

# 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 16<sup>th</sup> February 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

## Beautiful Handwriting and Presentation

At Cann Hall, you'll know that we have high expectations for children work, which we have on displays all around the school. We know how hard children work to get their writing to look brilliant for their published work. But we have noticed that in their exercise books their writing isn't always the very best it can be. So, as a school we are all going to work together to try to improve our handwriting and our presentation across every subject.



Yesterday, all the children were part of an assembly to share with them how we plan to help them to do this. We hope that some of the children came home and talked about this with you. We know that this is a hard this to do, and so we have put things in place to make this as positive experience as we can. **Most improved handwriting** will be celebrated through displays in the classroom, around the school and in the leadership offices, as well as in our newsletters and as part of celebration assembly. The focus

is very much on improvements from where the children are, rather than the best handwriting.

As part of this initiative, we have slightly changed some of our handwriting expectations for different year groups, across the school. This is to ensure that all children are fully supported in being able to develop the correct letter formation and, eventually the correct joins to ensure that the wonderful writing that they are producing, in all their lessons, can be easily read by anyone. There are larger versions of the information below at the end of this letter.

### Letter Formation EYFS KS1

S	T	P	N	M
s s	t t	p p	n n	m m
D	G	C	K	ck
d d	g g	c c	k k	ck
R	H	B	F	L
r r	h h	b b	f f	l l
J	V	W	X	Y
j j	v v	w w	x x	y y

Z	qu	th	sh	ch
z z	qu	th	sh	ch
ng	nk			
ng	nk			
A	E	I	O	U
a a	e e	i i	o o	u u

### Letter Formation Year 2 – Year 6

A	B	C	D	E
F	G	H	I	J
K	L	M	N	O
P	Q	R	S	T
U	V	W	X	Y
Z				

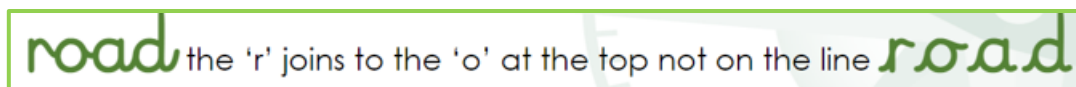
a	b	c	d	e
f	g	h	i	j
k	l	m	n	o
p	q	r	s	t
u	v	w	x	y
z				

THE  
**COMPASS**  
PARTNERSHIP OF SCHOOLS

A charitable trust  
company number: 10360957

Chief Executive Officer: John Camp OBE  
Registered address: C/o Alderwood Primary School, Rainham Close, Eltham, London SE9 2JB

We are no longer teaching lead ins because not all letters, when joined will join on the line, for example:



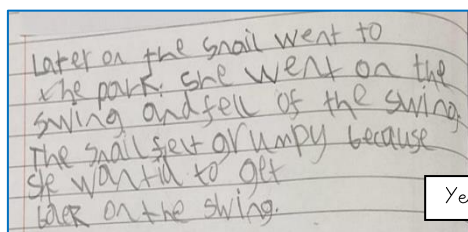
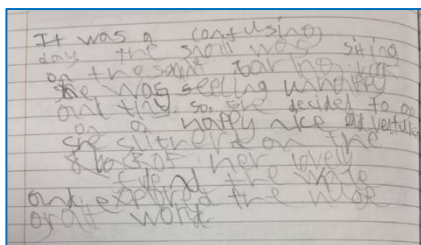
For those children, who are already using lead ins correctly, i.e. they are not impacting negatively on letter formation and overall handwriting, they will be able to continue this learnt style – we will not be unteaching this.

Every year group will be taking part in 10 minutes of handwriting practice, each day. During these sessions, the children will practice letter formation and joining patterns (Y2-Y6). A considerable focus will be on ascenders (b, d, f, h, k, l), descenders (f, g, j, p, q, y) and the main body of the letters being a consistent size.

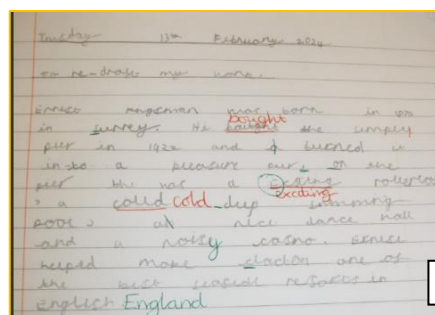
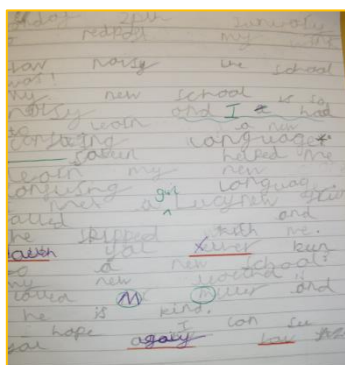
In writing sessions, the class teachers will be stopping the children 1-2 minutes into their independent writing to give them time to self-assess their handwriting. If the children's handwriting is not as they produce in their handwriting practice, they will be asked to restart. This way, there is likely to be just a small amount of writing to rewrite and it should encourage the children to always begin with focus and care for their handwriting.

Since sharing these expectations with children, we have seen a huge improvement in the children's handwriting and presentation, across the school (see below). Not only can the adults see this but the children themselves have noticed the difference in their work. They are extremely proud in the progress they have made in such a short space of time, which is lovely to see.

Here are some examples of the progress that has already been made:



Year 1



Year 2

THE IRON MAN  
Tall as a SKY SCRAPER, the IRON  
Man stood.  
A Bird with a Shaped head  
as large as a wardrobe, shone  
in the moon light.  
Colossal stomping legs, as  
strong as an elephant,  
walked off the dangerous  
cliff... crashed broken like  
shattered sharp glass,  
the IRON Man's pieces  
scattered in grainy golden  
shiny sand. the colossal stomping  
legs, strong like a lion hopped  
along the deserted beach.  
Hush!

JOE PERKINS REOPENED THE FUN  
FOUNTAIN PARK FOR THE JOY PEOPLE FOR  
WORK ON HIS MIE AND SPEAK TO  
EVERY ONE I AM HERE. THEN PERKINS  
MANEWS THE WORK. THE FOUNTAIN  
WITH HIS FOX SCISSORS AND COMEY  
OPENED THE PARK. AS SOON AS THE  
PARK OPENED FOR PERKINS FOR THE WORK  
ON THE BOUNCY COUSE. NO SHORT  
JUMPING. AFTER A FEW MINUTE PEOPLE  
KNOCKED IN LUCKS. THE SO LONG  
JOHN PERKINS. FINALLY THE BOUNCY COUSE  
EXPLODED WHICH CAUSED A DISASTER.

Year 3

Friday 16th February  
To observe solids  
liquids and gases

91

The water is  
boiled by the heat  
because it  
is a liquid.

↑

sparkling water  
Liquid = sparkling water  
solid = raisins  
gas = carbon dioxide

Year 4

There are lots of amazing  
things in the Amazon rain  
forest including plants. There are  
lots of interesting plants like  
the did you know? Plants that  
water lilies can hold the weight of  
a toddler. There are lots of weighty  
plants like coffee plant, passion  
flower and cacao. The cacao cacao

Sadly the Amazon River has got lots of amazing  
things but it has also got lots of bad things that  
damage the river like oil pollution, mining, logging  
and many more. It is very important that the river  
be kept clean and not polluted. Humans use  
the Amazon river for many things  
including transport, trade and catching fish.  
Humans also use it for drinking water.  
There are so many good things about the Amazon  
river.

Year 5

Movie in camp

Curly Murrin was shot dead with  
exhaustion. After a few hours of work,  
he started to slow down and started to  
think the 7th hole was the hardest one.  
The center jaco got bigger from then.  
Bobby/daddy Murrin mumbled out the

Curly in camp

Curly Murrin was shot dead with exhaustion. After  
a few hours of work, he started to slow down  
and started to think the 7th hole was the hardest one.  
The center jaco got bigger from then. Bobby/daddy Murrin  
mumbled out the

Year 6

As part of the editing and revising section of a sequence of writing, children will be editing and improving sections of their work, based on content, grammar, punctuation and spelling and there is an expectation for this work to be redrafted as part of the writing process.

If you have any further questions, regarding our expectations for handwriting, please do not hesitate to speak to your child's class teacher.

## **World Book Day, Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March**

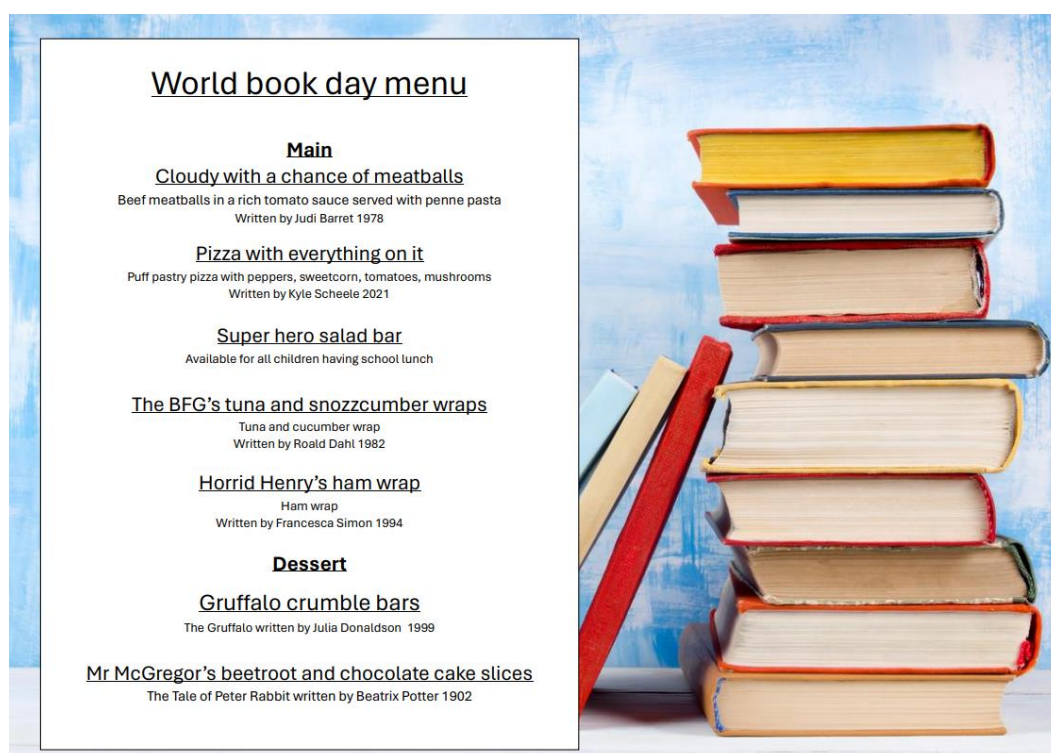
Today you will have received a letter with lots of information regarding our plans for World Book Day on **Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March**.

Just as a reminder, here is a list of the books that each year group will be basing their activities around on this day. If possible, we would love for the children to come into school in an outfit linked to their year group text.

Below are the texts for each year group:

Reception	The Day the Crayons Quit by Oliver Jeffers
Year 1	Room on the Broom by Julia Donaldson
Year 2	Peter Pan by J. M Barrie
Year 3	The Enormous Crocodile by Roald Dahl
Year 4	Charlie and the Chocolate Factory by Roald Dahl
Year 5	Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire by J. K Rowling
Year 6	Treasure Island by Robert Louis Stevenson

To further celebrate World Book Day, we are also offering this special themed menu too.



## Attendance Update



We've ended the term on a positive note, with our overall attendance up to **94%**.

Thank you to all of you for your help with this. We know how important every day at school is, and we so appreciate your support.

After half term, we will be sending out individual attendance information to all families again. This is just to ensure we are keeping you up to date with child's attendance record. If you wish to check this yourself, you can do this at any time, via your 'My Child At School' app.



We will also be launching our 'Attendance Workshops', which parents and carers will be able to book on to. These will be informative and helpful sessions to find out how to best support your children's attendance at school. Details for these will be included in the attendance letter after half term.

## Goal Celebration

Ella played in the year 3 / 4 girls' game against a very good U8 team, who have played together for over a year. Even though Ella's team lost, they continued to work together, and Ella managed to score their only goal and the first girl goal ever, so she was super happy and so she should be. Well done Ella – you have made a fantastic start!



## Road Safety Update

Thank for your continued support, in helping us to keep the roads around our school clear so that children, parents and carers can cross the road safely, each day.

There are still a few occasions where we are seeing cars pull up on the zig zag and double lines outside the school, usually when parents and carers are running late. So even in these instances, please try to find a safer place to park.

A little consideration,  
a little thought for  
others, makes all the  
*difference.*

On a similar note, regarding the safety of our community, this week, we have been made aware that some parents and carers are becoming increasingly concerned with the way groups of parents and carers are congregating on the pavements outside of the school gates at drop off and pick up time. This is leading to parents, children (and even those parents, with buggies) being forced to have to walk in the road to pass. Again, please ensure we are all giving consideration to others, in these circumstances so as to avoid any chance of a serious accident happening. Thank you.

## Essex Activate



More about this programme, what the clubs offer and how you can book your child onto one of their half term holiday clubs, can be found in the three posters at the bottom of this letter.

## Half Term Football Camps



Colchester United are collaborating with Active Essex, throughout the February Half Term, to offer their ActiVate Camps for children in Colchester.

To participate, kindly register based on your child's status (either for Free School Meals or as part of a Low-Income Family). It's important to note that there won't be a complimentary hot meal provided for Low Income families; the funding will exclusively cover the food expenses for children on free school meals. However, there is an option to purchase a meal at £3.50 per day for those in Low Income families.

### Shrub End Community & Sports Centre, CO2 9BG – PRIMARY

Dates: Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> February, Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> February & Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2024.

Time: 10am-2pm

Age Range: 5-11 years old

Free School Meals Link To Register: <https://colchester-united-cf.classforkids.io/camp/436>

Low Income Link To Register: <https://colchester-united-cf.classforkids.io/camp/438>

### Colchester Academy School, CO4 3JL – PRIMARY

Dates: Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February, Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> February & Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2024.

Time: 9.30am-1.30pm

Age Range: 5-11 years old

Free School Meals Link To Register: <https://colchester-united-cf.classforkids.io/camp/434>

Low Income Link To Register: <https://colchester-united-cf.classforkids.io/camp/437>



## February Half Term Family Warm Hub

CVST are co-hosting a Family Warm Hub next week during half term. **This will be held at St Clare's School in Clacton on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> February from 10am - 1pm.**

This session is FREE to attend, and open to all families, not just families of St Clare's. There will be breakfast, lunch, hot chocolate (with Cream and Marshmallows) Winter Packs, Free Smoke Alarms, Free Hair Cuts for children, Craft activities and other services offering support too.

## Financial Wellbeing Course

CVST are also working with Multiply to offer a free, one-day 'Financial Wellbeing Course' at **Imperial House, Clacton on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> February from 10am - 2pm.**

This is a course to help empower people to manage their finances and learn tips and skills to budget their money. This is a free course and participants will receive a £10 shopping voucher for attending.

**Boost your financial confidence and get on top of your budget.**

We are at CVST, 20-22 Rosemary Road, Clacton CO15 1NZ  
Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2024 10am-2pm

**Multiply**

**FREE ONE DAY FINANCIAL WELLBEING COURSE**

Do you have money worries? Is this affecting your wellbeing?  
Or do you just want some ideas on how to manage your outgoings?

On this course we will cover budgeting tools, how to look after your wellbeing and ways to help you gain a positive relationship with money.

There will also be the opportunity for each participant to have a 1:1 session with the trainer to get personalised support.

Every participant will receive a £10 supermarket voucher and a certificate when they have completed the course and a 1:1 follow-up a week after.

Participants must be 19+, based in Essex and not have level 2 qualifications (GCSE/O level) or above

**For more information or to book, please contact the CVST Resilience Team:**  
Email: [Resilience@cvsttending.org.uk](mailto:Resilience@cvsttending.org.uk) Tel: 01255 425692 option 3

**enableeast** **SKILLS FOR LIFE** **Essex County Council** **Multiply**

## Competition Reminder



All the information for this competition and the design template can still be found at the end of this letter. Please make sure to hand your child's entry into the school office no later than **Friday 19<sup>th</sup> April** to ensure that we can send them all off in good time before the closing date.

## Essex Local Offer Roadshows

If you are a parent or carer of a young person with special educational needs and disabilities and want to know what support is on offer in this area, why don't you go along to the JobServe Community Stadium, in Colchester on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March to find out. There will be representatives from education, health and social care. You can just turn up – no need to pre-book. Scan the QR code here, for more information.



Essex County Council  
Special Educational Needs  
and Disabilities

## Essex Local Offer Roadshows

Are you a parent/carers of a young person with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and want to know what support is available in your area? Come along to one of our Essex Local Offer Roadshows.

Meet representatives from across education, health and social care as well as local support groups.

**No need to book, just drop in!**

Parent/carers workshops will also be running. More information to follow soon.

Scan the QR code to find out more information



or go to  
[The Essex Local Offer Website](#)

**Join us...**

**Monday 4 March 2024**  
The Holiday Inn, Basildon

**Thursday 7 March 2024**  
Hamptons Sports and Leisure, Chelmsford

**Wednesday 13 March 2024**  
JobServe Community Stadium, Colchester

**Tuesday 19 March 2024**  
The Harlow Hotel, Harlow

**In Partnership with**



## PTA Discos



The children had a great time at their discos on Monday evening. A huge thank you to the PTA for organising and running these back-to-back events. Also, another huge thank you to both the parents and staff, who gave up their own time to support, on the night.

## Upcoming dates for your diary

**17.2.2024-25.2.2024: Half Term**

**26.2.2024: Children Return to School**

**1.3.2024: Secondary School Offer Day**

**4.3.2024: PTA Mother's Day Pop-Up Shop**

7.3.2024: World Book Day

13.3.2024: Learning Conferences 4.00-7.00pm

14.3.2024: Learning Conferences 3.40-6.00pm

15.3.2024: Comic Relief

27.3.2024: Easter Service Assembly at School

**29.3.2024-14.4.2024: Easter Holidays**

**15.4.2024: Children Return to School**

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

Kindest regards



Sarah Crookes & Wendy Byrne





## BOOK ONTO A HALF TERM ACTIVITY 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 free, 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?

As half term programme are smaller and offer less activity days, you will not book on with your HolidayActivities voucher, but book on through the Essex ActivAte website instead. Simply find your local area and book on with the link provided or contact the club directly.

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







## HALF-TERM & HOLIDAYS EXPLAINED...

### EASTER, SUMMER & WINTER SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

- The HAF programme runs in the easter, summer and winter holidays and is funded by the Department for Education. This is aimed solely at school children who receive benefits based free school meals during term time.
- Limited spaces are available for low income working families and other vulnerable groups who would otherwise not be able to afford holiday clubs. You can book onto our programme self-certifying.
- WONDE e-Voucher codes are sent by schools to all families eligible for benefits based free school meals. This code allows you to book onto local clubs and verify you are eligible for our programme.

### SPRING & AUTUMN HALF TERMS

- Funded by Essex County Council, Essex ActivAte run clubs during February, May/June and October half term for children on benefit based free school meals or from 'low income' working families.
- The half term programme is funded to provide spaces to those areas most in need across Essex.



You will not receive a WONDE e-Voucher code to book onto our clubs during half term.

You will need to book your child/ren onto a club through the Essex ActivAte website - simply find what clubs are available in your area then book onto a club using the link provided or by contacting the club directly.

SCAN THE QR CODE TO FIND OUT MORE!

# TENDRINGSHOW



Brought to you by Tendring Hundred Farmers' Club

## SCHOOLS COMPETITION

Design a front cover for the show programme  
2024 cover design title:

### Grow it - Cook it - Eat it

"Grow it - Cook it - Eat it" is our theme for the 2024 Show and we would like your pupils to design a front cover showing where our food comes from ie how fruit and vegetables are grown, how milk and bread is processed, how animals and poultry are reared and how fish come from the sea to our plates.

Make it bold and bright using as many colours as they like!

The winning design will be used as the front cover of our 2024 Show Programme.

- The Programme Cover Competition is open to Primary and Secondary School Students.
- The winning programme cover, to be printed, will be chosen from the two First Prize Winners—each of whom will win Book Tokens and additional show passes for their families.
- Runners-up prizes will also be awarded (see entry form for full details).
- We will also award **£150** to each of the winning Primary **and** Secondary Schools.
- **FREE** entry to the show for **every** child who enters.
- Please ensure the name, age and school are clearly marked on each entry form.
- The top 30 entries will be displayed in the Education Tent at the Tendring Show on **Saturday 13th July 2024**, to be viewed by over 20,000 visitors!
- Please photocopy the PROGRAMME COVER ENTRY FORM attached, as required.

**ENTRIES CLOSE ON FRIDAY 26th APRIL 2024**

If you have any further queries, please contact us on the details below



Tendring Hundred Farmers' Club  
Admirals Farm, Heckfords Road, Great Bentley, Colchester CO7 8RS  
Tel: 01206 231821 E-mail: [info@tendringshow.co.uk](mailto:info@tendringshow.co.uk)



## ENTRY FORM

# Schools Competition

Design a cover for the 2024 Tendring Show Programme

"Grow it - Cook it - Eat it" is our theme for the 2024 Show and we would like your pupils to design a front cover showing where our food comes from ie how fruit and vegetables are grown, how milk and bread is processed, how animals and poultry are reared and how fish come from the sea to our plates.

Make it bold and bright - use as many colours as you like!  
Use the whole of the area for your design.

- **PRIZES:** Book tokens for Primary & Secondary School Winners
- 1st £25.00 plus two free adult and two child passes
- 2nd £15.00 plus two free adult passes
- 3rd £10.00 plus one free adult pass
- 2 x £5.00 runners up
- 10 x Highly Commended Certificates
- **FREE ENTRY TO SHOW FOR EVERY CHILD WHO ENTERS**
- Closing date Friday 26th April 2024

Name of your School \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Your Age \_\_\_\_\_

YOUR DESIGN SHOULD FILL THIS A5 AREA  
(PORTRAIT)



# Letter Formation EYFS KS1

S s s	T t t	P p p	N n n	M m m
D d d	G g g	C c c	K k k	ck ck
R r r	H h h	B b b	F f f	L l l
J j j	V v v	W w w	X x x	Y y y

Z z z	qu qu	th th	sh sh	ch ch
ng ng	nk nk			
A a a	E e e	I i i	O o o	U u u

# Letter Formation Year 2 – Year 6

A B C D E  
F G H I J K  
L M N O P  
Q R S T U  
V W X Y Z

a b c d e  
f g h i j k  
l m n o p  
q r s t u  
v w x y z