

# Cann Hall Primary School

Constable Avenue, Clacton, Essex CO16 8DA

Tel: 01255 420603

Email: [chcontact@compassps.uk](mailto:chcontact@compassps.uk)

Website: [www.cannhall.compassps.uk](http://www.cannhall.compassps.uk)

Head Teacher:

Sarah Crookes

Deputy Head Teacher:

Wendy Byrne



Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

## Census Day – Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October



As I am sure you are aware, funding for schools remains an ongoing challenge nationally. Like many other institutions across the country, we continue to face the impact of rising costs and real term funding reductions.

The vast majority of school funding is driven by the school census, which takes place at key points throughout the academic year. Whilst it might seem easy to simply calculate our pupil led funding based on pupil numbers, calculations are not that straight forward. Part of our funding is based on school meal uptake, particularly in Reception and Key

Stage One, where universal free school meal funding is based on the number of children who actually take a school lunch on the census day.

On **Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October**, please help us with this ongoing challenge. If you have a child in EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2 please encourage them to order a school lunch on this day.

To encourage as many children as possible to order a lunch on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October, we are promoting a special '**Burger day**' menu, as we know that burgers are always tend to be a firm favourite of the children. We will be fully loading the salad bar with tortillas, pickles, sauces and burgers toppings and all burgers will be served with curly fries!

We are sure the children will love this menu, if they give it a try, but if they are unsure about having a school dinner on this day but you really want to try and support the school, you could always send them in with a packed lunch too, just in case.

**Remember that school meals are free for all children in Reception, year 1 and year 2, so ideally, we would love all children to take up this opportunity every day.**

The full sized poster advertising our Burger Day menu, can be found at the bottom of this letter.

## Attendance



Our attendance has dipped further from last week to 94.4%. The nasty bug and coughs and colds have continued this week but we are hoping this passes soon and the children can return to school feeling better and ready to continue their learning.

If you are unsure about whether or not to keep your child off school, please use this link [Is my child too ill for school? - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/when-to-keep-your-child-at-home/) for advice.

Ensuring your child's regular attendance at school is a parent/carer's legal responsibility (section 444 of the 1996 Education Act) and permitting absence from school that is not authorised by the school creates an offence in law.

If your child's attendance falls below 90%, you will receive a letter to alert you of this and when we feel it is necessary, home visits will also be arranged. If your child's attendance falls below 96%, we will require evidence to authorise any further absence. Holidays will not be authorised. You can find a copy of our policy on the [website](#).

Lateness also affects your child's attendance so please try to ensure that your child arrives at school before the gates close, each morning at 8.40am. You can check your child's current attendance using the 'My Child at School App'.

## Secondary School Applications (Y6 Pupils)

The new secondary school admission round opened on Tuesday, 12 September 2023, for parents and carers of current Year 6 children to apply for a secondary school (Year 7) place for September 2024. This is another reminder that **the statutory national closing date for applications is 31st October 2023**. Applications can be made online via [www.essex.gov.uk/admissions](https://www.essex.gov.uk/admissions) Mrs Spall and Mrs Levy will be happy to try to help, if you have any questions.

## Active Essex – Free Half Term Holiday Clubs



You can still find the full version of this poster at the end of this letter, with more information about free half term clubs, being run across Essex, and how to book a place, if your child is eligible.

## **PTA Annual General Meeting**

Still attached to the bottom of this letter, is an invitation, from the Chair of Friends of Cann Hall, inviting you to their Annual General Meeting on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October. Please let the PTA know in advance if you plan to attend, by using the reply slip included in the letter.

## **Online Safety at Home**

The Internet has great opportunities for learning and creativity, but just like the real world, there are risks and dangers that children should be aware of. We all have a duty to act to protect children from these. If you click on this link [Cann Hall Primary School - Online Safety at home \(compassps.uk\)](https://www.compassps.uk), you will find lots of links to information for parents and carers to help support your children with staying safe online. You will also find a whole range of useful guides related to FaceBook, Roblox, Instagram, Netflix to name but a few.

Linked to some concerns shared with us from parents regarding Roblox, the NSPCC has produced a guide to help you decide whether this is safe for your child. You can view this information by clicking this link [Is Roblox safe for my child? | NSPCC](https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/is-roblox-safe-for-my-child/)

## **Karate Super Star!**

Harper attended the prestigious British International Karate Championship in Sheffield recently. She competed in the 7-9 year pairs Kata and managed to secure the gold medal and the title of British champions – amazing!

She didn't stop there though - she then went on to compete in the individual Kata and won a bronze medal and then she secured another bronze in her fighting category.

What an outstanding achievement – your family, coaches at Links Karate and everyone here at Cann Hall are so very proud of you.



## **Tours of the School – September 2024 EYFS Intake**

Mrs Smith will be offering tours of the school, to those parents and carers who are interested in applying for a space for their child to start here at Cann Hall with us, next September.

The dates available are:

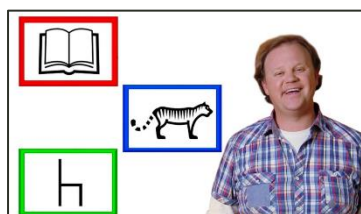
**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> October – 3.30-4pm**

**Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November – 3.30-4pm**

**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December – 4-4.30pm**

If you are interested, please contact the school office on either 01255 420603 or [chcontact@compassps.uk](mailto:chcontact@compassps.uk) to book a place. School Applications need to be made to **Essex Admissions between 6<sup>th</sup> November 2023 and 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024.**

## What is Makaton?



Makaton is a system of signs and symbols as used by Mr Tumble on Something Special. Makaton is designed to support spoken language – signs are used with speech, in spoken word order to help children and adults to communicate. It strengthens the development of important communication skills such as attention and listening, comprehension, memory, recall and organisation of language and expression.

Being able to communicate is one of the most important skills we need in life. Almost everything we do involves communication; everyday tasks such as learning at school, asking for food and drink, sorting out problems, making friends and having fun. These all rely on our ability to communicate with each other.

Using signs can help people who have no speech or whose speech is unclear. Using symbols can help people who have limited speech and those who cannot, or prefer not to sign.

For those who have experienced the frustration of being unable to communicate meaningfully or effectively, Makaton really can help. Makaton takes away that frustration and enables individuals to connect with other people and the world around them. This opens up all kinds of possibilities.

If you want to find out more please click on these links [What is Makaton? - About Makaton](#) and [What is Makaton? - CBeebies - BBC](#)

Click here to learn the 'Sign of the Week' [Grandfather \(makaton.org\)](#)

## School Discos

Great News - the PTA Discos are back by popular demand!

Our lovely volunteers have organised three discos on **Monday 16<sup>th</sup> October**

**EYFS, Y1 and Y2 at 3.10pm**  
**Y3 and Y4 at 4.20pm**  
**Y5 & Y6 at 5.30pm**



Get in early and book your tickets now so as to avoid disappointment via [www.pta-events.co.uk/foch](http://www.pta-events.co.uk/foch) as **booking closes at 3pm on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> October**. Please ensure you select the correct event, when booking. The full sized posters can be found at the bottom of this letter.

### **Upcoming dates for your diary**

Please note the highlighted corrections to the dates for Census Day and KS2 Christmas Service at St John's Church – sorry for any confusion.

#### **5.10.2023: School Census Day**

16.10.2023: PTA GLOW Discos- Rec, Y1 & 2 15.10-16.10; Y3 & 4 16.20-17.20; Y5 & 6 17.30-18.30

19.10.2023: Harvest Festival Assembly at School

#### **21.10.2023 to 29.10.2023: Half Term**

#### **30.10.2023: Non-Pupil Day**

#### **31.10.2023: Children Return to School**

31.10.2023: Secondary School Application Deadline

3.11.2023: Individual School Photos

11.11.2023: Remembrance Day

13.11.2023- 17.11.2023: Anti-Bullying Week

15.11.2023: Learning Conferences 3.30-6.00pm

16.11.2023: Learning Conferences 4.00-7.00pm

17.11.2023: Children in Need- children can wear something spotty to raise money (split with the PTA)

13.12.2023: EYFS & KS1 Christmas Lunches

14.12.2023: KS2 Christmas Lunches

**15.12.2023: KS2 Christmas Service at St. John's Church leaving school @ 9.15am- spaces for up to 100 parents**

15.12.2023: PTA Christmas Market from 2pm

18.12.2023: EYFS Christmas Songs and Hot Chocolate afternoon. Arrival from 2.20pm to start at 2.30pm.

19.12.2023: KS1 Christmas Nativity Concert- Year 1 parents @9.30am and Year 2 parents @11.00am

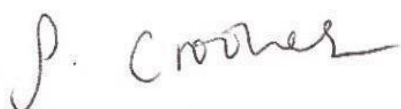
20.12.2023: Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas parties- raising money for Save the Children and the PTA

20.12.2023: Whole School Christmas Songs to the Parents on the Playground @2pm (then early finish)

#### **21.12.2023 to 3.1.2024: Christmas Holidays**

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

Kindest regards,



Sarah Crookes



# Glow Disco

The Friends of Cann Hall PTA  
years 5 and 6

Monday 16th October 5.30-6.30

£5

Price includes entry, drink, snacks and glow face paint

**No phones or coats please**

Book your tickets now via  
[www.pta-events.co.uk/foch](http://www.pta-events.co.uk/foch)

Booking closes at 3pm on 12th October

If you have any problems please contact FOCH at  
[info@friendsofcannhall.co.uk](mailto:info@friendsofcannhall.co.uk) or via our Facebook page

Please ensure you  
select the correct year  
group as there are 3  
events set up



# Glow Disco

The Friends of Cann Hall PTA  
years 3 and 4

Monday 16th October 4.20-5.20

£5

Price includes entry, drink, snacks and glow face paint

**No phones or coats please**

Book your tickets now via  
[www.pta-events.co.uk/foch](http://www.pta-events.co.uk/foch)

Booking closes at 3pm on 12th October

If you have any problems please contact FOCH at  
[info@friendsofcannhall.co.uk](mailto:info@friendsofcannhall.co.uk) or via our Facebook page

Please ensure you  
select the correct year  
group as there are 3  
events set up



# Glow Disco

The Friends of Cann Hall PTA  
reception, years 1 and 2

Monday 16th October 3.10-4.10

£5

Price includes entry, drink, snacks and glow face paint

**No phones or coats please**

Book your tickets now via  
[www.pta-events.co.uk/foch](http://www.pta-events.co.uk/foch)

Booking closes at 3pm on 12th October

If you have any problems please contact FOCH at  
[info@friendsofcannhall.co.uk](mailto:info@friendsofcannhall.co.uk) or via our Facebook page

Please ensure you  
select the correct year  
group as there are 3  
events set up



# Census Day Lunch

On Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October there will be a special menu for all children to enjoy!

There will be a choice of beef, chicken or ~~veg~~ burger with various toppings including bacon, onions and cheese. (Vegan

As always children having school lunches will have access to our salad bar where they will find many of their favourite items such as cucumber, carrot, orange wedges etc

Burgers will be served with curly fries and a choice of peas or sweetcorn.

There will be 2 cold options available also which will be either a tuna or cheese wrap.

Dessert will be mini doughnuts and chocolate sauce!

There will be fresh water and



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South Rise - Willow Dene - Wingfield

CEO of The Compass Partnership: John Camp



## Free Course to Help Keep on Top of Your Finances

### Financial Wellbeing Session

Wednesday 27th September

10am - 2.30pm

Imperial House, Rosemary Road, Clacton, CO15 1NZ

Enable East are offering a free workshop to help you tackle the cost-of-living crisis. looking at budgeting, good financial practice and looking at your own wellbeing. We aim to help you build a positive relationship with money and give you skills to cope when it all gets a bit too much.

Every learner will receive a £10 supermarket voucher and certificate at the end of the day

Participants must be 19+, living in Tendring and not have a maths level 2 qualification (GCSE C) or above

To book please contact Richard Perkins

**[Richard.perkins@cvstendring.org.uk](mailto:Richard.perkins@cvstendring.org.uk)**

or call **01255 425692**



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**The Friends of Cann Hall School – PTA**  
Cann Hall Primary School, Constable Avenue,  
Clacton-on-Sea, Essex, CO16 8DA  
Tel: 01255 420603  
E-mail: [info@friendsofcannhall.co.uk](mailto:info@friendsofcannhall.co.uk)  
Registered Charity No: 1132662

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Find us on 



**The Friends Of Cann Hall School - PTA**

15<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

The Friends of Cann Hall (PTA) would like to invite you along to the following after-school meeting:

**PTA Annual General Meeting (AGM) Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2023 at 15:15**

As you know, The Friends of Cann Hall (PTA) organises a busy programme of exciting events throughout the year for the enjoyment of our children and to help raise money for the school. These events are an important part of school life and help to create a thriving school community. We hope to be able to continue to offer an exciting and successful range of activities for the next school year; however, to do this we need some help.

**Annual General Meeting (AGM)**

The PTA is holding an Annual General Meeting (AGM) on **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2023 at 15:15**. Everyone is welcome but **we must know in advance if you are attending via the form below**.

The AGM is also an opportunity for you to elect the PTA Committee, who represent the association throughout the forthcoming year. Nominations should be sent in advance of the AGM for anyone wishing to stand as an Officer or Ordinary Committee Member, for the first time. Existing committee members wishing to stand for re-election do not have to be nominated again but should inform the PTA of their intention to stay in their role.

We welcome any new members with open arms! At this meeting we will be electing a new Committee for 2023 to 2024, discussing events for next year and considering possible uses for the money we will raise. We are also taking nominations for the positions of

**Chair, Vice-chair, Secretary, Treasurer and General committee.**

We want to thank you for your continued support of the PTA and the events organized by us, we couldn't do it without you!

Please use the form below if you would like to stand.

Yours sincerely

Claire Ranson

Chair of Friends of Cann Hall (PTA)

**The Friends of Cann Hall School – PTA**

Cann Hall Primary School, Constable Avenue,  
Clacton-on-Sea, Essex, CO16 8DA

Tel: 01255 420603

E-mail: [info@friendsofcannhall.co.uk](mailto:info@friendsofcannhall.co.uk)

Registered Charity No: 1132662



**The Friends Of Cann Hall School - PTA**

Please complete the section of the form that is relevant to you and return it to the school office  
by **Wednesday 11th October 2023.**

I am interested in becoming a member of the PTA Committee

Name:

Email address:

Mobile Number:

Relative to Child:

Class:

Please tick:

I would like to attend the AGM with no role ☐

or

I would like to be considered for the following role:

**Chair**

☐

**Vice**

☐

**Secretary**

☐

**Treasurer**

☐

**Committee Member**

☐

## BOOK ONTO A FREE HALF TERM CLUB WITH ESSEX ACTIVATE!



Eligible children and young people are invited to book onto FREE, fun-filled activity clubs who are run by a network of locally, trusted organisations across Essex, brought to you by Active Essex on behalf of Essex County Council!

### IS MY CHILD ELIGIBLE?

Essex ActivAte offer club spaces to primary and secondary school aged children (4-16 years), who are eligible for benefit based free school meals, or from 'low-income' working families, as well as children who may be vulnerable to inactivity or social isolation.

### WHERE WILL THE CLUBS BE RUN?

Clubs will run in Braintree, Basildon, Brentwood, Castle Point, Chelmsford, Colchester, Epping, Harlow, Maldon, Rochford, Tendring and Uttlesford! Due to half term programmes being solely funded by Essex County Council, unfortunately there will not be any clubs running in Thurrock.

### WHAT DO THE CLUBS PROVIDE?

Clubs provide a range of different physical, enrichment and food activities to support children's physical and mental wellbeing, as well as a delicious, nutritious meal!

### HOW DO I BOOK ONTO A CLUB?

To book your child/ren onto one of our half term clubs, you will not receive a Holiday Activities voucher from your school, and you will need to book on through the Essex ActivAte website. Simply select your area, find what clubs are available and book your child on through the link provided. Depending on the club, you may need to book through our website, or contact them directly.

[Find out more about October half term clubs and book on here.](#)

