



Dear Parents,

*The Royal British Legion will be very grateful for all of your donations to this year's Poppy Appeal, the total amount raised will be confirmed shortly. The children observed the 2 minute silence and have been learning about the significance of Remembrance Sunday and why we wear red poppies in support of our fallen heroes. The children in our Reception classes made a wonderful window display.*

*Wishing you all a lovely weekend.*

*Kind regards, Sarah Vass - Headteacher*

Week commencing 15th November 2021:

Autumn menu: Week 2



### Come and join our midday assistant team!

We are looking for a friendly and kind person to help make lunchtimes happy.

It is for 5 days a week, term time, for 1 hour 20 mins a day.

Please feel free to share this opportunity with friends and family. It may suit a grandparent for example.

Application forms are available from the school office.



### Children In Need 2021

Next Friday, 19<sup>th</sup> November, the children are invited to swap any or all of their uniform for 'Children In Need' style clothes.

For example a spotty jumper or a Pudsey bear onesie, or alternatively school uniform accessorised with Pudsey ears! Please be aware this is not a non-uniform day and unless an item of clothing is spotty, normal uniform should be worn. Eg spotty t-shirt with school trousers/skirt.

Buckets will be at the gates to collect any donations you wish to make towards this great cause.

### Flu Immunisations—Consent Form Reminder

A reminder that you need to provide online consent for each child in respect of the forthcoming annual flu immunisations on **10th December**, permission must be given by 8th December at the very latest.

Please refer to the letter sent by Parentmail on 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2021 for full details of how to provide consent. There is a helpline number for the immunisation team if you have any specific queries.

### PTFA Christmas Virtual Balloon Race

As we are unable to hold our Christmas Market this year, we thought we'd have a Christmas virtual balloon race instead. A virtual race runs the same way as a helium balloon race but the balloons fly around a webpage (very environmentally friendly!)

Please find attached further information on how to purchase your balloon(s) to be in with a chance of winning one of 3 fantastic prizes of Amazon vouchers.

The online entries must be completed by 1st December 2021 and the race will run from Saturday 4th to Saturday 11th December.

Thank you for your support and happy racing from the PTFA!



### Diary Dates:

**19th November** - Children In Need

**2nd December** - Christmas Post Box Opens

**10th December** - Flu Immunisations (YR - Y6)

**10th December** - Non-Uniform Day in aid of PTFA Christmas Raffle

**14th December** - Christmas Dinner

**15th December** - Last Christmas Post Box Day

**17th December** - Last Day of Term

**20th December to 3rd January** - Christmas School Holidays (**4th January** - First Day of Spring Term)



### A polite reminder to all parents who have ordered Christmas cards

If you plan to pay for your order by BACS transfer and have not yet done so, please do this as soon as possible so that your cards can be printed.

Bank Transfer details as follows;

Name: **Great Totham School PTFA**

Bank: **Barclays bank**

Sort code: **20-97-40**

Account: **1042 3947**

### Mini Survival Kits for the Homeless in Essex

This month Orla (Y2) and her mother are creating mini survival kits for the homeless/ rough sleepers of Essex.

The mini survival kits contain anything from toothbrushes and toothpaste to warm gloves and socks. Chess Homeless Charity based in Chelmsford will be distributing the kits to those in need across the district.

If you would like to donate any items for the kits, a collection box will be available in the reception area / school office from Monday 15th November.

It is becoming extremely cold outside now, so more than ever people who find themselves in this situation really need our help. Further information and a list of the items that are most in need are attached.

### Reception admissions for starting in September 2022

The primary school (Reception) admission round opens on **Monday 8th November 2021**, for parents to apply for a Reception school place for the academic year that starts in September 2022.

The statutory national closing date for applications is **15th January 2022**. From **8th November 2021**, applications can be made online via [www.essex.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.essex.gov.uk/admissions). All application information is available on the ECC website.