

Merry Christmas from all at BFJS!



Wow! What a term it has been, and we have had a fantastic few days to round it off before the Christmas break. There have been performances, talent shows and raffles to name but a few! From all of us here, thank you for your continued support. We continue to listen to feedback from parents and have thoroughly enjoyed the increased opportunities for parent involvement onsite. We are looking forward to this continuing into 2024 as we embark on an exciting year with the amalgamation of the Infant and Junior schools. We look forward to welcoming all pupils back on Thursday 4th January 2024.



Wishing you and your family a Merry Christmas and all of the happiness for 2024!

Mr McTaggart and Mrs Walker

Year 3 - Christmas around the World!

Thank you to all of the parents and carers that supported the Year 3 performances on Monday and Tuesday. The children have worked exceptionally hard to learn lines, dances and songs and they thoroughly enjoyed all of the performances. A huge thank you to the staff team in Year 3 for making it possible and to you at home for helping them learn and providing some fantastic costumes!



Barnes Farm Junior has got PLENTY of talent!



Another fantastic set of acts were nominated to take part in the talent show today. We were spoilt with a mix of musical skill, magical finesse, gymnastic strength and phenomenal Rubix cube abilities as just a small example of the talents our pupils have to share. Well done to all of those pupils who auditioned as well as those that took part today.



CLP Parent Carer Newsletter

Please find the Autumn Term CLP Parent and Carer newsletter attached which details many achievements across the schools within the Trust and a letter from Paul Banks (CEO).

Secrets of Success Book Raffle

Over the last term, pupils have been earning their secrets of success awards and been adding their raffle tickets to the collection. The big draw took place on Tuesday with children across all year groups able to choose a brand new book to keep - and there was quite the collection! Well done to those pupils and we look forward to seeing who gets a raffle ticket in the mix for the Spring term!



Barnes Farm Primary Amalgamation Sept 2024 Update

We are pleased to let you know that, following consultation, the DFE has approved the amalgamation of Barnes Farm Infant School and Barnes Farm Junior School. From September 2024, the schools will join to become Barnes Farm Primary School and, again, we look forward to this exciting development and the benefits it will bring the pupils and families of the new school. The trust will be sharing details and plans for the school with staff, parents and carers in the next term.

Rocksteady Concert - Christmas 2023

The Rocksteady concert was a huge hit this afternoon with the creatively named: *The Golden McSpicy*, *The Year 4 Rockstars*, *The Everlasters* and *The Barn of Rock* performing some excellent hits. There was great support from our Year 3 audience as well as the parents of the band members. A big thank you to Simon from Rocksteady for his continued enthusiasm for music and commitment to supporting our pupils.



If your child is interested in joining Rocksteady, please visit <https://www.rocksteadymusicschool.com/> for further information.

Movie and Munch



The children have certainly enjoyed watching a variety of Christmas films with their friends! Thank you to the staff who have been able to make this possible for our pupils.

School Council Christmas Doors and Baubles!

Bauble Competition

This half term, the pupils were set a challenge to design and make their own Christmas bauble. All baubles were proudly displayed on the Christmas tree in the ICT suite and School Council judged the most creative and imaginative designs.



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The winning baubles for each year group are:



Mia- Year 3



Annabel S- Year 4



Thaleia- Year 5
5



Lucie- Year 6
6

Christmas Door Competition

Also this half term, the pupils and adults at the school were set a challenge to design a festive door based on a Christmas theme. The School Council were keen to get everybody involved- even Mr. McTaggart, Mrs. Walker and the office team. The School Council were so impressed with the amount of effort and enthusiasm everybody put into their door design and they found it difficult to judge a winning design.



Winner



Winner



Update from the Barnes Farm PTA

Our PTA have been working hard behind the scenes to get things up and running and we are immensely grateful for the time they have spent on this already for this academic year. Please see an update from Alex Dillon from the PTA below:

It has been a very busy term for the newly-reformed PTA, though we're acutely aware that it might not look like it from the outside!

We spent the summer trying to track down the various accounts and memberships that the PTA was part of, and begin the process of transferring them to the new team, including things like setting up the various websites, insurances and logistics we'll need, including DBS checks for the officers so that we can conduct activities on school premises.

As the PTA is a registered charity, there was quite a bottleneck of changes that could not be completed until the charity details were updated. Unfortunately, the Charity Commission decided to update and replace a lot of their systems over the summer, which really slowed down and complicated this process much more than we were anticipating.

Once this was finally done, we could then transfer the bank details and remaining accounts into the names of the new trustees.

We've also been exploring possible future events and fundraising activities, now that we have everything in place to be able to run them, and we're working with both school heads to set up events for the rest of the school year. We look forward to being able to share more with you all soon.

PE Kit Days - Spring Term 2024

PE Kit Days					
Date (Week beginning)	M	T	W	T	F
1/1/2024				5	3
8/1/2024	6	3	4	5	4
15/1/2024	6	3	4	5	5
22/1/2024	6	3	4	5	6
29/1/2024	6	3	4	5	3
5/2/2024	6	3	4	5	4
12/2/2024	6	3	4	5	5
26/2/2024		3	4	5	6
4/3/2024	6	3	4	5	3
11/3/2024	6	3	4	5	4
28/3/2024	6	3	4	5	5
25/3/2024	6	3	4	5	

E-Bike and E-Scooter Advice

The Safer Essex Road Partnership have contacted schools with a useful flyer (attached with this newsletter) to help inform the public surrounding the facts and legalities



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around e-scooters. On the approach to Christmas, many people may be considering them as gifts. You can find additional information from Essex Police [here](#).

Tech Advice




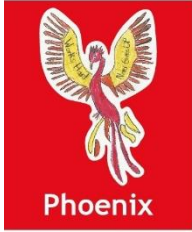






Are you planning on giving your child a new games console, mobile phone, tablet, or computer game this Christmas? Or do you have friends or family who are? Visit www.essex.police.uk/sortyoursettings for practical things you can do to help make your child's new device safer when they are online. #StaySafe



New School Dinner Menu

Our new Spring 2024 menu from Pabulum is available to view now [here](#)

House Points

Griffin	Phoenix	Pegasus	Dragon
			
Points	Points	Points	Points
147	262	327	197
			

Well done to Pegasus House as our Autumn term winners – they will receive an extra playtime on Friday 5th January 2024!

