

# 28.11.2025 CHJS Newsletter



As we find ourselves in the last week of December, it's heartwarming to reflect on how well we are progressing as we head into this festive season. The buzz and excitement in school are palpable, especially with the extremely exciting build-up to Christmas, which is such a special time for our community.

Tomorrow marks a highlight of our December festivities: The Winter Fayre! This much-loved occasion brings our whole community together, and we are sure it will be a fantastic day for the entire family, with plenty to see, do, eat, and buy. We warmly invite you to come along and join in the fun. Don't worry too much about the weather; we have contingencies in place to ensure that the festivities continue, rain or shine!

A special treat awaits at 12:30pm, as our talented school choir will be performing a delightful selection of Christmas songs. Their beautiful voices are sure to get everyone into the festive spirit, so be sure to gather around and enjoy the music.

We would like to extend a huge thank you for all of your generous donations today and throughout the week. Your support is invaluable, and we look forward to seeing you tomorrow at The Winter Fayre!

Looking ahead to next week, Christmas will officially arrive at school! The children will be thrilled to enjoy their very own Christmas market, our annual Christmas Bazaar, once again organised by the PTA. This is a wonderful opportunity for the children to begin their Christmas shopping, choosing thoughtful gifts for their loved ones (and perhaps a little treat for themselves too!).

We are also excited to announce that the PTA has arranged a very special visit from Santa, who will be welcoming the children in a beautifully decorated log cabin on the playground. Every child will have the chance to meet him and receive their own special gift, making this a truly magical experience.

With just three weeks to go of the autumn term, we are working as hard as ever to refine our teaching and instruction to maximise support and progress for all our students. The children are a delight to work with, and we are so proud of their achievements this term.

Wishing you a safe and exciting weekend. We look forward to seeing you at The Winter Fayre!



Tenacitas  
Trust

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## SCHOOL NEWS

### GOVERNOR DAY

Today marked our first Governor Day of the year, and what a fantastic day it was! Our governors play a critical role in our school by collaborating with me to support our initiatives, monitoring our development, and holding us accountable for advancing our school improvement goals.

These days occur on a termly basis, and today's focus was on our school improvement priorities, particularly how these manifest in classrooms through learning behaviours and adult interactions with our children. The governors conducted lesson drop-ins, and I was thrilled to hear a common theme from their visits: the children were highly engaged, and the quality of teaching, instruction, and support was exceptional—music to my ears!

Our Chalkwell Champions expertly guided the governors around the school, showcasing the incredible talents and enthusiasm of our students. They truly represented us well, and I couldn't be prouder! A big thank you to our governors for their invaluable support and to everyone involved in making today a success. Well done, everyone!

### 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** 

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## Mindful Mondays, Chalkwell Character Curriculum & Core Value Focus:

Core Values: Co-operation, Respect & Tolerance

Chalkwell Character Curriculum: What happens if I get distracted?



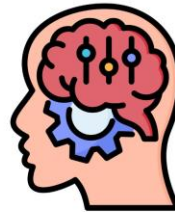
### What happens if I get distracted?

Today, we'll learn how to recognise when your focus is drifting and what to do about it.

### What does distraction mean?

A distraction is something that makes it more difficult to focus and pay attention.

This could be something that is happening outside of ourselves (like noise, lights, movement) or something that is happening internally (like a worry, hunger or feeling silly).



### Why is it important to know how to manage distractions?



### How do you do it?

Imagine you have got MyMaths homework to do and you're logged on to MyMaths but a family member is watching YouTube videos in the same room. They're really funny videos and you'd like to see more but your homework is due tomorrow.

What could you do to avoid becoming distracted?





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## Step 1: Stop - notice that you are distracted.

How do you know when you're not paying attention?

What are you usually thinking about at that time?

What is your body doing when you're distracted?



## Step 2: Opt - Make choices that help you to focus.

What is in your circle of control when you are distracted?

What things could you do to help limit the distraction?



## Step 3: Opt - use a refocusing tool to regulate your emotions

Bubbly yellow zone emotions often lead to impulsive decisions. Refocusing tools can help us to hold our attention for longer - what works for you?



## Step 4: Go - make a good choice

Following stop, opt and go when we're distracted means that we make better choices which helps us to achieve our goals.

Think about how the children in the next slides should stop, opt and go.



## Think, Pair, Share

Which do you think you would be more successful at and why?

Trying to focus on a task for a long time without distractions (like a surgeon)

or

Trying to focus for a few moments with a lot of distractions (like a rugby player)

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## This Week:

Use refocusing tools when you feel yourself becoming distracted. Think about what is in the circle of your control.

If it is an external distraction, you could: ask your teacher to move seats, use ear defenders or loops, use a yellow zone tool or practice resilience to not get involved.

If it is an internal distraction, you could: use a blue or yellow zone tool, use your growth mindset and positive self-talk, or remind yourself of when the next break is so that there's a good time to think about the distraction.

## Co-operation: Southend Toy Drive



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## Christmas Advert - What Christmas really means

### Christmas Appeal

Christmas is a time for giving and Chalkwell Hall Junior School wants to brighten Christmas for vulnerable children in our local community, who may otherwise receive very little.

To help make this happen, you can donate small gifts, which will be passed on to those who will benefit the most.

You will just need to bring in your unwrapped present by Thursday 11th December and we will deliver them to Southend Toy Drive.

Since the Toy Drive began, over 40,000 toys have been donated to local children through local charities and programmes

### What you can donate

You can donate any gift suitable for a child from new-born up to the age of 17. If the gift needs batteries, please include these too.

Unfortunately, you cannot donate second-hand presents and all donations must be unwrapped.

Example of things you can donate:

- Construction toys
- Arts and crafts
- Books
- Board games
- Jigsaw puzzles
- Playdoh
- Toy cars, trains and aeroplanes
- Dinosaurs and dolls
- Teddies
- Vouchers for toys of days out
- Tabletop sets

### Things to remember:

- Donate any gift suitable for a child from new-born up to the age of 17. If batteries are need, please include these too.
- You can not donate second-hand toys.
- The presents need to be unwrapped.
- Presents need to be in by Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December.

## Reflection

As we start to enjoy seasonal festivities, let's remember the true spirit of Christmas. It's not just about what we receive, but about what we give.

Each small act of kindness can create ripples of joy and make a difference in someone else's life.

So this year, let's all aim to be like the boy in the advert: thoughtful, generous, and kind. Together, we can make this Christmas special - not just for ourselves but for those around us.



During our week of Christmas Kindness, we have already spoken about donating toys to the toy drive and now we have another way to spread good will this festive season - Christmas cards!

In our community, we work closely with 2 care homes and this year, we're making cards for all the residents and staff that work there.





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## Your challenge:

Make a Christmas card with a partner (A5).  
Inside, write this message:

Dear Friend of Chalkwell Hall Junior School,

Merry Christmas!

from Your Class Name



## 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](https://nationalcollege.com).

### What Parents & Educators Need to Know about TIKTOK

Online videos are often associated with apps such as YouTube, but among teens, TikTok is king. The app provides a potentially addictive, never-ending stream of short clips tailored to users' interests based on their viewing habits. Around half of British children use TikTok, and while most content is benign, Ofcom considers it the app where young people are "most likely to encounter a potential harm".

**AGE RESTRICTION 13+**  
(Certain features are restricted to over-18s only)

#### WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

##### AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

TikTok's For You feed shows videos from known creators, while the default For You feed serves endless clips based on viewing history. Most are harmless, but unsuitable content can still appear, and watching for long enough signals interest to the algorithm. Although TikTok bans illegal or inappropriate content, the volume of posts means some slip through, increasing the chance that children encounter age-inappropriate material before it is detected or removed.

##### CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

Between 1.6 and 1.8 billion people use TikTok, meaning there's a high risk of unwanted attention from strangers. Accounts created by over-18s (or young people using a fake date of birth) are set to public view by default. This means that not only is someone's profile visible to everyone else on the app, it also suggests their videos to others and allows anyone to download or comment on them.

##### BODY IMAGE AND DANGEROUS CHALLENGES

Ofcom reports that most online harms for girls involve body image, while boys more often see dangerous stunts. Both types appear frequently on TikTok and spread quickly through its engagement-driven algorithm. Notable challenges have included the "blackout" trend, where users fast their breath until passing out. Families filed lawsuits after children died linked to the trend, showing how extreme or risky content can rapidly reach young people and negatively influence them.

##### MISINFORMATION AND RADICALISATION

TikTok's short videos may appear lighthearted, but they can expose young people to harmful ideas. Misinformation is common, and Ofcom reports that nearly one third of 12-15-year-olds use TikTok as a news source, increasing the chance of seeing racist, misogynistic, extremist or conspiracy material. Even brief clips can influence impressionable users and shape their worldview, making discussions about critical thinking, propaganda and online influence especially important for parents and educators.

##### IN-APP SPENDING

TikTok is free, but children can still spend money. TikTok coins, costing £9.99 or £24.99, let users buy gifts for creators. TikTok Shop adds risk by allowing purchases from influencers or companies, sometimes leading to poor-quality items driven by persuasive marketing. A Canadian investigation found TikTok collected personal data from many children for targeting and advertising despite age limits, meaning young users may lose control over their personal information.

##### ADDICTIVE DESIGN

TikTok's fast-paced stream of eye-catching videos can be potentially addictive for young users. In 2024, UK children spent an average of 127 minutes per day on the platform, double the time recorded in 2020. Excessive use can disrupt sleep, increase irritability and distract from healthier activities. Constantly skipping between short clips may also affect attention span, making it harder to focus on longer tasks such as homework or reading.

### Advice for Parents & Educators

#### ENABLE FAMILY PAIRING

Family Pairing allows parents to link their TikTok account to their child's in order to manage settings remotely. Parents can then turn on Restricted Mode (reducing the chance of a child seeing inappropriate content), set screen time limits, make accounts private and manage whether their child can send messages – and if they can, to whom. Children cannot alter these settings without parental approval.

#### BLOCK IN-APP SPENDING

Parents can restrict in-app purchases on iPhone and Android devices to prevent accidental or impulsive TikTok spending. Young people can easily spend large amounts on TikTok coins or low-quality products promoted through TikTok Shop. If a disappointing purchase occurs, turn it into a discussion about influencer marketing and how online promotions can be misleading.

#### DISCUSS THE DANGERS

If a child wants to use TikTok and you're happy for them to do so, it's good practice to discuss the potential risks. Ensure they don't share any identifying personal information or respond to dangerous trends, and that they know to talk to a trusted adult if they're worried by interactions on the app. With more teens using TikTok for news, it's important to talk about misinformation and propaganda.

#### READ THE SIGNS

If you're concerned that a child is spending too much time on TikTok, or that they've been emotionally affected by something they've seen, it's important to know how to spot the signs. Increased irritability and a lack of concentration are potential red flags. As is failing to complete homework or skipping meals. Remember, the potential controls are there for a reason, and it's never too late to introduce limits.

#### Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for the likes of Wired, TechRadar, Tom's Guide, The Evening Standard and The New Statesman.

**#WakeUpWednesday** The National College

For full reference visit [nationalcollege.com](https://nationalcollege.com)

[@wake\\_up\\_weds](https://x.com/wake_up_weds) [www.thenationalcollege.com](https://www.thenationalcollege.com) [@wake.up.wednesday](https://www.instagram.com/wake.up.wednesday) [@wake.up.weds](https://www.tiktok.com/@wake.up.weds)

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## Return of the HUNGRY CUPBOARD!

### 5GH 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.

**This week it was the turn of 5GH who put in a fantastic effort to fill the Hungry Cupboard to bursting! Well done, everyone!**

Next week, the initiative moves on to 5RM. Let's continue to show our support and demonstrate the strength of our community spirit!





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## 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                   |

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## PTA EVENTS

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY...

Don't forget to pre-order your wreath kit (ready for collection from 28th November at school) available at [www.pta-events.co.uk/chalkwellhallpta](http://www.pta-events.co.uk/chalkwellhallpta)

**CHRISTMAS IS COMING TO CHALKWELL!!** Event planning is now underway and we are so excited to spread some Christmas cheer! To make the events a success we need your help and every little really does make a huge difference in lightening the load! So if you can help with any of the following, please contact your class rep via WhatsApp, email [ptachalkwellhall@gmail.com](mailto:ptachalkwellhall@gmail.com) or sign up on our website under the volunteer tab.

🎄 Christmas Fayre volunteers - Saturday 29th November - set up from 8.30am, running a stall anytime between 11.30 & 3pm, clearing away from 3pm

🎪 Bazaar set up - Tuesday 2nd December from 1.15pm

👦 Junior bazaar stall help - Wednesday 3rd December 9-12 & 1.15-3pm

👧 Infant/nursery grotto - Wednesday 3rd December 9-12 & 1.15-3pm - elves needed!

💖 Infant bazaar stall help - Thursday 4th December 9-12 & 1.15-3pm

👦 Junior grotto - Thursday 4th December 9-12 & 1.15-3pm - elves needed!

🧹 Bazaar clear up - Thursday 4th December from 3pm - children welcome to wait together.

## SCHOOL DINNER MENU - Next week: WEEK 1

**AUTUMN WEEK 2**

IT'S EASIER TO EAT WHEN YOU HAVE THE DAILY MENU SUCH AS BOLOCHNAISE

**WACKY WEDGE MONDAY**  
HOMEMADE CHEESE AND TOMATO PIZZA / VEGE PIZZA (MILK) (G) (V) (ON A WHOLEWHEAT BASE AND HIDDEN VEG)  
OR  
OVEN BAKED POTATO WEDGES (VG) AND MIXED VEGETABLE MEDLEY: GREEN BEANS/SWEETCORN/CARROTS/PEAS (VG)

**THIRTY PASTA TUESDAY**  
TRICOLOR PASTA TWIRLS (G) (VG) WITH HOMEMADE TOMATO SAUCE (WITH HIDDEN VEG) (V) AND GRATED CHEESE (MILK), GARLIC BREAD (G) (MAY CONTAIN MILK) AND CARROTS AND GREEN BEANS (VG)

**FANTASTIC THURSDAY**  
OVEN BAKED FISH FINGERS (G) (F) (V) OR  
OVEN BAKED VEGE FINGERS (G) (VG) WITH CHIPS (VG), PEAS AND SWEETCORN (VG) AND KETCHUP (VG) OR TARTARE SAUCE (V) (MILK) (E)

**REACH FOR A ROAST WEDNESDAY**  
PORK SAUSAGE TOAD IN THE HOLE (G) (MILK) (E) (S) (V) OR  
MEAT FREE SAUSAGE TOAD IN THE HOLE (G) (MILK) (E) (S) (V) WITH OVEN ROASTED POTATOES (VG) (G), BROCCOLI (VG), CARROTS (VG) AND GRAVY (VG)

**FIREY FRIDAY FEAST**  
HOMEMADE BEEF CHILI (WITH HIDDEN VEG) OR VEGGIE CHILI (SOY) (VE) WITH STEAMED RICE AND GRATED CHEESE (MILK) (V) AND CARROTS AND BROCCOLI (VG)

WE WILL ALWAYS PROVIDE SUITABLE ALTERNATIVES FOR CHILDREN WITH ALLERGIES  
THIS MENU IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE  
FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE

**SUMMER MENU - ALLERGENS**

WE ARE AN Allergy Aware School.

| ALLERGEN     | FOODS CONTAINING ALLERGEN                                       |
|--------------|---|
| G            | CEREALS CONTAIN GLUTEN (WHEAT, BARLEY, RYE, OATS, KAMUT, SPELT) |
| MILK         | MILK  |
| E            | EGG   |
| SESAME SEEDS | SESAME SEEDS  |
| CELERY       | CELERY  |
| VEGETARIAN   | VEGETARIAN  |
| VEGAN        | VEGAN   |
| FISH         | FISH  |
| TREE NUTS    | TREE NUTS   |
| PEANUT       | PEANUT  |
| LUPIN        | LUPIN   |
| MUSTARD      | MUSTARD   |
| SOYBEAN      | SOYBEAN   |
| MOLLUSCS     | MOLLUSCS  |
| CRUSTACEANS  | CRUSTACEANS   |
| SULPHITES    | SULPHITES   |
| COCONUT      | COCONUT   |

WE WILL ALWAYS PROVIDE SUITABLE ALTERNATIVES FOR CHILDREN WITH FOOD ALLERGIES  
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

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## OPAL



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

## SPORT @ CHJS

### Goalball

On Wednesday, a year 6 team took part in the Goalball tournament held at Garons. 10 schools took part and we progressed well, winning 4 out of 5 matches to reach the semi finals. Unfortunately we just missed out on the final, but achieved 3rd place overall. We were so impressed with the focus,



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teamwork and positive encouragement that it was a pleasure to watch. Well done Team

Chalky 👍 🙌 💙 🙌 🙌 🙌 🙌 🙌 🙌 🏅



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## FANTASTIC FOOTBALLERS

### Fixtures vs Our Lady Of Lourdes

Yesterday saw two year 6 football teams represent CHJS in friendly matches against OLOL. The standard was high with many great battles on show and it was great to see so many get the chance to represent our school. The score didn't reflect the effort from the lads, unfortunately losing 4-1 and 3-0 respectively.

Great teamwork and sportsmanship on display and we hope to play a few more friendlies and tournaments in 2026. Thanks to all the parents who came out to support. Well done team!



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## 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. Two circular photos show children playing soccer on a field and in a hall. A QR code is on the left. The right side lists the dates and venues: Monday 22nd December at Clements Hall Eversley Leisure, and Tuesday 23rd December at Roots Hall Stadium. It also states 'ALL ABILITIES' and 'AGES 5 - 13'. At the bottom, it provides an email for more info and social media icons.

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

**COMMUNITY  
FOUNDATION**

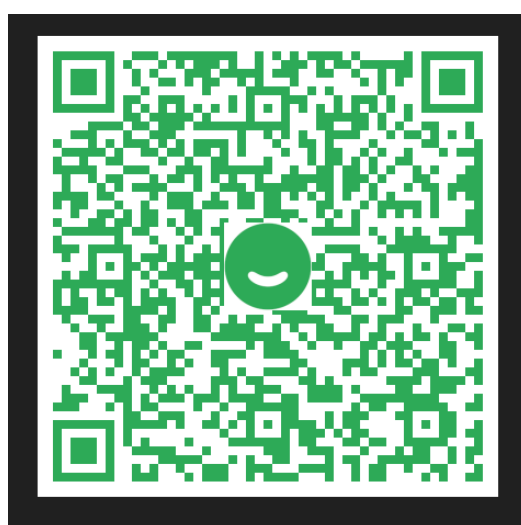
**ACTIVALE**

**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](mailto:D.KING@SOUTHENDUNITED-CET.CO.UK)





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Thorpe Bay LTC  
**Christmas Tennis Camp**  
new Tuesdays  
Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> & Wed 24<sup>th</sup> December  
Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> & Wed 31<sup>st</sup> December  
9.00am-1.30pm

**Price**  
£20 Members  
£25 Non Members  
10% discount for multi day or siblings  
For kids aged 3-18 (Split groups)  
All equipment provided by Thorpe Bay Lawn Tennis Club

**Payment Details:**  
**Account name** - Thorpe Bay Lawn Tennis Club Limited  
**Sort Code** - 30-92-53  
**Account no** – 27496268  
**Ref** – Childs name  
Please bring drinks and snacks



For more information or to book contact:  
Matt Bell 07786238586 or mattwgbell@aol.com

## Learning this week!

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### Year 3

*Another great week completed by Year 3! In maths, we have continued our topic of multiplication and moved on to using written methods to work out more complex calculations. In English, we have started to look at a different genre of writing, 'Discussion Texts', where we are answering the question, 'Should Mowgli leave the wolfpack?'. We have had some great discussions about this, where some children have played the part of characters and had questions fired at them to get their opinions. In Geography, we started to learn about the geography of India. We now know what India is like, the different climates, rivers and mountains in India.*

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## *Year 4*

*Year 4 have had an incredible week of learning!*

*In Maths, the children have been mastering multiplication—tackling multiples of ten and multiplying without renaming with growing confidence.*

*In English, we've begun story mapping Around the World in 80 Days, preparing to create our very own versions next week.*

*In Design Technology, the children have been hands-on and creative, experimenting with designing and building their own toy cars—such an exciting project!*

*During our indoor PE lessons, they've been developing their rotation jumps and working on sequence building using the apparatus.*

*Well done, Year 4, on another amazing week!*

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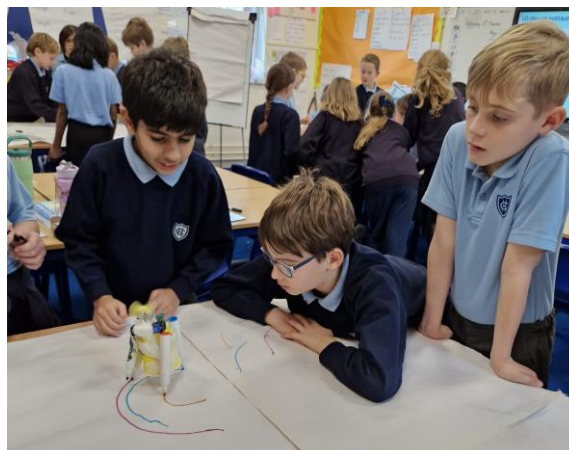


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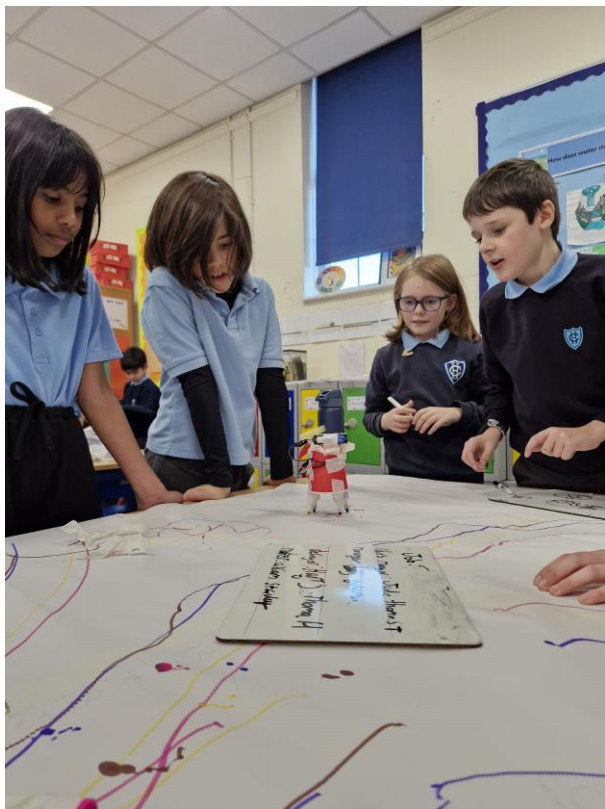
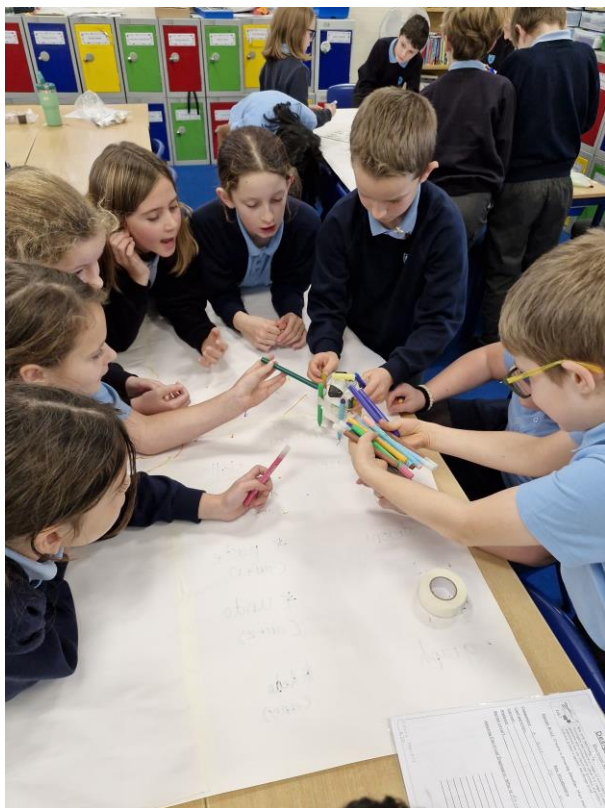
## Year 5

*This week in Design Technology, our talented students have been busy creating amazing doodlers that incorporate electrical components to bring their artwork to life! The designs use a motor, which is positioned off-centre to produce vibration. The doodlers then jiggle across the page, drawing as they go. These innovative devices not only showcase their creativity but also enhance their understanding of technology and engineering principles. We are so proud of their hard work and dedication!*

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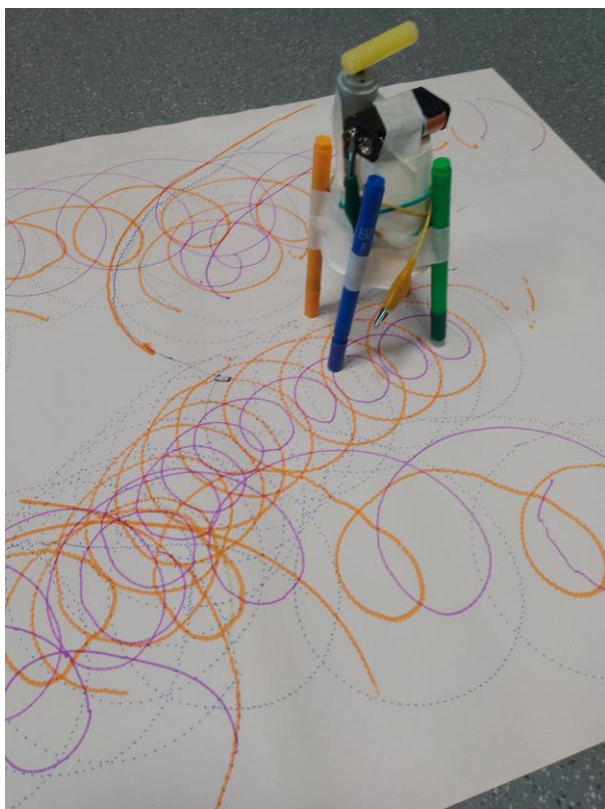
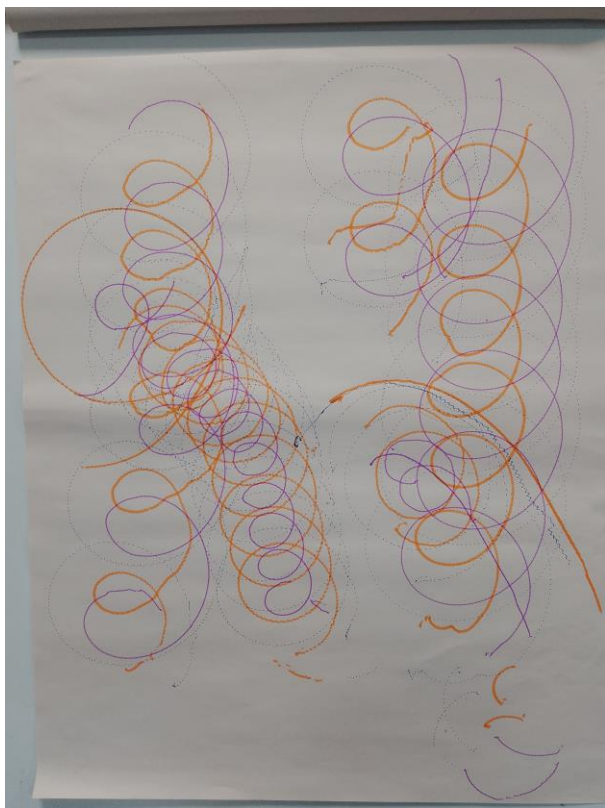


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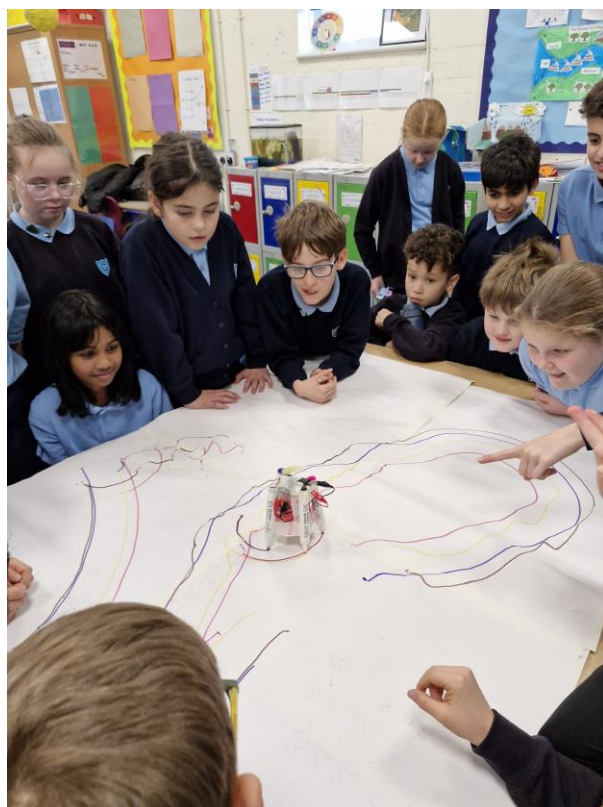




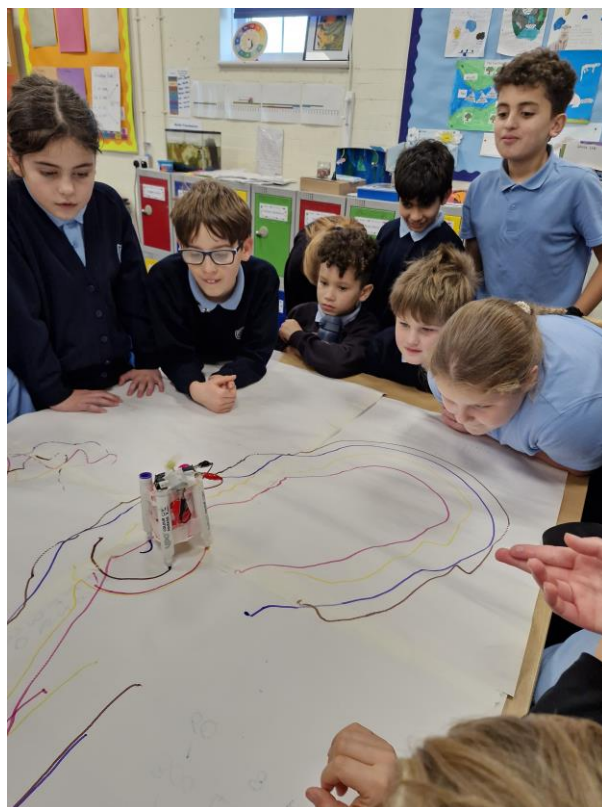
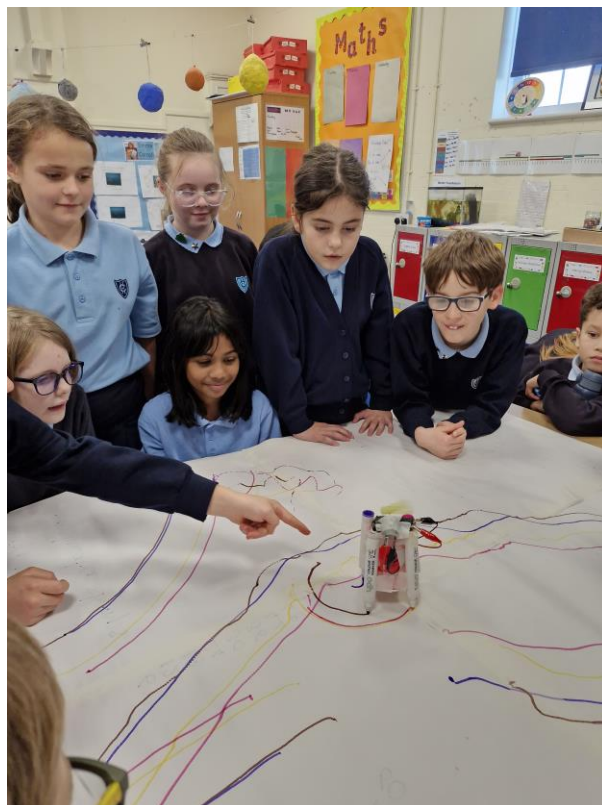
## 28.11.2025 CHJS Newsletter



## 28.11.2025 CHJS Newsletter

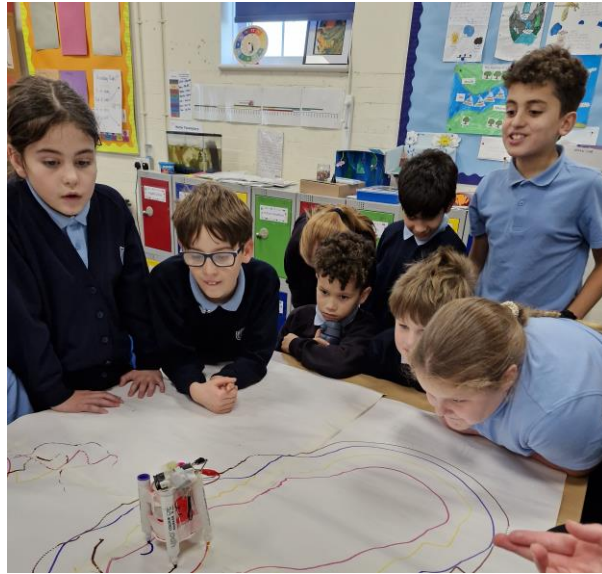


## 28.11.2025 CHJS Newsletter





# 28.11.2025 CHJS Newsletter



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## Year 6

*Well done this week Year 6 - a mixed week of studious test-taking and creative meal-making! Our Year 6 students have been hard at work practising exam technique, and in the time around this have been busy with our WOW week activities. We can't share too much about the Windrush presentations the children have been making - you'll have to visit the pop-up museum later on this half term to see these! - but we can tell you all about the delicious spaghetti bolognese the children learnt to make from scratch in their DT activity - there were plenty of positive reviews for Cafe Chalkwell.*

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## 28.11.2025 CHJS Newsletter





## 28.11.2025 CHJS Newsletter



### Achievement Awards

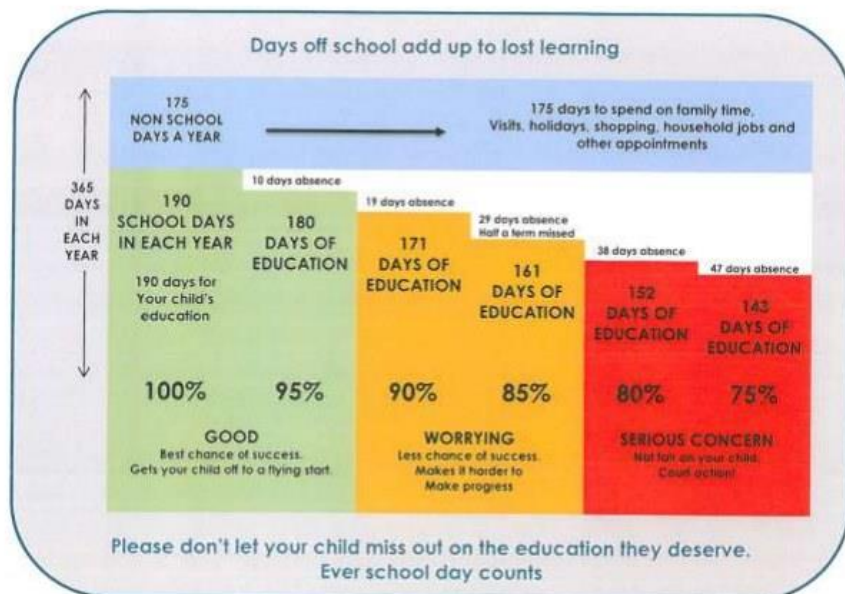


# 28.11.2025 CHJS Newsletter

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!



## Attendance & Punctuality



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

# 28.11.2025 CHJS Newsletter

## 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



# 28.11.2025 CHJS Newsletter

## Attendance Guide for Parents/Carers



### 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 - 96.7%



# 28.11.2025 CHJS Newsletter

## Weekly Attendance by Year Group

Year 3 = 95.5%

Year 4 = 96.7%

Year 5 = 97.6%

Year 6 = 96.6%

**Lower School Winners = 4JDW (99%)**



**Upper School Winners = 5CF (99%)**



# 28.11.2025 CHJS Newsletter

## Community News



**THE VICTORIA CENTRE SOUTHEAST**

*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 SOUTHEAST CHRISTMAS SWITCH ON

@victoria\_southend @victoriasouthend  
thevictoriasc 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 - 4.30PM  
SOUTHEAST 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 SOUTHEAST 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  
SOUTHEAST 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.

**MEET SANTA**

Santa is setting aside time in his busy diary to visit Southend this Christmas. Don't miss the chance of seeing him for a cosy grotto visit, a festive photo opportunity, or a chance to share what's on your Christmas list. Be sure to check with each venue for full details to avoid disappointment.

**CHRISTMAS GROTTTO AT THE ROYALS SHOPPING CENTRE**  
WEDNESDAY 19TH NOVEMBER, THEN ONLY 15TH - 24TH DECEMBER  
Experience the magic of Christmas with a memorable visit to see Father Christmas in his charming grotto. A truly wonderful experience that enhances the festive spirit for you and your loved ones. Tickets include a special gift. [BOOK NOW!](#)

**MAGICAL CHRISTMAS EXPERIENCE AT CADDIES**  
8TH & 9TH, 12TH & 13TH, 20TH - 24TH DECEMBER  
Totally unique and filled with surprises that are guaranteed to entertain the entire family, here's what's included: Santa's Grotto, interactive family show, and Christmas crazy golf. [BOOK NOW!](#)

**SANTA MEET AND GREET AT THE VICTORIA CENTRE**  
8TH & 20TH DECEMBER  
Bring the family for a magical festive experience - meet Father Christmas, share your wishes, and take a special photo. Every child receives a free gift from Santa. No booking required!

**The Snow Queen**  
A brand-new family musical adventure

**SAT 13 - SUN 28 DEC 2025**  
Produced by The Palace Theatre and Wind Song Theatre

**PALACE THEATRE SOUTHEAST**  
palacetheatresouthend.co.uk



# 28.11.2025 CHJS Newsletter

## 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.

**DON'T MISS THE SWITCH ON AT 6PM!**

VISITSOUTHEND.CO.UK

|   |  |   |   |
|---|--|---|---|
| <b>ARTISAN MARKET</b> <p>From 11am, explore our market that will stretch through the High Street and The Victoria Centre. Have a gig on some of the rides or pop into the shops too.</p>                | <b>STORYTELLING BUS</b> <p>Back by popular demand, visit our enchanting storybus and come into a world of wonder with magical tales from 1pm - 4pm.</p>        | <b>BUSKING SPOTS</b> <p>Enjoy live performances from a variety of talented local artists on the High Street from 11am - 4pm.</p>  | <b>CRAFTING FUN</b> <p>Get creative under the bridge between 7-9pm with making beautiful lights or banners that you can take with you to the Switch On!</p> |
| <b>STAGE PERFORMANCES</b> <p>Hosted by BBC Essex, the stages will come alive with entertainment from 1pm. Enjoy a fantastic line up of choir, choirs, community groups and amazing local musicians.</p> | <b>MAGIC MOMENTS</b> <p>A host of magical characters will roam the High Street throughout the day, ready to surprise, delight and amuse the festive magic.</p> | <b>SWITCH ON!</b> <p>Get in the Victoria Circus at 6pm for the magical moment when Southend's Christmas lights and tree sparkling trees are officially switched on!</p> | <b>FIREWORKS FINALE</b> <p>End the day with a bang! Head to the seafront for a dazzling fireworks display to close the celebration in style at 7.30pm.</p>  |

CLIFFS PAVILION PALACE THEATRE

## 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 more festive, enjoy free parking in council-run car parks on these Sundays, making it even easier to join us and enjoy the celebration!

### 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

## MORE TO ENJOY THIS CHRISTMAS

Southend is full of activity this festive season, here's some more activities you don't want to miss! Check with the venues for more details.

### ELF ON A SHOP SHELF TRAIL

SOUTHEND CITY CENTRE  
15TH NOVEMBER - 24TH DECEMBER

### SANTA'S ON HIS SLEIGH! PALACE THEATRE

15TH - 24TH DECEMBER

### SANTA'S SECRET WORD TRAIL

THE VICTORIA CENTRE  
15TH - 24TH DECEMBER

### THE SNOW QUEEN PALACE THEATRE

15TH - 24TH DECEMBER

### BLUEY CHRISTMAS BREAKFAST

THE TERRACE BAR AND RESTAURANT  
15TH DECEMBER

### CINDERELLA PANTOMIME

CLIFFS PAVILION  
15TH DECEMBER - 24TH JANUARY

## ELF ON A SHOP SHELF TRAIL

From Saturday 15th November to Wednesday 24th December, Southend city centre is getting a sprinkle of festive mischief as our cheeky Elves hide in shops and cafes!

Spot them behind the tills, get down what they're wearing, and complete the trail to be entered into a prize draw for a January treat from Indrock, 10's free, fun, and perfect for the whole family!

Email [Hello@SouthendBID.com](mailto:Hello@SouthendBID.com) with each business name and what the elf is wearing by 2nd January 2026 for your chance to win. The winner will be contacted by Southend City BID by Wednesday 5th January 2026. The prize will be provided by Indrock, it holds no cash value and cannot be exchanged.

**WIN AN ADULT AND CHILD CLIMB VOUCHER AT INDROCK!**

**VENUES ARE:**

1. The Hang Out - London Road
2. Indrock - The Victoria Centre
3. Wingly - The Victoria Centre
4. Bike Base - Queens Road
5. Laurence Mathews - Queens Road
6. Revell's Jewellers - Cliffhanger Road
7. The Board Game Hut - Clarence Street
8. Hutter - High Street
9. Utopia - Hargate Avenue
10. Park Inn Hotel - Church Road

## SOMETHING JUST FOR THE GROWN UPS!

### BOTTOMLESS BRUNCH

**FESTIVE BOTTOMLESS LUNCH**  
PARK INN PALACE HOTEL  
15TH NOVEMBER - 24TH DECEMBER  
FRIDAY SUNDAY ONLY  
**GLITTER AND GOOD TIMES**  
BLISS AND LETTUCE  
15TH - 24TH DECEMBER

**ROYAL BRUNCH CLUB**  
THE ROYAL HOTEL  
15TH DECEMBER

### CHRISTMAS CRAFTING

**CARDS AND COCKTAILS**  
THE TERRACE BAR AND RESTAURANT  
15TH DECEMBER

**BOB ROSS PAINTING**  
LAURENCE MATHEWS  
15TH DECEMBER

**WREATH MAKING WORKSHOP**  
THE VICTORIA CENTRE  
15TH DECEMBER

### A NIGHT OF COMEDY

**CHRISTMAS COMEDY**  
THE ROYAL HOTEL  
20TH DECEMBER

**SATURDAY NIGHT: LIVE COMEDY! CADDIES**  
15TH DECEMBER

**IMPROV XMAS COMEDY! CADDIES**  
15TH DECEMBER

### GLORIOUS CHEESE

**MERRY CHEESEMAS**  
THE TERRACE BAR AND RESTAURANT  
15TH DECEMBER

**FOR THE GRATER GOOD**  
THE ROYAL HOTEL  
15TH DECEMBER

## Cinderella

THE MOST MAGICAL PANTO OF THEM ALL!

**RYLAN ROSS KING**

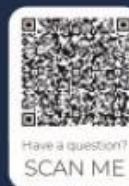
**STEVE HEWLETT**  
**NIC GREENSHIELDS**  
**EWAN GODDARD**  
**DOONAGH COX**

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

# 28.11.2025 CHJS Newsletter

## 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.

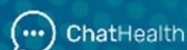
Text a school nurse directly to talk about health or emotional wellbeing:

**IF YOU'RE 11-19 YEARS OLD TEXT**

**07520 649895**

**PARENT OF 5-19 YEARS OLD TEXT**

**07507 331884**



Young People scan this QR Code to find support



Parents scan this QR Code to find support





# 28.11.2025 CHJS Newsletter

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

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- Saturday 29th November - 12-3pm Christmas Fayre*
- Wednesday 3rd December - PTA Christmas Bazaar - Juniors*
- Thursday 4th December - Santa's Grotto visit - Juniors*
- Friday 5th December- Boccia & Kurling Competition*
- \*Thursday 11th December - pm Year 3 Warm Winter Wishes - Assembly to parents*
- \*Friday 12th December - pm Year 3 Warm Winter Wishes - Assembly to parents*
- Monday 15th December - 6pm Carol Concert @ St. Michael's & All Angels*
- Friday 19th December - SANTA FUN RUN!*
- Friday 19th December - Last day at school - Christmas Holidays!*
- Monday 5th January - First day of Spring Term*
- 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*
- \*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*
- \*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)*
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# 28.11.2025 CHJS Newsletter

## Contact us:

### **Chalkwell Hall Junior School**

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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/>