



The Butler Buzz

R A Butler's Weekly Newsletter – 5 December 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Wonderful Winter Fayre

An enormous thank you to our PTA, parent and staff volunteers and to our families for raising an incredible £5200 last week. We know how much planning and energy the PTA put into making this a magical event for our families. We hope the children enjoyed it.



Meeting our new staff

You will have read we welcome Hayley Doone, our new SENCO, and Heidi Pearson, our Pupil and Family Support Practitioner in the new year. You have an opportunity to come in and meet them informally for coffee and a chat in the Infant Hall on:

13 January @ 9am
15 January @ 2.30pm

No need to sign up, just come along. They are looking forward to meeting our school community.

Christmas Assault Course

You will have seen that the annual Christmas assault course extravaganza is taking place next week. The children WILL get muddy, so they should wear something you don't mind getting dirty, including trainers. Legs and arms must be fully covered, they will not be allowed to take part wearing shorts or short sleeves. Helpers should also wear clothes they are happy to get muddy. If your child has a morning assault course, they can come in their assault course clothes but they must bring in their school uniform and shoes to get changed into afterwards. Don't forget a towel and plastic bag to put clothes into afterwards. Have your washing machines on standby!

Spring Term Club Spaces Available

We still have some club spaces available for the Spring Term. Please see the list on the right. If you are interested, please email Paul Belzar on sbm@rab.academy by 9am on Monday.

Snowmen for Sale

On Tuesday Late Play will be selling Snowmen Treats at the end of the day under the yellow canopy. They are £2 each and you can pay by cash or card.



SEND Consultation

The Department for Education is working on plans to improve SEND support and running events to hear about family experiences and views. If you would like to be involved you can find out more at <https://consult.education.gov.uk/send-reform-national-conversation/>

Book Look—Thursday 11 December

Between 8.40 and 9.10am, all parents will have the opportunity to go into your child's class where they can share their books and learning with you.

Diary Dates Next Week



- 8-12 Dec Lunch Menu [Week 3](#)
- 8-12 Dec Xmas Assault Course
 - Mon pm Y5 (6SM helping)
 - Tues am Y2 (6JR helping)
 - Tues pm Y4 (6AE helping)
 - Wed am Y1 (5VH helping)
 - Thurs am Y3 (5MGL helping)
 - Thurs pm Y6 (5VH helping)
 - Fri am YR (5LT helping)
- 10 Dec Y2 Christmas Play 2pm
- 10 Dec Y1 Christmas Play 5pm
- 11 Dec Whole School Book Look 8.40-9.10am
- 11 Dec Y1 Christmas Play 2pm
- 11 Dec Y2 Christmas Play 5pm
- 12 Dec Y3&4 Swimming @ LBLC

15 Jan 2026 Y2-3 & Reception 2026 Deadline
www.essex.gov.uk/admissions

MON AM	Dodgeball	3&4
MON AM	Badminton	3&4
MON PM	Football	5&6
MON PM	Benchball	5&6
TUES AM	4 & 9 Square	4 to 6
TUES PM	Hockey	5&6
TUES PM	Football	3&4
WEDS AM	Energy Club	1&2
WEDS AM	Archery	3 to 6
WEDS AM	Hockey	Y2
WEDS PM	Tag/Touch Rugby	4 to 6
WEDS PM	Football	1 & 2
THURS AM	Dodgeball	5&6
THURS AM	Karate	1&2
THURS LUNCH	Chess	3 to 6
THURS LUNCH	British Sign Language	3 to 5
THURS PM	Hockey	3&4

RE Assembly

Early Years, Year 1, and Year 2 were delighted to welcome the Reverend Jeremy Trew into school this week. He spoke to the children about the true meaning of Christmas and shared the story of the birth of baby Jesus. Pupils also had the chance to ask thoughtful questions they had prepared in their RE lessons and to explore a range of Christian traditions celebrated at Christmas.



Basketball Competition

We took 3 teams to the Year 5/6 basketball competition at SWCHS. They were split into 2 groups - with Navy and Green in Group A, and Orange in Group B. Our teams played 4 group games against some very tough local schools. The Greens showed great teamwork and play to finish 4th in their group progressing to a final game. After the group stage, Navy and Orange had won all their matches, progressing to the semi-finals. There Navy played a very strong team beating them by 1 point in the last moments of the game. The Orange team showed great resilience, however narrowly lost by 1 basket. The Navy team progressed to the final playing for Gold. In the first half, the girls played some tremendous basketball and led the game 6-0. In the second half, the boys showed resilience, working hard to keep the lead, not conceding a basket and coming out victorious 6-0. As a result, the Navy team have qualified for the Essex Finals in Colchester next week. Huge Congratulations to all the teams, you have done RAB proud! Results: Navy-1st, Orange-4th, Green-8th.

Year 5/6 dodgeball



Yesterday we took part in the USSP Finals for dodgeball. It was really tough competition with 14 schools taking part. RAB had 2 teams who qualified, our Y5 team and our Y6 team. RAB Yellow had a challenging pool and played some amazing dodgeball to come second in the pool. RAB Blue won every one of their first games topping their pool. Then came Round 2 with the finalists from Round 1. The competition got even harder with both teams exhibiting great play- dodging, ducking, and diving. Both teams narrowly missed out topping their second pools, with RAB Blue coming down to points to put them in the 3rd vs 4th play-off match. RAB Blue pipped the win for 3rd place with our Y5 team claiming 4th place. We are really proud of all the children, we were the only school to have two teams in the top 4, and it builds brilliantly for Y5 next year.

Carols at St Mary's—Wednesday 17 December

You are warmly invited to join our Carol Concert which will start at 10.00 at St Mary's Church on the last day of term. Once the children are all seated we will open the West Porch doors (the front of the church) for you to join us, **we kindly ask that you do not enter the church until invited to do so.** There is a no step access through the South Porch, so if you need this facility please make your way there, again we do ask that you wait to be let into the church. Please be aware that we have been advised by the church that food and drink are not permitted in the building. It is a wonderful end to the term and we look forward to seeing you there.

Christmas Jumpers—Monday 15 December

Children and staff are invited to wear Christmas Jumpers (or something festive) to school on Monday for their Christmas Dinner with a suggested donation of £2 for [Home Start Essex](https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/hsecharitychristmasjumperday2025), who work with local families who have children under 5, supporting parents to give their children the best possible start in life. There will be gate collections on the day or you can donate on line at <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/hsecharitychristmasjumperday2025>. The rest of the outfit should be PE kit or school uniform as normal for a Monday. There is no expectation for families to buy a Christmas jumper, we love a home decorated sweater!



Winter Fayre Wow!

We hope you all enjoyed a great time at last week's Winter Fayre, kicking off the festive season with a generous sprinkling of Christmas magic! It was fab to see so many children having a brilliant time.

A huge thank you for your generous support and to all our wonderful volunteers for helping to make it all happen.

We are beyond thrilled to confirm we raised over £5200 for our school!

If you have any feedback on the event, including what you liked and what could be even better next year, please email rabutlerpta@gmail.com

Dress the Head: are you Team Turkey or Team Star?!

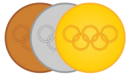

This year, voting for Mrs Vincent's special Christmas Outfit will be happening next week in classes. Will she be greeting children on Christmas Jumper Day (Monday 15 December) dressed as a Star or a rather marvellous Christmas Turkey?! The children will decide! Votes are kept secret until the big reveal when we'll discover who's at the school gate that morning...

Future Diary Dates

15 Dec	Christmas Dinner & Christmas Jumper Day
16 Dec	Reception Christmas Play 9.15am
17 Dec	Carols @ St Mary's Church 10am
17 Dec	1.30pm End of term
6 Jan	Children return to school
13 Jan	Meet the SENCO & Pupil & Family Support Practitioner 9am
15 Jan	Meet the SENCO & Pupil & Family Support Practitioner 2.30pm
21-23 Jan	Y4 Burwell House
26 Jan	Y6 Holocaust Memorial Service
13 Feb	INSET Day—School Closed to Children
16-20 Feb	Half Term

You can find term dates for this year and next [here](#).

 Stars of the Week 	Stars of the Week	
Reception	Leonor M	Emily M
Clemmie F	Ellie S	Reuben T
Isla O		
Year 1		
Lois M	Josh D	Jospeh M
Tim M	Isabella G	Zara L
Year 2		
Zac L	Ralph S	Nia S
Eva S	Poppy H	Tobias G
Year 3		
Aaron K	Noah H	Joseph T
Kaleb J	Evelyn R	Bobby M
Year 4		
Ralph H	Reggie S	Chloe B
Isabelle L	Remy V	Filippos W
Year 5		
Maddie D	Leo D	Edward C
Noel J	Jesse P	Sophie M
Year 6		
Bale L	Ben C	James L
Lucie T	June L	Wilf M
Infant Lunchtime Cup	1MI	
Junior Lunchtime Cup	6JR	

	RAB READING OLYMPIANS	
BRONZE	SILVER	GOLD
Esme W		
Emily C		
Amber C		
Willow T		
	RAB BOOKWORMS	
BRONZE	SILVER	GOLD
Riley S	Florence P	
Bella M		
Thea W		
Bea M		