christingle, which we were pleased to fund again.



THANK YOU

A huge THANK YOU to everyone who has helped support us this term. As always, it has been a very busy one and we couldn't do it without you!

To our fabulous class reps who have helped to share our endless messages, we thank you, and to everyone who has donated or volunteered, we are forever grateful.

We hope you and your families have enjoyed our events and we wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy New Year! Here's to 2026!

If you'd like to find out more about what we do and how you could make a difference, please get in touch - no matter how much time you can offer, it all makes such a huge difference.



DON'T FORGET

SCHOOL LOTTERY - Don't forget to sign up to play our lottery. Tickets are just £1 and you could win the jackpot £25,000! Every week, someone from our school will win a cash prize and the more that play, the bigger the cash pot! Sign up HERE!

SNOW WHITE PANTO 2026 - We have just secured discounted tickets to next year's panto at the Cliffs Pavillion on Saturday 12th and Sunday 13th December! Tickets are now available to order on our website!

CO-OP COMMUNITY FUND - Don't forget to select us as your chosen charity, as each time you shop at co-op they will donate 1% to our cause (in 2021 this raised over £27000!)

Download the Co-op app here and select us as your cause!

If you are already a Co-op member, pls go online www.co-op.co.uk/membership and register your cause as Chalkwell Schools PTA. If you are not yet a member, please sign up today here.

SOCIAL MEDIA - Don't forget to follow us on Facebook and Instagram to keep up to date with all of our news and events!



CHALKWELL HALL INFANT & JUNIOR SCHOOLS PTA

AUTUMN TERM 2025



Thank You For All Your Kind Donations, Help & Support.

CHALKWELL HALL INFANT & JUNIOR SCHOOLS PTA

AUTUMN TERM 2025 SCHOOL FUNDING



WITH THE CONTINUED SUPPORT OF THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY, WE HOPE TO FUND MANY MORE ADDITIONAL RESOURCES & EXPERIENCES IN 2026!

SCHOOL DINNER MENU - Next week: WEEK 1



SUMMER MENU - ALLERGENS

OUR HEAD COOK JOSEPHINE, IS HAPPY TO DISCUSS YOUR CHILD'S INDIVIDUAL DIETARY REQUIREMENTS AND ALLERGIES WITH YOU
 WHERE POSSIBLE, ALL OUR MEALS ARE FRESHLY PREPARED, USING QUALITY, LOCALLY SOURCED INGREDIENTS

ALLERGEN	FOODS
G	CEREALS CONTAIN GLUTEN (WHEAT, BARLEY, RYE, OATS, KAMUT, SPELT)
M	MILK
E	EGG
S	SESAME SEEDS
C	CELERY
V	VEGETARIAN
VGL	VEGAN
F	FISH

ALLERGEN	FOODS
T	TREE NUTS
P	PEANUT
L	LUPIN
MU	MUSTARD
SOTB	SOTBEAN
MOL	MOLLUSCS
CR	CRUSTACEANS
S	SULPHITES
COCONUT	COCONUT

We Are an Allergy Aware School.

OPAL

Platinum Award

WISH LIST

- ball pit balls
- pop up tents
- tarpaulin
- sand pit toys

A Huge Thank You for Your Generous Donations!
 We are absolutely delighted with the wonderful donations we've received, including dolls, coloring pens, art and craft materials, puzzles, magazines, soft toys, and fidget toys. Your generosity means so much, and the children are loving every moment of play during their lunchtimes! Thank you for your kindness and support—it truly makes a difference!

OPAL lunchtimes are as exciting as ever. Rain or shine, our lunchtimes are full of activities that enrich and promote play, teamwork and friendships.

An out of this world new zone arrived in school this week, and the children absolutely love our new Space Zone! They've been busy blasting off in the space rocket, exploring with torches, and diving into fascinating books and magazines all about space. It's wonderful to see their imaginations take flight! A huge thank you to Natalie and the Play Team for their creativity and hard work in designing such exciting new play zones for the children to enjoy during lunchtime.

As always, we're so grateful for your kind donations, they help us keep creating new and inspiring spaces for play and learning. Please hand any donations to the school office.

So many wonderful play opportunities this week!

OPAL WISHLIST:

If you are able to add to our incredible offer at lunchtime by buying something off our wish list, we would be most grateful.

Have a look and see what you could buy to enrich our play offer by clicking the following link:

https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/C4RN99TIYQDH/ref=hz_ls_biz_ex

SPORT @ CHJS

Congratulations to all our sports teams and young people who have represented our school so well this year. You all show our core values every time you represent us and we are so proud.

Here's to a fantastic 2026 in the world of sport at Chalkwell!



Sporting Opportunities



A festive poster for HAF Christmas Soccer Schools. The top features Santa Claus in a sleigh pulled by reindeer, two potted plants, and the Southend United Community Foundation logo. The main title 'HAF CHRISTMAS SOCCER SCHOOLS' is in large red letters, with the time '10:30AM - 2:30PM' below it. A circular photo of a soccer game is framed by a holly wreath. Another circular photo shows a group of children in a hall, topped with a Santa hat. The 'ACTIVE' logo is on the right. The schedule lists Monday 22nd December at Clements Hall Eversley Leisure and Tuesday 23rd December at Roots Hall Stadium. It specifies 'ALL ABILITIES' and 'AGES 5 - 13'. A QR code is in the bottom left, and social media icons and contact email are at the bottom.

**HAF CHRISTMAS
SOCCER SCHOOLS**
10:30AM - 2:30PM

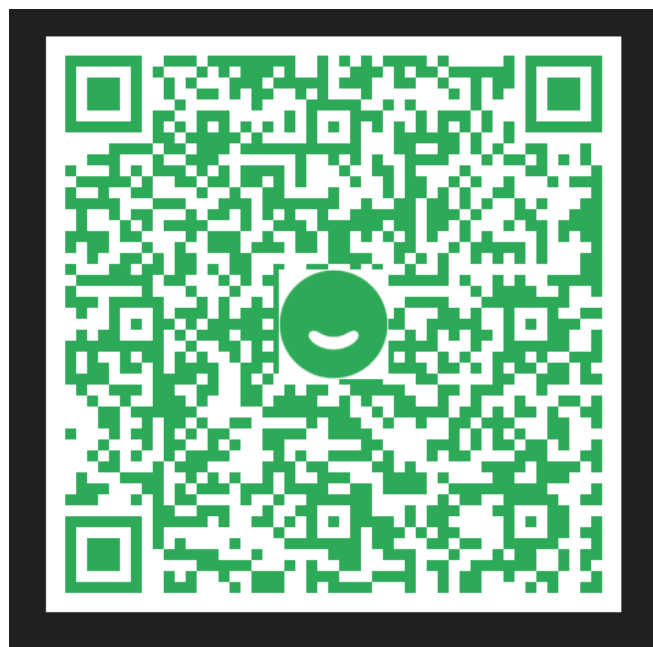
ACTIVE

**MONDAY 22ND
DECEMBER**
**CLEMENTS HALL
EVERSLEY LEISURE**

**TUESDAY 23RD
DECEMBER**
**ROOTS HALL
STADIUM**

ALL ABILITIES
AGES 5 - 13

FOR MORE INFO, PLEASE EMAIL:
D.KING@SOUTHENDUNITED-CET.CO.UK



Learning this week!

Year 3

What a great half term it has been! Year 3 have had a very busy and exciting term, with lots of Christmas festivities. But, it is time for a much needed rest. We have enjoyed a Christmas maths week finished off by playing lots of Happy Puzzle Company games, getting our problem solving brains working.

We have learnt many things in our Science topic of 'Forces and Magnets', with lots of different experiments and investigations. We ended our week with the annual Santa Fun Run with a Challenge Day twist, showing off our teamwork skills and ability to solve Mr Hanshaw's Christmas riddles.

We would all like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!









Year 4

Year 4 have enjoyed a wonderfully festive week. Some of our children took part in the amazing carol concert at the church, showcasing their talents beautifully. On Tuesday, the whole year group was treated to a special assembly where we watched Chalk Aid — who knew we had so many talented staff members! We also had the opportunity to eat together at lunchtime and enjoy a delicious Christmas dinner.

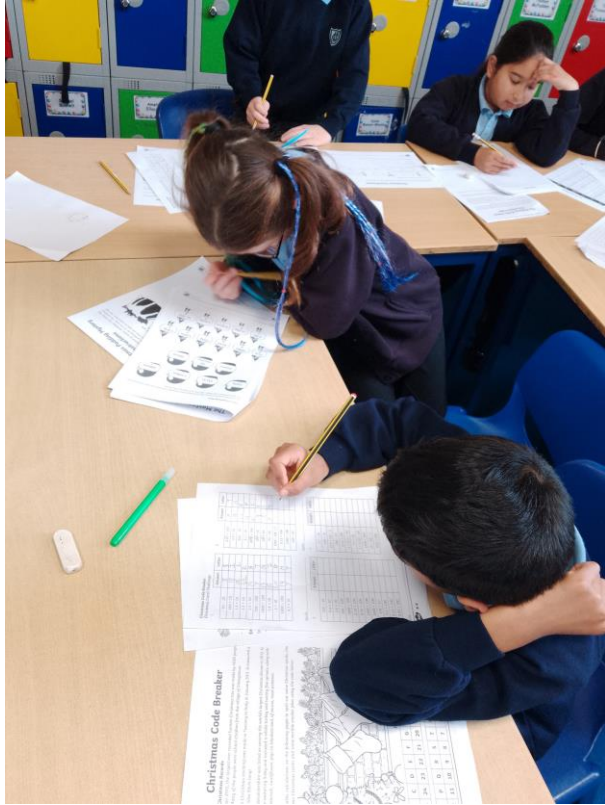
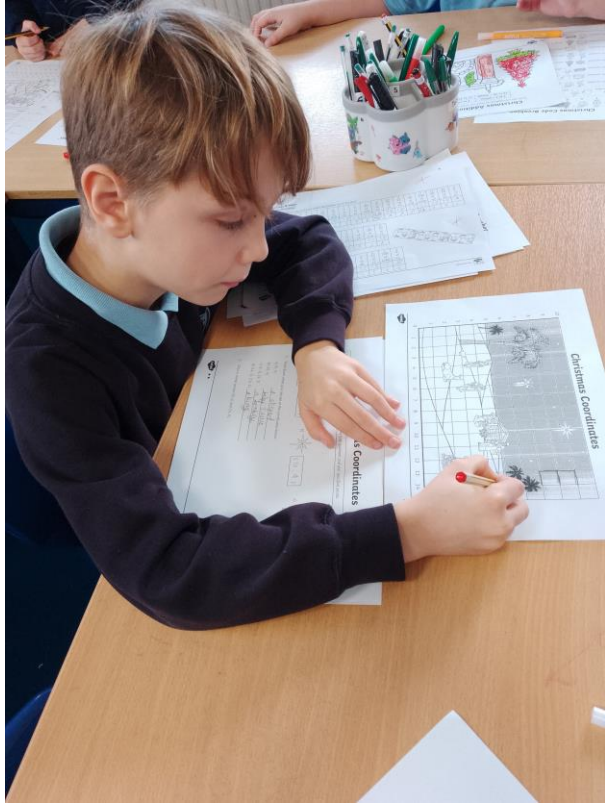
On Wednesday, the children were delighted by a drama production in the dining hall, and on Thursday we relaxed with some festive snacks while watching a Christmas film.

In maths this week, the children have been busy problem-solving and uncovering the mystery surrounding Mrs Claus's Christmas cake. They have been working with coordinates and cracking codes along the way. In writing, the children watched The Grinch and used it as inspiration to write persuasive letters, convincing him why Christmas truly is the most wonderful time of the year.

The children are looking forward to even more fun tomorrow, including the exciting Santa Run at the park.

We would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!







Year 5

🦋 This week in Year 5, our children have been incredibly busy and creative, wrapping up some fantastic schemes of work with a festive twist! 🎄

In DT, they continued to build and test their amazing Doodler designs, creating spontaneous and colourful patterns. 🌀 In Yoga, the children showcased their final sequences, demonstrating impressive flexibility, strength, and balance. 🧘📷

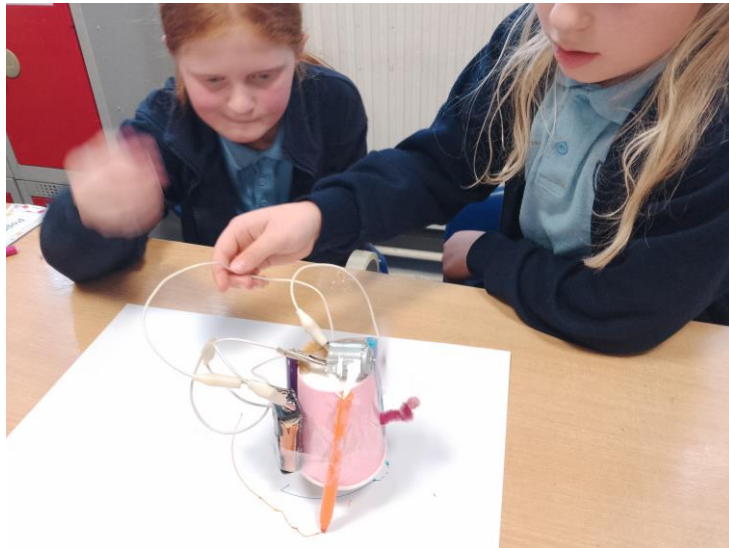
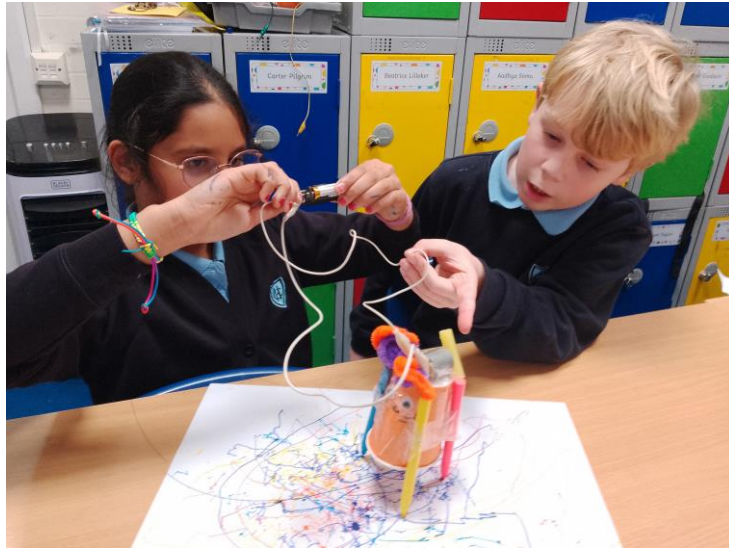
Maths was filled with fun as they engaged in team challenge games that made learning exciting! 🎲

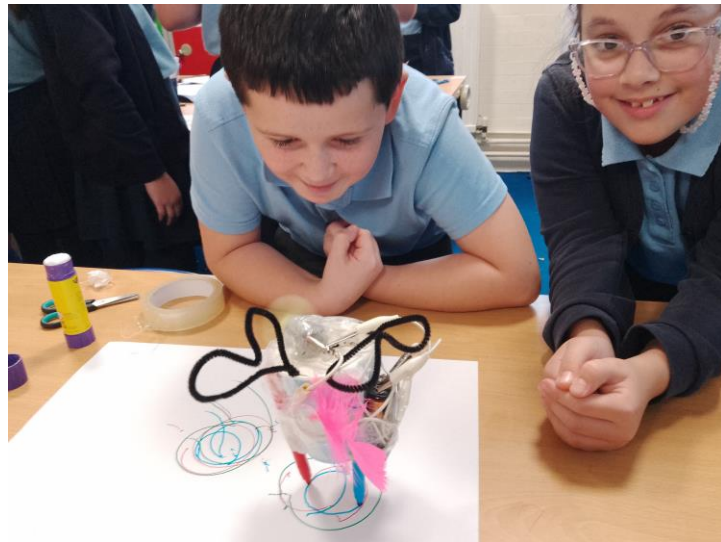
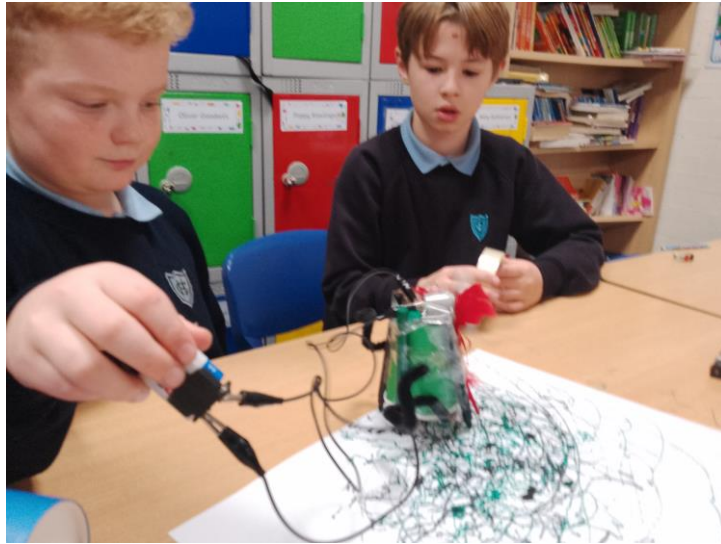
A special highlight was when Mr Fleury proudly handed over a remarkable amount of food and essential supplies to volunteers from SVP Southend as part of the Hungry Cupboard initiative. Year 5 has made a significant impact, helping many vulnerable families and individuals enjoy a better Christmas. 💙

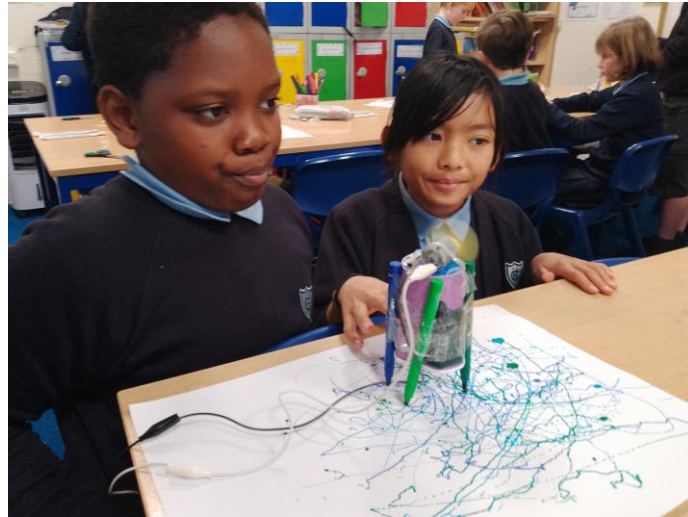
Let's celebrate their achievements together!

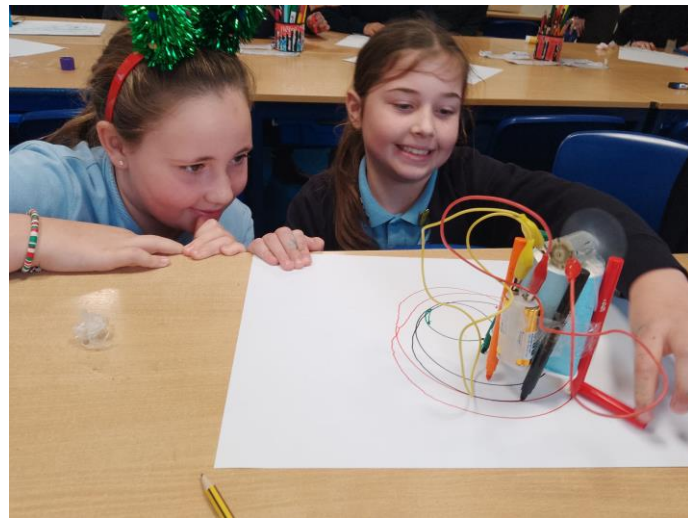
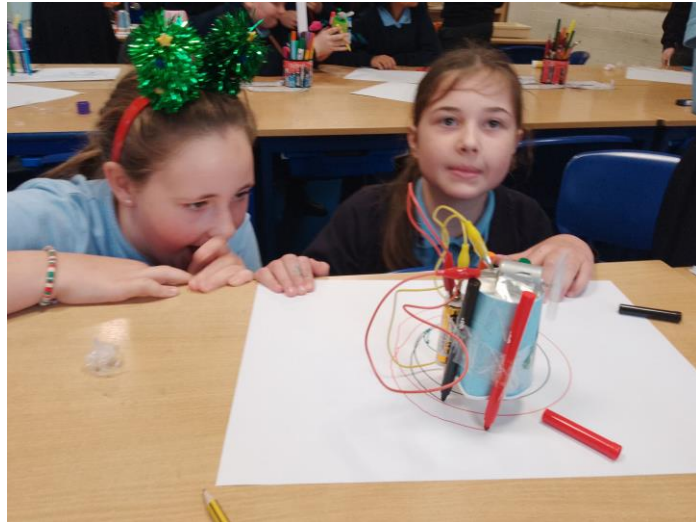


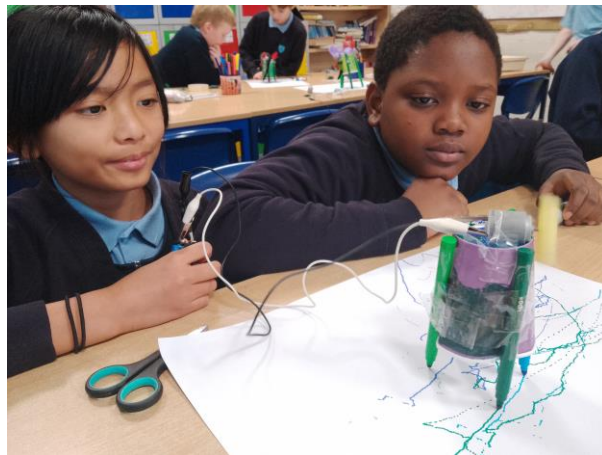
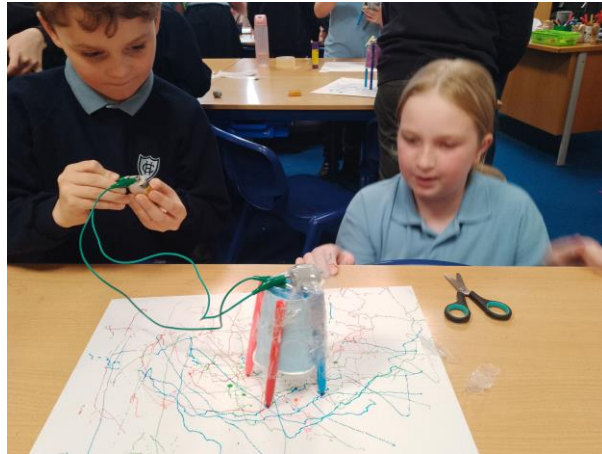


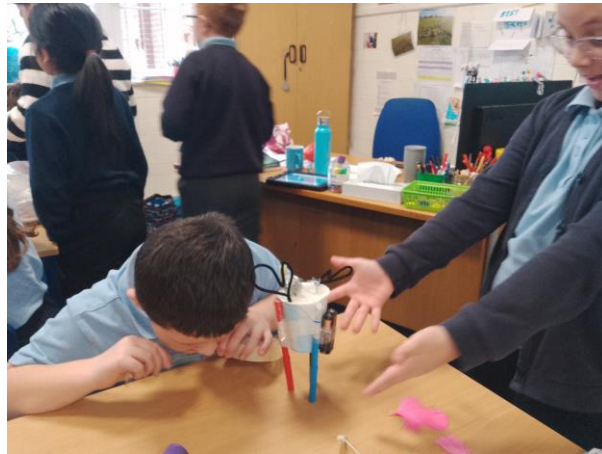
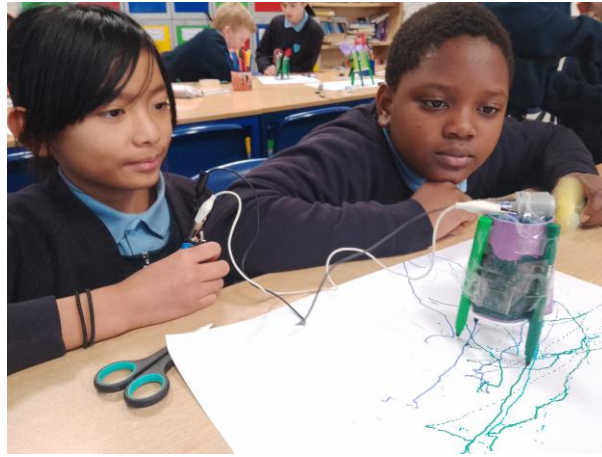














Year 6

What a wonderful last week of term it has been!

On Tuesday, Year 6 took part in an exciting media campaign to advertise their English film Elfkins. The children worked brilliantly in teams to create a range of promotional materials, including eye-catching posters, adverts, podcasts and websites, showing fantastic creativity and teamwork.

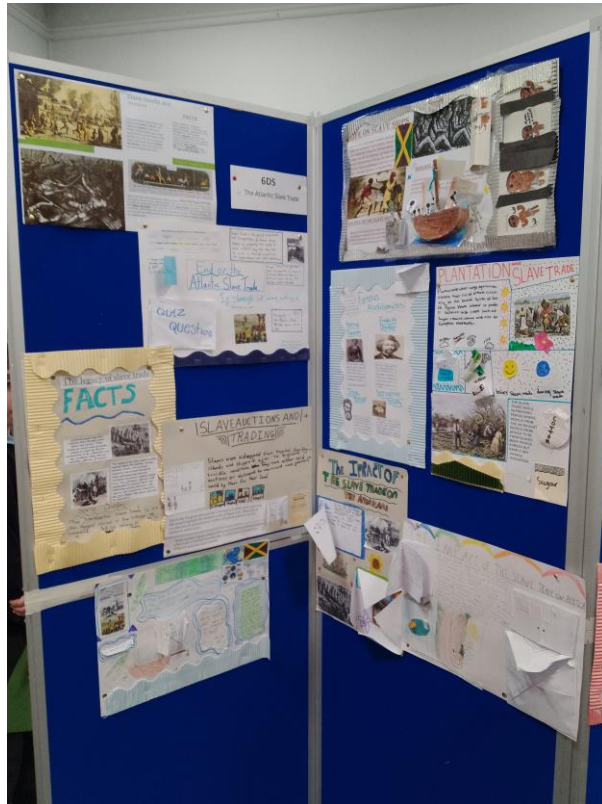
We are now well and truly in full Christmas mode across the school, but this didn't stop our children proudly welcoming parents this week to visit our Windrush Museum.

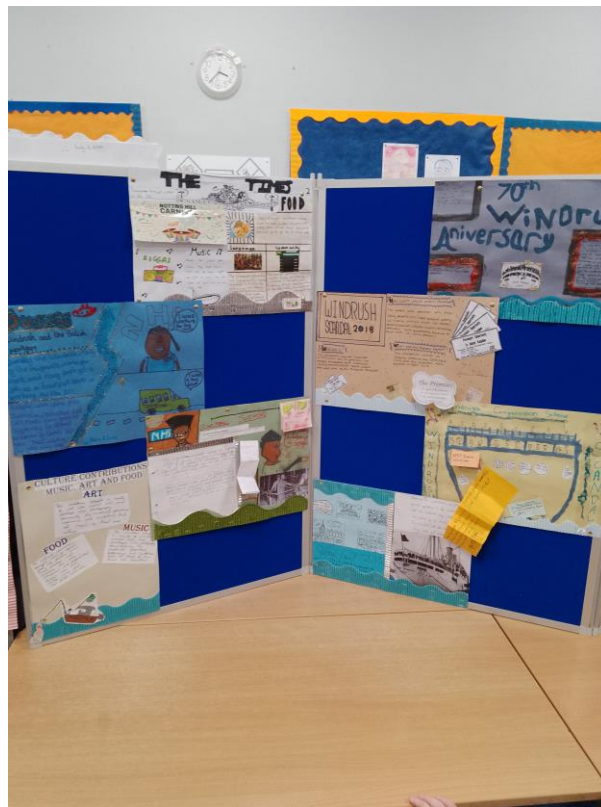
A huge thank you to our tour guides, who were absolutely brilliant and shared their knowledge with confidence and enthusiasm.

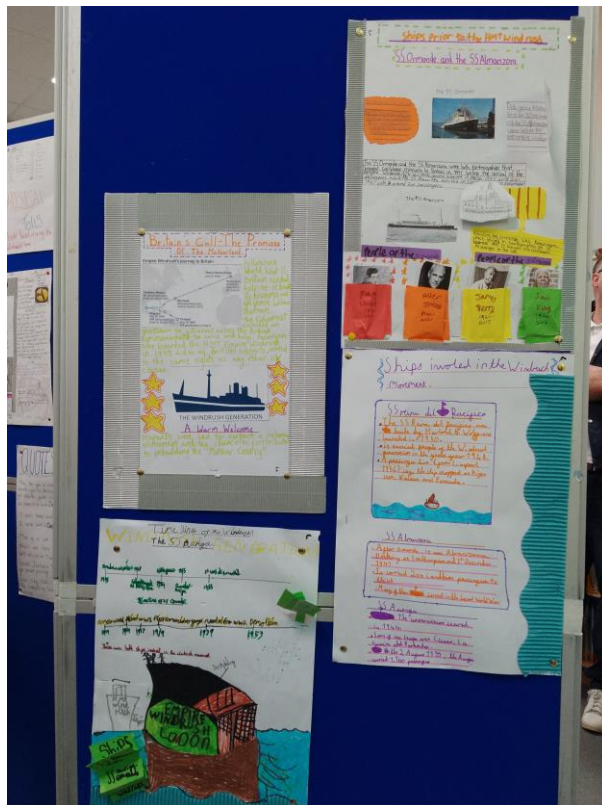
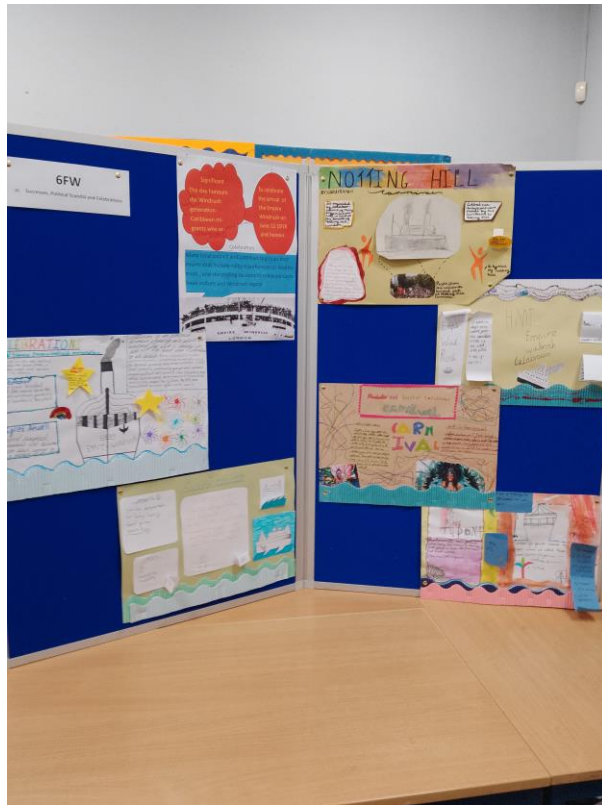
We look forward to another fun-filled term with your children in January and we would like to wish all our families a very Merry Christmas! 🎄

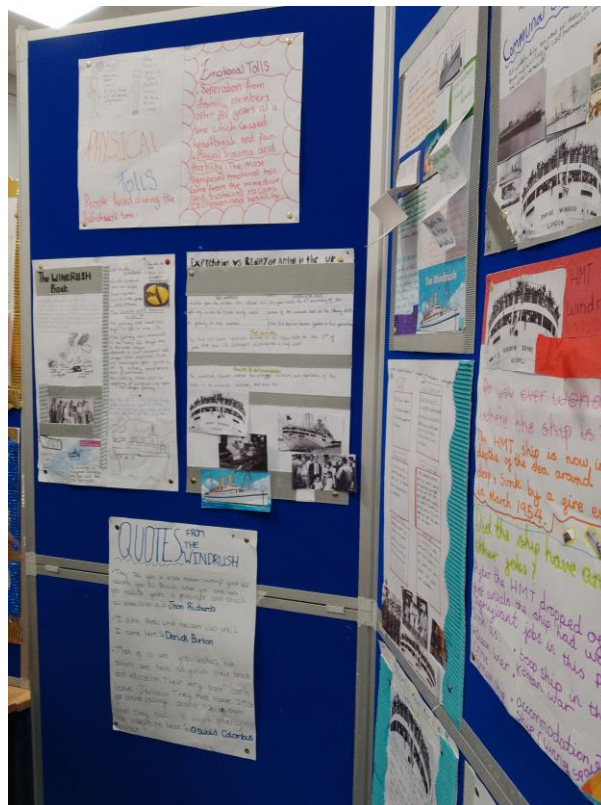
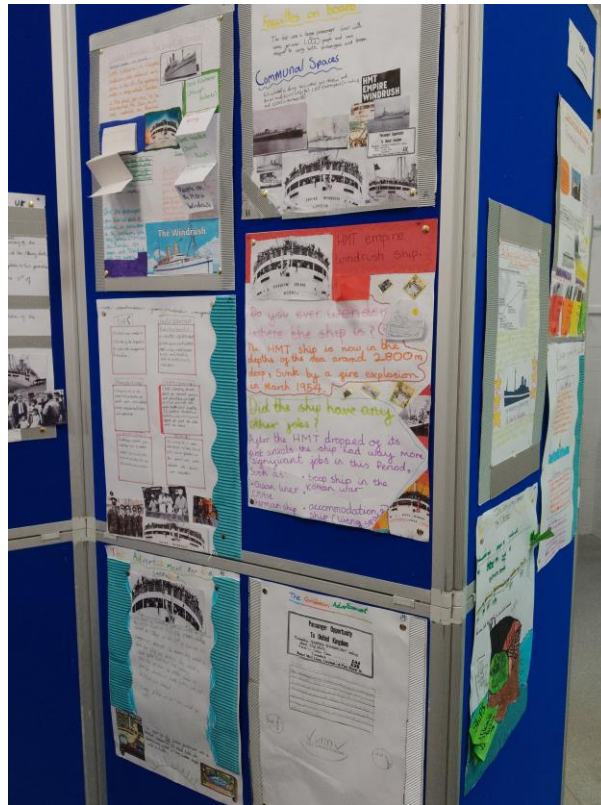


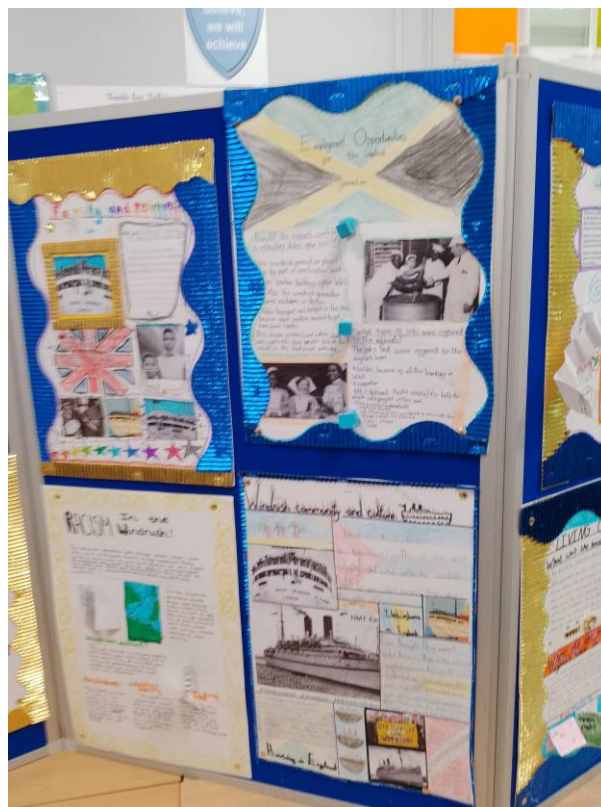
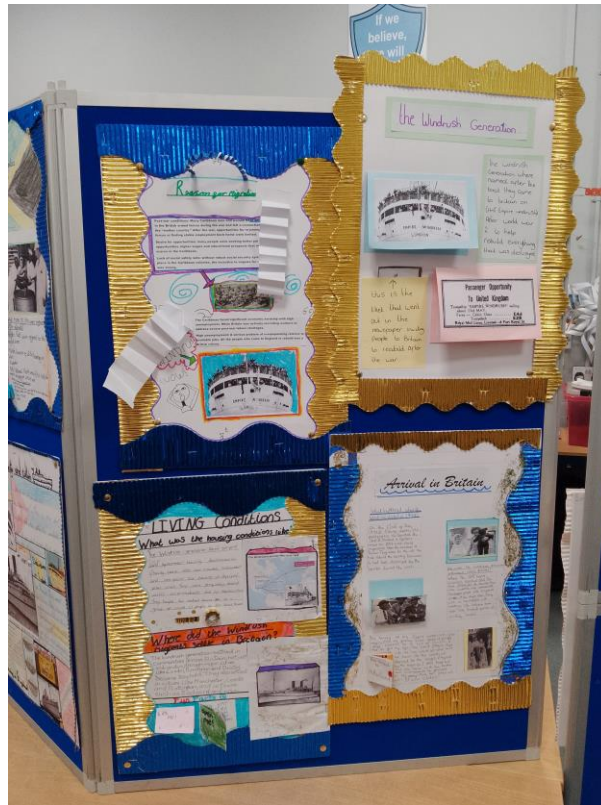


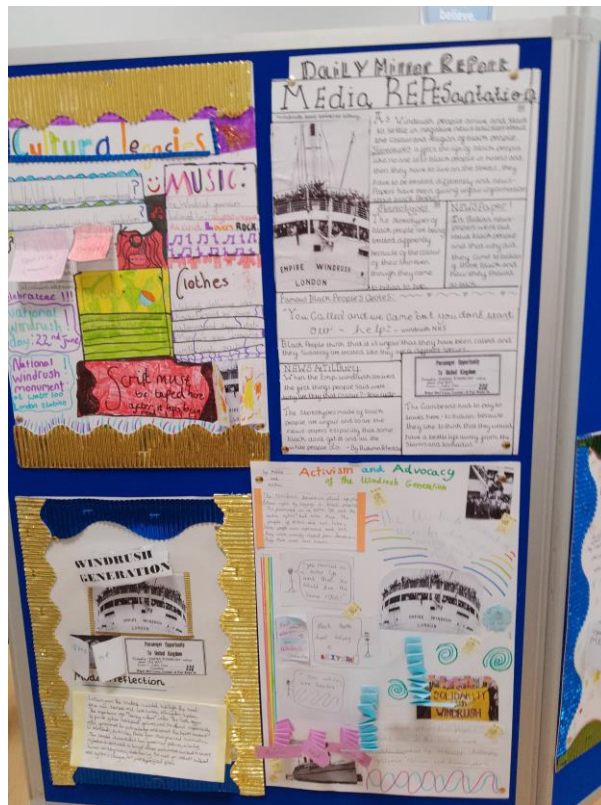
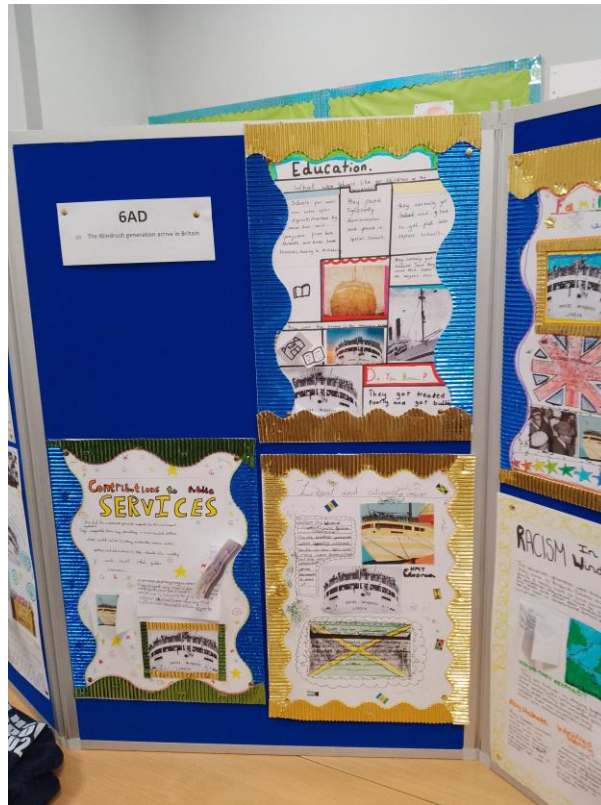






















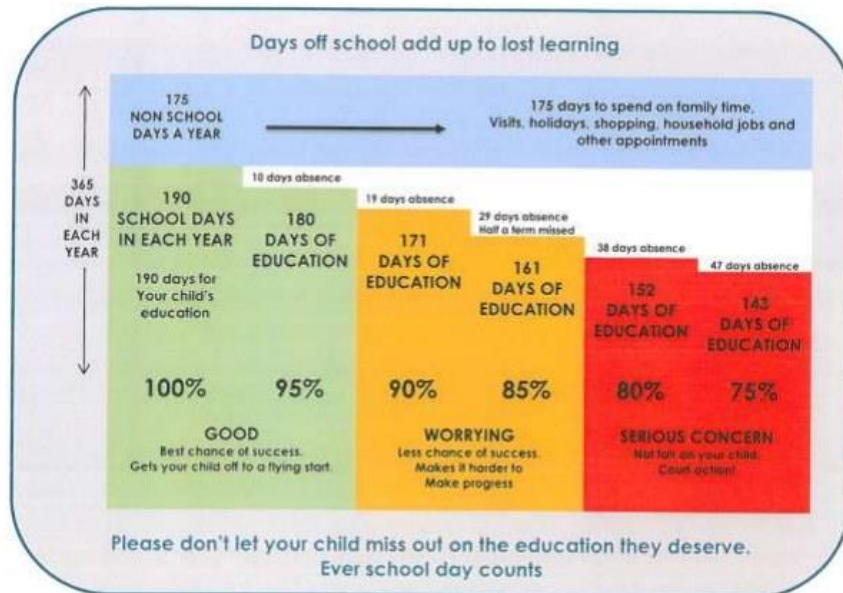
Achievement Awards



Today in Celebration Assembly it was a delight to give recognition to so many children for showing our core values of Respect, Resilience, Responsibility, Cooperation, Creativity and Enquiry. Well done everyone, so many superstars at CHJS! Certificates were given out in class today due to our Challenge Day!

Attendance & Punctuality

Congratulations to all our children who have achieved 100% attendance this year - Bronze badges given out today!



Please encourage good attendance and ensure your child is in every day.

Important facts about school attendance:

- There are 190 school days each academic year
- There are 175 other days for holidays and other activities
- The national average for school attendance is 95%
- 90% attendance represents 1 day non-attendance a fortnight
- 80% attendance represents 1 day non-attendance a week

At CHJS, we always strive for 100% attendance. We understand that illness occurs from time to time but ask that you support your child's learning and us as a school by ensuring your child is in school every day and on time.

Our aim is that every child is in school every session, every day so we can give them the best education we can. Attendance is a key indicator to a child's success so we will be looking to be even better every week! We will be focusing on ensuring attendance is as good as it can be next year.

HOW MUCH SCHOOL HAVE YOU MISSED?

100% attendance means that you have been in school every day of the school year.

Well done!

99%	=	2 days missed of the school year
98%	=	4 days missed of the school year
97%	=	6 days missed of the school year (over 1 school week)
96%	=	8 days missed of the school year
95%	=	10 days missed of the school year (2 school weeks)
94%	=	12 days missed of the school year
93%	=	14 days missed of the school year
92%	=	16 days missed of the school year (over 3 school weeks)
91%	=	18 days missed of the school year
90%	=	20 days missed of the school year (4 school weeks)
89%	=	22 days missed of the school year
88%	=	24 days missed of the school year
87%	=	26 days missed of the school year (over 5 school weeks)
86%	=	28 days missed of the school year
85%	=	30 days missed of the school year (6 school weeks)
84%	=	32 days missed of the school year
83%	=	34 days missed of the school year
82%	=	36 days missed of the school year
81%	=	38 days missed of the school year
80%	=	40 days missed of the school year (8 school weeks)

70%	=	1.5 days missed / week
	=	12 weeks missed / year
	=	almost a whole term
60%	=	2 days missed / week
	=	Almost 4 months
50%	=	2.5 days missed / week
	=	Half a school year (19 weeks)
40%	=	3 days / week
	=	Over half a school year

Attendance Guide for Parents/Carers

**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**

What YOU must do:

Try to telephone the school before 8.30am each day of your child's absence.

Tell the school in advance, of any medical appointments and bring in appointment cards/letters.

If you are not sure whether your child is well enough to attend school, send them in anyway as they often perk up on arrival.

Have a backup plan for if your child misses transport, call on a family member, neighbour or friend.

If you and your child are experiencing difficulties with school attendance then talk to us as a first step so we can help!

What WE will do:

Check your child's attendance every day.

Phone home to discuss your child's attendance with you.

Invite you into school for attendance meetings if we are concerned.

If we cannot establish a reason for absence, then we may make a welfare home visit.

CURRENT SCHOOL ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK - 92%

Weekly Attendance by Year Group

Year 3 = 89%

Year 4 = 91%

Year 5 = 94%



Year 6 = 92%

Lower School Winners = 4BR (97%)



Upper School Winners = 6AD (98%)



Community News



SOUTHEND CITY BID

CHRISTMAS IN THE CITY

JOIN US IN SOUTHEND THIS FESTIVE SEASON
#CHRISTMASSOUTHEND
VISITSOUTHEND.CO.UK

Sponsored by
CLIFFS PAVILION & PALACE THEATRE SOUTHEND



THE VICTORIA CENTRE SOUTHEND

This is Where The Magic Begins

A Day of Festive Fun!
Saturday 15th November
10am - 5pm

What's Going On:

- Live Music
- Christmas Carols
- Artisan Christmas Market
- Free Festive Activities

PROUDLY SUPPORTING THE SOUTHEND CHRISTMAS SWITCH ON

@victoria_southend @victoriasouthend
#victoriasc www.victoriasc.co.uk

MARKETS THIS CHRISTMAS

This festive season, Southend will sparkle with a delightful mix of Christmas markets, bringing extra charm and cheer to the city centre.

SWITCH ON MARKET
SATURDAY 15TH NOVEMBER / 9AM - 6:30PM
SOUTHEND HIGH STREET AND THE VICTORIA CENTRE
Enjoy the artisan market with a dazzling array of festive goodies including clothing, decorations, Christmas gifts, and more.

BIG UP SOUTHEND MARKET
SATURDAY 29TH NOVEMBER AND 13TH DECEMBER / 11AM - 4PM
THE VICTORIA CENTRE
Head up to the first floor to browse amazing small businesses and grab something locally sourced or handmade for your gifts this year.

THE ROYAL CHRISTMAS MARKET
SUNDAY 7TH DECEMBER / 10:30AM - 3PM
THE ROYAL HOTEL
Discover festive gifts, handmade crafts, and seasonal treats from local traders in their beautiful ballroom.

HIGH STREET MARKET
13TH - 24TH DECEMBER / 9AM - 5PM
SOUTHEND HIGH STREET
Pick up essentials from the general market that will be running every day in the run up to Christmas.

Alongside these seasonal stalls, Southend city centre is brimming with shops, cafes, restaurants, and bars offering perfect gift ideas and delicious treats. Whether you're shopping for loved ones or simply soaking up the festive atmosphere, there's something for everyone in Southend.



THE BIG SWITCH ON

On Saturday 15th November 2025, Southend High Street will sparkle with festive magic as Christmas in the City returns! Join us for a full day of fun to kick start Christmas, brought to you by Southend City BID and proudly sponsored by Southend Theatres.

ARTISAN MARKET From 9am, explore our market that will stretch through the High Street and The Victoria Centre. Have a go on some of the rides or pop into the shops too.	STORYTELLING BUS Back by popular demand, visit our enchanting storytellers and enter into a world of wonder with magical tales from 1pm - 5pm.	BUSKING SPOTS Enjoy live performances from a variety of talented local artists on the High Street from 11am - 4pm.	CRAFTING FUN Get creative under the bridge between 1-4pm with making beautiful light up lanterns that you can take with you to the Switch On!
STAGE PERFORMANCES Hosted by BBC Essex, the stage will come alive with performances from 1pm. Enjoy a fantastic line up of choirs, schools, community groups, and amazing local musicians.	MAGIC MOMENTS A host of colourful characters will roam the High Street throughout the day, ready to surprise, delight and pose for festive snaps.	SWITCH ON! Gather in Victoria Circus at 6pm for the magical moment when Southend's Christmas lights and four sparkling trees are officially switched on!	FIREWORKS FINALE End the day with a bang! Head to the seafont for a dazzling fireworks display to close the celebration in style at 7.30pm.

DON'T MISS THE SWITCH ON AT 6PM!
VISITSOUTHEND.CO.UK

Sponsored by
CLIFFS PAVILION & PALACE THEATRE SOUTHEND



FESTIVE SUNDAYS IN SOUTHEND!

The fun continues in Southend with free family-friendly entertainment designed to fill your weekends with Christmas cheer. From 11am - 3pm on the first three Sundays of December, the city will come alive with festive music, live performances, exciting activities, and seasonal surprises! And to make your visit even merrier, enjoy free parking in council-run car parks on these Sundays*, making it even easier to join us and enjoy the celebrations!



SNOW QUEEN SUNDAY

SUNDAY 7TH DECEMBER 2025

Celebrating the Palace Theatre's new festive production with a day of family friendly entertainment.



MUSICAL SUNDAY

SUNDAY 14TH DECEMBER 2025

Joyful, festive performances from local talents filling Southend with the sounds of the season.



FESTIVE FUN SUNDAY

SUNDAY 21ST DECEMBER 2025

Roaming festive characters will bring Christmas magic to Southend in the last weekend before the big day!

*Visit the Southend-on-Sea City Council website for full details on parking.

SOMETHING JUST FOR THE GROWN UPS!

BOTTOMLESS BRUNCH

FESTIVE BOTTOMLESS LUNCH
PARK INN PALACE HOTEL
14TH NOVEMBER - 21ST DECEMBER
FRIDAY-SUNDAY ONLY

GLITTER AND GOOD TIMES
SLUG AND LETTUCE
6TH - 24TH DECEMBER

ROYAL BRUNCH CLUB
THE ROYAL HOTEL
13TH DECEMBER

CHRISTMAS CRAFTING

CARDS AND COCKTAILS
THE TERRACE BAR AND RESTAURANT
30TH DECEMBER

BOB ROSS PAINTING
LAURENCE MATHEWS
7TH DECEMBER

WREATH MAKING WORKSHOP
THE VICTORIA CENTRE
13TH DECEMBER

A NIGHT OF COMEDY

CHRISTMAS COMEDY
THE ROYAL HOTEL
26TH NOVEMBER

SATURDAY NIGHT:
LIVE COMEDY! CADDIES
6TH DECEMBER

IMPROV XMAS COMEDY!
CADDIES
12TH DECEMBER

GLORIOUS CHEESE

MERRY CHEESEMAS
THE TERRACE BAR AND RESTAURANT
10TH DECEMBER

FOR THE GRATER GOOD
THE ROYAL HOTEL
11TH DECEMBER

Contact the venues to book an event or find out more details.



**RYLAN
ROSS KING**

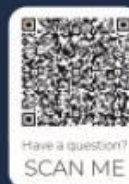
Cinderella
THE MOST MAGICAL PANTO OF THEM ALL!

**STEVE HEWLETT
NIC GREENSHIELDS
EWAN GODDARD
OONAGH COX**

**SAT 13 DEC 2025
SUN 4 JAN 2026**

Too Much Couch Time?

Could you benefit from a motivational challenge that starts your health and fitness journey on the right track?



Fully Funded and Rewarding

- 9 Week health & fitness programme
- Award winning
- Safe, Supportive & Social



Get your Backside to the Trackside for our fully funded and rewarding nine week fitness programme. Build your fitness gradually in a safe, supportive and social environment and be led by our experienced, motivational fitness trainers who are there with you every step of the way.

The programme will finish with a 5km Fun Event



Find us on Facebook at 'Backside To Trackside CIC' for more information.

Text a school nurse directly to talk about health or emotional wellbeing:

IF YOU'RE 11-19 YEARS OLD TEXT

07520 649895

PARENT OF 5-19 YEARS OLD TEXT

07507 331884



ChatHealth



@SouthendSN

Young People scan this QR Code to find support



Parents scan this QR Code to find support



Dates for your diary: (new additions marked with *)

Monday 5th January - First day of Spring Term - WOW Days in all Year Groups

Tuesday 6th January - Year 5 Chinese Dragon Workshop

Wednesday 7th January - Y5/6 Sportshall Athletics Competition

Thursday 8th January - Y3/4 Sportshall Athletics Competition

Friday 9th January - 11+ Club for Year 5 children starts at 8:15am

Wednesday 14th January at 6pm - 11+ Meeting for Year 5 Parents

Monday 19th January - Netball friendly fixture

Wednesday 21st January - Sitting Volleyball Competition

Wednesday 21st January at 6pm - Year 6 SATs Parent Information Meeting

Friday 23rd January - Year 4 Football Competition

Wednesday 28th January at 6pm - Parent Workshop - Healthy Habits Online

Thursday 5th February - Year 6 Football friendly match

w/c Monday 9th February - Online Safety Awareness Week

Monday 9th February 7pm @ Palace Theatre - CHJS performing at Southend Makes Music

Tuesday 10th February - Safer Internet Day

Thursday 12th February - Year 6 boys Football match vs West Leigh

Thursday 12th February - Last day of half term

Friday 13th February - Non-Pupil day (school closed to all pupils)

Monday 23rd February - Back to school after February half term

Monday 23rd February - Young Voices @ The O2

Wednesday 25th February - Netball Tournament

Monday 2nd March - National Offer Day (Y7 Secondary School places)

**Thursday 5th March - WORLD BOOK DAY*

**Thursday 5th March - pm Year 4 'Readers are Leaders' - Assembly to parents*

**Friday 6th March - pm Year 4 'Readers are Leaders' - Assembly to parents*

Friday 13th March - Governor Day

Tuesday 17th March - Y6 Boys football

**Thursday 26th March - 1:30pm Year 5 Spring Showcase to parents*

**Friday 27th March - 1:30pm Year 5 Spring Showcase to parents*

Friday 27th March - Last day of Spring Term - Easter Holidays

Monday 13th April - Back to school after Easter Holidays

Monday 4th May - Bank Holiday - School Closed

Thursday 21st May - Last day of half-term - May half term

Friday 22nd May - Non-Pupil day (school closed to all pupils)

Monday 1st June - Back to school after half term

**Wednesday 15th July - 1:30pm Year 6 Leavers Assembly to parents*

**Thursday 16th July - 1:30pm Year 6 Leavers Assembly to parents*

Friday 17th July - Last day at school - Summer Holidays

Monday 20th July - Non-Pupil day (school closed to all pupils)

Contact us:

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Leigh-On-Sea

Essex

SS9 3NL

01702 478570

office@chalkwellhall-jun.southend.sch.uk

Visit us on the web at:

<https://chalkwellhall.co.uk/>