



The Butler Buzz

R A Butler's Weekly Newsletter – 8 December 2023



Dear Parents and Carers,

Enormous Congratulations...

... to one of our amazing support staff team, Jax Jackson. She was nominated by a parent for Essex Teaching Assistant of the Year. The awards were given out at a recent ceremony and Mrs Jackson was announced as the winner. Both nomination and win came as a complete surprise and we are absolutely delighted with this much deserved recognition.



Diary Dates Next Week



10-15 Dec	Week 1 Autumn Menu
w/c 11 Dec	Christmas Assault Course
11 Dec	Connection Coffee Morning 9am
12 Dec	Early Years Christmas Play 9.15am
12&13 Dec	Elfridges Presents for Parents Shopping
13 Dec	R-Y6 Book Look 8.40-9.10am
14 Dec	Infant Flu Immunisations
15 Dec	Christmas Jumper Day
15 Dec	Dress the Head
15 Dec	Christmas Lunch
15 Dec	PTA Cake Sale 3.30pm
15 Dec	Y5&6 Swimming @ LBLC
15 Jan 24	Deadline for Reception & Y3 2024 Applications www.essex.gov.uk/admissions

Christmas is coming to RAB...



Wow, what a treat we've had this week with fabulous performances of *The Jolly Christmas Postman* in Y1 and *Angel Express* from Y2. The children have worked so hard over the last few weeks and I'm sure everyone in the audience will agree they put on brilliant productions. They were beautifully articulate when speaking and enthusiastic with their dancing and singing. It has been a wonderful way of getting into the Christmas Spirit.

Which leads us to the *Spirit of Christmas* and all things musical!

Our choir have had a very busy week, starting with the *Spirit of Christmas Concert* on Saturday at St Mary's Church. This is always a beautiful event organised by Saffron Walden Choral Society and we're incredibly proud of how they performed. Although the children learn the songs at school, they have no rehearsal with all the massed choirs, it is straight into a performance. RAB voices solo performance of *When Christmas Comes to Town* from the Polar Express was splendid and Mrs Brown would like to thank the children for all their hard work during rehearsals.

The older children of the choir also performed at Gabriel Court this morning. The residents loved the singing and everyone enjoyed chatting together afterwards. Next week they will be singing at Stanley Wilson Lodge.



We were also treated to a brilliant music concert earlier in the week from our children that learn instruments with the peripatetic music teachers. We know how much work goes into learning an instrument and the courage it takes to perform, well done to everyone involved.

Wednesday Parent Drop In to look at children's books

All parents are invited to come into school on Wednesday morning for a Book Look from 8.40-9.10am. This is an opportunity for the children to share their learning with you so please do come along.

Carols at St Mary's Church—Wednesday 20th December

You are warmly invited to join our Carol Concert which will start at 10.30 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. Please be aware that we have been advised by the church that food and drink are not permitted in the building.

Christmas Dinner & Jumper Day —Friday 15th December

On Friday we invite children to wear their Christmas Jumpers with a suggested donation of £2 for Save the Children's Make the World Better with a Sweater campaign which we have supported for many years and KidsInspire who have supported our children in school. The rest of their uniform should be PE kit or school uniform as normal on a Friday. We will also be serving our delicious Christmas Dinner :



Mr Smith's Christmas Assault Course

You will have seen that Mr Smith's annual assault course extravaganza is taking place next week. The children should come into school wearing their assault course clothes—they 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. The children 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!

Monday 11 th	(Afternoon)	Year 3	(5VH helping)
Tuesday 12 th	(Morning)	Year 4	(6AE helping)
Tuesday 12 th	(Afternoon)	Year 5	(6MB and 6FCB helping)
Wednesday 13 th	(Morning)	Reception	(5MGL helping)
Wednesday 13 th	(Afternoon)	Year 6	(5LT and 6AE helping)
Thursday 14 th	(Morning)	Year 1	(6MB and 5MGL helping)
Thursday 14 th	(Afternoon)	Year 2	(6FCB helping)
Friday 15 th	(Morning)	Reserve morning	
Friday 15 th	(Afternoon)	Reserve afternoon	



Clubs

There are no more clubs this term. You should all have received your club allocation letters this week. Please can payments be made by Tuesday 19 December. We still have spaces available in the following clubs so do email Paul on sbm@rab.academy if you are interested in a place:

Mon am	Y5&6 Dodgeball
Mon pm	Y5&6 Hockey
Mon pm	Y3-6 Gymnastics
Tues am	Y5&6 Badminton
Tues am	Y2 Hockey
Tues pm	Y3-6 Dance
Tues pm	Y4-6 Netball
Weds am	Y1&2 Energy
Weds am	Y3-6 Archery
Weds am	Y3-6 4 Square & 9 Square
Weds pm	Y5&6 Tag/Touch Rugby
Weds pm	Y5&6 Gardening
Thurs am	Y3-6 Invasion Games
Thurs pm	Y4-6 Cheerleading
Fri am	Y3-6 RAB Bounce

Dodgeball Competition

It was a successful afternoon earlier this week for our Y5/6 Dodgeball Teams. Some fantastic play from everyone. Congratulations to everyone that took part and very well done to the Navy team who have qualified for the County Finals. Our Y3s and 4s are out playing this afternoon.

School Photos

Pret-a-Portrait's discount deadline has been extended until **Wednesday 13th December** so you can take advantage of their discount for longer! Head to their website www.pret-a-portrait.net and enter your sitting ID and the discount will automatically be applied. To view their **Christmas Order Deadlines**, please click the link below.

<https://www.pret-a-portrait.net/christmas-delivery/#UK>

If you've misplaced your sitting ID, please contact Pret-a-Portrait directly on 0800 021 7626 or customerservice@pret-a-portrait.net

Idling is Fuelish—Saffron Walden Clean Air Project

Last week a group of children in Year 6 joined an idling action event with [Saffron Walden's Clean Air project](#). The children worked with the local council air quality experts to find out more about the impact of idling in cars. They were then provided with hi-viz jackets and ventured outside on the local roads around school, to pass on what they learnt about idling to drivers, and if applicable, asked them to switch off their engines. We encourage all our parents to support our No Idling Initiative when dropping off and picking up.



The 2 Johns Online Safety session – Sunday 10 December 7pm

We would highly recommend you take the time to join this online session. The 2 Johns are former police officers specialising in online safety and their presentations are always informative and we have very positive feedback from parents after all their sessions. If you have heard them before it is always worth a refresher as the online world changes all the time. The 2 Johns are running a session on Sunday evening (10 December) at 7pm to launch the ESCB online safety week. The virtual session and Q&A will be hosted on Zoom and also [The 2 Johns Face-book page](#). This will be followed by a week of online safety messages and advice on the ESCB social media accounts. [Find out more about the campaign](#).

National Online Safety Flyer

We have been sent a flyer from the National Online Safety team—[What parents and carers need to know about Disney +](#). It will only take a couple of minutes to read and we hope you find it useful.

Fosters Closure

We have been informed by Fosters, our PE supplier, that they will be closed 11-13 December for their annual stock take. Their Christmas closure is from 5pm 22 December, re-opening at 9am on 2 January.

Y2 Applications for Y3 2024 & Reception 2024

Don't forget **all applications must be submitted on-line by 15th January 2024**. You can apply via www.essex.gov.uk/admissions Please email Wendy on admin@rab.academy and let her know you have completed your application.

★	Stars of the Week	★
<u>Reception</u> Bobby L Viviana C	Una F Harry B	Teddy N Ralph S
<u>Year 1</u> All of Eric Carle	All of Mick Inkpen	All of Oliver Jeffers
<u>Year 2</u> All of Anthony Browne	All of Mini Grey	All of Quentin Blake
<u>Year 3</u> Alex C Emily C	Leo D Zac W	Rory S Zara L
<u>Year 4</u> Bonnie A Prayas T	Isla B Rupert D	Amber R Freddie W
<u>Year 5</u> Sophie M Lucie L	Hayley S Amelia L	Zara S William S
<u>Year 6</u> Oscar H Kavanch C	Charlie C Rosie B	Ethan W Jiba J
Infant Lunchtime Cup Junior Lunchtime Cup	RJD 4MM	



Winter Fayre

We hope you all enjoyed a fab time at last week's Winter Fayre, kicking off December with a generous sprinkling of Christmas magic! We are thrilled to confirm we raised just over £4600 for our school. A huge thank you for your generous support.

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 Pudding or Team Fairy?!

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

Cake sale next Friday after school

We'll be running a quick cake and chocolate sale next Friday after school, on Christmas Jumper Day, so please bring some small change if your child would like to choose a treat.

Easyfundraising – be in it to win it!

One of our brilliant parent easyfundraisers, Kelly Bond, has won an amazing **£1000 extra donation** this month for RAB PTA! Kelly always makes sure she activates her easyfundraising donations when she shops online (once you've signed up, it's a quick click on a browser pop-up when you visit the website of any participating retailer) and this month she won the easyfundraising November prize draw! Whoop! Thanks Kelly.

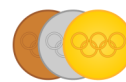


If you'd like to know more about how it works and how you can raise extra donations whilst you shop online as normal (without spending a penny extra yourself), take a look at our [RAB PTA easyfundraising page](#)

And if you register using this link (just click sign up) – once you've raised your first £5, easyfundraising will double it!

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/support-a-good-cause/step-1/?char=160195&invite=QRK70J&referral-campaign=s2s>

There's no catch or hidden charges – you'll simply be raising funds for our school whilst you shop online with over 7,000 brands such as eBay, John Lewis & Partners, Argos, ASOS and Booking.com.



RAB READING OLYMPIANS

BRONZE

SILVER

GOLD

Alicia P
Heidi P



RAB BOOKWORMS

BRONZE

Seth L
Freddie S
Max P
Ailbhe C
Miller B
June L
Xavier S
Leo B
Ffion J
Isla B

SILVER

Hudson C
Phoebe T
Annabelle S
Amelie M
Emily C
Bryher T
Lucas C

GOLD



Future Diary Dates

20 Dec 10.30am Christmas Carols @ St Mary's Church all welcome

20 Dec 1.30pm End of Term

5 Jan 24 Inset Day School Closed to Children

8 Jan Children return to school

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