

Cann Hall Primary School

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Executive Headteacher:

Ross Silcock

Head of School:

Wendy Byrne



Friday 17th October 2025

Dear Parents and Carers



As we are getting closer to the end of this half term, we thought it would be a lovely opportunity for your child to show you around their classroom - where they sit, the displays, the reading areas and calm areas. So, on **Thursday 23rd October** at the end of the day, after the teachers have released all the children, please feel free to pop in. The gates will open

slightly earlier than usual at 3pm and will stay open until 3:30pm, to give you enough time to have a quick look around.

Parent Consultation Evenings

Our formal parent consultation evenings, where you will have a chance to speak to your child's class teacher to talk about how they have settled into their class and about their learning will be on **Wednesday 19th and Thursday 20th November**.

Signup sheets for these meetings will be available from **Monday 20th October**. We would love everyone to attend a meeting, however, if you are having any difficulties, please speak to your child's class teacher and they will try to accommodate any requests.

If your child is on a focused one plan or a passport, the class teacher will discuss this with you during your meeting.

If you child is on an enhanced one plan, you will be offered a separate meeting, at a different time and date.

Fire Safety

Yesterday a representative from Essex County Fire and Rescue came into school and delivered an assembly. Esther gave the children some top tips for how to stay safe during Halloween and Bonfire Night.



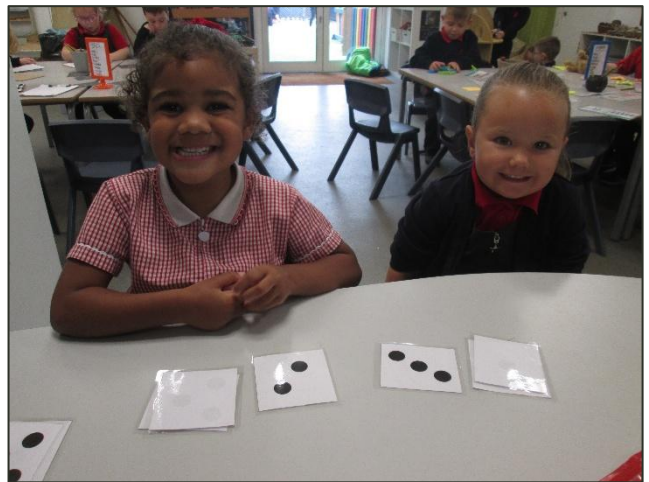
Rock Steady



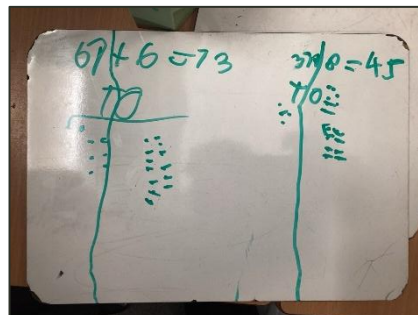
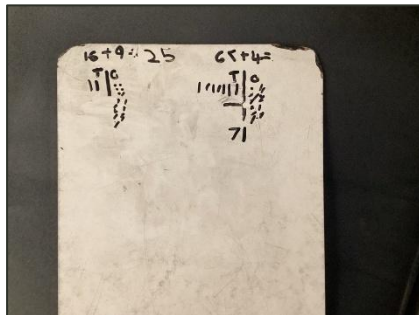
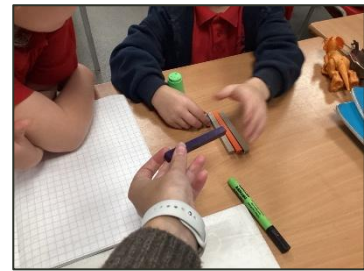
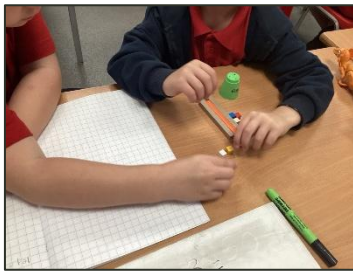
It was like the O2 here last week, when Rock Steady came into school. The children (and staff) had a fantastic time singing along to some popular songs, learning about and playing different instruments.

Learning

RB have been working on the language more and fewer this week in maths. We have looked at how many objects the animals had, then we played a game turning over cards, saying who had more or fewer. If you had more, you won the cards. The children were really engaged and could use the appropriate language to make comparisons.

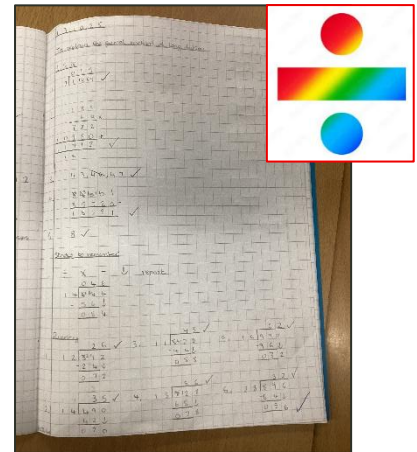


This week, **2C** have been learning how to add with exchange using concrete manipulatives and pictorial column method. They have all understood it very well!



6L have been working hard this week learning how to calculation using long division in maths.

They were also learning how to pass the ball and defend in tag rugby, in their PE lessons with the Colchester United PE coaches, this week.



Thank You!



A huge thank you for this anonymous donation to the art and crafts after school club. It is really appreciated and we are so grateful!



Another Thank you!



We raised a huge £334.44 for Young Minds last Friday from donations for wearing yellow. A big thank you to everyone who donated.



Attendance



If your child is anxious about school, or they are unable to go to school, Young Minds have advice on supporting them and working with the school and other services.

Good school attendance starts with close and productive relationships between schools, parents, and pupils, so it's important schools and families work together. If you have concerns about your child's attendance please contact us to see if there is any support we can offer.

PTA

Thank you to those parents that attended the PTA's AGM. We really appreciate you giving up your time to benefit the children. Here are a few PTA events that are coming up after half term. **A reminder that the disco ticket booking form will close at 3pm on 29.10.25.**

AUTUMN DISCO
TUESDAY 4TH NOVEMBER
 Reception: 2.30-3pm (no need to book)
 Years 1 & 2: 3.10-4.10
 Years 3 & 4: 4.20-5.20
 Years 5 & 6: 5.30-6.30

£4

No coats, money or mobile phones

Drinks (squash/water) provided.
 Tickets must be pre ordered at
<https://www.pta-events.co.uk/foch>

To book your child's ticket, please select the correct year group. Bookings will strictly close at 3pm on Wednesday 29th October- this is to give us enough time to process the admin around this event and ensure correct ratios are in place.

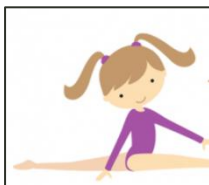
If you face any problems, please contact us on our social media platforms or by emailing:
 - friendsofcannhallpta@gmail.com
 - <https://www.facebook.com/friendsofcannhallschoolpta>
 - <https://www.instagram.com/cannhallschoolpta>

Friends of Cann Hall PTA
 INVITES YOU TO
 Butterfly Flowers

CHRISTMAS WREATH MAKING WORKSHOP

CANN HALL PRIMARY SCHOOL / TUESDAY 18TH NOVEMBER / 6.30PM - 8.30PM
 £35pp which includes all materials & equipment, a welcome drink & snacks. Additional decorations available to purchase on the night ranging from 20p - £5 (cash only). Spaces are limited and will need to be paid for in full at time of booking. To secure your spot please email friendsofcannhallpta@gmail.com

Congratulations





A big congratulations to Gracie and Grace in 3RW. Gracie got student of the week in gymnastics for excellent effort and achievement and Grace played her first ever football match.

Celebration certificates

This week's certificates awarded in our celebration assembly we to the following role models:

- Year 1: Vinny & Reeva
- Year 2: Elsie & Harper
- Year 3: Mia & Ada
- Year 4: Freddie & Lexis
- Year 5: Oakley & Lottie
- Year 6: Woody & Lily



Let's Go Zero Charity

If you haven't already done so please take a moment to complete the very short survey to let us know how you travel to and from school each day. It will take no longer than 2 minutes to complete.

You can either click on the link or scan the QR code. If we could have your responses by the 22nd October, that would be great - thank you!

<https://forms.office.com/e/uMZaP50JW9>



Free first aid course for parents



Family learning division at ACL Essex, part of Essex County Council are pleased to be offering us the opportunity to host **free** Family First Aid courses for parents and carers within our school community. It will be delivered by a qualified tutor, will be a hands-on, practical session and is designed to empower families with essential first aid skills in a supportive and accessible way.

FAQs

- Duration of FA course - 2 weeks for 2 hours.
- Course Content:
- **1st week** CPR, Recovery Position, Choking, Who and When to Call, First Aid Kits,
- **2nd week:** Recap and burns, poisoning, allergies.
- No of attendees: 12 adults max
- Availability: we will work with you to choose suitable dates.

To express an interest, please **contact Mr Smith:** msmith@compassps.uk

Do you have a child starting school September 2026?

We have two show round dates left now - **Monday 3rd November 3.30-4.30pm, Monday 1st December 3.30-4.30pm.** please call the school office to book in, if you are thinking about applying for our EYFS classes for next year.

Year 6 to Year 7 Secondary Applications for September 2026

The new secondary school admission round for parents to apply for their child's secondary school (Year 7) place for September 2026 is open and the **statutory national closing date for applications is 31 October 2025.**

Applications can be made online via www.essex.gov.uk/admissions. (99% of parents in Essex applied online last year) and all the information you need to make this application is

available on this website. The website also has a copy of the Secondary Education in Essex 2026-27 booklet which contains details of all secondary school admission policies.

Upcoming dates for your diary

23.10.25: Open classrooms until 3:30

27.10.25: First day of the half term

31.10.25: Deadline for Y6 Secondary Applications

03.11.25: Return to school

03.11.25: Reception intake 2026 show around 3:30-4:30pm

04.11.25: PTA Bonfire Discos

06.11.25: Mop up school photos

10.11.25: Odd socks day

14.11.25: Children in need

17.11.25: World Diabetes Day – wear blue

19.11.25: Parent's consultation evening

20.11.25: Parent's consultation evening

24.11.25: Owls visiting EYFS and KS1

01.12.25: Reception intake 2026 show around 3:30-4:30pm

05.12.25: PTA Christmas Fair (weather permitting)

09.12.25: KS2 Christmas service at St Johns church

15.12.25: PTA Christmas Pop Up Shop

16.12.25: EYFS and KS1 Christmas dinner

17.12.25: KS2 Christmas dinner

18.12.25: KS1 Nativity Performance

18.12.25: EYFS Christmas fun time afternoon

19.12.25: Christmas jumper day and parties

Below you will find even more information regarding school meals, upcoming events and support on offer to our community.

Have a lovely weekend, everyone!

Kindest regards



Wendy Byrne



Educational Psychology Parent Helpline

We are pleased to announce the launch of our new support offer for families.

This helpline is here to give advice, support and signposting. It is a confidential, private, and safe service for parents and carers. No referral is needed - just a pre-booked appointment.

The booking is designed to provide an easier and more convenient experience:

- Available on alternating Mondays and Tuesdays
- 1pm to 5pm
- 25-minute appointments bookable via MS Teams
- No more waiting – instant booking confirmation

- For booking details and further information, please visit [EP-Parent-Helpline](#)

Please note: the previous helpline system and telephone number are no longer in use.

**OCTOBER HALF TERM
FAMILY WARM HUB**

St Clare's Primary School
Cloes Lane, Clacton CO16 8AG
Wednesday 29th October
10am-1pm

Free

- Breakfast/ lunch and refreshments
- **Local information and support for families**
- Winter Warmers
- **Smoke alarms**
- School Uniform bank
- **Baby bank**
- Library services
- **Children's services and activities**

All families welcome
(children must be accompanied)

The poster features a white background with an orange header and footer. It includes three small inset images: a plate of bread, a stack of yellow coats, and a table with a white tablecloth and flowers.

ONLY £7 TO ENTER

CLACTON

SEAFRONT 10K

**AGED 4-14 1 MILE JUNIOR EVENT!
EVERY ENTERED RUNNER GETS A MEDAL**

THE CLACTON SEAFRONT 1 MILE

19th OCTOBER 2025 STARTS AT 9am

THE CLACTON SEAFRONT 1 MILE ROUTE

Sponsored by

www.clactonseafont10k.co.uk

YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL MEALS

At Chartwells, we're passionate about fuelling every child's learning with tasty, nutritious and sustainable food. Our menu is packed with smart nutritional choices that meet - and go beyond - the UK Government's School Food Standards.

SCHOOL FOOD STANDARDS WHAT INFORMS OUR SCHOOL MENU?

The School Food Standards (SFS) are Government defined nutritional standards designed to help children develop healthy eating habits.



BALANCE NUTRITION

Every meal includes fruit, vegetables, protein, dairy and wholegrains.



SUGAR AND SALT LIMITS

No added salt or confectionery. Desserts contain at least 50% fruit or vegetables.



PROTEIN VARIETY

A mix of meat, fish, eggs, beans and plant-based options across the week.



WHOLEGRAINS AND FIBRE

At least one wholegrain starchy food weekly, plus fibre-rich ingredients to support digestion.



MENU COMPLIANCE

Every recipe meets detailed government standards for frequency, portion size and nutritional value.



HOW OUR MENU STACKS UP

Every Chartwells menu is aligned to the School Food Standards and our own nutritional benchmarks, and every recipe is reviewed and approved by our team of qualified nutritionists.

- 1 We serve at least two fruit-based desserts each week and over half of our desserts contain fruit or vegetables.
- 2 Our AW25 menu includes more plant-forward options than ever before.
- 3 We've reduced sugar across our recipes by 38% since 2016 - well above Public Health England's 20% target.
- 4 Every day, children can choose from at least four dishes, including adventurous new flavours and familiar favourites. All dishes are tried, tested and approved by the real critics - our pupils.
- 5 For children with allergies or special diets, we follow an industry-leading Medical Diet Policy, overseen by our nutrition team.

SMART SWAPS

Our Beef Bolognese is made with 50% lentils to reduce meat and boost fibre.

DID YOU KNOW?

Our chocolate brownie is made with grated sweet potato and carrot for natural sweetness.

BEYOND THE CHARTWELLS KITCHEN

School meals are just one part of how we support children's health and wellbeing. Through our award-winning Beyond the Chartwells Kitchen programme, we offer engaging education, hands-on experiences, and meaningful connections with families - helping pupils build a positive relationship with food, both in the dining hall and beyond.



Spotlight Sessions bring food and nutrition topics to life in the classroom. Designed with teachers and linked to the curriculum, each session includes ready-to-use resources for lessons and assemblies.



We love connecting with families, from tasting sessions and workshops to parents' evenings, we're here to help you understand how school meals support your child's health and learning. Ask your school to arrange a session with your Chartwells team.

WANT TO KNOW MORE?

We're here to help. For medical diets or further questions, contact: chartwells.medicaldiets@compass-group.co.uk

