

MONTGOMERY INFANT SCHOOL AND NURSERY



Friday 16th May 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

The children have had a great week this week with the Year 1 visit to Colchester Zoo and Reception visit to Marsh Farm. The Y1 children explored the zoo to find out more about animals in their habitats; learned about the diets of a variety of creatures and had an educational talk with the outreach team about carnivores, herbivores and omnivores. What a fab day! Reception returned from Marsh Farm, exhausted but full of enthusiasm about their time—meeting different animals and learning more about them: these included alpacas, guinea pigs and goats. Thank you to all parents for supporting our trips which are invaluable learning experiences for our children.



As part of the EYFS learning about the past, we have invited a dinosaur workshop to school on Wednesday 21st May during which each class will have the opportunity to learn more about fossils and palaeontology as well meeting two baby dinosaurs. The visit is fully funded by the school.

Our Year 1 children will be taking their Phonics Screening Check in June this year so we would appreciate it if parents could take a little time to practise blending the sounds on the sheets sent home each week. In addition, there are some super free resources on Phonics play which help the children <https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/> improve their Phonic knowledge.

The children in the Junior School have chosen would like to raise funds to support their chosen charity this year, which is SSAFA, the charity which offers support to military families and veterans in times of need. On Friday 23rd May, the staff and children of both the Infant and Junior School can wear their own clothes for donations of £1+ to raise money for this worthy cause. The Juniors have asked to have a cake sale and any leftover cakes will be sold on the Infant playground after school that day. We thank you in advance for your generosity.



We have some dates to add to your diaries for the upcoming Summer 2 half term. Sports' days for Rec- Thursday 10th July at 9:15am ; Year 1 – Friday 27th June at 10:00am; Year 2 – Friday 27th June at 2:15pm. These will be subject to change should the weather be inclement; an alternative date will be sent out. In addition, our Festival of Culture will take place on Friday 11th July in the afternoon. More details to follow nearer the time. We look forward to a fun-filled Summer 2 half term.

Mrs Wright—Interim Head Teacher

Dinner Menu

Dinner menu week beginning **Monday 19th May** will be the **Week 2** menu, from the **Summer 2025** Menu.

Our menus can be found online [here](https://www.montgomery-inf.essex.sch.uk). Paper copies are available from the foyer by the school office.



Dates for your diary

Monday 19th May— Yeti and Dragon Class Forest School sessions

Tuesday 20th May—Sunshine and Nursery class Forest School sessions

Wednesday 21st May—EYFS Dinosaur workshop

Friday 23rd May—Break up for half term. **Non-Uniform Day for SSAFA.**

Week beginning 26th May—Half Term

Monday 2nd June—Pupils return to school

Friday 27th June—Year 1 Sports Day, 10am

Friday 27th June—Year 2 Sports Day, 2.15pm

Thursday 10th July—Reception Sports day, 9.15am

Friday 11th July—Festival of Culture

Weekly clubs

The following clubs will run in the Summer Term.

Monday:

Front Row music lessons, Year 2 (during the school day)

Football, Year 2—Colchester United, 3.15-4.15

Dance, Year 1 and 2—Carol Gale School of Dance, 3.15-4.15pm

Tuesday:

Military Club, Year 1 and 2, 3.15-4.15

Wednesday:

Gymnastics, Year 1 —SCS, 3.15-4.15

Thursday:

Gardening club, Reception. Starts 5th June. Interest slip due back 20th May

Friday :

Art Club, Year 2, 3.15-4.15

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Year 1 Colchester Zoo trip

On Tuesday, our Year 1 classes visited Colchester Zoo. As well as seeing lots of animals around the Zoo, during their educational session, the children looked at the skulls of a tiger, a deer and an orangutan and thought about their diets, learning which was a carnivore, herbivore and omnivore. The children labelled the items with a range of adjectives and then sorted the items into those belonging to mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, fish and invertebrates.

We hope that the children all enjoyed their day at the Zoo and were able to tell you all about the animals they had seen and the facts they had learned when they returned home. Their teachers were proud of their behaviour and how well they represented Montgomery during their trip.



Reception Marsh Farm Trip

On Tuesday and Wednesday this week, our Reception classes visited Marsh Farm.

The children saw, fed and interacted with lots of animals, including rabbits, donkeys, goats, sheep, alpacas, guinea pigs, ferrets, koi fish and chickens.

This trip linked to the topic of 'Amazing Animals' and the children learned about how to care for animals and their habitats. The children were fascinated and had lots of awe and wonder moments! We hope that they all enjoyed their time at Marsh Farm and had lots to tell you about the animals when they came home.



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Essex County Council

Early Years and Childcare Parents Survey 2025

We have been asked to share the following communication from Essex County Council with our families:

Dear Parents and Carers,

Essex County Council is committed to providing outstanding childcare services. But to help us improve we are conducting our annual survey to see how well our program is working.

If you are a parent or carer of a child aged 0-19 years (or 0-25 years for children with SEND), then **we want to hear from you!**

The survey includes questions about:

Childcare needs for children aged 0-5 years

Wraparound care for school-aged children

Your child's experience with starting school

Where you find information about Essex Services

Your participation is invaluable to us and will remain entirely anonymous. The result of the survey will help Early Years and Childcare teams understand the needs of parents and carers in Essex.

The survey will be open until Friday the 13th of June, and can be accessed through this link - [Essex Parents Survey 2025](https://www.essex.gov.uk/parents-survey-2025), or by scanning this QR code below.

Thank you so much for your time.



May Half Term activities

ACLS

FREE!

Help Your Child Master Their Emotions

Help your child understand and manage their emotions! Join us for a friendly, practical FREE online sessions introducing the Zones of Regulation. A simple, effective approach to support emotional wellbeing at home and school.

Various online sessions available at different times of the day to suit you!

For Further Information, and to Sign Up... Visit our website [aclessex.com](https://www.aclessex.com) and type 'Zones' in to the 'Find a course...' box

COMMUNITY & FAMILY LEARNING

24th-31st May
Woodland Trail
May Half Term

Explore our woodland garden this half term and search for the wooden animals hiding among the plants.

Prebook tickets
www.bethchatto.co.uk

Beth Chatto
Landscaped Trees

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

CLICK HERE TO BOOK

Premier League Disability Football

INCLUSIVE U'S FOOTBALL CAMP

WHAT TO EXPECT?

- Expert Coaching sessions, introducing you to the specialist coaches, who are experienced in working with SEND children.
- A skills development session, where you will learn how to play football with your child, through fun football drills, focusing on passing, shooting, dribbling and touch skills.
- Special thanks to our sponsors, who have donated equipment and kit to support the camp.
- Existing members may participate in a friendly match with additional support and additional resources to help.

With young people aged 5-11 with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities. Dates: Sunday 25th May & Wednesday 28th May, 10am-1pm. Where: Shrub End Community and Sports Centre, CO2 9BG. Cost: Half price is £30 for both days or £18.50 for one day.

Essex Fire Museum
Open Days 2025

Sunday 25th & Tuesday 27th May
10:30AM To 4:00PM
Fire Station, Hogg Lane, Grays
RM17 5QS

Book Now →

Museum@EssexFire.gov.uk

JOIN US FOR EVACUEES! A HANDS-ON WW2 EXPERIENCE

To accompany our new exhibition **Feeding the Nation: Fighting Without Flying** our Activity Days will bring the Home Front to life, starting on **Saturday 31 May** with **Evacuees!** Young visitors can learn about the threat of poison gas and make a gas mask box; discover what it really meant to be evacuated, and the few home comforts they were allowed to take with them; practice air raid drills, sit in vintage trucks, and learn about evacuees in the famous story, The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe. Pre-booked tickets only: £5 per adult with up to two free children aged six to 11. The day's activities start at 10am for registered attendees. Book now at www.stowmaries.org.uk/events

Food Production Activity Sessions – learn to harvest fruit and veg grown traditionally on site, then prepare and cook wartime-inspired recipes. Activities will take place on **Saturdays 21 June, 26 July, 30 August, 20 September** and **18 October**. Pre-booking coming soon.

Stow Maries Great War Aerodrome
Hackmans Lane, Purleigh CM3 6RN

Normal Opening
Friday, Saturday & Sunday 10-4pm
www.stowmaries.org.uk

Registered Charity
Number: 1151099
info@stowmaries.org.uk