

The Kestrel



Letters sent home this week:

- Spring Clubs 2019
- Swimming Lessons – Year 3 & Year 4
- Sports for Champions Visit
- School Choir – Class 5
- Class 3 newsletter



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Notice <http://langenhoeprimaryschool.com/privacy/> or call 01206 735267 if you are unable to access the internet.

We have almost reached the end of a very busy and most enjoyable term!

*Thank you to everyone for making my first term at Langenhoe such a good one!
Wishing you all a very Happy Christmas and a healthy New Year.*

This week KS1 children performed fantastically in their nativity 'Whoops a Daisy Angel'. This was thoroughly enjoyed by all the parents and the children were so well behaved. Thank you to all the staff and children who worked so hard to put the nativity together for everyone to enjoy.

Today the children watched the pantomime 'Aladdin' together in the school hall. The production was very entertaining and the children loved getting involved. This was followed by the most delicious Christmas Dinner for the staff and children to eat together in the school hall. Many thanks to Mrs Youngs and her team for providing such a wonderful experience for Langenhoe School. We had a cracking Christmas dinner and photographs will be available to see on the website soon. The children loved coming to school in their Christmas jumpers to support 'Save the Children' charity. We all looked so sparkly and festive for the day and raised £126.00.

Next week is our final 3 days of the school term. The children will have Christmas Craft day on Monday followed by Christingle after school. On Wednesday (our last day) all children will compete in a Festive House Singing Competition during the school day. They will finish at 3.15pm on Wednesday and will be collected from school in the usual way.

As you can see we have a very busy few days before the Christmas holidays, which we very much hope you all enjoy!

*Kind regards
Mrs Stevenson*

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Governor Corner - Dec 2018



Dear Parents, Carers, Children and Staff,

Merry Christmas! The end of term is in sight and I'm sure everyone is looking forward to what I hope will be a relaxing break. The autumn term is always a long one. Firstly, because the start of it is, I always think, is a shock after the summer break and secondly because it is actually longer than the spring and summer terms.

The governing body has been busy this term and I thought I'd take the time to tell you a little about what we've been doing.

We have several committees that meet throughout the year and this term we've had meetings of the Full Governing Body (FGB), the Standards Committee, the Resources Committee and the Pay Committee. Now, the purpose of the Pay Committee is hopefully obvious so I won't explain what that does. The Standards Committee (sometimes called The Curriculum Committee in other schools) reviews information and data regarding school performance including KS2 results, that monitors achievement, progress and assessment throughout the school and monitors the use of pupil premium funding and its impact. The Resources Committee (sometimes called the Finance Committee) provides support and guidance for the headteacher on everything relating to the financial running of the school, maintenance, security and enhancement of the school premises and health and safety matters. Governors generally sit on one of those committees, although myself and a few others are on both of them.

The FGB is the main committee and these are the meetings where we set the vision, values, and objectives for the school, agree the school improvement strategy with priorities and targets and ensure we meet all our statutory duties.

The FGB met last week and at this meeting we looked at two very important documents. The SEF or Self Evaluation Form is, in short, an analysis of where the school is now. This would normally be done at the end of the academic year but with a new headteacher it was essential that she had time to really get to know the school so we had an accurate assessment. The second document is the SDP, the School Development Plan and this is born from the SEF. It's a long document as it sets out in detail the School's targets for the year, the actions that will be taken, the time scales and the success criteria.

I can't report on everything in it within the constraints of this space, so let me tell you about a few strands. We want to improve outcomes for our more able learners and make sure there is appropriate challenge for them in all subjects. We also have a focus on mental health this year, not just for the children but for staff and also families. And finally, we are going to make changes so our rich outdoor learning environment becomes an integral part of children's learning. There are other targets on the plan and over the year I will report on those and how the School is working to achieve these.

Finally, we welcomed Gary Friend, our newest governor, to the fold who made it through the meeting without getting lost in all the acronyms and said he still wants to be a governor!

Kind regards

Clare Lauwerys, Chair of Governors

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Preschool Funding Information

It has come to our attention that next term all children will only be funded for 11 weeks, up to the 29th March, but the term is actually a 12 week term, ending on 5th April. This leaves 1 week at the end of term that is not funded.

The funding team at Essex County Council have offered us the following explanation for this:

You can only claim FEEE for the number of weeks specified between the school term dates, e.g. in the spring term 2019, if you start your term at the same time as the school term your 11 funded weeks will finish on 29 March, a week earlier than the school term. This is because the 38 weeks of FEEE run over a financial year which finishes at the end of March, rather than an academic year which finishes later. Please also note that because of the late Easter in 2019 there are only 12 funded weeks in the summer term, there will be 14 funded weeks in autumn and 12 funded weeks in spring 2020, these make up the 38 funded weeks in the 2019/20 financial year. However this does mean that children who start their FEEE in the 2018/19 academic year and start school in autumn 2019 will only receive 37 weeks of FEEE.

Unfortunately this means **we will need to ask all parents for payment for 1 week of fees at the end of the Spring term 2019**. We realise this is not welcome news and is an added financial pressure on families, which is why we wanted to let you know as soon as possible. All settings in Essex will be affected in the same way and many settings may choose to close for the unfunded week.

We do understand that not everyone can afford to pay for an extra week and may prefer to not attend for the last week of term. However, rather than have a majority of our pre-schoolers off on the last week of term, we would like to offer those preferring this option to take one week off of preschool at a time, during the Spring term, that is most convenient to you. If you would like to take this option then we would need to know by the 11th January, so you will not be billed for the extra hours, and we can register how and when you want to take the one week's hours off, i.e. all at once or by missing odd days/sessions across the term.

You can let Katie Cutmore know by completing the below table and returning by email or by printing and returning to the Office **by 11th January 2019**.

If you have any other questions please get in touch.

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Village Christmas



Tonight! Friday 14th December from 6pm at the village hall

Please come along and join in our annual festive fun and wish your friends and neighbours a
Happy Christmas - Free Entrance



Class 1 Morning Drop Off

All Class 1 children have settled well into school. Therefore, after Christmas, all parents are to drop their child at the double doors in the morning and allow them to walk into class by themselves. Many thanks for your co-operation with encouraging independence in the school setting.

Mersea Free Church Christmas Tree Festival

This weekend is the Mersea Free Church Christmas tree festival and each class from Langenhoe School have entered their own Christmas tree. Please go along and take a look.



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ESSEX
Wildlife Trust

We have managed to squeeze in two more Forest Schools before 2018 comes to an end and a chance to get a little “Christmassy” and magical in the woods at Essex Wildlife Trust’s Abbots Hall Farm.

Thursday 20th December we will be running an Over 5’s Forest School drop off session from 9am to 4pm, come along to Abbots Hall Farm to drop them off for the day and allow us to head into the woods to make Christmas decorations, drink hot chocolate and get warm by the fire.

Friday 21st December we will be running a Family morning Forest School session from 10.00am to 12.30pm, bring the whole family and enjoy a fun session outdoors making Christmas craft, playing in the woods and drinking hot chocolate and marshmallows on the fire. To book please phone 01621 862960.



In accordance with the School Admissions Code, and on behalf of the Governing Body of the Philip Morant School and College, views are sought on the proposed changes to the Philip Morant School and College admission arrangements for 2020/21. A copy of the proposed admission arrangements can be viewed on the School website in the admission section under the 2020 tab.

The consultation period will last for the period from 30 November 2018 until Friday 11th January 2019.

Please send any comments by email to [Admissions](#)

or by post to:

Mr S Holder
Head Teacher
Philip Morant School and College
Rembrandt Way
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School dates for your diary!



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
16 Mersea Free Church Xmas Tree Festival	17 Christmas Craft Day Preschool carol concert 3.30pm Christingle	18	19 House sing off competition LAST DAY AT SCHOOL	20	21	22



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
30	31	1	2	3 Non-pupil day	4 Non-pupil day	5
6	7 Return to school	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15 11 am: Class 5 Parents invited into Class/lunch	16	17	18 PM: GB athlete visit	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26

Non Pupil Days:
 Thursday 3rd and Friday 4th January 2019
 Return to school on Monday 7th January 2019