



# **NEWSLETTER - 28th March 2024**

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# Principal's Message

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A short hello from me today as we had a newsletter last Friday too.

It was great to see so many families on Tuesday and Wednesday this week for Parents' Evenings. The vast majority of children's parents/carers made appointments. If you did not, please contact the school and class teachers can be in touch after Easter.

Well done to the Gold Award winners today. Lovely to celebrate their achievements in assembly today and for family members to stay with their children at the end.

The London marathon is 3 weeks away this Sunday. I completed my last longer run (30km) on Monday fuelled by 6 cola bottles! If you can help with the fundraising for Wooden Spoon I would be extremely grateful - link below. I am at around £600 of the £2000 target, so I really want to push the fundraising in the next 3 weeks. Remember this supports disadvantaged children. I am hoping to run the course in around 4 hours, but a massive shout out to Mr Bastendorff who I was chatting with on Tuesday at parent's evening. He is aiming for under 3 hours! This is about 6½ minutes for each mile. So massive respect, admiration and good luck.

[Mr Burden London Marathon](#)

We enjoyed a busy week with football, dance, The Wizard of Oz drama, water rescue for the Y1/5 swimmers and a super Easter Banquet for YR.

Wishing you all a safe and enjoyable Easter break.

Mr Burden.

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# Headteacher Award

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28th March 2024



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# Curriculum

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Thanks for supporting the children this term with their projects. We look forward to sharing more news next term.

# Attendance

Winners at the end of the term:  
This past week:

Week 26 25/3/24 (3.5 days)	Class Moon	98.21%
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Spring 2nd half term - Venus with 97.20%.

Spring term - Venus with 96.36%.

School attendance for the year stands at 93.47% and slightly higher for this term. We want to see this increase to over 94% in the summer term please.



**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)**

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# School Games

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Well done to the archery team for their efforts last week, the Y6 group came 2nd and qualified for the next round. Y5 came 4th and Y3/4 finished 5th and 6th (two separate teams).

On Wednesday this week we attended the rearranged Y5/6 football tournament at Dunmow St Mary's Primary School.

The girls came 6th with 6 ties and 2 loses - Brooke and Toni scored. The games were short (7mins) so it was quite hard to get ahead.

The boys came 7th with a 2-0 win, 4 ties and 2 losses.



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# Drama Club

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Spring term's Drama Club concluded with a wonderful performance of 'The Wizard of Oz'!

Well done to all of the children involved!



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# School Lunches – Price Increase

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To- Parents and Carers at – The Fritch Green Academy

8<sup>th</sup> March 2024

Dear Parents and Carer

I am sorry to inform you that due to the ever increasing food and labour cost, TCS need to increase the pupil school meal price to £2.53 starting on 1<sup>th</sup> April 2024 after the Easter break.

This is not a decision that has been taken lightly, we have always tried to keep the cost to our customers as low as possible.

In setting the meal price we have worked hard to achieve a lunch time menu that is of the best quality but still affordable to the parents.

**Food Costs** – Despite continually increasing fresh food costs we believe that it is still very important to use fresh, Farm Assured produce from local farms and we continue to do this wherever possible.

Over the years we have developed excellent working relationships with our suppliers and negotiated good purchasing arrangements. Our meal price has benefited from these arrangements but these companies are also having difficulty in meeting costs and prices have been considerably increased.

**Labour Costs** – In April the minimum wage will rise again, the largest % increase on record and to be fair to all, where possible, we increased all kitchen staff wages by the same value.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your custom and hope you understand our situation and will continue to support your school meal service.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G Russell', written in a cursive style.

Gill Russell  
Contract Manager

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## Work for Us

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We are currently looking to recruit Learning Support Assistants.

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

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## Class Photos

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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.



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# Art Competition

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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!**

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# Become a Governor

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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

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# Important Dates for Summer Term

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Children return to school - Monday 15th April

Class Photos - Thursday 25th April

Bank Holiday - Monday 6th May

Year 4 Residential - 8th May to 10th May

Mercury Class Assembly - Thursday 9th May (9:00)

Year 6 SATs - 13th May to 16th May

Year 6 Residential - 20th May to 24th May

Mars Class Assembly - Thursday 23rd May (9:00)

HALF TERM - 27th May - 31st May

NON PUPIL DAY - Monday 3rd June

Children return to school - Tuesday 4th June

Saturn Class Assembly - Thursday 13th June (9:00)

Sports Day - Wednesday 19th June

Jupiter Class Assembly - Thursday 20th June (9:00)

Pluto Class Assembly - Thursday 4th July (9:00)

Venus Class Assembly - Thursday 11th July (9:00)

Moving Up Afternoon and Open Evening - Tuesday 16th July (18:00 - 19:30)

Year 6 Production - TBC

Year 6 Leavers Assembly - TBC

Fritch Fest - Friday 19th July

Finish for Summer Break - Friday 26th July (13:00)

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# Community Notices

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**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

Ollie Clark Tennis Camp

Hanningfield Adventure Discovery Centre

Wholesome Charity Family Lunch, Dunmow

Salad Days Magazine

Kizaround Magazine