

# Cann Hall Primary School

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**Executive Headteacher:**

Ross Silcock

**Head of School:**

Wendy Byrne



Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

Thank you to those of you who attended after school yesterday. It was lovely to see so many of you in school looking around the classrooms. We look forward to seeing you again after half term at parent's evening. If you have not yet arranged a time, please speak to your child's class teacher to arrange this.

## Learning

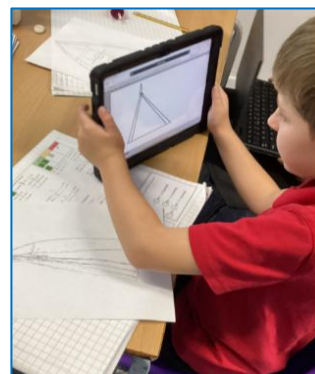
**1Y** made nature inspired prints in the style of William Morris from. The children really enjoyed designing and making their prints over the last half term. They look fantastic!



**William Morris: Strawberry thief**



Over the past couple of weeks, **3RW** have been designing blueprints of boats, to form part of our Last Zookeeper display. The children compared using actual paint with Microsoft paint on the computers.



#### Year 4

In English this week **4A & 4HH** shared their finished non-chronological reports with each other. They listened carefully and then gave some feedback about what they liked and how it could be improved. The children loved sharing their work with each other!



## 5R

It has been a very busy week in **Year 5**. They have been fortunate to have not one but two visits from our cultural partners as part of the Tendring Junior Ambassadors program of which we are currently taking part. Yusuf visited the school to teach the children about African culture and taught them a couple of traditional African songs. Then on the Friday the children took part in a workshop to find out about the Indian heritage using Bollywood dance routines.



## Congratulations



**Elsie in 2C** took part in a dance competition and came away with lots of trophies! Two of these are for coming 1st place, we are very proud of her! Well done Elsie!

## Upcoming events

**Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> November** - Autumn Discos. Please see details below and note that the closing date for ordering tickets is Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> October (except for Reception children)



## Monday 17<sup>th</sup> November – Dress in blue for diabetes awareness.



This initiative, known as the #NationalDiabetes Challenge, encourages everyone to turn the UK blue to raise awareness and support Diabetes UK. By participating in this challenge with us, you can help to turn the UK blue to show solidarity with those affected by diabetes.

## 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**.

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

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

## Reminders

### Do you have a child starting school September 2026?

We have two show round dates left now - **Monday 3rd November 3.30-4.30pm** and **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](http://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.



**Be careful what you wear when you're out to scare**

Some fancy dress costumes are highly flammable so they can ignite almost instantly and burn fast.

- Try to buy from a reputable store or website. Cheap costumes may not meet UK safety standards.
- Look for a costume with a UKCA or CE mark
- Look for a label that says: "This garment has undergone additional safety testing for flammability"
- Remind children to stay well away from naked flames and other heat sources

**THE FIREWORK CODE**

1. Only buy fireworks over the counter from reputable retailers.
2. Only an adult should handle and light fireworks.
3. Fireworks should be kept in a closed box.
4. An adult should read and follow the instructions for lighting fireworks carefully.
5. Fireworks should be lit at arm's length.
6. Always stand well back.
7. Never go back to a light firework.
8. Never put fireworks in your pocket.
9. Never throw fireworks.

## Attendance

Thank you!

... for supporting your child's learning, this half term, by ensuring that they are in school, every day, when they have been well enough to do so.

Our overall attendance this half term has been very consistent, sitting at around the **95.4%** each week, which is so close to that target set by the government of **96%**.

Please remember to give us a call or come in and speak to us, if you have a concern with anything linked to your child's attendance. We will do everything we can to help.

## Celebration certificates

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

Year 1: Eliyah & Jaxon  
Year 2: Max & Elliott  
Year 3: Sarah & Oliver  
Year 4: Ralph & Amelia  
Year 5: Jack & Lenny  
Year 6: Silan & Imogen



## Remembrance Day



We will be supporting the Royal British Legion poppy appeal again this year, by selling poppies and various other poppy memorabilia. These items will be taken around the classes, during the week that we come back to school (3.11.24) for the children to purchase, if they wish. Thank you in advance for your support of this important charity.

## Upcoming dates for your diary

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 more information regarding school meals, upcoming events and support on offer to our community.

From everyone here, we wish you a very happy and relaxing half term.

See you all on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November.

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)



Charity  
**Victorian Christmas Market**

**Saturday 15 November 2025**  
**9.30 am – 3pm**

Princes Theatre, Station Road,  
Clacton on Sea, CO15 1SE

£1 per person  
(under 16s are free)

- Father Christmas
- Queen Victoria and her entourage
- Christmas cards & decorations
- Jewellery, candles, gifts
- Crafts, toys, tombolas
- Books, fair trade goods
- Stocking fillers, preserves
- Refreshments, lunches and cakes

All proceeds to charities attending





BRINGING UNITY TO OUR COMMUNITY

Friends of Cann Hall PTA  
INVITES YOU TO




**CHRISTMAS WREATH MAKING WORKSHOP**



**CANN HALL PRIMARY SCHOOL / TUESDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> 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 [friendsofcannahpta@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofcannahpta@gmail.com)



**HALF TERM SCHOOL HOLIDAYS**



**In Tending**

**For free activities happening in tending for families over the half-term holiday, please visit**

[www.cvstending.org.uk/school-holiday-activities/](http://www.cvstending.org.uk/school-holiday-activities/)

**OR SCAN OUR QR CODE**





# COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

**Colchester United have teamed up with St Clare's Primary School to run Football Camps for pupils in School Year 1- 6 during this October Half Term! Please see the below information and registration links to book.**

**Please see the below information for our Half Term Camps.**

**What does a Colchester United Community Foundation Camp Look Like?**

**Activities within a safe and fun environment**

**Book for as little as just £2.89 per hour**

**High Quality Facilities**

**Gifts & Prizes To Be Won**

**Tailored Football Sessions Of Different Topics**

**Small Sided Games & Tournaments Each Day**

**Opportunities for CUFC 1st Team Player Appearances**

**Opportunities for CUFC Mascot Eddie The Eagle Appearances**

**Venue: St Clare's Primary School, Cloes Lane, Clacton On Sea CO16 8AG**

**Dates: Monday 27th & Tuesday 28th October**

**Times: 9.30am-3pm (Early Drop Off Available From 8.30am)**

**Registration Links: <https://www.abler.io/shop/colchesterunited/22/product/Q2x1YINlcnZpY2U6NDU1Njc=>**

# 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](mailto:chartwells.medicaldiets@compass-group.co.uk)

