Cann Hall Primary School

Constable Avenue, Clacton, Essex CO16 8DA
Tel: 01255 420603
Email: cannhall@compassps.uk
Website: www.cannhall.compassps.uk

Headteacher Wendy Byrne

Friday 16th October 2026

Dear Parents and Carers



Reading sessions

It was wonderful to welcome so many parents and carers into our EYFS and KS1 classrooms for our reading sessions this week. The children really enjoy sharing books with you and these special moments help to foster a lifelong love of reading. Thank you for your continued support in encouraging reading both at school and at home, helping to build the strong literacy skills that will benefit your children for years to come.



















CompassEko Strategy



Here is the link to our newly launched strategy, just in case you have not had the chance to look at it yet. Compass Eko Trust - The Compass Eko Strategy

Car parking

I am once again asking all members of our school community to help keep our children, families safe during drop-off and collection times.

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The school continues to receive reports and observe a number of vehicles parking on the yellow lines and zig-zag markings outside the school. These road markings are in place for the safety of everyone and must not be used for parking or waiting at any time.



I also ask that parents and carers **do not use the front car park entrance as a drop-off point or turning area**. This creates unnecessary risks for children and families, can cause congestion, and has led to avoidable arguments between road users.

Thank you for your cooperation.

WhatsApp Groups



We are so fortunate to have a supportive school community, and many families use WhatsApp groups to share information, offer help and stay connected. When used positively, these groups can be a valuable way of supporting one another.

However, I would like to kindly remind everyone that WhatsApp groups should never be used to make negative comments about children, their families or school staff. It is not appropriate to name, shame or discuss individuals in a public forum. Comments made online can spread quickly and may cause significant upset and harm, even when this was not the intention.

Please remember that we rarely know the full story behind someone else's situation. Families, children and staff may be dealing with challenges that are not visible to others. A little kindness, understanding and compassion can go a long way.

If you have a concern about something that has happened in school, or if your child is experiencing difficulties, please speak directly with a member of staff. We are here to listen, support and work with you to resolve concerns wherever possible. Open communication between home and school is always the most effective way to address issues.

We ask all members of our community to think carefully before posting online and to avoid engaging in conversations that criticise or target individuals. Let us continue to model the values we want our children to learn: respect, empathy, kindness and understanding.

Thank you for helping us maintain a positive and supportive school community for everyone.

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Parents evenings

Our Parent Consultation evenings will take place after half term on **Wednesday 4th November** and **Thursday 5th November**. Sign-up sheets are available from class teachers at drop off and pick up times for you to choose a convenient appointment slot. If you do not come into school at these times, you can email your child's class teacher via their school email to book a slot. We look forward to sharing your child's progress and celebrating their achievements with you.

New website photographs – keep an eye out for these on our website



Today, we welcomed a photographer into school to capture new images for our website. They visited classes from EYFS through to Year 6, taking photographs that showcase the wide range of learning opportunities, subjects and experiences we offer across the school. They also photographed some of our additional provisions and facilities, including Lego Therapy. The photographer commented on the high-quality displays and supportive learning environments. Keep an eye on our website over the coming weeks to see the updated images and discover more about life at our school.

Attendance

Our attendance further increased, again this week, to **95.8%.** We are so grateful to you all for supporting your child to get the most out of their education, by bringing them into school each day.

Regular attendance is so essential because it builds strong academic foundations, supports social and emotional development, and ensures children do not fall behind in their learning.

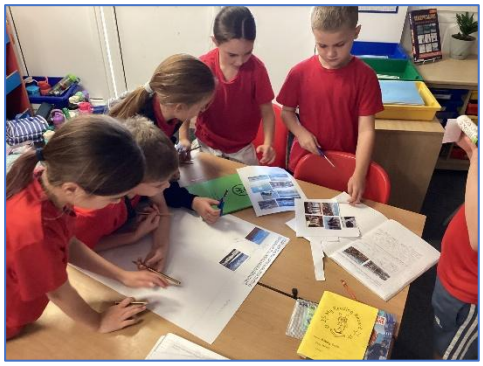
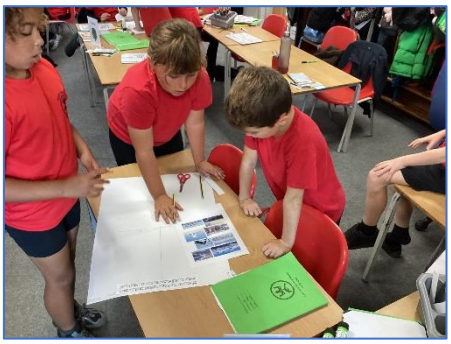
If your child, is unable to attend school for any reason, please make sure you let us know, by contacting the school on the morning of each day of their absence. Wellbeing visits are carried out, by our school attendance team, if a child has not been in school for 3 days.

If you are struggling with your child's attendance, please come in and speak to us so we can see if there is anything we can do to support you and your child.

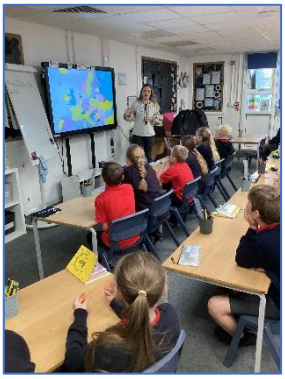
Celebration of Learning

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4HH have been working together in small groups to consolidate their learning this half term and answer their big question 'What are the key physical and human features of the Arctic and Antarctica'. They used their books, class discussions and the working wall to present their information on a poster.

5A have been doing DT this week and their first junior ambassador workshop about Ukraine.






Most days after lunch **6L** complete a general knowledge quiz. They will hopefully share their newfound knowledge with their family!

1. What is the capital city of USA?
2. How many sides does a heptagon have?
3. What is a baby goose called?
4. Which author wrote about Peter Rabbit and Benjamin Bunny?
5. Where would you find Ben Nevis?
6. What is a group of whales called?
7. What name is given to animals that only eat plants and vegetables?
8. Name three countries beginning with C.
9. Which gas makes up most of the Earth's atmosphere?
10. Which is longer – 2 hours or 90 minutes?

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6L have also been enjoying golf lessons with Mr AB





National Numeracy Week - reminder

It's National Numeracy Week on 2-8th November and there is a free webinar by NRICH for parents. Please sign up using the link below. This will really help you in supporting your child with their maths learning.

NRICH webinar sign up form

Maths at home – talking about numbers together: 3 November, 7pm for ages 5-13

A free webinar for parents, carers and teachers of children aged 5-13

You don't need to be confident at maths to help your child develop a love of numbers.

Join Liz and Charlie from NRICH for a relaxed and friendly webinar exploring how engaging activities and everyday conversations can help children develop positive attitudes towards maths.

You'll discover that tapping into children's curiosity through play and discussion can lead to mathematical conversations that every parent or carer can have, regardless of their own maths experience.

Whether you love maths or avoid it, this webinar will be packed with practical ways to support your child's confidence with numbers. No maths expertise is needed. Just bring a willingness to have a go!

Education, Health and Care Needs Assessment - reminder

Are you considering requesting an Education, Health and Care Needs Assessment (EHCNA) for your child or young person and unsure where to start?

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Families InFocus Essex are running a workshop to help parents and carers understand how and when to make a request, what supporting evidence may be needed, and what happens next.

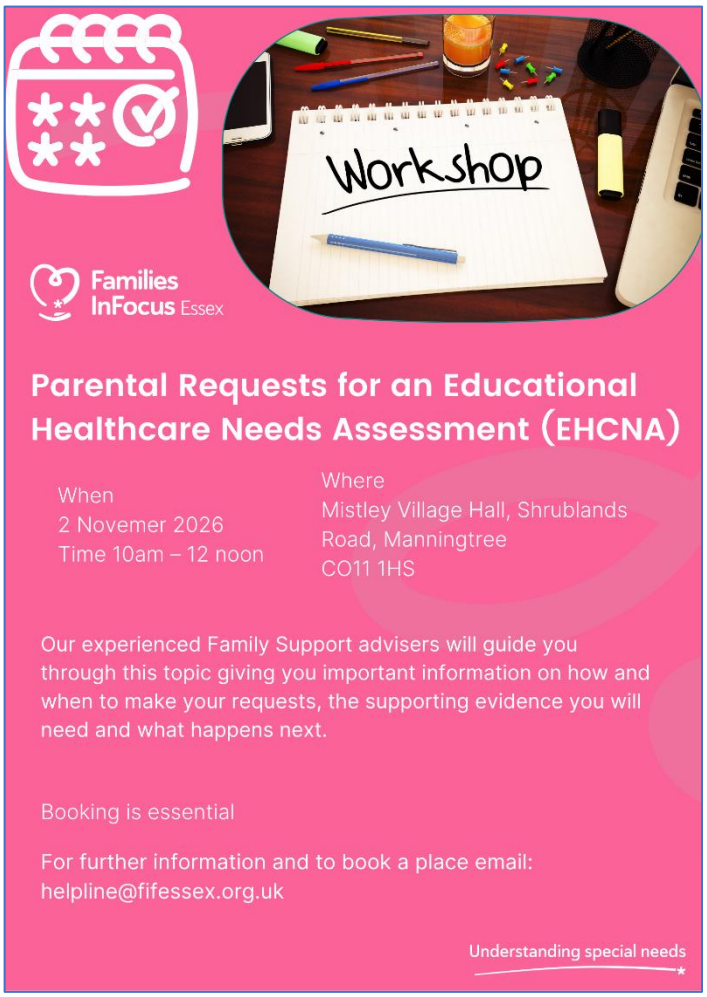
📅 **Monday 2 November 2026**

⏰ **10am–12 noon**

📍 **Mistley Village Hall**

The session will be led by experienced Family Support Advisers and is a great opportunity to get practical information and guidance to help you navigate the process with greater confidence.

Booking is essential. To find out more or book your place, email helpline@fifessex.org.uk.



PTA fundraising - reminder



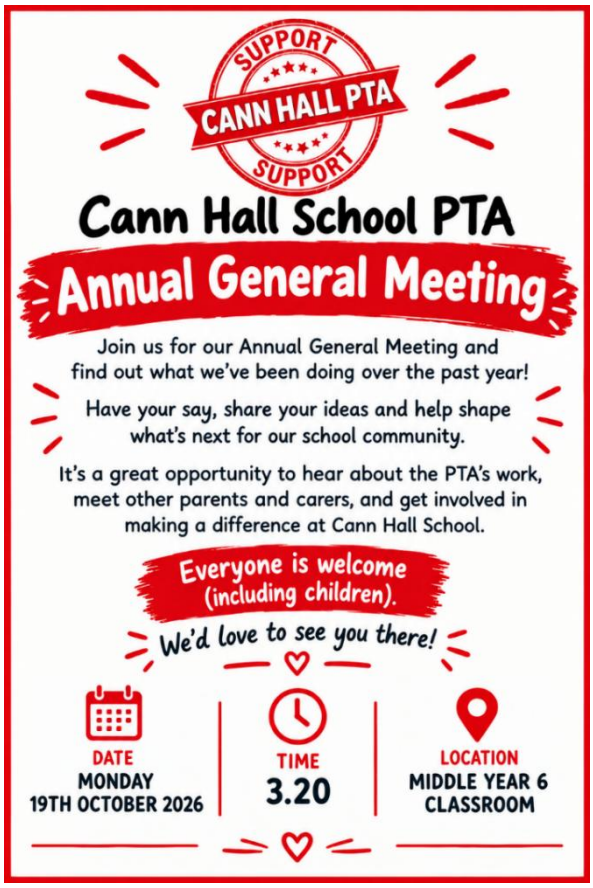
Please remember that the **order deadline is Friday 23rd October,** to ensure your items can be processed in time.

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PTA AGM - reminder

The PTA invite all parents and carers to attend their upcoming Annual General Meeting (AGM) on **Monday 19th October at 3.20pm.** It would be wonderful to see as many of you there as possible.

If you would like to get involved, whether you can offer a little time or a lot, the PTA would love to welcome some new faces. Please see the letter at the end of the newsletter regarding the meeting and current vacancies. We hope to see you there!



Thank You



A big thank you to our PTA for purchasing all this spare underwear for the school. It is very much appreciated.

We are in desperate need of skirts and trousers in small sizes, if anyone has any spares that their child has grown out of. Please hand any donations in to the school office. Thank you.

Lego® tokens in the Gazette - reminder



If you purchase the local newspaper, we would be very grateful if you could save the tokens that will be appearing over the coming weeks. Collecting these tokens gives our school the chance to win an Educational LEGO® package, which would

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provide a fantastic resource for our children's learning and creativity. Thank you in advance for your support.

Year 6 to Year 7 Secondary Applications for September 2027 - reminder

If you currently have a child in Year 6, Secondary School applications opened on **12th September 2026** and closes on the **31st October 2026** on the Essex online portal: Secondary school places | Essex County Council Please be aware that you are less likely to get a place at one of your preferred schools if you apply late.

When will you find out?
Emails for online applicants will be sent on 1 March 2027. If you applied online, you can log into your account to see your allocation. Find out more about what to do here after you get your school offer.

On the Essex portal website, you will also find key information, such as admission policies, a short video about applying, an online booklet.

2027 EYFS show arounds - reminder



We are now offering EYFS show arounds for our next cohort (2027-28) and you can book onto one of these tours, by filing out the form on the following link: EYFS Show around for 2027-28 intake booking form
Information and applications for September 2027 can be found on the Essex school's portal: Primary school places | Essex County Council and Applications open on **9th November 2026 and close on 15th January 2027.** (You are less likely to get a place at one of your preferred schools if you apply late)

When will you find out?
Emails for online applicants will be sent on 16th April 2027. If you applied online, you can log into your account to see your allocation. Find out more about what to do after you get your school offer.

On the Essex portal website, you will also find key information, such as admission policies, a short video about applying, an online booklet.

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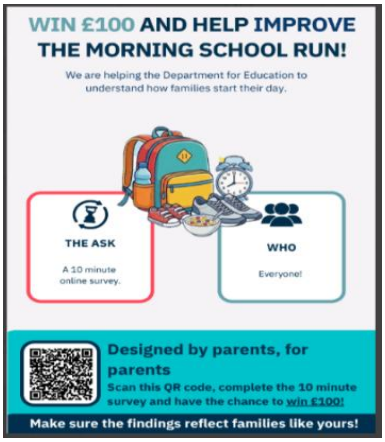
Congratulations

After last week's Grand Nationals, Elsie secured a spot as a Bronze finalist, getting 3rd place!

Well done, Elsie, we are all very proud of you!

Your chance to win £100

Scan the QR code to complete the survey to help the DfE understand how families start their day.



The Big Future Survey - Reminder

The Children's Commissioner for England is inviting children and young people to take part in The Big Future survey. The survey gives children the opportunity to share their experiences, views and hopes for the future, helping to ensure that young people's voices are heard at a national level.
The survey only takes a few minutes to complete, and we encourage as many of our pupils as possible to take part. To find out more and complete the survey, please visit: www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigfuture

Tesco's Café - Reminder



Tesco are continuing their 'Kids Eat Free' promotion 7 days a week until **18th December**, giving one free kids' meal with any full-price adult purchase when you scan a Clubcard—even an item as cheap as a 65p apple qualifies.

Upcoming dates for your diary

More dates have been added to the following list, however, please be aware that some dates are provisional and still need to be confirmed.

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At the end of this letter you will find information about the **PTA AGM** and a **TEA group information poster, which is aimed at adoptive parents**, **free indoor cricket sessions for 8 years+, Active Essex's half term activity programme, swimming trials information, Clacton Youth Darts academy and Colchester United Community Foundation half term and Christmas holiday activities.**

21.10.26: Flu Vaccinations
23:10.26: Last day of term
02.11.26: First Day Back after half term
04.11.26: Open Evening (3.30-6pm)
05.11.26: Open Evening (4-7pm)
11.11.26: Year 6 Crucial Crew
11.11.26: Remembrance Day – scouts, brownies, etc can wear uniforms today
12.11.26: Michael Rosen Live Poetry Event
13.11.26: Children in Need Day
16.11.26: Odd Sock Day for Anti-Bullying Week
17.11.26: Year 5 Trip to Princes' Theatre – Tendring Ambassador Celebration
18.11.26: Careers Fair
20.11.26: Individual and Sibling Photographs
23.11.26: PTA Christmas Disco
30.11.26: PTA Wreath Making
07.12.26: PTA Christmas Pop Up Shop
08.12.26: Rocksteady Concert (tbc)
14.12.26: KS1 Nativity Assembly led by St John's Church
15.12.26: KS1 Nativity Performances
15.12.26: KS2 Christmas Dinners
16.12.26: KS2 Christmas Church Service at St John's Church
16.12.26: EYFS and KS1 Christmas Dinners
16.12.26: EYFS Christmas Activity Afternoon (tbc)
18.12.26: Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Parties
18.12.26: Last day of term (gates open at 2.30pm)

From everyone here, have a great weekend.

Kindest regards



Wendy Byrne

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The Friends of Cann Hall School - PTA
Cann Hall Primary School,
Constable Avenue,
Clacton-On-Sea, Essex, CO16 8DA
Email: friendsofcannhallpta@gmail.com
Registered Charity No: 1132662

The Friends Of Cann Hall School - PTA
FIND US ON

23rd September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

The Friends of Cann Hall School (PTA) would like to invite you to our upcoming **Annual General Meeting (AGM):**

Monday 19th October 2026 at 3:20pm in the middle year 6 classroom.

The Friends of Cann Hall (PTA) organises a busy programme of exciting events throughout the year for the enjoyment of our children while also raising valuable funds for the school. These events are an important part of school life and help create a thriving and supportive school community.

We hope to continue offering an exciting and successful programme of activities throughout the 2026-2027 school year. However, to make this possible, **we need your help and support.**

Annual General Meeting (AGM)

Everyone is welcome to attend our AGM. However, **we must know if advance if you plan to attend,** so please complete the form below.

The AGM is also an opportunity for parents and carers to **elect the PTA Committee for the 2026-2027 school year.** We will also discuss plans and events for the year ahead and consider possible ways to use the funds raised by the PTA to benefit the school and our children.

We are currently inviting nominations for the following positions:

- **Chair**
- **Co-Chair**
- **Secretary**
- **Treasurer**
- **General Committee Members**

If you would like to stand for one of these positions for the first time, please submit your nomination in advance using the form below.

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Existing committee members who wish to stand for re election do not need to be nominated again, but should let the PTA know if they would like to continue in their current role.

We warmly welcome new members and would love to hear from anyone who would like to get involved. Whether you can take on an official role or simply help with events from time to time, your support can make a real difference.

Thank you for your continued support or the PTA and for supporting the events we organise throughout the year. **We couldn't do it without you!**

We look forward to seeing you at the AGM.

Yours sincerely,

Emma Scott
Chair
Friends of Cann Hall (PTA)

- - - -





TEA Group

Talking Education In Adoption

Essex is in an extremely lucky & unique position to have an Educational Psychologist co-facilitating TEA group with a worker from the Post Adoption Team.

TEA groups are for adoptive parents. There's a topic every other session, along with time for discussion about educational related issues you may be experiencing as a family. All adopters are very welcome – parents who have pre-school aged children, school-aged children and college-aged young people all attend. TEA groups support children and young people in mainstream school, home education and specialist provision.

Upcoming Sessions - online from 10am to 11.30am:

THURSDAY 17TH SEPTEMBER - NO TOPIC

THURSDAY 15TH OCTOBER - ORDINARILY AVAILABLE & ONEPLAN INTRODUCTION

THURSDAY 19TH NOVEMBER - NO TOPIC

THURSDAY 10TH DECEMBER - EHCP

THESE GROUPS ARE CONTINUINALLY UNDER REVIEW
- 'USE IT OR LOSE IT' -

TO BOOK PLEASE EMAIL ADOPTION.TRAINING@ESSEX.GOV.UK

Essex County Council

AdoptEast







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CENTURION
COMMUNITY CRICKET
CHANCE TO SHINE
STREET
FREE INDOOR
CRICKET.
HAVE FUN.
GET ACTIVE.
MAKE FRIENDS.
6.00-7.00 PM ON MONDAYS
FROM 14 SEPTEMBER 2026
SUITABLE FOR AGES 8-16
FREE ENTRY
TENDRING EDUCATION CENTRE, JAYWICK LANE, CLACTON, CO16 8BE
SCAN TO REGISTER

Essex ACTIVate Half Term

Essex ActivAte October Half Term Programme

[Search for Activities | Active Essex]

Follow the link for Active Essex's half term activities



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COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES
OCTOBER & CHRISTMAS 2026
SCAN ME TO BOOK
HAVE A DISCOUNT ON US!
USE CODES:
OCTOBERHALFTERM2026
EXPIRES: 30/09/26
XMASHOLIDAYS2026
EXPIRES: 27/11/26
TO INSPIRE, ENRICH AND UNITE OUR COMMUNITIES
Registered Charity Number: 1159381
www.cu-fc.com/cucf
cucf@colchesterunited.net
01206 755160
@ColU_CF /ColUCF
#enrichourcommunities