



December	
Monday 15th	Reception (RB) Nativity
Tuesday 16th	Reception (RLI) Nativity
Wednesday 17th	Christmas Dinner
Wednesday 17th	Christmas Jumper Day
Friday 19th	Last Day of Term
January	
Mon 5th	Non-Pupil Day
Tuesday 6th	Children return to school
Thursday 8th	Year 3 Trip to Layer Marney



Dear families

What a very Christmassy week we have had in school. We have seen the Christmas performances of our KS1 and KS2 children, and next week it will be the Reception classes' turn.

We have been so proud of all the children in their various Christmas shows and it has been so lovely to welcome parents and carers in to watch.

Reception classes visited Plume Avenue Church on Tuesday. They took part in activities and shared stories and songs.

Look out for a few nativity photos in the Christmas in the Classroom supplement in the Gazette on Tuesday 16th December

School Meals

Next Wednesday, 17th December is our Christmas dinner in school.

Christmas Jumper Day

On Wednesday 17th December we will be holding a Christmas Jumper Day (non-uniform) in aid of St Helena Hospice. Children can come to school in a Christmas jumper for a small donation to help this very worthwhile charity. Please remember that donations are purely voluntary and jumpers do not need to be specially bought. An old jumper with some tinsel or other decoration on it will be just fine.



House points prize winner

Congratulations to Mars, who have won this term's house competition! On Thursday next week, they will be treated to some time on a soft play bus, which will be parked on site all day. We hope they have a terrific time. Well done, Mars!

Raring to Go Magazine

Please see the link below for the winter edition of the Raring to Go Magazine.

[Raring to Go.](#)



Making Payments

In order to provide as efficient a service as possible, we are moving towards being a cashless school. Therefore, from January 2026 we will only accept payment by card or online. If you haven't already downloaded the School Gateway App, then please ensure that you do so in readiness for January. If you have any problems using the App, you can speak to the school office staff, who will be able to help you.

Christmas Crafts

We had two Christmas Craft sessions this week for parents and children. They were a great success and the facilitator, Emma asked me to pass on her thanks to all the parents who attended and made the sessions so enjoyable. We are hoping to work with Adult Community Learning a lot more in the new year, so look out for more craft sessions, opportunities to work with your children and other courses aimed at helping parents understand their children.



Winter Reading Challenge

Essex Library Service are once again running a Winter Reading Challenge for children in January, and the theme for 2026 is The Pawfessionals! Children will join six friendly animal mascots as they explore their dream jobs around Essex. The Pawfessionals will guide children through the challenge, helping them discover new stories and opportunities. Children aged 0 to 12 will be asked to complete six challenges from a choice of twelve, which include reading and creative activities. They earn a sticker for each challenge they complete, plus a certificate if they manage to complete six! Completers will also have the opportunity to enter a prize draw to win exciting prizes, including Kindles, book tokens, and Pawfessional themed toys! The challenge starts on **10 January** and runs until **22 February**, and children can join at any point during that time.





Friday ARK Assemblies

Each Friday, we hold an assembly to celebrate our school values of ambition, respect and kindness. Class teachers choose one child from their class who has demonstrated all three values consistently. A certificate is presented in the assembly and their parents are invited to come along. See the photos of this week's winners below!

Class	Name of Child
RB	Albie Smith
RLI	Matilda K
1T	Carolina M
1S	Lois W
2MB	Aleks M
2N	Quinn B
3FJ	Louie E
3G	Noah H Phoebe J
4K	Raadhya K
4M	Angela C
5D	No award this week
5RG	Evie P
6L	Mohamad A
6MH	Ella-Mae B



House Points:

Jupiter – 253	1st
Mars – 225	2nd
Pluto – 219	3rd
Venus – 212	4th