



# Colne Engaine Catch Up

## Counting our blessings at Christmas December 14<sup>th</sup>



As we move into the last few days of term, there is a lot to be thankful for... and top of the list has to be our wonderful children. More than ever, we count our blessings, as we learn from their resilience and their capacity to find joy in even the smallest things. Those in Willow, Rowan and Sycamore have worked so hard this term to get back on track after a long time away from school – and they have achieved so much! And our wonderful little people in Oak Tree class have been rays of bright sunshine every day since they joined us in September.

We have had the most extraordinary journey this term. Thanks to our parents, carers, governors, village, Church team and the most amazing and brilliant group of staff, for all their support, encouragement and commitment to making this work for our 'rainbow children'. We wish you a very special Christmas and hope for a healthy and happy New Year for us all.



As you know, Sycamore class are in isolation now, owing to a positive case of Covid 19 impacting on their bubble. We are thinking of all those affected by the virus and wish them a speedy recovery. Sycamore class are 'remote learning' with Mrs Dunne and Mrs Mizon each day - and doing well. We have been fortunate not to need to move to a home learning model earlier, as several local schools have been affected more severely. **One school nearby alerted us to the fact that they have experienced a significant number of positive cases – and 'predominantly, the symptoms displayed by our young people initially were related to colds, runny noses, sore throats and headaches. Around one in four cases were asymptomatic.'** We thought this would be useful for you to know as we all prepare for a safe Christmas. Please continue to be vigilant in all of the measures in place, to manage the spread of the virus.



Our Learning Buddy BEN has been a great help in supporting our children to have a positive attitude and strong growth mindset.

Our WOW awards celebrate examples of learning where the children have demonstrated great learning behaviours, such as sticking at it even when it's hard, or refining their work with careful editing. Well done to our most recent WOW winners are Toby C, Ellie, Laura, Aubree, Josh, Fergus, Isaac R, Sophia, Ivy, Seth, Joey, Mariah May, Leo and Eliza.

### *Fabulous FACES*

Our Christmas Fair is usually the biggest fund raiser of the year – so we are doubly grateful for our FACES team, who have been very creative in raising lots of money this term, with fun and games along the way, even though we have not been able to meet and mix. We rely heavily on this team and on your generosity in supporting the fundraisers they dream up for us, so a huge thankyou to you all.

Our Christmas raffle was drawn live on Facebook by FACES Chair Holly – well done Holly!

The virtual Balloon race part one took place over the last few days and we are delighted that Rupert was a winner!

Christmas baubles 'made by us' are waiting to be collected if you don't have yours yet – they are beautiful! And the lovely packs of Thankyou cards made by the children are being printed as we speak.



### **Our ERICER Tree**

As you know, our school ethos is deeply rooted in our core Christian values; Empathy, Respect, Integrity, Compassion, Equality and Responsibility. Our children are fantastic at using and recognising 'ERICER' behaviours, which they understand to be the crucial ingredients needed to 'make a difference' in the world. Our ERICER awards celebrate and acknowledge examples of kind,

compassionate and fair behaviours. One child from each class each week receives an ERICER leaf award, which is added to the tree in the hall.

Our most recent ERICER awards go to Leon, Max E, Ivy and Toby M – well done!

### **Primary School Places for September 2021**

**– Please share!**

As you may be aware, the primary school (Reception) admission round opens on 9 November 2020, for parents/carers to apply for a Reception school place for the academic year that starts in September 2021. The statutory national closing date for applications is **15 January 2021**. Applications can be made online via [www.essex.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.essex.gov.uk/admissions). 99% of Essex resident families applied online last year.

The Local Authority do not send letters to parents about making an application. All of the application and admissions information is available on the website above and we will be promoting via our website, social media and the printed press. The website [www.essex.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.essex.gov.uk/admissions) also has a copy of the Primary Education in Essex 2021-22 booklet and the Schools Admissions Policies Directories contain details of all admission policies.

### **Christmas Services at the Three Colnes St Andrew's Churches**

**Sunday 20th** 10am Holy Communion - Earls Colne  
10am Mattins (BCP) - Colne Engaine  
10.30am Morning Worship - White Colne  
5pm Christingle Service - Online: Zoom, Facebook, YouTube

**Christmas Eve** 11.15pm Midnight Eucharist - Earls Colne & Online: Zoom, Facebook, YouTube - RESERVATIONS NECESSARY \***Christmas Day** 10am Christmas Communion - Colne Engaine - RESERVATIONS NECESSARY \*

10am Christmas Communion - White Colne

**Sunday 27th** 10am Online Halstead Area Team Service: Zoom, Facebook, YouTube

Please go to [www.colnechurches.com](http://www.colnechurches.com) for details of how to reserve a place or how to join a service via Zoom.