



Look at how a single candle can both defy and define darkness Anne Frank

13th Nov 2020

Remembrance

This week we remembered all those affected by war. We thought about those who risk their lives, those who say goodbye to loved ones for long periods of time, and acts of kindness and compassion during war. We thought about civilians and non-civilians who are victims of war, those who mourn during war, and those who face all the challenges of returning from war. Children read out a prayer, we held a two-minute silence, and we listened to a beautiful song performed by children of those in service.



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Is your glass half empty or half full?

Winning KS1 Answer by Jasmine in Year 2

Sometimes I find life hard and I ask my Mum and teachers to help me

Winning KS2 Answer by Isabelle in Year 3

When I see problems I know I can solve them with my teachers, brothers, sisters, mum, dad and also my friends and even pets.

Everyone can do something in life.

Headteacher Awards

Finley in Orange Circles; Albie, Max, Olive, Isaac, Matilda, Rhianna, Reniyah, Jake, Louie, Evie and Betsy in Year 2; Drew and Lilly D in Year 3

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CELEBRATING EACH OTHER, AND THE JOURNEY WE ARE ON

Food Support

The government have announced that they will be providing additional funding to help disadvantaged families to obtain food over the Christmas period, via food charities. We know that a lot of the challenges faced by families at the moment extend beyond those already qualifying for free school meals, so would like to invite ANYONE who believes they will find purchasing food difficult over the Christmas period to apply for a food parcel. Please head over to School PING to complete the form if you would like to register for a food parcel over the Christmas period.

Thank you

Nits

It's that dreaded NIT time of year. PLEASE take time this weekend (and periodically) to check your child's hair for signs of nits so as to avoid a spread. Nits can be much more difficult to treat in some children, so please help prevent this becoming a problem for other families by checking, and where necessary, treating your child. Thank you so much.

Foundation Stage 2021 Applications

As you may be aware, the primary school (Foundation Stage) admission round has now opened for parents and carers to apply for a Foundation Stage school place for the academic year that starts in September 2021.

The statutory national closing date for applications is **15 January 2021**.

Applications can now be made online via www.essex.gov.uk/admissions. 99% of Essex resident families applied online last year. Essex County Council do not send letters to parents about making an application. All of the application and admissions information is available on the website www.essex.gov.uk/admissions, which also has a copy of the Primary Education in Essex 2021-22 booklet and the Schools Admissions Policies Directories contain details of all admission policies.

If you, or anyone that you know have any questions about the process, just give us a call or drop us an email. We are always happy to help find information on your behalf.

Christmas at St Lawrence

Advent Calendar Acts of Kindness with Food Bank Drive

Throughout December, we will be doing an advent calendar of acts of kindness, with the daily ideas being sent home via PING and Facebook. We will work on some of these in class, and some will be lovely projects to do at home. **We will launch this with a Food Bank Donation Drive on Tuesday 1st December.**

Please send your child into school with a donation on that date if you are able.

Whole School Nativity

The children will be working on a whole school Nativity within their class bubbles, with scripted scenes performed by Year 2. We will be filming their performances to be able to share home.

Christmas Cards

We will not have the Christmas Card Letter Box in school this year, but Teachers will be arranging Secret Santa Christmas card making within their classes.

Dinner, Dance, and Christmas Service

On the last day of term (Friday 18th December) children can wear a Christmas (or any home) jumper, will be making hats in class, will be having a Christmas dinner, will be dancing to Christmas music, and will attend our whole school Christmas Service on the playground in the afternoon. If we are able to incorporate families on the recreation ground, we will. This will be weather dependent.

Staff are always grateful for your kind words and thoughts over the Christmas period. These are very strange and for many, difficult time.

Staff are not expecting gifts this year, and instead hope that the time and money you would otherwise allocate to school gifts help relieve pressure.

(We know we are very early to the plate on our Christmas arrangements, we just want to make it as special as possible for all our families).

Thank you so much for your support.