13th November 2026

It has been another very busy week at school and it has been an absolute pleasure to welcome so many parents into school for our Parents' Evening. It is always lovely to have the opportunity to share the children's successes, celebrate their progress and work together to support their learning.

On Wednesday 11th November, we came together in assembly to observe a two-minute silence as a mark of respect and remembrance.





Our Year 6 pupils also took part in a two-minute silence at the war memorial, showing great respect and maturity as they remembered those who have served and sacrificed.

Year 6 have also enjoyed a very important visit to the Princes Theatre in Clacton for their Crucial Crew experience. This valuable visit helps to prepare them for the next stage of their journey, supporting their confidence, independence and readiness for the upcoming transition to secondary school.

A busy week full of wonderful experiences, important moments of reflection and opportunities to celebrate our fantastic school community!

Thank you for all the donations towards Children in Need this week – we will confirm the amount raised in the following newsletter. The children all looked great in their spotty outfits!



Year 6 at Crucial Crew outside the Princes Theatre in Clacton. They were fantastic role models of our school and demonstrated our GREAT values throughout the visit.



Head Boy and Head Girl placing wreaths at the War Memorial.

EYFS Admissions for September 2027

If you or anyone you know has a child due to start school in September 2027, please be aware, the primary school (Reception) admission round opened on 9 November 2026.

The statutory national closing date for applications is 15 January 2027.

Applications can be made online via www.essex.gov.uk/admissions.

Odd Sock Day

As part of anti-bullying week the children are invited to wear odd socks on Monday 16th November. The children will have an assembly and lessons throughout the week to ensure that we are discussing what bullying is and how we can ensure our school remains a space where everybody is welcomed and respected.

Dates for the Diary

16.11.26 – Odd Sock Day
18.11.26 - Penny Race
21.11.26-EYFS Sept 27/28 Open Morning
25.11.26-EYFS walkaround for Sept 27/28 (3)
27.11.26-Non-pupil day
3.12.26 – CHRISTMAS LUNCH/CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY (please note change of date)
7.12.26 - EYFS Nativity – 2:15
8.12.26 - KS1 Crafternoon – 2:00 – 3:00
9.12.26 - KS2 Crafternoon – 2:00 – 3:00
10.12.26 - Key Stage 1 Nativity – 9:30
10.12.26 Christmas Jumper Day
11.12.26- Key Stage 1 Nativity – 2:15
11.12.26-Carol Service 9.30 Yr5-6, 10.30 Yr 3-4 (further details to follow)
11.12.26-PTA Christmas singalong after school
14.12.26 - EYFS Nativity – 2:15
14.12.26-Flu Immunisation mop-up
15.12.26-Rec & Yr 6 NHS height & weight (further details to follow)
17.12.26-iRock concert 2.30pm
18.12.26-Last day of term

MENU FOR NEXT WEEK

After half-term we will be on week 3 of the new menu. Please remember to discuss the menu with your child so That they know what they will be ordering at register time each day or whether they have a packed lunch. Meals are charged at £2.49 each for all KS2 children (unless eligible for Free School meals) and payable on Arbor.

Menu - Mon 2nd November 2026 to Fri 26th March 2027

WEEK 3

weeks beginning: - 16th Nov, 7th Dec, 11th Jan, 1st Feb, 1st Mar, 22nd Mar

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Hot Dinner	Spaghetti bolognese	Jacket potato with cheese, beans, tuna	Pizza & pasta	Roast turkey with roast potatoes & Yorkshire pudding	Chicken nuggets & chips
Vegetarian/Vegan Hot Dinner	Spaghetti rustic tomato sauce	Jacket potato with cheese, beans	Pizza & pasta	Quorn sausage with roast potatoes & Yorkshire pudding	Veggie nuggets & chips
Alternative Option	Jacket potato	Ham or cheese roll with crisps	Jacket potato	Sausage or cheese roll	Jacket potato
Served with	Peas, sweetcorn, baked beans & salad bar	Baked beans, spaghetti hoops, sweetcorn & salad bar	Sweetcorn, baked beans, spaghetti hoops & salad bar	Seasonal vegetables & salad bar	Sweetcorn, baked beans, spaghetti hoops & salad bar
Dessert	Pancake with banana & cream	Fresh fruit platter	Iced fruit smoothie	Old school cake	Chocolate cake

All meals are served with apple juice or water

The salad bar is available daily including lettuce, cucumber, tomatoes, carrot sticks, peppers, coleslaw, sweetcorn & cold pasta

Fresh fruit is available daily including orange, banana, apple, kiwi & melon

Please note on Monday the dessert will be iced fruit smoothie and pancake with banana and cream will be served on Wednesday.

CELEBRATING WITH YOU

Rafe in year 2-KR recently received the golfer of the week award with his golf club. Well done Rafe!



What an amazing achievement Christian!
Just nine months into his karate journey and he's already earned his third belt! We are so proud of his hard work, determination and dedication. Keep shining, my little superstar! From mum.



FRIENDS OF GREAT BENTLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

- 18th November Penny Race – details to follow
- 8th Dec EYFS & KS1 Crafternoon 2-3pm
- 9th Dec KS2 Crafternoon 2-3pm
- 11th December Christmas Singalong





Coffee Afternoon



We would like to warmly invite you to our SEND Coffee Afternoon at Great Bentley Primary School. This informal session is an opportunity to meet with our SENCO, Inclusion Partner, and Engagement Facilitator, ask questions, share experiences, and find out more about the support available for children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND).

Whether you would like advice, information, or simply the chance to connect with other families, and meet the team we would be delighted to see you there. Tea, coffee, and refreshments will be provided.

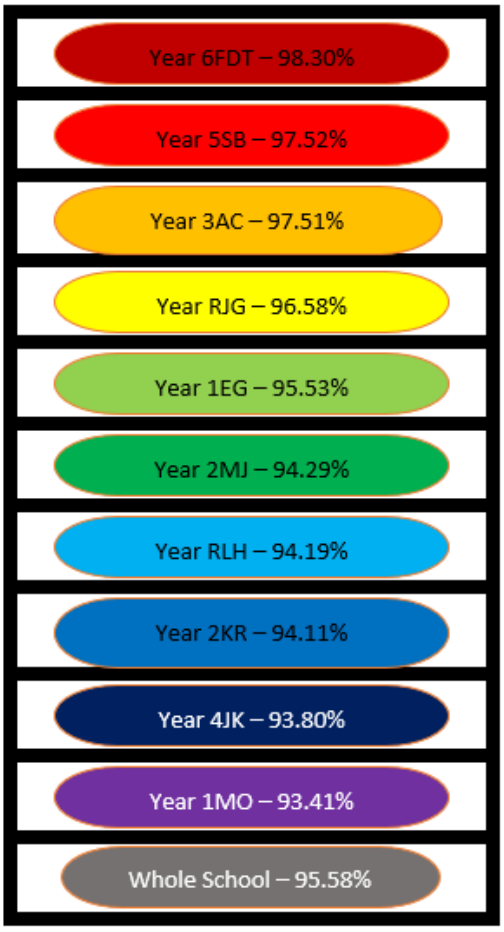
We recognise the important role that parents and carers play in supporting their children's development, and we look forward to working together to ensure every child has the opportunity to thrive.

Venue: Great Bentley Primary School

Date: Thursday 19th November
Time: 1:30pm - 3:00pm

Please let the school office know if you are able to attend.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS



Did you know/Fun Fact for the week?

Humans share 60% of their DNA with bananas.