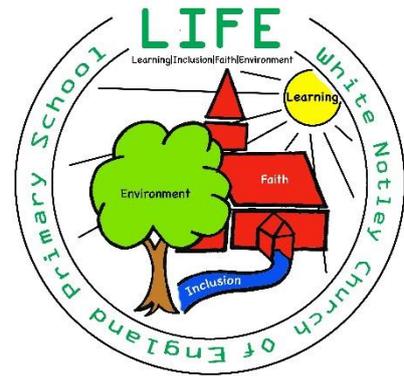


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Our school vision is: LIFE in all its fullness - now and in the future.

John 10.10 Jesus said, "I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full".

1st December 2023

Dear Parents,

Christmas Fair

We are looking forward to seeing you tonight! Please park at the Village Hall to ease congestion on Vicarage Avenue. There is no parking available at school. The PTA have been working very hard and it's going to be a wonderful evening. Thank you all for your excellent selling of raffle tickets!

LSA of the Year Award

Congratulations to Miss Bewley, who achieved an LSA of the Year award this week at the Essex Teaching Awards! This is her nomination entry.

Leanne is an excellent teaching assistant. She is efficient, diligent, reflective, supportive, kind and an all-round wonderful person: a huge support for the class teachers. Not only is she a fantastic learner, she also supports and develops other teaching assistants in our school. Leanne always comes up with new solutions to make systems more efficient, interventions to have more impact or ways to make learning and progress more accelerated.

Leanne is inspirational with children. Last year, a child made two years progress in reading, due to Leanne's daily encouragement, motivational talks, choosing books with the child, listening to her read daily and sending home positive notes.

Leanne has set up a book club, which the children love attending, to foster a love of reading. She often stays after school, outside of her work hours, to support the class teacher and carry out extra duties.



Xia Gibbs Awareness Week

My name is Shelly, you may recognise me from the school run, from the work I do as the PTA secretary or just know me as Leo's mum.

Some of you may not know, that Leo has a rare genetic condition called Xia-Gibbs Syndrome (XGS). This week is Xia-Gibbs Awareness week and so I wanted to share with you a bit about it and what's been happening since the last Awareness week.

Well for starters the number of diagnosis' has gone up, albeit marginally, to 437 people in 49 countries. That's still a drop in the ocean, and although they are attempting to better understand how it effects each individual, it's difficult without a large enough sample pool. However, progress is progress and from May this year, the society have moved onto phase 2 of their research.

The key thing to remember with XGS is that it is a primary diagnosis only. The diagnosis of XGS is accompanied with loads of secondary diagnosis and an additional list of future potential diagnosis to be aware of and prepared to manage any symptoms.

Symptoms like:

- Hypotonia (weak muscle tone)
- Ataxia (poor balance and coordination which effects eating, writing, walking, dressing, speech etc etc)
- Eye conditions (diverging squints, strabismus, nystagmus etc)
- Brain abnormalities (thinning of the corpus callosum, fossa cyst, delayed myelination, reduced white matter etc)
- Respiratory Issues (obstructive sleep apnoea, Laryngomalacia, Tracheomalacia etc)
- Developmental Delay (ASD, ADHD, GDD, DD, ID, speech delay, delayed motor skills etc)
- Epilepsy
- Scoliosis

These are just the current recognised difficulties linked to XGS and the list is growing.

The importance of XGS awareness to my family is huge. Every single Doctor, specialist, therapist or professional we speak to we have to explain all of this and more. If you can and wish to donate to the current research this is always appreciated, but more importantly is to share knowledge and awareness.



Thank you

<https://xia-gibbs.org/>

Christmas Nativity

Our Christmas Nativity will be in the church on Wednesday 13th and Thursday 14th December at 2pm. If possible, could parents who have children in Class 1 and 2 come to the Wednesday service and parents who have children in Class 3 or 4 come on Thursday? If you have some in both, choose, but Thursday is likely to be busier.

Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper Day

Christmas Dinner and jumper day is on December 13th. The School Council is raising money for their chosen charity, the Salvation Army, on this day.

Applying for a Reception Place - September 2024

The website is now open to apply for a reception place in September 2024. If your child is turning 5 between 1st September 2024 and 31st August 2025, you have until the 15th January to apply.

Please go to <https://educationportal.essex.gov.uk/CitizenPortal/en> to make your application.

Class 3 Egyptians Assembly

Class 3 will be showing off their creativity, dancing, singing and acting skills in an Ancient Egyptians assembly on Tuesday 5th (9:15am) and Wednesday 6th (2pm) in the hall. The children are looking forward to performing their show to parents and grandparents.

Congratulations to the children who received certificates in celebration collective worship this week



Class One:

Sophia - for working hard at school and home to learn her phonic sounds

Class Two:

Martha - for exceptional story writing

Annabelle- for wonderful story writing this week

Louis - for amazing progress with your spelling

Class Three:

Finn - for working really well to build on his multiplication knowledge and quick recall

Scarlett - for showing enthusiasm for all learning and working hard on her reading

Class Four:

- Matilda - for being more mature in taking responsibility for your learning
Martha - for always being diligent and responsible - you are an excellent role model!

Congratulations on your achievements

- Elodie, for achieving level 7 in swimming
- Spencer, for achieving man of the match in football last weekend
- Pippa and Miles, for being chosen to be 'sixer' in cubs and Fin, who was chosen to be seconder



Tribe Points

This week's tribe points

- Embu - 131 points
- Kamba - 130 points
- Meru - 128 points
- Kikuyu - 101 points

Well done to tribe Embu! They enjoyed their prize of extra playtime.

Diary dates the week beginning 4th December:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Monday 4 th December: | Multi-sports Club |
| Tuesday 5 th December: | Sign Language Club
Class 4 Boys Football training at lunchtime
Book Club
Astronomy Club |
| Wednesday 6 th December: | STEM club
Netball club |

Thursday 7th December:

Board games club

Friday 8th December:

Tennis club 8am

Football Club 3:15-4:15pm Class 3

Have a wonderful week,

P Fitzpatrick

Patsy Fitzpatrick

