



### Harvest Festival

We will be celebrating Harvest at the end of the term in a special assembly at the Thaxted Church on Wednesday 18th October at 2pm. All the children will be present and performing so we do look forward to seeing any parents or carers, doors will open to parents 1.45pm.

As part of our Harvest thanks, we will be collecting for the local Uttlesford food bank which is sadly in great need locally.

At present they need;

*Cereal, UHT milk*

*Tinned vegetables*

*Cooking sauces (not pasta sauce)*

*Instant mash*

*Tinned fruit, Custard*

*Table sauces eg. Ketchup, mayo, brown sauce*

*Vegetarian options eg. Tinned veg chilli*

*Noodles, Rice pudding,*

*Stuffing, Steamed puddings*

*Jam / peanut butter*

It would be lovely if every child could bring in at least one item, it's a great opportunity to clear out the back of the kitchen cupboards!

**Items can be brought in any time between now and the assembly. Please pass them to the class teachers or the office.**

**Thank you for your support.**



### UPCOMING DATES:

**2ND TO 6TH OCTOBER**—YEAR 6 TO MANOR ADVENTURE

**THURSDAY 19TH OCTOBER**—INDIVIDUAL & SIBLING PHOTOS

**WEDNESDAY 18TH OCTOBER**—HARVEST FESTIVAL 2PM AT THE CHURCH

**TUESDAY 31ST OCTOBER & THURSDAY 2ND NOVEMBER**—PARENTS EVENINGS

**HALF TERM**—SAT 21ST-29TH OCTOBER 2023

**CHRISTMAS CAROLS AT THAXTED CHURCH**—FRIDAY 15TH DEC AT 2PM (DOORS OPEN 1.45PM)

### HEADTEACHER COFFEE MORNINGS

TUES 17TH OCT 2.30PM

TUES 21ST NOV 2.30PM

THURS 12TH DEC 8.50AM

TUES 23RD JAN 8.50AM

THEMES TBC

### School day timings

The school day has now changed to come into line with the Government expectations from March 2022. The school week is from the morning registration until the end of the school day (including breaks) and the Government set a standard of all children receiving a minimum of 32.5 hours a week. Previously our registration ended at 9am and the day finished at 3.15pm, this equated to 31.25 hours a week.

Our new day of registration closes at 8.50am. Classrooms open and children are expected in between 8.40am - 8.50am, (gates open 8.30am). The end of day is 3.20pm and this equates to the minimum of 32.5 hours a week. Children are receiving an extra 15 minutes of learning time a day.

The school gates are opened earlier in the morning to make it safer, as children and their families do not need to queue by the road. A whistle will be blown to indicate the opening of classrooms and to allow Reception parents to escort their children up to Donaldson and Rosen classrooms. Children can enter their classrooms any time from 8.40am but they must be in before 8.50am, otherwise they will receive a late mark.

The Early Years staff request that parents dissuade their children from touching the equipment put out in the Early Years outside area, so that it can be ready for the first lesson in the morning.

**Also a polite reminder that no children should be playing upon the trim trail in the main playground in the mornings or after school.**

## Flu vaccine

If your child missed their Flu vaccine or you have changed your mind, any parent is able to contact the Vaccine team and they can offer a clinic appointment for your child to receive the vaccine.

Please call the team on 03007900597

## NITS

Both children and parents are vulnerable to head lice and we do get them from time to time in school, but they can be a pain to get rid of.

In fact, one in three children in the UK may get head lice at some point during the year - so what is a parent to do?

Some strains of head lice have grown more resistant to chemical treatments designed to kill them, but they are still vulnerable to being removed via combing, or through suffocation using some treatments.

Do not try alternatives to head lice treatments, such as olive oil, regular conditioner, vinegar and even mouth wash. **Only use specific treatments designed to kill head lice.**

The best advice is to treat all in the household and change all the bedsheets.



Essex Partnership University  
NHS Foundation Trust

## FLU VACCINATION CLINICS

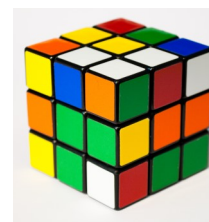
Flu vaccination clinics are running throughout December & the Christmas holidays for secondary school children (years 7-9) in:

- Basildon
- Brentwood
- Chelmsford
- Colchester
- Dunmow
- Epping
- Great Wakering
- Harwich
- Maldon
- Southend
- Thurrock

**If your child is eligible, don't delay.**  
Book an appointment today on  
0300 790 0597.

One of our Year 6 boys is running a puzzle club and we are looking out for any Rubic cubes.

If you have any spare unwanted ones please pass them to the school office!



## PTA Corner

*A big thank you to all who supported the hour of fun on the school field.*

*The money raised was £470.*

*Thank you to all parents who have supported their child to create Christmas Cards, these are in the process of being sent off.*

*Messages will be coming out soon for the DISCO evening on Friday 13th October.*

*—to volunteer, please contact [friendsofthaxted@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofthaxted@gmail.com)*

### Kitchen / School dinners

**A HUGE THANK YOU TO ALL THE VOLUNTEERS WHO HAVE HELPED IN THE KITCHEN — IT REALLY IS**

### **APPRECIATED**



We are still recruiting a Catering Manager/Cook for the kitchen. As an interim we have secured a relief catering manager (who is amazing but very expensive and not something we can sustain, sadly).

Mr Micallef will be with us until October half term, so please look out for the new menus that will start next week. If anyone does know anyone locally interested in being our school cook, we can offer full training for a suitable candidate.

We are also looking for a midday assistant to support in the dining hall and playground, 11.45am-1.15pm daily 5 days a week.

We are very proud to support one of our teachers Mrs Broadwood and a parent Ms McMillan who are raising funds for charity with Battle Cancer.

They will be facing fitness endurance tests on Sunday 15th October.



If you wish to support them please follow the link

[https://www.justgiving.com/page/team-bear-babes-uk?utm\\_medium=fundraising&utm\\_content=page%2Fteam-bear-babes-uk&utm\\_source=whatsapp&utm\\_campaign=pf-p-whatsapp](https://www.justgiving.com/page/team-bear-babes-uk?utm_medium=fundraising&utm_content=page%2Fteam-bear-babes-uk&utm_source=whatsapp&utm_campaign=pf-p-whatsapp)

**Just Giving.com Cindy McMillan/ Bear Babes**

### Special Educational Needs

Mrs Lisa Cox, is covering as the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Inclusion Manager for Mrs Jinkerson, during her maternity leave.

We will have a SEND coffee morning to chat about the support strategies we use in school to aid the children. If you would like to talk about your child's needs or any SEND concerns, please do email her; [l.cox@thaxted.essex.sch.uk](mailto:l.cox@thaxted.essex.sch.uk). She will usually be available on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, and will be in class on Thursdays and Fridays.

One of the new initiatives we will have this year is to make the school (children and staff) more aware of difference and specific needs. We will be having a range of assemblies and visitors to educate on the following themes;

2nd — 6th October Dyslexia awareness week

13th—17th November Anti-Bullying & children's mental health awareness

4th—8th December—Autism Awareness week

12th February—Epilepsy Awareness day

21st March— Down's Syndrome awareness

6th—12th May—Deaf awareness week