



## Remember November

A new half term and we have already experienced a few events and we are now preparing for Christmas!

We started off with BOOMGROVE, the fabulous Firework night, and the BSA raised over £4,000 for both schools.

The whole school paid tribute to the fallen on Remembrance Day and today, we have had a non-uniform day to raise money for Children In Need.

Our Just Giving Page is still live:

<https://www.justgiving.com/page/broomgrove-1731078601495ro?newPage=true>

The staff and children have started preparing for our Christmas production (please note the change of dates) and our staff and volunteers are preparing for our Christmas Fayre. It's action stations all around!

## 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:

Class 1	96.6%
Class 2	96.8%
Class 3	96.1%
Class 4	95.2%
Class 5	95.5%
Class 6	95.6%
Class 7	95.3%
Class 8	91.1%
<b>Whole school</b>	<b>95.3%</b>

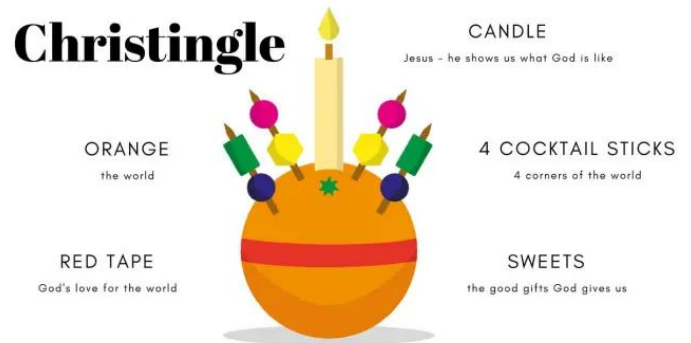
## KEY DATES

- \*Tuesday 19th Nov: Odd Sock Day (Anti-Bullying Alliance)
- \*Wednesday 27th Nov: No Pens Day Wednesday
- \*Monday 25th Nov: 'Flu Immunisations
- \*Wednesday 27th Nov: No Pens Day Wednesday
- \*Thursday 28th Nov: Non-uniform day (for donations to Christmas Fayre)
- \*Friday 29th Nov: Non-pupil day
- \*Friday 6th Dec: Non-uniform day (for donations to Christmas Fayre)
- \*Wednesday 11th Dec: Dress rehearsal for Production
- \*Thursday 12th Dec: Christmas Jumper Day/Christmas Dinner Day/ Christmas Fayre!
- \*Wednesday 18th Dec: Christmas Production
- \*Thursday 19th Dec: Christmas Production

## Christingle Service

Everyone is invited to attend the Christingle Service at St Mary's Church on Sunday 1st December at 4pm.

Any children interested should let their teacher know and they will be given a letter and song lyrics on Monday 18th November.



## Year 2-3 admissions for September 2025

As you may be aware, parents of current Year 2 children at an infant school need to make a formal application to the Council for a Year 3 place and can do so via the website [www.essex.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.essex.gov.uk/admissions).

The junior admission round opened on **4 November 2024**, for parents of children in Year 2 at an infant school to apply for a junior school (Year 3) place for September 2025.

The statutory national closing date for applications is **15 January 2025**.

Applications can be made online via [www.essex.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.essex.gov.uk/admissions).

The Local Authority has requested that **all junior schools** place a general item in our newsletter advising parents who may have a Year 2 child, that they must make an application by the deadline to the Council for a place at the junior school

## St Nicholas's visit to Wivenhoe

St Mary's Church has again organised a **visit by St Nicholas to our town** and all families and friends are welcome on **Saturday 30 November at 11am**. (I have attached the poster and **colouring sheet**.)

All children are invited to colour the sheet but this year the church would like parents to fill in contact details **if they wish their child to take part in a mini-competition** with a prize for one pupil per school. All data will be destroyed after the event. Taking part is not compulsory. All children are encouraged to colour the sheet even if they do not take part.



## Snow Plan 2024-25

### 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

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

**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 THAT THE 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 ParentMail/call you to collect your child.
- If conditions are bad the following morning and our school remains closed, please check our website for updates and a ParentMail, Tapestry, Teams or Class Dojo 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/Tapestry 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.



CASH  
EVENT

## The Schools Christmas Fair 2024

We are fast approaching the festive period and as you may know, the BSA and the fabulous staff at the Infants and Juniors are hosting a **Christmas Fair & Market on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December 3:30pm – 5.30pm**. There will be fun to be found in both school halls as well as the grounds between the schools and the Junior School playground.

We have invited local businesses to have a stall selling various items, alongside the craft, activities and game stalls that the schools will be running. We will have hot and cold refreshments, food stalls and fairground rides to keep you and the children very entertained!

We will be able to take **card payments on the Entry Gate, Pop Up Bar and Facepainting only**. All other stalls will be **CASH ONLY**. Prices will range from 50p upwards.

**NON SCHOOL UNIFORM DATES** in exchange for items to support the Rainbow Raffle, Chocolate Tombola and Present Room:

**Non School Uniform day 28<sup>th</sup> November in exchange for Rainbow Raffle Items.**

Please see which colour your year group has below:

Reception: <b>BLUE</b>	Year 3: <b>PURPLE</b>
Year 1: <b>PINK</b>	Year 4: <b>GREEN</b>
Year 2: <b>YELLOW</b>	Year 5: <b>ORANGE</b>
	Year 6: <b>RED</b>

**Non School Uniform day 6<sup>th</sup> December in exchange for:**

**Infant School:** Please bring wrapped chocolate items to support the Chocolate Tombola

**Junior School:** Please bring unopened items, such as unwanted gifts for our present room which may be for adults or children (please take any alcoholic items to the school office)

**Entry Fee will be payable on the gate \* £1.00 for per Adult \* Children under 16 FREE \***

### **SANTA'S GROTTTO**

We would like to invite you to purchase your child's **Santa's Grotto Tickets** in advance, as we must ensure that we have enough presents ready for all the children who would like to have this experience. We will be allocating 5 minute timeslots for up to 6 children at a time.

**If you would like your child to go in with friends, please return all slips together.** Time slots will be allocated at random between 3.40pm-5.20pm. **We have a maximum of 126 spaces** so please return your slip in good time in order not to be disappointed.



**Santa's Grotto Ticket pre order slip**  
**£3.00 per child**

**Please return the slip to school by Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December to avoid disappointment.**

Child Name/s: \_\_\_\_\_

Child Class (input age if not school age): \_\_\_\_\_

**Please PRINT your email address here so that we can email you your ticket information:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**CASH PAYMENTS**

Please specify total amount of cash enclosed: £ \_\_\_\_\_

**BACS PAYMENTS**

**Account Name:** Broomgrove Schools Association

**Account Number:** 00387142

**Sort Code:** 30-92-16

Please specify amount transferred: £ \_\_\_\_\_

**Should you choose to pay via BACS, please do so by 2<sup>nd</sup> December. Please use your child's name as a payment reference.**

***Grotto tickets will be emailed to you by 11<sup>th</sup> December.  
If there is more than one child, tickets will be emailed to the email address on the slip.***

**Saint Nicholas**  
visits Wivenhoe  
for the fourteenth time!



**Wivenhoe Quay**

**Saturday 30 November at 11am**  
followed by Welcome Ceremony  
at St Mary's Church  
with a free party bag for all children

This event is free thanks to the support of Wivenhoe Town Council,  
Wivenhoe Sailing Club, St Mary's Church and St Mary's Bellringers

Saint Nicholas will be visiting Wivenhoe on  
**Saturday 30 November at 11.00am**  
at Wivenhoe Quay (opposite the Nottage) followed by  
Welcome Ceremony at St Mary's with a gift for every child.



Colour this sheet and hand it back to your teacher by Friday 22 November.  
*If you would like to take part in the colouring competition please leave your name, class and how we can contact you. These details will only be used to contact the prize winners and your data will be destroyed immediately after the event. Good luck!*

Name: ..... Class: .....

How to contact you (email or phone) .....

[www.stmaryswivenhoe.org](http://www.stmaryswivenhoe.org)