



Chipping Hill Times

Issue 12

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Dear Parents and Carers,

What a wonderful start to half term we are having! This is such a short one and we have lots packed in - it is no wonder we are already at the end of week 2! It has been a real treat to see the sunshine making an appearance and I hope you have all been able to enjoy the brighter mornings and evenings as much as we have.

Last week's Spanish Day was a huge success and another highlight of this academic year - not least because I had the absolute pleasure of wearing the cape that the children had so carefully made! It is now in pride of place by the Office. A big thank you to Mrs Church for her planning and organisation of the day, and to Miss Chappel for all of the creative support that made it so memorable. The children's enthusiasm was infectious and it was a real celebration of language and culture across the whole school.

Yesterday, of course, was World Book Day - another highlight for this year! The costumes from both children and adults were absolutely fantastic; the creativity and effort on display was great to see. Thank you so much to every single one of you - parents very much included - for the time and thought that went into making the day so positive. The wrapped-up book swap was a wonderful addition to the day, and the children had some lovely opportunities to spend time with their buddy classes, reading together and sharing their favourite stories. There is something very special about seeing our children connect over books in that way. Thank you to Mrs Carvalho for all of your organisation to enable the day to be a success.

We were delighted to welcome one of our Governors, Mr Drew, into school to judge the window display competition. It was a tough job with so much effort from all of the classes! [Congratulations](#) to Wrens for their Rapunzel window for KS1, and Hawks for their Little Red Riding Hood window for KS2 - a brilliant contribution from absolutely everyone involved. Do take a look whilst they are still up!

The Walker bars arranged by our PTA have also been a great success, and I am very much looking forward to spending time with our lucky golden ticket winners next week! Thank you to the PTA for yet again going above and beyond to bring something a little extra to our school community - it is so appreciated.

I continue to be exceptionally proud of this school and everything we achieve and provide for our children together. The commitment of our entire community; staff, families, and governors alike, to help our children thrive is second to none. Thank you for being such an important part of it.

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend, continuing a love of reading and joy through stories.

Best wishes,
Mrs Walker
Headteacher

Important Information

- The Super Supper Club booking forms for Summer Term will be sent out next week. Please ensure all balances are cleared before making bookings for after the Easter holidays. If you are having any problems making payments please contact the school office.
- We are changing how we report any minor head bump incidents that occur at school. Instead of telephoning we will be sending an email and the red slips will continue to be sent home with your child as before.

Chipping Hill Ambassador Awards

Congratulations to all these pupils!

On Friday 27th February we celebrated those children who received the Democracy in Action Ambassador Award – for championing fairness, voice and respect for all and showing they can participate in a respectful debate, demonstrating the importance of listening to another point of view and accepting the outcome of a class decision even if it was not what they had hoped for.

Robins - Eliza	Kites - Dylan
Nightingales - Royal	Kestrels - William
Skylarks - Max	Harriers - Maya
Kingfishers - Ariella	Eagles - Elisa
Swifts - Alfredo	Hawks - Mason
Ospreys - James	Falcons - Lourenco
	Condors - Poppy

This week we have been celebrating those children who received the Problem Solving Ambassador Award. These awards have gone to someone who spots a problem but does not walk past it. They stay calm under pressure and think of creative solutions while bringing people together to find a way forward. They know how to keep going even when it gets tough and can use these skills across all aspects of their school day.

Wrens - George	Kites - Ronnie
Robins - Elisa	Kestrels - Cameron
Nightingales - Zach	Harriers - Vinnie
Skylarks - George	Eagles - Evie
Kingfishers - Robin	Hawks - Olivia
Swifts - Maddison	Falcons - Bill
Ospreys - Charlie	Condors - Lola

Spanish Day

Last Friday, we all celebrated Spanish Day! We learnt about different Spanish festivals, specifically Las Fallas which is a big celebration in Valencia. We made decorations for our Spanish feast at lunchtime and made flowers to offer the patron saint of Valencia.





Starting Reception Roadshows



Is Your Little One Starting Reception in September 2026?

Come along to our Starting Reception Roadshow!

Get ready for a fun, friendly, and totally FREE event designed to help you to support your child feel excited and confident about starting reception.

Essex Early Years has teamed up with local schools plus education, health and care partners to bring you a lively, helpful session packed with top tips and advice.

Want to join in? Askyourchild's childminder, preschool, or nursery for details about your nearest event, or visit the Essex Talk, Listen and Cuddle website to find out more about dates and times across Essex.

Starting Reception Roadshow near you:
[Chipping Hill Primary School, Owers Rd,](#)
Where: [Witham CM8 1FR](#)
Monday 9th March 2026
When: 4.30pm -6pm

 You can find out information about the event by scanning the QR code or visiting www.tlc-essex.info and searching 'Starting reception'

Follow us on social media to join our Starting Reception Campaign




Instagram Facebook



Useful Contacts

NHS Healthy Start Scheme -
www.healthystart.nhs.uk

Healthy Start provides financial help for families on low incomes or certain benefits, helping them to buy:

- Fruit and vegetables
- Milk
- Infant formula

Vitamins for pregnant women, new mums, and young children.

Best Start in Life - beststartinlife.gov.uk

Supporting families every step of the way, Best Start in Life is here to help you and your child thrive, from pregnancy through to starting school. Being a parent brings incredible moments of joy alongside natural worries and questions. Whether you're expecting your first baby, understanding your child's early health, navigating their first day in childcare, or preparing for school, the Best Start in Life website brings together a range of trusted information and support in one easy-to-access place.

Essex Child and Family Wellbeing Service -
<https://essexfamilywellbeing.co.uk/>

Phone - 0300 247 0013

Home-Start Essex - www.home-startessex.org.uk

Home-Start Essex works with families who have children under 5, supporting parents to give their children the best possible start in life.

Witham Community Hub - www.withamhub.co.uk

17 The Grove Shopping Centre, Witham, Essex,
CM8 2YT

Phone: 01376 617998

Enquiries: info@withamhub.co.uk

Launch of Free Yo-Yo Project Bereavement Consultation Line - [Website Link](#)

The Yo-Yo Project, Farleigh Hospice's Children and Young People's Bereavement Service, is piloting a new telephone consultation line designed to provide quick access to advice from a qualified and experienced child/young person's therapist. The consultation line number is **01245 933855** and will be open **Tuesdays 3pm-5pm** and **Thursdays 11am-12.30pm**.

Payment Reminders

Year 1 Trip to Layer Marney Tower: Please ensure permission and payment of £20.39 is received in school by Monday 16th March. This can be done online via Scopay or by returning payment to the school office.

Year 3 Trip to Colchester Zoo: Please ensure permission and payment of £8.74 for those children without a gold card and £1.74 for those children with a gold card is received in school by Monday 16th March. This can be done online via Scopay or by returning payment to the school office.

Year 4 - Harriers and Kestrels Swimming: Please ensure permission and payment of £44.67 is received in school by Monday 23rd March. This can be done online via Scopay or by returning payment to the school office.

Year 5 Trip to Walton-on-the-Naze: Please ensure permission and payment of £12.55 is received in school by Friday 27th March. This can be done online via Scopay or by returning payment to the school office.

Year 2 Trip to Barleylands: Please ensure permission and payment of £16.47 is received in school by Monday 20th April. This can be done online via Scopay or by returning payment to the school office.

If there are any problems making payments please speak to the office. Thank you.

Years 2 and 5

On Wednesday 4th March, our Year 2 and Year 5 pupils all enjoyed their Wonderdome experience. During this visit, the children entered an enormous inflatable dome and were able to get comfortable and enjoy consolidating their learning about space. The Year 2 and Year 5 children both impressed our visitor with their amazing space knowledge and a fantastic time was had by all (the adults included)!



Recent Letters And Communications

- Chelmsford County High School for Girls - Open Evening
- Chelmsford Junior Music Festival - lunchtime Choir Club
- Year 4 - Costume List - Hoodwinked
- Transport for Braintree Sings
- Years 4 - 6 - Chelmsford Junior Music Festival - Monday 15th June
- Hawks Class - Braintree Sings
- Year 5 - Residential Instalment Reminder
- Letter for Hawks - Safeguarding Issue
- Online Safety Newsletter - March 2026
- EYFS - Forest School Reminder
- PE Day Reminder for Spring Term 2
- Wide Awake Club Booking Forms for weeks commencing 9th, 16th and 23rd March
- Dinner Orders Weeks Commencing 9th, 16th and 23rd March 2026
- Friends of Chipping Hill Upcoming Events
- Harriers Class Staffing Update
- Robins Class Staffing Update

Dinner Menu Rotation

Week commencing 09/03/26: Spring Term Menu 1

Week commencing 16/03/26: Spring Term Menu 2

Week commencing 23/03/26: Spring Term Menu 3

Dinner orders for these weeks are now closed.

Year 3 Football

On Monday 2nd March, a team of seven Year 3 pupils went to Chelmer Valley High School to participate in a football tournament. The team did fantastically well, remaining positive throughout and playing some brilliant football.



Out of 15 schools, I am very pleased to say that they came 3rd overall for the entire event!

Events Diary

If there are any changes to the dates listed, we will notify you as soon as possible.

- 10.03.26:** EYFS Parent Phonics Session at 9am in class
- 11.03.26:** Friends of Chipping Hill Gifts for Someone Special Stalls during school day
- 12.03.26 to 17.03.26:** Book Fair (further details to follow)
- 13.03.26:** Hawks - Braintree Sings!
- 17.03.26:** iRock Concert. Parents joining from 2.15pm
- 20.03.26:** Eagles Forest School AM and Hawks Forest PM
- 25.03.26:** Year 3 - Colchester Zoo Trip
- 25.03.26:** Year 4 Easter Performances at 2pm and 6pm
- 26.03.26:** Year 1 Trip to Layer Marney Tower
- 26.03.26:** EYFS Learning Journey and Years 1 - 6 Progress from 2.50pm to 4.30pm in classrooms
- 26.03.26:** Friends of Chipping Hill Great Easter Bake Off in school and cake sale after school
- 27.03.26:** No running club or girls basketball club
- 30.03.26 to 10.04.26:** Easter Holidays
- 13.04.26:** First Day of Summer Term



WANTED: Parent Governors

If you would like to become more involved with school governance perhaps you might think about becoming a Parent Governor. If you would like more information and/or to talk through what the role entails, please contact our Chair of Governors, Karen Butler at;

karen.butler@chippinghill.essex.sch.uk

Community Information

Information regarding the following has been included in the community section of our school website, please take a look if you would like further information. These are all third party events/information, not endorsed by the school, but they may be of interest to you.

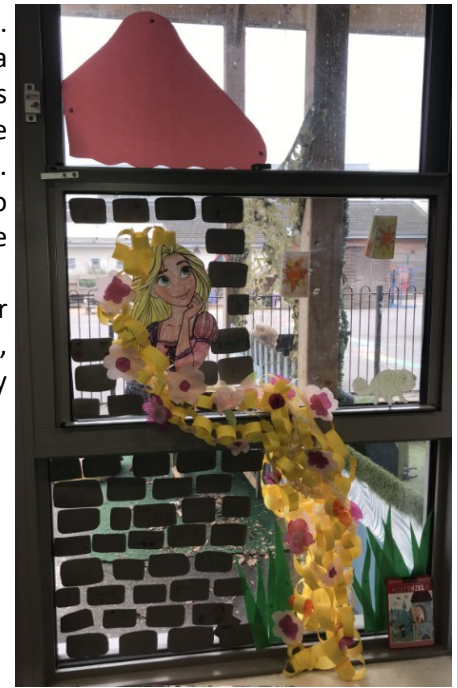
<https://www.chippinghill.essex.sch.uk/community-info>

- Ride for Helen 2026
- SEND Roadshow in Chelmsford
- ACL - Community and Family Learning Courses - March
- Chelmsford County High School for Girls - Open Evening

World Book Day

On Thursday 5th March we had a fantastic day celebrating World Book Day. We started the day with some peer reading, we then chose a book from a huge selection of wrapped books. We wrote a story as a school. The Robins class started the story by choosing an object to write about. Each class wrote a part and passed it on to the next class. We also played The Masked Reader. We disguised children from our class and sent them into our partner class to read in a disguised voice. The other class had to guess who was behind the mask.

We also had a competition to design a window based on a chosen fairy tale or traditional tale. Mr Drew and Mrs Carvalho had trouble picking the winners, but KS1 was won by the Wrens for their Rapunzel display and KS2 was won by the Hawks for their Little Red Riding Hood display.



In the spirit of World Book Day, we are pleased to let everyone know about a book one of our parents has written and had published. All of the children have had the opportunity to listen to 'Just Like Me' by Elj Abid in their classes. We are excited to see it in print and inspire our own budding authors!

**Friends of Chipping Hill would like to thank everyone who bought a Walkers bar, over £550 has been raised!
Thank you to the sponsors Bespoke Lifts Ltd and Niche and Clean.**

Friends of Chipping Hill Primary School - Upcoming Events



Gifts for Someone Special

The children will have the opportunity to purchase a gift for a special female in their life - whether that is a mum, grandmother, aunt or another important person. Gifts will be priced between £2 and £4 and the children are welcome to buy more than one gift. This will be happening in school on Wednesday 11th March, please send the children in with change where possible.

The Great Easter Bake Off

Finally, we are thrilled to announce our Great Easter Bake off! We invite children and families to get creative at home and submit their Easter bakes in school on Thursday 26th March to be judged. Bakes must be handed in with a slip that needs to be completed with the full list of ingredients as the bakes will then be sold at the end of the day. These slips can be collected from the office. Please remember that we are a NO NUTS school and this includes nut based ingredients such as chocolate spreads. The cakes will be sold for £1 a slice/item, again, we would appreciate you bringing change. The winning Easter bakes will receive an Easter themed prize!



**PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT IF YOUR CHILD JOINS A CLUB
THAT YOU KEEP A NOTE OF THE DATES AND FINISHING TIMES.**

Spring - School Activity Clubs

MONDAYS:

Netball (Years 5 & 6): From 12th January to 23rd March, finishing at 4.15pm

KS1 Football (Years 1 & 2): From 12th January to 23rd March, finishing at 4.20pm (£45)

No KS1 Football on Monday 23rd February

MiniMe Mindfulness (Years 1 – 6): From 12th January to 23rd March, finishing at 4.15pm (£60)

Choir (Years 1 - 6): From 12th January to 23rd March, finishing at 4.15pm (£40.50)

No Choir on Monday 23rd February

TUESDAYS:

MegaBallers (Years 1 - 6): From 24th February to 24th March, (7.40am-8.35am) (£32.50)

KS1 Multisports (Years 1 & 2): From 13th January to 24th March, finishing at 4.15pm

Boys Football (Years 5 & 6): From 13th January to 24th March finishing at 4.20pm (£50)

Tennis (Years 1 - 6): From 13th January to 24th March, finishing at 4.05pm (£50)

WEDNESDAYS:

Early Morning Fitness (Years 1 - 6): From 14th January to 25th March (7.40am-8.35am)

KS2 Ball Games (Years 3 - 6) From 14th January to 25th March, finishing at 4.20pm (£50)

Boys Football (Years 3 & 4): From 14th January to 25th March, finishing at 4.15pm

Hip Hop (Years 3 - 6): From 25th February to 25th March, finishing at 4.15pm (£30)

StandUp Drama School (Years 1 - 6): From 7th January to 25th March, finishing at 4.15pm (£50)

Art and Craft Club (Years 1 & 2): From 25th February to 25th March, finishing at 4.15pm (£25)

THURSDAYS:

Early Morning Fitness (Years 1 - 6): From 15th January to 26th March (7.40am-8.35am)

KS2 Multisports (Years 3 - 6): From 15th January to 26th March, finishing at 4.20pm (£50)

KS2 Girls Football (Years 3 - 6): From 15th January to 26th March, finishing at 4.15pm

Hip Hop (Years 1 & 2): From 26th February to 26th March, finishing at 4.15pm (£30)

FRIDAYS:

KS2 Running Club (Years 3 - 6): From 16th January to 20th March, finishing at 4.15pm

KS2 Gymnastics (Years 3 - 6): From 27th February to 27th March, finishing at 4.15pm (£30)

Lego Robotics Club (Years 3 & 4): From 16th January to 27th March, finishing at 4.15pm

Girls Basketball (Years 3 - 6): From 16th January to 20th March, finishing at 4.15pm (£40)