



HINGUAR SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

TOGETHER WE ACHIEVE

Autumn Term Newsletter Week 12 December 2025



A Polite Reminder

Children are advised to not bring their own toys into school. If they still choose to, items are their responsibility and the school will not be liable for any losses or breakages.

In addition, children are not allowed to swap (trade), sell or give toys to friends. This has previously caused arguments and upsets, and this rule has been shared again in assembly to remind all pupils.

Thank you for your understanding.

There are no sports clubs, choir, 11+ or boosters next week as it is the last week of term.

CHRISTMAS
DINNER AND JUMPER DAY

TUESDAY 16TH DECEMBER

PLEASE BOOK YOUR CHILD'S LUNCH
ON THE MCAS APP



If you have a child born between
1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022
apply now to start school
September 2026





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Notices



Last Thursday there was a District Beaver Carol Concert that was held at the Salvation Army Citadel where Alfie and Harry from Seagull Class performed. They did brilliantly and we are all very proud of them.

Vaccination UK

Message to Parents:

Respiratory and flu-like cases are rapidly on the rise. We urge you to ensure your child receives the flu vaccination. You have a choice between the quick and painless nasal spray or the Injection which is porcine & gelatine free. This not only protects your children against being seriously but also protects vulnerable members of your family and community.

We have several community catch-up clinics available.

Please use the link to book an appointment. If you previously declined consent for your child when we visited the school, you **CAN CHANGE** your consent. Please call our office on **01245984145**, and we will book a clinic appointment for you.

[Vaccination UK East Anglia Immunisation](#)

Please note that **GPs are not providing flu vaccinations for healthy children in Reception through Year 11.**

11/12/2025	16.00-20.00	Southend
16/12/2025	16.00-20.00	Colchester
17/12/2025	12:00 -19:00	Chelmsford

I hope your holiday season is full of peace, joy, and happiness.



Turtles and Seahorses

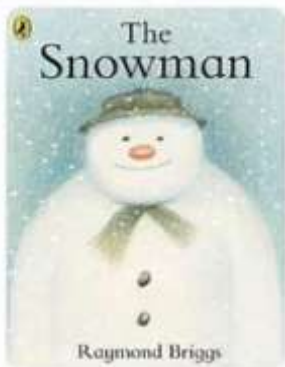


This week in Turtles class, we took part in our first Christmas play in front of a large audience. Some of us were a bit unsure but we were super Christmas stars and did our best. The staff were very proud of all the children. In class, we have continued learning about the Nativity Story and have been enjoying lots of Christmas songs and rhymes. We have been bathing baby Jesus in the tuff tray and talking about being gentle with babies. In our maths this week, we have been singing 5 Little Elves in Santa's Sleigh and trying to use our fingers to show numbers 1 to 5. On the playdough table, we have been using Christmas scented playdough to make cakes using the Christmas shapes. We had our Christmas craft afternoons and lots of our parents joined us for fun Christmas craft. Thank you to those who were able to join us.



Thank you for all the cards and gifts and we wish you all a very Happy Christmas.

Mrs Cochrane. Mrs Burgess and Mrs Loe



This week in Starfish class, the children voted for book of the week, choosing 'The Snowman' by Raymond Briggs. We discussed how the story had no words to read, so we used our own vocabulary, along with the illustrations to describe what was happening. We have been feeling very Christmassy, welcoming our grown-ups into nursery to join in with our Christmas craft sessions. On Wednesday, we joined together with Turtle class to perform our Nativity. The children looked fabulous in their costumes. They joined in with the action songs and played their parts brilliantly. We are so very proud of you all!



Well done, Starfish class on a very busy week

Mrs Brant, Mrs Attard, Mrs Bowser, Ms Burgess and Mrs Merton



Seahorse

It has been a busy week for Seahorse Class. We began the week by exploring the story 'What the Ladybird Heard at Christmas'. We have discussed what the words lanky, hefty, daunted and cunning mean. In the story, Hefty Hugh and Lanky Len were going to steal the Christmas presents but are frightened by the Great Dane who disguises himself as a ghost. This led to the children making traps from Duplo and foam bricks and drawing disguises to scare the characters away. We have also discussed why Hefty Hugh and Lanky Len may have been stealing the gifts. This led to the children designing some presents for the characters.

On Wednesday, we performed a dress rehearsal of our Nativity for the rest of the school. The children were eager and excited to show their acting and singing skills. On Thursday, the children performed for the final time for their families. We are so proud of how well the children have taken to practising the songs, actions and lines throughout this half term – they were all amazing and we hope you enjoyed the Nativity.

We have looked at the lifecycle of a ladybird, which is like a caterpillar's lifecycle. The children were surprised to find that ladybirds are not born being red!

In Literacy, we have been recapping digraphs, before blending and writing words which contain these. They have also played pairs matching words to the corresponding pictures.

In Maths, we have explored sequencing, and the different activities which take place at certain times of the day. The children ordered pictures of events we might do in the day and night.

It was lovely to see so many parents and grand parents on the Christmas Craft morning. The classroom was bustling with Arts and Crafts. Thank you so much for joining us to celebrate Christmas.

When we return in January, Seahorse Class will go onto the main playground at lunchtime. They will wear a high-visibility vest initially so that the Midday Assistants can spot and support them quickly.

Mrs Newman, Mrs Bowser and Mrs Penny.



Oyster Class

This week, the children have been feeling very excited about Christmas! We started the week with our Christmas performance. The children were delighted to welcome parents and carers into school and really enjoyed performing for you all. I am sure you will all agree that they did a wonderful job! It made all the Year 1 staff feel very proud and put us in the Christmas mood.

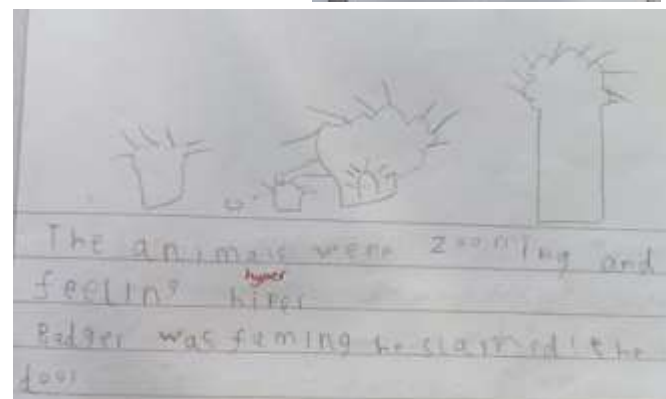
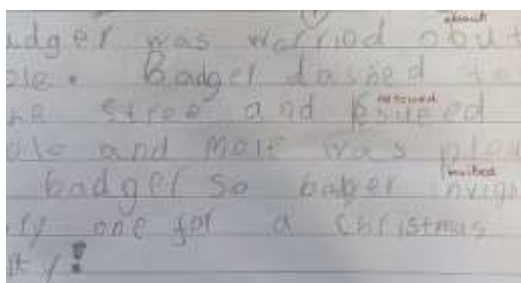
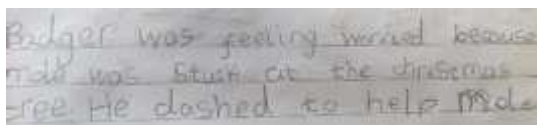
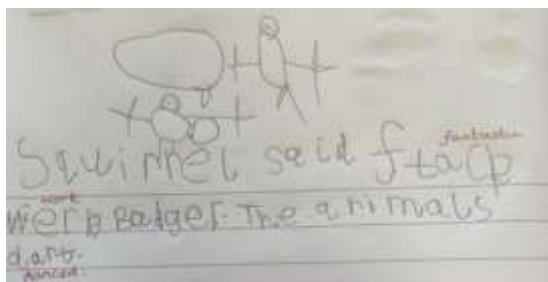
We have also been thinking about Christmas in some of our other lessons this week. In RE, we talked about the story of the Nativity and created our own stable pictures.

In our English lessons this week, we have been sharing the story of Grumpy Badger. He really didn't like Christmas as he just wanted to sleep for the winter. He was very cross when other animals kept waking him up. The story had a happy ending, though as Grumpy Badger discovered he was not to be quite so Grumpy after all. The children have been writing their own sentences linked to the story and have been trying hard to use some ambitious vocabulary in their writing.

We have been sharing our advent calendar in class and discovering a new fact about Christmas traditions from around the world each day.

We are excited for next week, our last week of the term and all the fun Christmas things which will be happening in school.

Mrs Oakley, Mrs Lovelace-Court, Mrs Allen, Mrs Merton and Mrs Edwards



Seagull Class

This week in Year 2, has been full of festive cheer. We started the week with our fabulous Christmas performance, and what a brilliant job the children did. Their voices were loud and clear, and they delivered their lines and songs beautifully. I was so impressed by their confidence and teamwork and we hope the performance helped to spark some festive spirit at home as well.

A quick reminder that we will be visiting the church on Monday to sing Christmas carols. Please ensure the children come to school with sensible shoes and a warm coat so they stay comfortable throughout the visit.

Well done, everyone, for a wonderful week.

Mrs O'Donnell, Mrs Mota and Miss Calvy



Heron Class

We have had yet another busy week in Heron class, this week!

In maths this week, we have been working on multiplication and division, with a focus on the four- and eight-times tables. We have been looking at a variety of methods in class to help us to solve each equation. This includes making arrays, putting the numbers into equal groups, repeated addition and using times tables knowledge.

In P.E this week, Heron class played a game of line ball. They worked in teams by passing the ball to one another, until the player on the line caught the ball. The aim was to be the first team to have everybody on the line. The game involved plenty of communication with teammates, as well as using a variety of strategies to prevent the other team from receiving and passing the ball.



We have also completed some festive themed activities, this week!

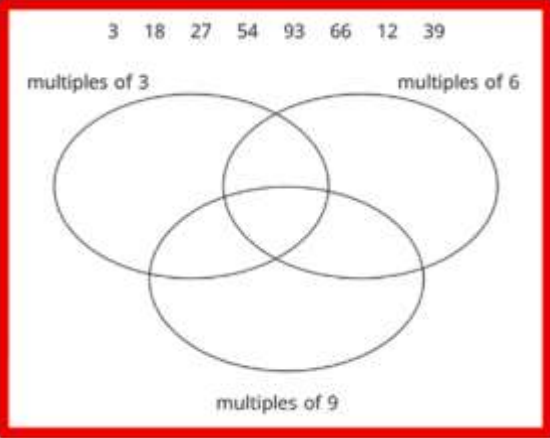
For their Christmas cards, everybody has drawn a gingerbread house for their front cover and decorated the background of their Christmas cards using paint. Their front covers look amazing! We are very much looking forward to seeing the finished result!



Have a wonderful weekend. One week to go!

Miss Venables and Mrs Merton

Curlew Class



In our penultimate week of the Autumn term, Year 4 have been as busy as ever.

The children completed their letters to Mr Stickley, to explain the values of reading for pleasure and how much they would appreciate a visit to the school from a local author.

In Science, they learnt about flowering and non-flowering plants and grouped various plants using these criteria. They also learnt about deciduous and evergreen trees. Please ask your child what a rhizoid and a frond is. I sincerely hope they can tell you!

In maths, we learnt about the connections between the 3, 6 and 9 times tables. I wonder how many of the class can remember how to sort the numbers in the picture into the correct parts of the Venn diagram...

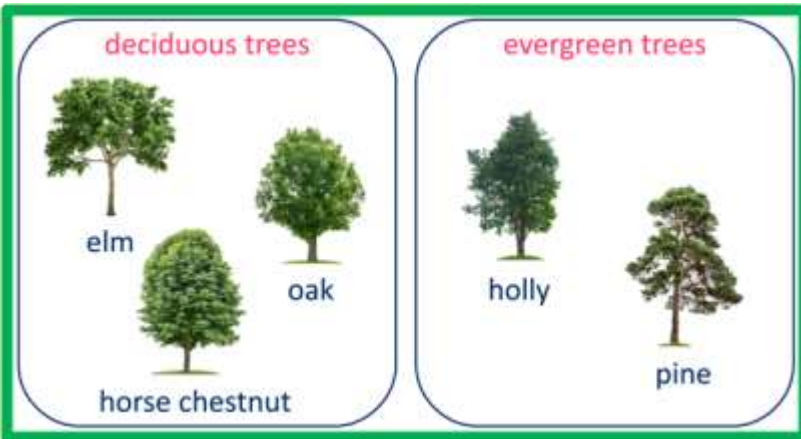
In PSHE, we continued deepening our understanding of protecting ourselves against unwanted touch or uncomfortable situations. The children considered the choices they can currently make in different areas of their lives and choices they would like to have more control over. They revisited the idea of how parts of their bodies are considered private and belong only to them. They also discussed the difference between a little deal and a serious problem, what they should do if they feel uncomfortable in a situation, and who they can talk to in order to help themselves or others.

Nearly there, Fabulous Foursies!

One more week until we can all relax and enjoy our Christmas break.

Have a good weekend.

Miss Eakins, Miss Brailsford and Mrs Allen



Sanderling Class



Our sensational Sanderlings have finished their stories based on the Snowman, tackled long multiplication, learnt all about the Norse gods, enjoyed a *rock 'n' roll P.E. lesson*, separated mixtures in Science, created some beautiful calendars, played the recorders and learned more about databases in computing. Quite the week!

Only thirteen more sleeps 'till the big Ho! Ho!

Mrs Emmings and Mrs Mistry



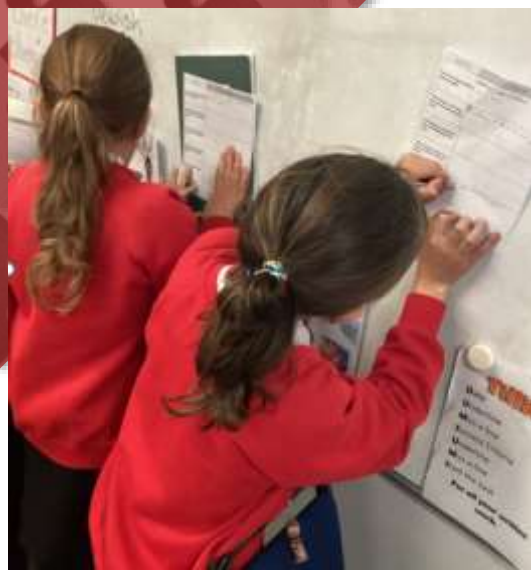
Avocet Class

In PSHE this week, we have been learning about the importance of achieving quality sleep. As part of improving our mental health we explored key ways to help us fall asleep and things we can do during the day to prepare for night time.

In English, the children completed their independent write of their own Christmas story with a moral to be learnt from it. There has been some amazing creativity, particularly when creating the main characters. The children have begun to design their own books to share their stories.

In Maths, we have been learning how to calculate percentages and then to apply this to real-life situations to find percentages of amounts.

Mrs Calvy, Ms Hardy and Miss Brailsford



Awards and Notices

Catch Me! Awards

This is a system that rewards the children for doing the right thing all the time, whether it be being polite, helpful, ready to learn etc and any adult in the school can award the Catch Me! signatures to the children.



Congratulations to Leo and Arya in Oyster Class, Hollie in Seagull Class, Matilda in Heron Class and Eddie and Lois in Sanderling Class on achieving their Bronze Catch Me! Award.

Congratulations to Ellie in Seahorse Class, James in Seagull Class, Ayva D in Curlew Class and Albert in Sanderling Class on achieving their Silver Catch Me! Award.



Congratulations to Nyah in Seagull Class on achieving her Bronze Times Tables Certificate.

Congratulations to Noah, James and Leo in Seagull Class on achieving their Gold Times Tables Certificate .

School Nursing Service 2026

Community health clinics for children aged 5–11 who are being educated in Southend.

Venue	Time
Civic Centre	Tues 3 rd Feb 09.00-11.00
Blenheim Family Centre	Tues 10 th Feb 09.00-11.00
Hamstel Family Centre	Weds 11 th Feb 13:30-15:30

Emotional health and wellbeing advice • Growth and development
 • Healthy lifestyles • Bedwetting support • Hearing
 • Sleep support • Puberty

No appointment needed.
 Call or text us for further information.

01702 534843
 ChatHealth Parentline: 07507 331884

Young People and their GP
 Click to find support

Parents and their GP
 Click to find support

www.southend.gov.uk/schoolnurses
 schoolnursing@southend.gov.uk

Southend-on-Sea City Council



Awards and Notices

Ashley Banjo



Mo Farah



Ellie Simmonds



Jamie Oliver



Dress for Success

Dress for Success

The winners for this half term so far are EYFS/KS1 Seahorse Class having an attendance of 96.77% and in KS2 Avocet Class with 95.40%



100% Attendance and Punctuality Prize

Each week, during our Celebration assembly, we congratulate good attendance as a whole class.

This week in KS1, Alice the Bunny was awarded to Seahorse Class with an attendance of 98.17% and in KS2, the attendance cup was awarded to Heron Class with 96.25%.

The classes will be rewarded with an extra turn on the play equipment.



Florence attended the Southend Festival of Performing Arts.

I am pleased to share that in her first event and her first ever time taking part in the festival, she achieved a gold 1st place prize for her verse speaking entry.

Well done Florence!

Amazing!



Term Dates for Your Diary

Autumn Term Diary Dates

Visit to St Andrews Church	Monday 15th December (years 2-6, children only)
Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day	Tuesday 16th December
EYFS Storyteller	Wednesday 17th December—am
KS1 & KS2 Pantomime	Wednesday 17th December—pm
End of Term	Friday 19th December—school closes at 1.00pm

Spring Term Diary Dates

Pupil Advocate Meeting	Friday 30th January 1.30pm—2.15pm
Southend Makes Music (yr1)	Tuesday 10th Feb
Assessment Week	w/b February 23rd—February 27th
Young Voices O2	Tuesday 24th February
EYFS Mother's Day Pamper	Friday 13th March 2.00pm—3.00pm
Parent Consultation Evenings	Tuesday 17th and Thursday 19th March 3.30pm —6.30pm
Y6 Assessment Week	w/b Monday 9th March—Friday 13th March
Pupil Advocate Meeting	Friday 27th March 1.30pm—2.15pm
End of term	Friday 27th March—school closes at normal time



Term Dates for Your Diary

Summer Term Diary Dates

Y6 Bikeability	Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th April
Y6 SATs Week	w/b Monday 11th May—Thursday 14th May
Y6 Residential	w/b Monday 18th—Friday 22nd May
Pupil Advocate Meeting	Friday 22nd May 1.30pm—2.15pm
EYFS FUDGE	Friday 19th June 2.00pm—3.00pm
Assessment Week (Reception—Y5)	w/b Monday 22nd June—Friday 26th June
Sports Day	Thursday 2nd July
Transition Day	Friday 3rd July
Reserve Sports Day	Thursday 9th July
Pupil Advocate Meeting	Friday 10th July 1.30pm—2.15pm
Open Evening	Thursday 16th July 3.30pm—4.30pm
Nursery Leavers' Assembly	Friday 17th July 3.30pm—4.30pm
Hinguar's Got Talent	Monday 20th July - am
Volunteer Afternoon Tea	Tuesday 21st July 2.15pm
Y6 Graduation	Wednesday 22nd July 2.00pm
Y6 Leavers' Disco	Wednesday 22nd July 6.00pm—7.30pm
End of Term (non-uniform day)	Thursday 23rd July—school closes at 1.00pm

Term and Holiday dates for SECAT Schools 2025-26

Autumn Term: 1 September 2025—19 December 2025

Spring Term: 5 January 2026—27 March 2026

Half Term 16 February—20 February

Summer Term: 13 April 2026—23 July 2026

Half Term 25—29 May

INSET DAYS— Monday 23rd February 2026

SECAT Term and Holiday Dates 2026-27

Autumn Term : 1 September—18 December 2026

Half Term 19-30 October 2026

Spring Term: 4 January—25 March 2027

Half Term 15 - 19 February 2027

Summer Term: 12 April—23 July 2027

Half Term 31 May—4 June 2027

INSET DAYS: 1st and 2nd September 2026

