

# The Chorus Schools Federation

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## This week...



What a busy festive week! On Wednesday we had our Christmas Service, the children performed all the carols and readings beautifully. Thank you to everyone who joined us, we hope you enjoyed it. All the

children then took part in the Christingle service, where we reflected on the meaning of Christmas and particularly enjoyed eating the sweets! Many thanks to Reverend Claire for leading both these services.

We also had our whole school Christmas dinner, with music, crackers and lots of festive fun all round! Thank you Mrs Park for the lovely food, what a fabulous way to end the term.



The children had a fabulous time at the Christmas disco on Thursday. It was fun packed with games and dancing, they loved the conga! Thank you to the PTA for organising this fantastic end of term event.



## Forest School Spring Term

Forest school with Holly Hilder will continue each Tuesday for the spring term as follows:



Owl Class	AM 6 <sup>th</sup> January - 24 <sup>th</sup> March
Fox Class	PM 6 <sup>th</sup> January - 10 <sup>th</sup> February
Robin Class	PM 24 <sup>th</sup> February - 24 <sup>th</sup> March

Otter class will continue to have their session with Mrs Morton on a Friday afternoon.

Please ensure children come to school with their forest school kit, with plenty of warm layers and their waterproofs and wellies.



- Mon 5<sup>th</sup> Jan 2026  
First Day of Spring Term
- Thurs 8<sup>th</sup> Jan  
Swimming Lessons Start – Year 5
- Thurs 15<sup>th</sup> Jan  
Closing date for Reception Year Applications 2026
- 18<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> Feb  
Half Term
- Tues 24<sup>th</sup> Feb  
Yr 6 Cyber Safety
- Tues 24<sup>th</sup> Feb  
Forest School Starts for Robin Class
- 17<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> March  
Owl Class PGL Residential Trip
- Weds 18<sup>th</sup> Mar  
Yr R Boydell's Farm
- Weds 25<sup>th</sup> Mar  
Palm Celebration Assembly
- 30<sup>th</sup> March – 10<sup>th</sup> April  
Easter Holidays
- Mon 13<sup>th</sup> April  
Spring Term Starts

## Praise from the Diocese

On Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> November, we had a planned Governors visit, looking at the schools' Christian vision, with particular focus on the impact of outdoor learning on spiritual development for pupils. Richard Hopkins, School Adviser to the Board of Education for the Dioceses of Chelmsford was in attendance. In summary, his report concluded that:

- Governors know the Christian vision well, and are diligent in looking for examples of it during monitoring visits to school
- Outdoor learning supports the personal development of pupils as they learn responsibility and wise risk taking when using or making fires
- Governors learn about the impact of environmental science and forest school on pupils' engagement with courageous advocacy and their understanding of environmental justice and injustice
- Governors reflected on the visibility of the Christian vision and values in forest school, thinking particularly about the value of trust as children are trusted to develop their own ideas and to engage in tool use and fire making with wisdom and autonomy



**MULTISKILLS  
AFTER-SCHOOL CLUB**  
For all children in Years 3 - 6

FOR FURTHER INFO OR TO BOOK THE CLUB  
SCAN THE QR CODE OR CLICK HERE

Spaces are limited to provide the very best experience for your children...

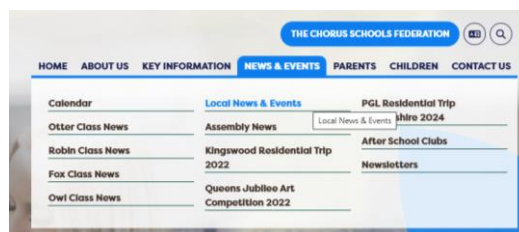


## EPC Wednesday After School Sports Club

EPC will be running their popular Wednesday after school sports clubs for Key Stage 2 (Years 3-6) in the Spring Term. For more information and to book scan the QR code, or they can be contacted via email: [admin@epcoaching.co.uk](mailto:admin@epcoaching.co.uk) or telephone: 01206 670237

## Local Holiday Activities

A reminder that local events and holiday activities can be found on our website: <https://www.chorusschools.uk/st-andrews-c-of-e-primary-school/news-and-events/local-news-and-events>



## Swimming for Year 5 – Starting Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> January

Swimming lessons for Year 5 will start on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> January, and will run every Thursday until the 12<sup>th</sup> March. A reminder that children are expected to swim each week and their swimming kit must be in school, including a swim hat. Please make payment through your Compass Wallet.

## Essex Libraries Winter Reading Challenge

Children across Essex are being challenged to read and get creative at their local library this winter! Children can choose from twelve fun activities to complete. For each one, they will get a sticker. Complete six, and they'll receive a certificate and enter their prize draw for the chance to win some incredible goodies! Find out more about how to take part in this free activity at: <https://libraries.essex.gov.uk/>

We wish all our families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We look forward to seeing children back at school on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January.

## Coming up...

- Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January - First Day of Spring Term
- Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> January - Swimming Lessons Start – Year 5

Yours faithfully,



Mrs Jinnie Nichols  
Executive Headteacher



Miss Gilbranch  
Senior Leader



[chorusschools.uk](https://chorusschools.uk)