



Clarity Independent School

16th February 2024

Dear parents and care-givers,

Another busy, yet productive half term comes to a close successfully, as we have now come past the half-way mark through the academic year!

Events and Activities

Alongside the usual specialist interventions provided at the school (Speech and Language Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Wellbeing Counselling / Coaching, Danbury Outdoors Adventure Activities and Bushcraft), the children have had further opportunities to reach goals on their pathways to success.

- One-to-one appointments with our **Careers Advisor**; Louise Brazier, on 18th January and 15th February, for our Tigers and Horses classes to continue to build their careers ideas and explore opportunities.
- **Guitar lessons** across the school, for those opting to explore their musical talent.
- First Aid Training by the **British Red Cross** 31st January 2024 for Tigers class. Not only is this so important to play our individual parts in becoming effective, responsible citizens, to be able to help others in an emergency, it also forms an important part of their careers training to build their CVs and help applications to College. Part 1 has been completed; Part 2 is to follow (dates to be confirmed).
- **Essex Police Careers visit** by two Schools' Liaison Officers to talk with Tigers Class about careers in the police force, along with the unique opportunity to have their very own question and answer sessions with the police. They were able to choose their own questions, to which they have always wanted to know the answers, but not had the chance (or courage!) to ask.

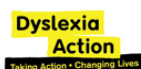
Children's Progress

The children have been busily working hard as usual and I have awarded several Headteacher awards to nominees this half term. Congratulations to each of the children receiving the following awards:

- ◇ Citizen / Leadership Achievement, Reggee: Being a superb role model for new pupils joining the school
- ◇ Art, Reggee: Creating a hybrid creature!
- ◇ Personal Achievement, Dan: Overcoming a fear of heights at Danbury Outdoors
- ◇ Personal Achievement, Oscar: Being a great friend, whilst navigating the Aerial Trekking course at Danbury Outdoors
- ◇ Leadership Achievement, a pupil in Horses Class: Performing her Leadership role of Admin Assistant with excellence
- ◇ English x 2; a pupil in Horses Class and Reggee: producing a fabulous Nonsense Poem- constructed of 'made-up words' with 'made-up meanings!'
- ◇ Character, Boedy: Being able to collaborate in learning and complete a joint glossary as a group task
- ◇ Personal Achievement, Harry: Attending every planned session on his transition plan as a new pupil



Approved Assessments for
Disabled Students'
Allowance



Guild Member
Assessment Practising
Certificate Holder



INPP
Practitioner



AMBDA Status

These will be displayed on the school website as well as the Headteacher's noticeboard in the entrance hall for all to see.

Update on Football Coaching, Food / Health Coaching and Swimming

Many of you will remember me updating you shortly after we returned from the Christmas break, that Coaching Champions, the sports company who supplied our Football and Sports Coaching on Friday afternoons and Food Champions on Tuesdays (Food and Nutrition coaching) unfortunately ceased trading with no notice. We have managed to source another company to start Health and Sports Coaching on Tuesdays, and Sports Coaching on Fridays as soon as possible when we return after the half term. This is great news, so that this important learning can continue. Thank you to the staff for continuing to provide our own 'in-house PE lessons' in the meantime.

In addition, following Riverside Ice and Leisure Centre withdrawing our booking last minute in October, we have finally been able to source a new venue for swimming lessons (County High School) and swimming teacher / lifeguard, so that lessons can re-commence for the summer term, Wednesdays 17th April onwards. More details and a social story, with photos, to follow nearer the time.

Essex County Council Informal Monitoring

We have also had an informal monitoring visit from Essex County Council. This is where a couple of times a year, they arrange to send the SEND Inclusion Partner who looks after certain children's cases, to come and monitor provision for the children's EHCPs to ensure that we are delivering what we have promised, and that this is having a positive impact on the children's wellbeing and education. Thank you to those of you who were contacted in the role of their parents / care-givers, for providing the necessary feedback and helping the school to give a 360° view of our provision and its impact. We have not received a report yet, but verbal feedback on the day was positive and the children gave positive feedback about their experiences here and opportunities for learning.

Department for Education Approved our Material Change

As reported during the half term, we have been waiting to hear back from the Department for Education, about our request to be able to keep certain children on roll for one extra year, allowing them to have an extra year before attending college. This provision is specifically for children being awarded school places very late in their education and who have excellent attendance, to allow extra time to build their pre-college qualifications. We were notified of our successful material change in January and are delighted that we also granted the opportunity to extend our provision for an extra pupil as well, bringing our registered number of pupils now to 13.

February Half Term FREE ActivAte Clubs for young people:

During the half term holiday, Essex County Council would like us to let parents know that there are still several places left on their funded, free holiday activity and food clubs for children and young people who are eligible for benefits based free school meals and low-income families. For any support or questions, please head over to the [Active Essex](http://www.activeessex.org) website or email the HAF admin: haf@activeessex.org. Please click here to book:

<https://www.activeessex.org/children-young-people/essex-activate/>

SEND Roadshows Around Essex

Also, please see the attached poster regarding several SEND Roadshows coming up around Essex for you to attend if you wish, for further information about what's on offer and support you may tap into.

I wish you all a pleasant half term, with hopefully plenty of time to rest, spend time with your children, friends and family and have some fun!

Yours sincerely,



Debbie Hanson, Head Teacher and Director, *BSc (Hons), QTS, PG Dip (Dyslexia and Literacy), AMBDA, APC, NPQH*
Member of the Dyslexia Guild, Associate Member of SASC (SpLD Assessment Standards Committee)

Essex Local Offer Roadshows

Are you a parent/carer of a young person with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and want to know what support is available in your area? Come along to one of our Essex Local Offer Roadshows.

Meet representatives from across education, health and social care as well as local support groups.

No need to book, just drop in!

Parent/carer workshops will also be running. More information to follow soon.

Scan the QR code to
find out more
information



or go to
[The Essex Local
Offer Website](https://www.essex.gov.uk/essex-local-offer)

Join us...

Monday 4 March 2024

The Holiday Inn, Basildon

Thursday 7 March 2024

Hamptons Sports and Leisure,
Chelmsford

Wednesday 13 March 2024

JobServe Community Stadium,
Colchester

Tuesday 19 March 2024

The Harlow Hotel, Harlow



In Partnership with

