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 23rd October 2026

Dear parents and carers

As we come to the end of very long half term, I would like to take a moment to thank all our parents and carers for your continued support. Whether it's helping with home learning, attending events, reading our messages or simply encouraging your child each day, your partnership makes such a difference and is greatly appreciated by everyone at school.

Parents' Evenings

Thank you to those of you who have already signed up for our Parent Consultation Evenings on **Wednesday 4th November** and **Thursday 5th November**. If you have not signed up yet, the sign-up sheets we still be available from class teachers after the half term or you can book a slot by sending your child's teacher an email. We look forward to sharing your child's progress and celebrating their achievements with you.

Little Wandle Reading Books

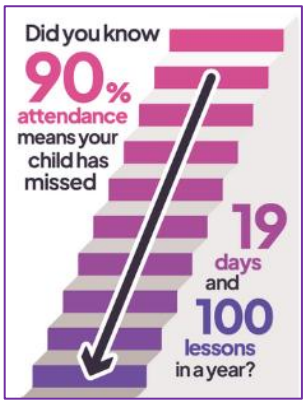
Unfortunately, we are noticing an increasing number of Little Wandle reading books being returned to school damaged. We understand that accidents do happen and we appreciate that this is often unintentional. However, these books are shared resources and are used by all the children throughout the school.



Please help us to keep our books in good condition by encouraging your child to handle them carefully and store them safely when travelling to and from school. We kindly ask that water bottles are kept separate from reading books in school bags, as leaks can cause significant damage. Damage to a book, where it needs to be replaced, including loss of a book, may result in a £5 charge.

Thank you for your support in helping us ensure that all children can continue to enjoy high-quality reading books.

Attendance



We finish the half term with our attendance to date sitting at **95.6%.** We cannot stress how grateful we are to you 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 <u>on the morning of each day</u> of their absence. Wellbeing visits are carried out, by our school attendance team, if a child has not been in school for 3 days. Please be aware that we are not permitted to authorise term time absences or holidays.

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

1B have been investigating properties of different materials in science. This week, we looked at which materials were most absorbent, therefore best in helping Cat in The Hat clean up a big mess!





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Children from **4HH** read their published 'Guides to Antarctica' to the children in 3BW and **Year 3** have produced a narrative using the 'Iron Man' as their inspiration. **3BW** were very excited to share their narratives with 4HH, as they studied the same text last year. All the children were very excited and proud to show the wonderful work they had produced!









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Year 5

The Tendring Junior Ambassador Project pairs primary school pupils with diverse cultural ambassadors to promote inclusive communities and global appreciation.

Last week year 5 were fortunate enough to participate in an intensive, hands-on workshop learning Bollywood dance routines. The children learnt about different several different regions of India discovering the geography, the languages, traditions and the unique dances associated with them. They enjoyed learning the dance styles to several traditional wedding songs, such as the "maahi ve" which translates to "oh beautiful one". Once they had mastered the dance moves, they used traditional dupattas (long Indian scarfs / shawls) to add energy and visual flair to the choreography. Year 5 all had an incredible time learning from the cultural ambassador and were able to really show off their amazing skills whilst learning about Bollywood at the same time.





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Chartwells

Chartwells, our school meal provider, has produced a newsletter to keep families up to date with the latest information and updates. An interactive version of this has also been shared on our Facebook page for you to explore. Please note that the new menus will begin during the first week back after half term. We encourage you and your children to take a look at the newsletter to see what's on offer and any exciting news from the Chartwells team.

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Please note there will be a themed lunch for Bonfire Day on the 5th November.



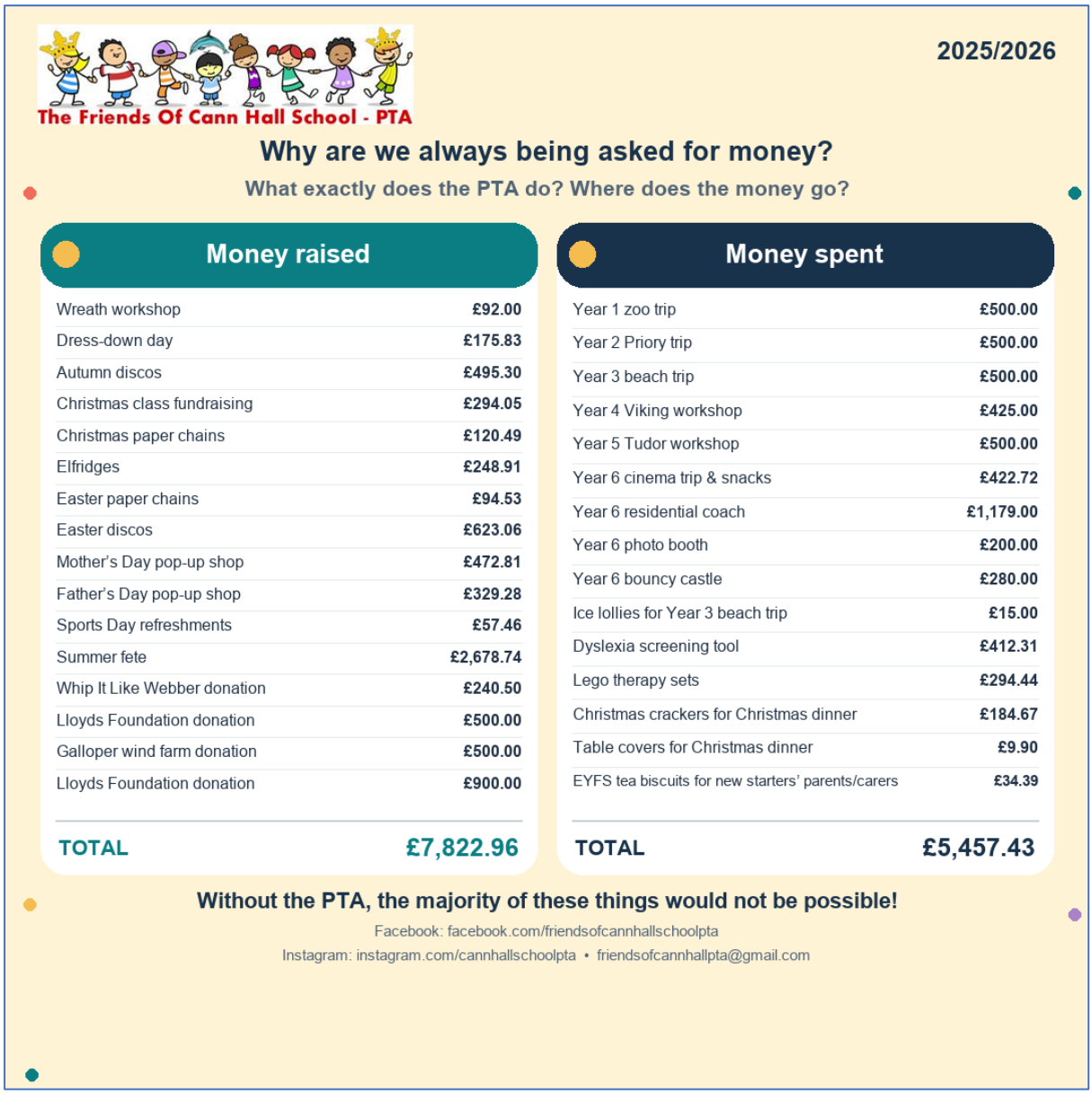
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PTA

The PTA will be running the popular Christmas wreath making workshop again this year. Here is the link if you would like to book:
https://forms.gle/WZt8Dj1zDHKTDHjV7



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Children in need



On **Friday 13th November**, we will be supporting Children in Need. This year's campaign highlights the growing challenges facing many children and young people, including poverty, inequality and mental health pressures. To help raise money for this worthwhile cause, we are inviting children to come to school in non-uniform. Children may choose to wear either

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something Pudsey-themed, pyjamas, or simply their favourite comfy clothes in exchange for a donation.

Thank you for your support in helping to make a difference to disadvantaged children and young people across the UK.

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?

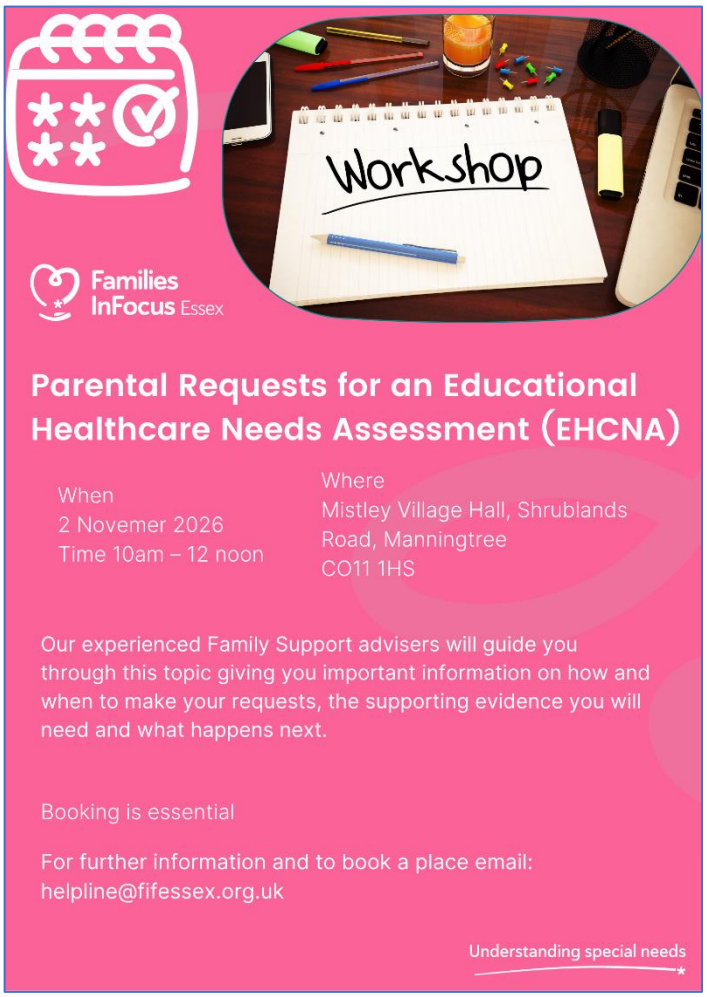
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Families InFocus Essex are running a workshop to help parents and carers understand how and when to make a request, what supporting evidence may be needed, and what happens next.

📅 **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.



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 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?

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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.

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.

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Upcoming dates for your diary

At the end of this letter you will find information about 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, Colchester United Community Foundation half term and Christmas holiday activities, half term SEND activities and CVS Tendering free holiday activities and warm hub.**

02.11.26: First Day Back after half term
04.11.26: Open Evening (3.30-6pm)
05.11.26: Open Evening (4-7pm)
05.11.26: Themed rocket lunch
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)

We hope you all have a restful and enjoyable half term with your families.

Kindest regards



Wendy Byrne

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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' -

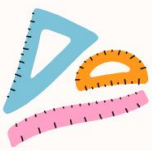
TO BOOK PLEASE EMAIL ADOPTION.TRAINING@ESSEX.GOV.UK

Essex County Council

AdoptEast








CCC
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 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



There is just 1 week to go until our October Half Term camps kick off, book now to secur your place! We have lots of fun filled camps available to cater for all participants!

WHAT TO EXPECT FROM OUR FOOTBALL CAMPS

✓ Activities within a safe and fun environment
✓ Book for as little as just £2.80 per hour
✓ High Quality Facilities
✓ Gifts & Prizes To Be Won
✓ Tailored sessions of different topics
✓ Small Sided Games & Tournaments Each Day
✓ Opportunites for CUFC 1st Team Player Appearances
✓ Opportunites for CUFC Mascot Eddie the Eagle Appearances

OCTOBER HALF TERM & XMAS FOOTBALL CAMPS 2026

⚲ Shrub End

October 2026 & December 2026

Football Camp (Yrs 1–6, 9.30-16.30) – Click Here

Train Like A Pro (Yrs 7–11, 9.30-16.30) – Click Here

Wrap-around care available (8.30-9.30 & 16.30-17.30) at all Shrub End Camps.

NEW **⚲ Lift Tendering School**

October 2026 & December 2026

Football Camp & Train Like A Pro (Yrs 1–11, 9.30-16.30) – Click Here

⚲ JobServe Community Stadium

October 2026 & December 2026

Football Camp (Yrs 1–6, 9.30-16.30) – Click Here

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All Saints Primary School, Maldon
October 2026 & December 2026
Football Camp (Yrs 1–6, 9.30–15.00) – Click Here

St Clares Primary School, Clacton
October 2026 & December 2026
Football Camp (Yrs 1–6, 9.30–15.00) – Click Here

Colchester Academy School
October 2026 & December 2026
Football Camp (Yrs 1–6, 10.00–14.00) – Click Here

Junior Inclusive U's Camp at Colchester Academy School
October 2026 & December 2026
Football Camp (Yrs 3–8, 10.00–14.00) – Click Here
Early drop-off option available at Clacton, Maldon, Colchester Academy & JobServe Community Stadium Camps.

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OCTOBER HALF TERM FAMILY WARM HUB

St Clare's Primary School
Cloes Lane, Clacton CO16 8AG

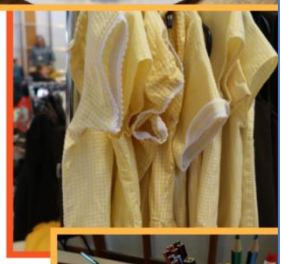
Thursday 29th October
10am-1pm

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)







CVST
BRINGING UNITY TO OUR COMMUNITY

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