



Marvellous March!

Well, despite the weather, what a wonderful week we have had here at Broomgrove Junior School! Earlier this week, we were visited by two Headteachers from other local schools and they gave such positive feedback about the manners and behaviours of our pupils and the fact that our school has a lovely "feel." Last night, our pupils had their first school DISCO since before the pandemic. It was wonderful to see them all dressed up, dancing and having fun. After throwing a few shapes on the dancefloor, I needed a rest! We would like to thank everyone in the BSA for organising this event and the parent helpers for volunteering their time - without your kind help, these events could not take place.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS!

All absence must be reported on the first day. If we do not have a reason for absence your child will receive an unauthorised absence mark. This data is monitored by The Department for Education on a regular basis.

Attendance Percentages for this academic year so far:

Class	Attendance Percentage
Class 1	95.8%
Class 2	93.7%
Class 3	96.3%
Class 4	94.4%
Class 5	94.0%
Class 6	93.1%
Class 7	94%
Class 8	94.8%
Whole school	94.6%

*(If a pupil's overall absence rate is 10% or higher of their possible sessions, they are classified as a **persistent absentee**. A "session" is one morning or afternoon in school.)*

KEY DATES

- ***Mon 13th and Tues 14th March: Bikeability (Year 5)**
- ***Tuesday 14th March: Y3 Prehistoric Experience**
- ***Friday 17th March: Comic Relief Day**
- ***Tuesday 21st March: Parents' Evening (3.30-7pm)**
- ***Thurs 23rd March: Parents' Evening (3.30-5.30pm)**
- ***Friday 31st March: Last day of term**
- ***April 3rd - 14th: EASTER HOLIDAY**

BSA Easter Fayre - date to be confirmed!

Wivenhoe Sailing Club

Wivenhoe Sailing Club has a thriving Cadet section designed to give young people a knowledge of boats, sailing and the water.

This is aimed at year 6 and above. Sessions will cover the theory of the wind, sails, knots etc and will teach on the water in the sailing club boats.

If any year 6 child is interested in joining them this season please contact Emily Gordon at wsccadets@gmail.com



Important Information: Term time holidays

Improving school attendance is a key priority for all schools across Essex. Where families choose to take a family holiday during term time, this can detrimentally impact a pupil's progress and can prevent them from fulfilling their true academic potential. Our school attendance policy, available via our school website, clearly sets out the process that parents should follow if they wish to apply for leave during term time.



Please note that applications should only be made if you feel that there are **exceptional circumstances** which mean that the leave cannot be taken during the school holidays.

We would ask all parents to note that, where families choose to go on holiday during term time and the absences are coded as unauthorised, Essex County Council may not issue penalty notices and may instead proceed to prosecution and place the case directly before the Magistrates for their consideration in court. If found guilty by the Magistrates, parents could face a fine of up to £2,500 and/or 3 months imprisonment (and a criminal record.)

Walk To School Challenge!

We are in the top ten for Essex!



ESSEX LEADERBOARD	
1.	Rivenhall Church of England Primary School
2.	Great Bradfords Junior School
3.	Riverside Primary School
4.	Canvey Island Infant School and Nursery
5.	Wickford Primary School
6.	Baddow Hall Infant School
7.	The Phoenix Primary School
8.	Felsted Primary School
9.	Broomgrove Junior School
10.	Baddow Hall Junlor School

SPRING 2023 #WOWWalkOfFame

At Broomgrove, we're all mathematicians! Mathematics is the science of patterns that we can see all around us in nature, art, stories and technology. A lot of the rich, interesting maths is all about these patterns including multiplicative relationships and these are hard to fully grasp without fluent recall of times tables facts. For that reason, learning tables is fundamental to underpin learning in many of the other areas of maths.



At Broomgrove your child will learn about times tables in lots of different ways including games, songs, investigations and puzzles. The Times Tables Rock Stars app is a great way to support your child with learning their multiplication and division facts. We have seen daily practice at home (5-10 minutes) make a huge difference to pupils' speed and accuracy of recall.

The National Curriculum expectations for KS2 are that all children should know up to $\times 12$ by the end of Year 4. Year 3 pupils should know $\times 2$ $\times 5$ $\times 10$ $\times 3$ $\times 4$ $\times 8$. Years 5 and 6 need to continue to practise their rapid recall of all facts.

Previously we have set weekly points goals for pupils to aim for and this has worked for some. From next week we will be changing to a 'session' goal. This is a weekly target of a set number of minutes completed or games played each week. Once this assignment has been completed, your child can access any of the areas of TTRS that they choose. If your child has problems with their session goal, please talk to their teacher.

Year 3 – 15 minutes of Garage Games per week.

Year 4 – 15 Sound checks per week.

Year 5 – 30 minutes of Studio Games per week.

Year 6 – 30 minutes of Studio Games per week.

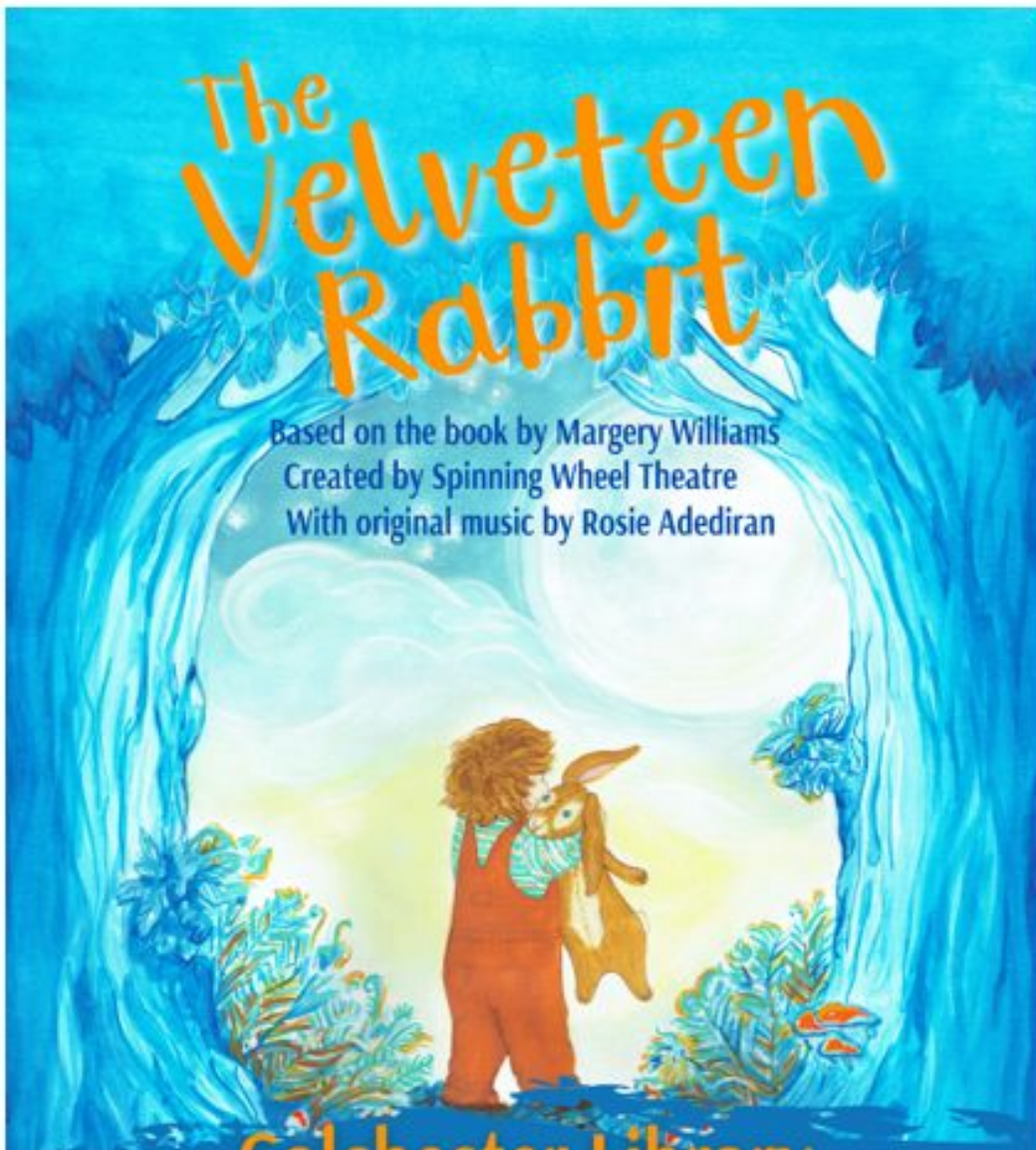


If your child is not secure with their multiplication facts, encourage them to use a multiplication square.

Every week in assembly and in the newsletter we will celebrate the most improved, most accurate, most effort and fastest recall by classes and individual pupils.

The Velveteen Rabbit

Based on the book by Margery Williams
Created by Spinning Wheel Theatre
With original music by Rosie Adediran



Colchester Library
25 March at 11am, £6.50

Tickets from the library or colchester.library@essex.gov.uk



Supported and funded by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



**Spinning
Wheel
Theatre**

Snow Plan 2022-23
Guidance for Parents of Broomgrove Infant and Junior Schools

In matters related to adverse weather conditions, we will **keep the school open** whenever possible, provided the safety of children and staff can be maintained. However there may be occasions for where, due to the health and safety of children and staff, we have to close the school. The importance of clear communication is essential and this letter outlines our procedure in such circumstances.

Essex County Council (ECC) has created a new online notification system to keep parents up-to-date about unplanned school closures. The system has been introduced by ECC to allow parents and guardians to access information about school closures faster and more effectively via the internet.

All Essex schools will be able to complete a simple reporting process either on the day of the closure or the day before. A notification will then be added to a live feed on the emergency school closures page on the council's website <http://www.essex.gov.uk/Education-Schools/Schools/Dates/Pages/Emergency-School-Closures.aspx>

This feed will continue to update as notifications of school closures are received. The page will refresh at 6pm each evening and closure lists for the next day will then go live.

Essex radio stations have always been extremely helpful in not only listing school closures online, but also using their airtime to keep people informed. They will continue to support ECC in getting vital school closure messages out in as many ways as possible, including signposting listeners to the school closures page on the council's website.

The decision to stay open or close the school is made by **7.00a.m.** This will be based on;

- the ability of staff to get into school
- the safety /conditions in the building, given the weather
- the likelihood of weather becoming even worse during the day.

As well as the council's new notification system, schools have been asked to provide information to parents about other ways they will communicate closures. We will communicate with you as parents / staff through;

<p>Infant School:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● School Website – scrolling on the homepage ● Tapestry ● Microsoft Teams 	<p>Junior School:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● School Website – We will endeavour to update the school website as soon as a decision has been made. ● School Twitter Feed. ● Class Dojo ● Parentmail
<p>BOTH SCHOOLS</p> <p>Essex website as above</p> <p>Approved radio stations – Heart FM & BBC Radio Essex</p> <p>Parent Mail</p>	

Once this decision has been made to close the school it will not be reversed, even if weather conditions improve. Please accept our apologies in advance if the decision turns out to be the wrong one but we have to decide on the basis of the information we have at the time and with enough notice to allow parents to make childcare arrangements.

Breakfast Club and Out of School Club:

On any snowy day, there is a strong possibility that we may be unable to open Breakfast Club on time or at all. If we announce a late opening, or complete closure, then it should be assumed that on that day Breakfast Club will not open at all. You should therefore always bring your child to the door to check that there is someone there. Similarly, we cannot guarantee that Out of Hours Club will open on snowy days and if there has been a heavy snowfall during the day, you should expect that Out of Hours Club will not open. **All other clubs will be cancelled in the event of snow.**

Advice to Parents and Carers for extreme weather conditions

- **IF IT HAS SNOWED PLEASE DO NOT SEND CHILDREN TO SCHOOL BY THEMSELVES AS YOU MAY NEED TO TAKE THEM HOME IF MESSAGES HAVE NOT GOT THROUGH TO YOU IF SCHOOL HAS HAD TO CLOSE.**
- The decision to close the school will be a joint one between the Infant and Juniors Schools.
- If the school has to close because of extreme conditions during school hours, the school will text/call you to collect your child.
- Parents will have been notified of this closure by way of a text message, plus a message posted on the school website.
- If conditions are bad the following morning and our school remains closed, please check our website for updates and a ParentMail message from us.
- The school will provide work for the children at home through our remote learning platforms on every day that the school is closed due to snow. The Infants will upload work to Microsoft Teams and the Junior School through Google Classroom
- No snowballing on the school site. This is in the best interests of health and safety for all pupils, staff and visitors. The children **will** get the chance, if they wish to, to throw snowballs at playtime, if they appropriate outside clothing and footwear for the conditions, subject to school's discretion.