

# NEWSLINE



North Primary School and Nursery  
A Town Centre School with a Strong Community Ethos

January 2017  
Issue 3



**The first Tea Party of 2017 was great fun.** Lara-Leigh, Toleen, Natalie, Olivier, Aarnav, Connor and Alexys were nominated by their classteachers for their sustained commitment to their own and others' learning. They were joined by parents (and a grandparent) to eat, chat and play games.

## Children's University

It's that time of year when the children participating in Children's University need to count up all of the hours they have achieved for out of school hours learning, so that they can attend a Graduation Ceremony at the University of Essex. This is an exciting time, especially as we have a large number of children registered on the scheme. At present we have 74 children who regularly collect hours of learning in their Passports to Learning. I am very much looking forward to seeing a number of children receiving their certificate either at the university or within a school assembly. The scheme is open to all children in year 2 – 6 and it has been well received. The Children's University is going from strength to strength and this year it has teamed up with the Essex Book Festival to organise a programme of events including: storytelling, workshops and performance art for the children to attend. If you would like more information on how your child can get involved please collect a letter from the school office or look on the school website.

Mrs Eves

## Netball Match Report

On Monday of this week in freezing conditions, our netball team braved the elements to host Kelvedon Primary School. The first two quarters we managed to hold our own, only conceding two goals. The team defended really well but as hard as they tried they couldn't get the ball down to our shooters. It was in the third quarter that they stormed ahead, when after the rotation they had two very good shooters who didn't miss a goal, so unfortunately we were put on the back foot. That said, it didn't deter us and the team worked hard to try and get the ball back. Sadly the damage was done and although we scored a consolation goal it was not to be our night. Well done to all the team for keeping positive and supporting each other throughout the game. Here's to the next match in a week's time.  
Mrs. Eves



## St. Helena 500 Word Story Competition

Along with many children from local schools a number of our children took part in this writing competition, organised by St. Helena and run very successfully for the first time last year. The competition piggy-backs the Radio 2 competition. The age groups are (as of 16th June 2017)

A. 9 years and under

B. 10-13 years

Deadline to enter the St. Helena competition: Tuesday 21st February. Hand in your story to Mr Garnett handwritten or word processed with your name and date of birth clearly visible on every page.

If you wish to enter your story to the Radio 2 competition you must submit the story Online, entry deadline: 23rd February.

Listen to last year's winning stories here:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/KNWskPrg7stQ54tTbcf6P7/500-words-the-stories>



## Colchester Half Marathon Free for All Team

With just 40 Days to go until the 2017 half marathon, we're delighted to announce the team of runners.

Staff runners, Mrs Ames, Mr Armitage and Mrs Catchpole are entering the race for the team for the 4th year in a row! They will be joined by Year 3 teacher, Miss Moroz. Amongst the rest of the team we welcome back some familiar faces who have supported this event since we were first involved as well as some new runners - Claire Abraham, Christopher Rookyard, Kevin Mooney, Kristine Pundure, Agnita Sparnina, Simon Mander, David Dines, Mark Farmer, Dave Allard, Alan Price, Scott Parker, Gavin Francis, Tom Sancassani, Louis Jennings and Matthew Barnard. We are grateful to all the family, friends and supporters of North for taking part, please sponsor our team by visiting the My Donate fundraising page <https://mydonate.bt.com/events/freeforall2017/405841>

### North Plays Important part in Child Anxiety Research

Our school's contribution to a major study into child anxiety has been recognised by the study's lead researcher, Tessa Reardon, who thanks us very much for taking part, commenting: "Without the support of children, parents and teachers this research would not be possible."

In all 58 families from North have taken part in the study. The research team will now get in touch with some of the participating families to invite you to take part in a more detailed assessment of your child's anxiety and to complete some further questionnaires.

A report based on information gathered from schools throughout the country will be produced and used to help professionals to have a better understanding of child anxiety and ways to help. Once the school has a copy of this report, we will let you know key findings.

Mrs Jasper SENCO

### SMOKING AND VAPING

Parents have sought clarification on the rules regarding smoking and vaping within the school grounds.

Smoking within the school grounds has not been permitted for many years. Some parents are smoking near entrances to the school grounds. Whilst no rules or laws are being broken, smokers are asked to be mindful of children and to smoke away from the immediate vicinity of entrances. Thank you.

In line with all other primary schools in Colchester the rules regarding VAPING are exactly the same as smoking::

**VAPING IS NOT PERMITTED WITHIN THE SCHOOL GROUNDS.**

#### DATES FOR TERM

Friday 3rd February	NSA School disco	
<b>Tuesday 7th February</b>	Choir singing at the O <sub>2</sub>	
<b>Wednesday 8th February</b>	Miss Stevens' (Mrs. Nicholls') Class Guitar Concert	2.45pm
<b>Thursday 9th February</b>	Last day of half term	
Mon 20th February	Return to school	
Friday 3rd March	NSA QUIZ Night	7.00pm
Sunday 12th March	Colchester Half Marathon	
<b>Tuesday March 21st</b>	<b>Open Afternoon</b>	
Friday 31st March	Last day of Spring Term	
Tuesday 18th April	First day of Summer Term	
Friday 26th May	Last day of half term	
<b>Tuesday 6th June</b>	Return to school	
Friday 21st July	End of school year	
Monday 4th September	Year 6 go to Weymouth	
Wednesday 6th September	Autumn Term begins	