

News 15

Diary Dates

Friday 12th January
6S Class Assembly

Friday 19th January
1CB Class Assembly

Friday 26th January
5C Class Assembly

Friday 2nd February
4C Class Assembly

Friday 9th February
Non-pupil Day

**Monday 12th to
Friday 16th February**
Half Term

Friday 9th March
2H Class Assembly

Friday 16th March
Non pupil day
and Termly Learning Conferences

School Dinner Menu

Week beginning 8th January:

Week 2

Cuppa and Catch up

All parents and carers are welcome to
come along on a
Tuesday morning from 9.00—11.00
for a drink, cake and chat.

Our Christmas Raffle raised £37.00 for
the Salvation Army. Thank you.

Message from the Head

Dear Parents and Carers

I would like to wish you all a very happy New Year, and hope you all had a wonderful Christmas break.

At the end of the last term the school raised £235.93 for Save the Children through our Christmas Jumper Day. We also raised £149.27 through donations at the Christmas Carol Concerts, which St John's Church have forwarded to Tearfund. Thank you so much for your generosity.

This week we held our draw for the Autumn Term Attendance prize. The lucky winner was Harry Gleeson, in Year 4, who won a new iPad mini. Congratulations to Harry who had 100% attendance for last term. I would like to remind parents, carers and pupils of the criteria for being entered into the draw which are:

- ◆ A child with 100% attendance will be entered into the draw twice
- ◆ A child with 98% attendance will be entered into the draw once
- ◆ Any child with less than 98% attendance will not be entered into the draw

If a child is late to school then they will not be entered into the draw, regardless of their attendance figure.

The attendance figure used for the draw is the termly attendance figure, therefore everyone has a chance of achieving 100% attendance for the Spring Term draw even if they had a figure of 96% in the Autumn Term.

I would like to give advance notice of a change to the school term dates for the end of the Autumn Term 2018, and the start of the Spring Term 2019. The last day of school will be on **Friday 21st December 2018**, which is different to Essex County Council Term Dates. We then return to school on **Monday 7th January 2019**, which is also different to the Essex County Council term dates. This decision has been taken in order for our holidays to be more in line with our two local high schools. A copy of the 2018/2019 calendar can be found on our school website in the News section. Please note that the non-pupil days have not yet been added.

In response to the positive feedback following our Termly Learning Conferences in the Autumn Term, we have decided to hold the Spring Term Termly Conferences on **Friday 16th March** during the school day, using one of our INSET days. Some appointments will be offered in the early evening to accommodate parents/carers who are unable to attend during the day. Further information will follow nearer the time.

Mr Bradley

Friends News

The Friends recently held a Facebook competition, where people who “liked” their page had the opportunity to win one of two prizes; a Colchester Stadium Tour for 10 people, and 2 wristbands for Adventure Island in Southend. Congratulations to the winners.

Please visit the Friends of Whitehall Facebook page where they share information and keep you up to date with the latest events. Please remember to like or share their page.

Forthcoming events include:

Thursday 8th February	Valentine’s Day cakes
Tuesday 13th March	Bag2School collection
Thursday 15th March	School Disco
Wednesday 11th July	Bag2School collection

Do you have a child who is due to start school in September 2018?

If you haven’t already done so, we strongly advise that you make your application as soon as possible as there are only **10 days left** to apply for a Primary school place for your child.

Several of our parents were disappointed last year as they did not receive a place at White Hall Academy because their application arrived after the closing date.

Applications can be made on-line, via the Essex County Council website, for Reception places for September 2018. Or, you can obtain a paper copy from the school office if you prefer. These are available now.

To apply online visit: <https://www.essex.gov.uk/Education-Schools/Schools/Admissions/Pages/Apply-Online.aspx>

Please note the Closing Date for applications is **Monday 15th January 2018**.