



NEWSLETTER



"Nurturing every little acorn to become a mighty oak!"



Mrs Burrell's Bulletin

There are lots of big moments to celebrate in school, but often it's the little ones that make me smile the most. A child stopping me in the corridor because they simply HAVE to show me their work, hearing all about someone's exciting weekend news, a quick stroke for Dougie at the gate in the morning, giving out a much coveted smelly sticker for HUGE effort, celebrating an achievement someone is bursting with pride to share, seeing a child help a friend without being asked or simply beautiful manners. These are the little moments that make White Court such a special place to be and genuinely some of the best parts of my job. In a world that can feel incredibly busy (and where screens have a habit of stealing rather more of our attention than we'd like!), I think it's really important that we help our children notice and appreciate the little things too. A chat around the dinner table, kicking a ball around, getting outside, making someone laugh, reading together or simply having some uninterrupted time with the people we love, these are often the moments that matter most. Perhaps this weekend we can all enjoy some of those small things with our children. I'd love to hear about some of them at the gate on Monday morning, Dougie will be there ready for his strokes too! Have a wonderful weekend – I hope it's full of lots of lovely little moments!

Reminder...

Content:

- MRS BURRELL'S BULLETIN
- SCHOOL WEBSITE
- SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENTS
- DATES FOR YOUR DIARY
- COMMUNITY
- ACTIVITIES IN SCHOOL
- PARENT SUPPORT

Uniform reminder

Please choose shoes rather than boots
Tracksuit bottoms or shorts rather than leggings/cycling shorts
Please keep branded logos small and discreet

[CLICK HERE FOR ALTERNATIVE APPROVED SHORTS FOR YEAR 5/6 ONLY](#)

Year 6 Parents – It's Time to Apply for Secondary School!

If your child is currently in Year 6, it's time to apply for their secondary school place for September 2027.

Applications are now open and must be submitted by 31 October 2026. You can apply online at www.essex.gov.uk/admissions, where you'll also find lots of helpful information about secondary schools, the application process and admission arrangements.

Please don't forget to apply by 31 October!

We know choosing a secondary school is an exciting and important step, so we encourage families to take a look at the information available and submit their application in plenty of time.



Mighty Oak Awards

Here are the winners of our White Court 'Mighty Oak' awards...

Tigers Jenson C	Kangaroos Demi C	Ducks Finn
Puffins Tommy K	Manatees Edward L	Turtles Bella-Rose B
Otters Leo W	Koalas Ezra G	
Toucans Amelia G	Chameleons Penelope C	Octopus Vasudev
Sloths Megan C	Flamingos Amelia B	Pandas Milana R
Chimps Jaxon B	Bears Zebby S	Lobster Cai G
Racoons Frankie J	Eagles Ronnie A	Ocelots Thomas B

WELL DONE TO THIS WEEK'S
CUP WINNERS.....

HOUSE CUP

DONALDSON



READING CUP

HOROWITZ



Mighty Oak Shining Stars

Each week we also give special Mighty Oak Awards for children that have gone above and beyond with OPAL. It could be for helping pack away (more than they have just played with) or for helping others, or for being particularly creative.

What's coming up...?

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

SEPTEMBER

w/c 21st - French Week
25th - Individual Photographs

OCTOBER

6th - ACL Course - Managing big emotions 1.
w/c 12th - Aspiration Week
13th - ACL Course - Managing big emotions 2.
13th - Parents Evening 4:30-7:30 p.m.
15th - Parents Evening 4:00-6:30 p.m.
20th - ACL Course - Setting Boundaries.
20th - Little Acorns Parent Event 2:00pm
21st - Foundation Stage Stay & Play 9:15-10:15 a.m.
23rd - Little Acorns Parent Event 2:00 p.m.
23rd - TOPS Time Celebration.

Community Page([Click here](#)),



Please visit our community page.

Here you will find fliers for events and clubs in the local area, currently including:

- **NEW** - Bikeability Courses in October Half Term [click here](#).
- **NEW** Coding Club at Braintree Library [Click here](#)
- KEGs Foundation Festival [Click here](#)
- Futsal sessions for girls in Year 5/6. [Click here](#)
- Report dangerous parking [here](#)
- Snackanory Toddler Group [click here](#)
- Free **Cooking** Classes! [click here](#)
- [Click here](#) for a fabulous **SEND** resource to support parents and carers
- Information regarding e-scooters
- Glurbs app to learn languages at home!
- ...and much, much more!



Wellies, Wonderful Resources... and a Wild Dream!

As the weather begins to worsen and the field gets a little muddier, it's time for our annual welly reminder! Having a pair of wellies in school makes such a difference to the children. We want them to be able to enjoy our outdoor spaces throughout the year – not just when the sun is shining! As the ground gets wetter, children will only be able to access the field if they have wellies in school, so please do send in a named pair for your child.

If your child had wellies in school last year, please do come and collect any pairs that are still here. Children's feet have an inconvenient habit of growing, so it's worth checking that last year's pair still fits! We're also always very grateful for donations of good-quality outgrown wellies. Having spare pairs available can make all the difference and helps us ensure that as many children as possible can get outside, explore, play and enjoy everything our grounds have to offer.



It has been wonderful to see how much the children are enjoying all the resources we have introduced. They are being played with, explored, built with and thoroughly enjoyed – exactly as we hoped! And there's more to come... Our next resource delivery will be LEGO® and DUPLO®! We're really excited to see what the children create when these arrive. We're sure there will be some impressive building, imaginative worlds and collaborative creations appearing very soon.

And now for our slightly wild dream...

We have a wish list for our outdoor provision and, right near the top of it, is something a little unusual:

A BOAT!



It doesn't need to float. In fact, it definitely won't be going anywhere! We would love an old rowing boat, canoe or similar small boat that could be safely repurposed within the school grounds for imaginative play. So, if you happen to have an old boat looking for a new home – or you hear of one that somebody might be willing to donate to the school – please let us know!

Pirate ship? Fishing boat? Ocean liner? Desert island rescue vessel? We suspect the children will have far more imaginative ideas than we ever could. Thank you, as always, for helping us make our outdoor spaces places where children can explore, create, get muddy and have adventures – whatever the weather!

The OPAL team



Haven's Charity Walk

At the weekend, Ernie, his mum, his cousin and his auntie walked the 5k Glow For Havens charity walk for Havens Hospice. They raised an amazing £550!

Havens hospice is very close to their hearts, with Ernie's cousin, Teddy, attending Little Havens Hospice for respite care as he lives with Dravet Syndrome.

We are all incredibly proud of Ernie (and his family) and his efforts!

Well done!!!

