



# **NEWSLETTER**

**22nd March 2024**

**In this week's edition!**

**Principal's Message**

**Headteacher Award**

**Curriculum**

**Attendance**

**School Games**

**Science Week**

**Work for Us**

**Class Photos**

**Media Group Report**

**Art Competition**

**Media Club Newspaper**

**Become a Governor**

**SEND News**

**Important Dates**

**Community Notices**

---

# Principal's Message

---

It has been a very busy 2 weeks at school. I have been lucky enough to spend time with our youngest and oldest pupils. Rescuing a pigeon from Class Mercury was a new one, it was given 2 hours to leave but could not see the door it entered by, so a ladder was needed. The children will be delighted to hear it was OK and was caught and released safely!

It was great fun to see the creative side of Y6 as they constructed Lego futuristic farms after creating a floor map on A3 paper. Understanding sustainability is a key message for our Y6 pupils as they make the transition to high school. They will certainly face an ever changing landscape when it comes to energy sources / environmental challenges.

In YR I had the pleasure of sharing some mathematics work using 10 frames as they reinforced their understanding of number. I also enjoyed covering Class Venus this week while Miss Bradd was on a course. They were very energetic for PE and were focused on their reading / vocabulary work.

The last assembly theme I covered was Teamwork. I gave the school a problem to solve - which they did very well. We then had a demonstration of teamwork with some hoops. I asked classes to list some teamwork qualities and the list they compiled was excellent: respect, working together, kindness etc.

Look forward to seeing you at Parent Consultations next week. There is a slight change to the logistics for the evening - all consultations will take place in the main school hall and the discovery centre will be a holding area (more space) where governors will be in attendance for discussion. On Tuesday the Book Fair will be running in the small hall so it will be busy. Teachers will have your child's books to show you. Would you please place them in the labelled containers in the discovery centre when you have looked at them.

I am pleased to announce that, subject to recruitment checks, we have recruited a new full time SENDCo who will join the academy in June.

The Marathon is now 4 weeks away on Sunday. I will add the fundraising link again before we break for Easter. I am on 25% of the £2000 target so any help appreciated to support disadvantaged children in Essex. The children are still running laps at break time and lunch time here.

I hope you all have an enjoyable weekend. The weather is starting to feel more 'Spring' like!

Take care all, Mr Burden.

---

# Headteacher Award

---

15th March 2024



22nd March 2024



---

# Curriculum

---

We are nearing the end of the spring half term and the experiences / topics covered in class. New ones will begin on return in April.

Well done to Class Neptune for their Class Assembly yesterday - really informative and the children spoke with pride about their learning. They began with a super quiz about key learning from their Stone Age topic. They explained phrases, timelines, different types of rock and read out some newspaper reports too. The children showed some cave prints they had made in art and the fossil imprints of dinosaurs too. Thanks to the parents / carers who attended to cheer the pupils on.

All classes enjoyed the Planetarium visit on Wednesday, learning up close about our solar system. Thank you to the Friends of Fritch Green (FFG) for funding this project.

Some quotes from the children:

Brooke Y6 - "The projector showed the planets and the moon moving in space".

Isaac Y4 - "We could see the electromagnetic waves in the sun

Harry Y2 - "We saw the craters in the moon that were caused by asteroids."



A huge thanks to the Butler family for bringing some lambs to school last week for our YR children to experience, including feeding them a bottle. They also got very close to a tractor, which must have seemed gigantic to our youngest pupils! They had some questions about the size of the wheels!



# Attendance

Last two week's class winners:

Week 24 11/3/24 (5 days)	Class Moon	97.86
Week 25 18/3/24 (5 days)	Class Neptune	98.62

Whole school attendance has risen a small margin but still low at 93.52%. Remaining 1% below the national average which is at 94.6%



**Essex County Council Education**

## GOOD TIMEKEEPING

**What to do the night before:**

- Get everything you need for school ready
- Set your alarm allowing plenty of time
- Make your lunch and drink if you bring a packed lunch to school
- Turn off devices half an hour before bedtime
- Have a good night's sleep - a minimum of eight hours!

**Five minutes late per day soon adds up to three days of lost school time**

**For mental health support for young people visit: [www.youngminds.org.uk](http://www.youngminds.org.uk)**

---

# School Games

---

All our KS1 classes enjoyed a Dance Festival at Dunmow St Mary's School last Friday. They enjoyed performances from other DEEP schools and each of our 3 KS1 classes then performed to an audience.

Saturn - Monster Mash

Venus - You have got a friend in me

Jupiter - Rainforest

Parents / carers will get to see dance next week at school.

Today some children from KS2 competed in an archery competition at Felsted School.



---

# Science Week

---

All classes answered a big question linked to the theme 'Time' this year. Please have a read to find out more:

## **Pluto and Mercury class**

How long does it take for bread to go mouldy?

In Reception we tested bread with a range of different variables to find out which one would go mouldy first. We touched the bread with washed hands, dirty hands, rubbed a piece of bread on the bathroom floor and on door handles to see which would cause the most bacteria. We have placed the bread in a sealed clear bag to see which one we think will go mouldy first. At the start of the investigation we all made a prediction and we are still waiting for the results!

## **Venus, Saturn and Jupiter class**

Which liquid makes your sweet last the longest?

In year 1/2 we looked at different experiments using sweets in relation to time. We tested to see what happened to a gummy bear in different liquids (tap water, salt solution and sugar solution) and were very surprised by the results! The tap water gummy bear grew so big and the one in the salt solution shrunk a little. We also made a rainbow with skittles and warm water and created a tower of cola by putting mentos into a freshly opened cola bottle. Another investigation we did was a test to see how different sweets behaved in different types of liquid (vinegar, Milton solution and milk). Venus class even left the sweets in the liquids for a few days and there was a real difference in the end results with some of the sweets breaking down a lot and others not having much effect at all.

## **Neptune and Mars class**

What is the permeability in different soils?

Neptune and Mars carried out an investigation to compare soil permeability. First, the same quantity of water was passed through three types of soil. Then the class watched to see if the water was able to filter through it. After, the class measured the amount of water that had filtered through to see which soil allowed the most water to pass through it. The class then used this data to answer their predictions on which soil was the most permeable. Finally, we were able to conclude that the soil that allowed the most water to pass through it, was the most permeable. This is due to the structure of the soil and the larger amount of pores which allow water to filter through.



### **Moon class**

Moon Class decided to answer the very tricky question: Which biscuit makes the best biscuit for dunking?

We tested 5 different types of biscuits, with varying sugar content. When making our predictions we discussed that the biscuit with the most sugar would dissolve the quickest because when hot water and sugar mix it dissolves. We predicted that the digestive biscuit would be the best biscuit for dunking. In our results, we found out that the best biscuit was a rich tea biscuit and the worst was a custard cream.

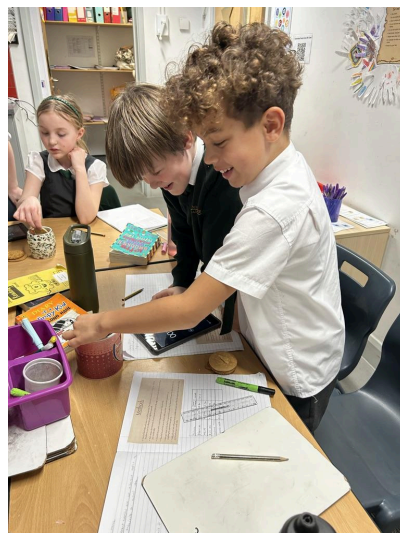
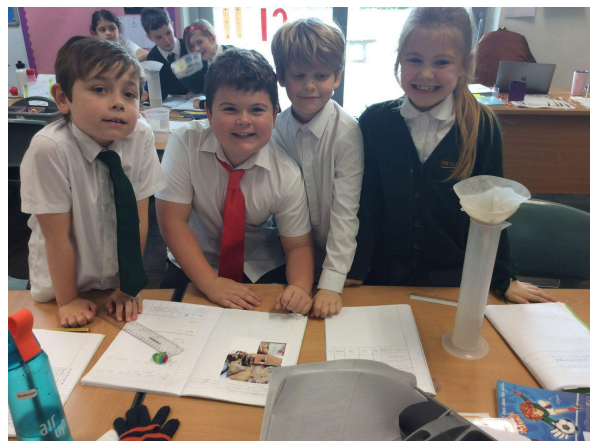
### **Sun and Comet class (Year 5)**

On Monday, the class of year 5's were able to use their knowledge of the Earth and Moon's movement to explain how the Moon rotates around the Earth. As they have discovered, it takes 27 days for the Moon to orbit Earth, it takes 24 hours for the Earth to complete a full rotation and it takes the Earth 365 days to orbit the sun. The class were then able to use this knowledge to create a small replica of this process.

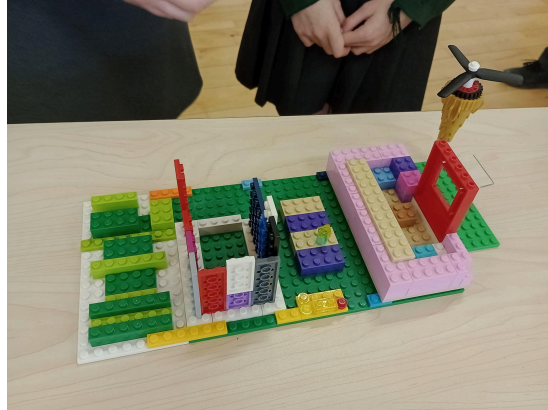
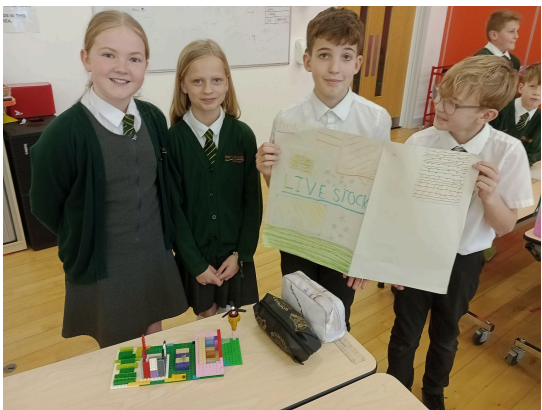
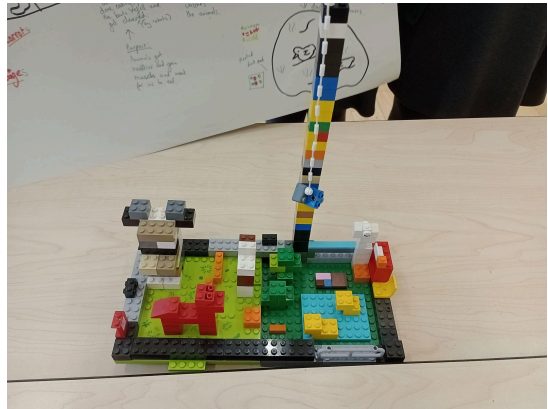
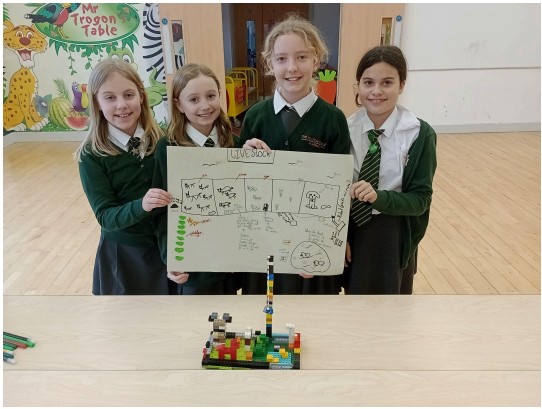
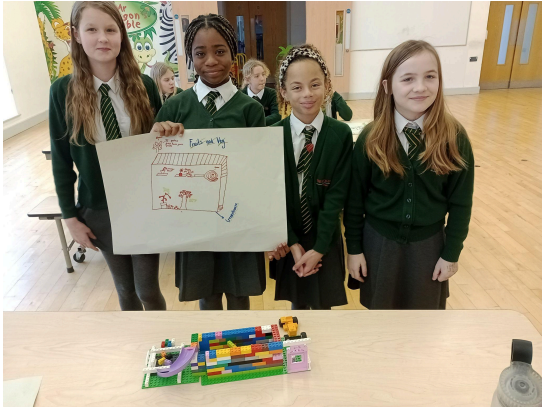
### **Comet and Earth class (Year 6)**

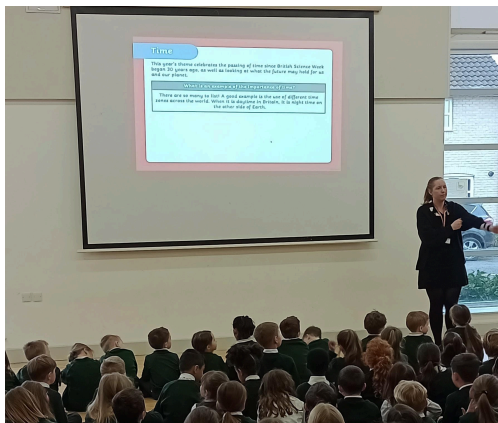
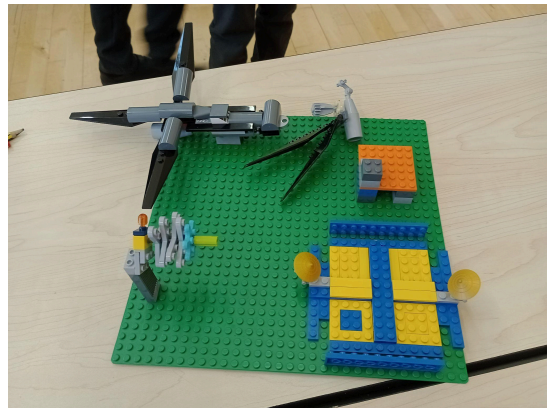
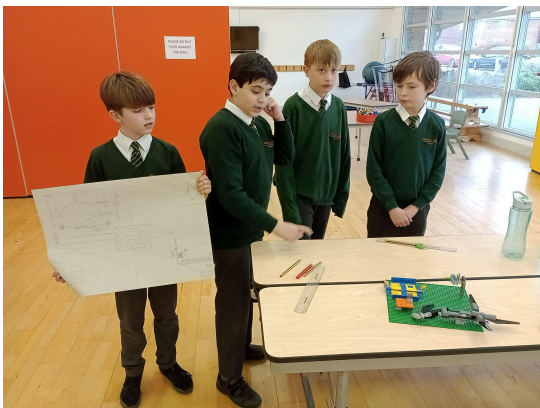
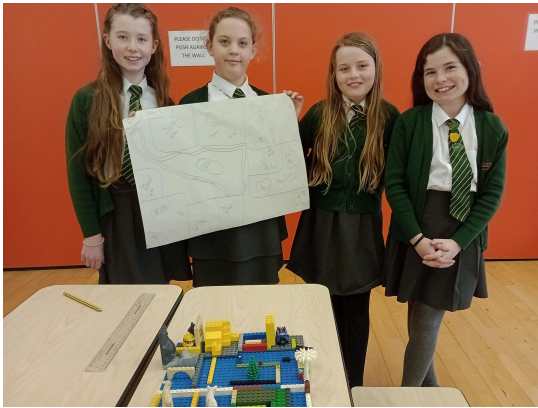
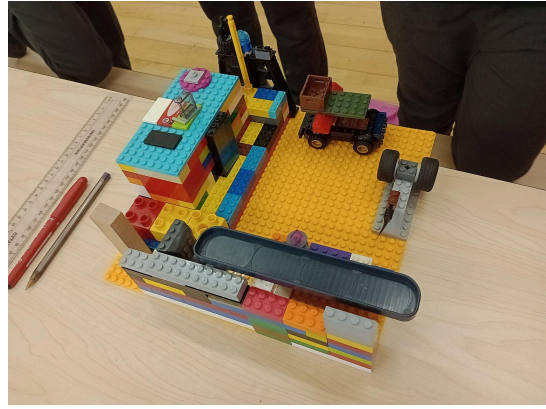
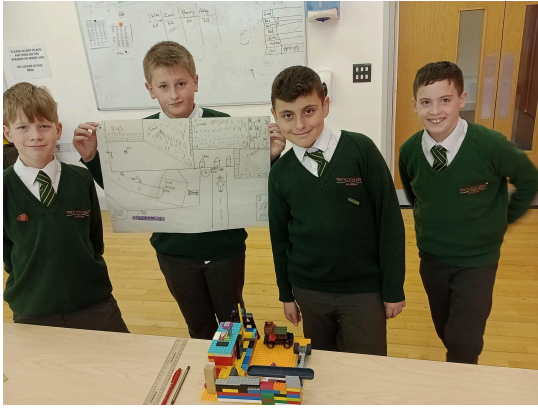
What does the future hold for farming?

The children in year 6 had to consider different things that are farmed: Arable, Horticultural, Livestock and Dairy. They then had to select one to research and re-designed a futuristic farm that is sustainable. They used lego to construct a model of their design and loved this part of it!









---

## Work for Us

---

We are currently looking to recruit Learning Support Assistants and an After School Club Assistant

Please click [here](#) for more information on the current vacancies at the Academy.

---

## Class Photos

---

It's that time of the year again where we welcome back Rob Sambrook Photography to our school, to take our class photos.

Class photos will take place on **Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April**.

Please can we remind you that all children are to wear full school uniform - even if this is your child's PE day. PE lessons for the day will be slightly adapted to accommodate class photos.

---

## Media Group Report

---

### Planetarium Visit

This week, two kind people from university visited Flich Green (our school) on Wednesday to show us how space looks and give some information about the planets in space!

We sat in an inflatable dome and we looked up and could see how every planet is unique.

Thank you, Alisa and Erin

---

# Art Competition

---

We have been invited to participate in an art competition for Dunmow's carnival. To make things easier, we created a poster that will be added to each class's Google Classroom.

Last year, some children did this as homework during Easter and we had a winner!

More information can be found below, but If your child has any questions about this competition, please ask them to find Miss Bradd in Venus Class.



## Overview

The Great Dunmow Carnival is on Saturday 21st September 2024. They have asked us to get involved by creating a piece of artwork to focus on the Carnival theme which is 'Olympic Cities'. As part of the Carnival preparation, they hold a children's art competition where they ask children from local schools to design a drawing related to the Carnival theme for the cover of their programme.

The Carnival Committee delivers the Carnival programme to 8,000 homes across Great Dunmow and surrounding villages and is a great opportunity to display artwork from local schools.

## Prizes:

There will be five prizes. One overall winner will be featured on the front of the programme, and four runners up.

## Guidelines

There are a few guidelines to follow for the artwork to ensure they get the best picture possible, and to ensure there are no issues when displaying this in the Carnival programme.

- The artwork needs to be a drawing or a painting on A4 paper, or the template attached (but it must be in the proportion indicated to be considered for use). It can be colour or black and white.
- The artwork **must not** include **any** words or titles.
- The use of glitter whilst very attractive is difficult for the printers to reproduce so we would ask for paintings or drawings only, please.
- The following information **must** be clearly written on the back of the artwork:

**Child's Name**

**Child's Age**

**School**

To ensure the selected artwork can be included in the programme please hand any entries to Miss Bradd by **Friday 17th May**. The Carnival Committee will be judging the artwork and will notify the school of any winners by the end of June.

**Good luck!**

---

# Media Club Newspaper

---

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have been making a newspaper during Media Club called the Green Gazette. Our newspaper is all about things happening in Fritch Green and our school. We are pleased to share with you a LIMITED EDITION version of the Green Gazette on the school website with this newsletter!

["Green Gazette"](#)

We hope that you enjoy reading our articles.

From the Press Team  
Edited by Miss Thomas and Miss Hodgkinson.



---

# Become a Governor

---

Seeking enthusiastic Community Governors- Please do pass onto family and friends

I am writing to you on behalf of the Flitch Green Academy. Ofsted rated our Academy 'Good' in March 2018 and did an interim visit in July 2023 where we remained 'Good.' The report recognised many strengths including the excellent behaviour of our pupils and our committed and hard working staff and leadership team.

Our principal Mr Alex Burden, has lots of exciting plans and will be leading us forward, in his second year with us at the Academy. Already this year, a new running track and tyre park has been installed for our pupils.

As an Academy, we strive to provide our pupils with a stimulating environment to learn key skills, acquire knowledge and to appreciate the world they live in, so that all of our children become 'Learners for Life'. Our children learn from an innovative, experienced based and creative curriculum.

By this stage, you may be wondering why I am sharing all of this information about our Academy with you. The simple answer is that we, as a Governing Body, are looking for individuals from the community, who can offer us some key skills and become members of our Governing Body. If you are an individual with comms experience, specific accountancy, financial and strategic business direction this would certainly be desirable but not a must.

If you are interested in investing some time in your local community and joining our Governing Body, then I would very much like to invite you to contact us and find out more about the role of Community Governor at the Flitch Green Academy. Please email me at [katie.bailey@flitchgreen.net](mailto:katie.bailey@flitchgreen.net). I very much look forward to hearing from you.

**We are also seeking new Parent Governors. Further details regarding how to apply will be circulated on Parent Mail!**

Yours sincerely,

Katie Bailey

Vice Chair of Governors 2023/24



---

# SEND NEWS

---

Interventions moved outside this week when we experienced a rare glimpse of sunshine!

Mr Bright has carried on his practical interventions. So far, the children have decorated the music hut, put wooden tops on tables, helped set up the new iPad trolleys and made a mud kitchen and welly racks for Forest School. Miss O'Neill has kindly offered to make an A2 display book of all the completed projects, which will form part of Literacy sessions for the children. This will be left on display in the Summer Term.

Thank you, Mr Bright and Miss O'Neill!



Mason adding some finishing touches to the tables!



Neptune class, trying out Boxercise with Ms Young this week. This intervention supports strength, coordination, following instructions, working in pairs and general fitness. It is also good fun!

Wednesday, 1<sup>st</sup> May 2024 from 11:00-12:00

Autism Central Peer Coffee Morning

An opportunity to gain further information on autism from our Essex partners and to socialise with other parents over refreshments.

Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2024 from 09:30-10:30

Visit from Mr Ray Coe, Special Educational Needs & Disabilities Coordinator (SENDCo), Forest Hall to meet with Year 5 and 6 pupils and parents.

Coffee, tea and biscuits in the hall.



 **Autism Central**

# Autism central is here to help!

**Sometimes talking to people who share similar experiences to yours means you're more likely to feel understood and get the support you need.**

The Autism Central Peer Education Programme is for parents, carers and Personal Assistants of autistic people of any age. They do not need a diagnosis to access the service. Support is provided by parents and carers of autistic people who are happy to share their knowledge and experience with others.

**What we can offer:**

- A constantly growing range of information and resources is available on the Autism Central website [www.autismcentral.org.uk](http://www.autismcentral.org.uk)
- Weekly online groups sessions - drop-ins and themed sessions covering a range of topics
- 1:1 support via a telephone or Teams call. This can be requested via the QR code below

[www.autismcentral.org.uk](http://www.autismcentral.org.uk)

Scan me 

Funded by 

Delivered by   
Essex County Council

---

# Important Dates for Spring Term

---

Book Fair 21st to 26th March

Monday 25th March - Year 6 Residential Information Meeting (16:00)

Tuesday 26th March - Parents Evening (15:30-19:30)

Wednesday 27th March - Parents Evening (15:30- 17:30)

Thursday 28th March - Term finishes at 1pm.

---

# Community Notices

---

**Please remember to check the 'Community' tab of our website regularly, as we upload community groups and events that we hope you may be interested in.**

[www.theflitchgreenacademy.co.uk](http://www.theflitchgreenacademy.co.uk)

This week you can find information on:

Crossley Palmer Dance Classes

Notley Youth Football Club

Alex Hart Kaizen Karate and Kickboxing

Dunmow Carnival 2024

Braintree Dentist Information - NHS places available for children

Superstar Sports Easter Camps

MRFA Easter Camps

Salad Days Magazine

Kizaround Magazine