White Bridge Newsletter

Our School Vision:
Be the best version of you

White Bridge Primary — Friday 23rd October 2026

A message from Mr. Kenyon

Epping Forest Foodbank
Together with Trussell

Due to unforeseen circumstances, the visitor from the EFDC Food bank was unable to attend White Bridge last Thursday to talk to the children regarding their services/organisation and donations. However, we were able to use their presentation during our assembly to inform the children of the important work that the food bank do. Thank you for all of your donations.

October 2026

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

IMPORTANT - YEAR 6

IMPORTANT - Year 6 Parents must apply for a Y7 place before 31 October 2026 - even if they already have a sibling in the school they prefer. Please see later in the newsletter for more information.

Homework Support

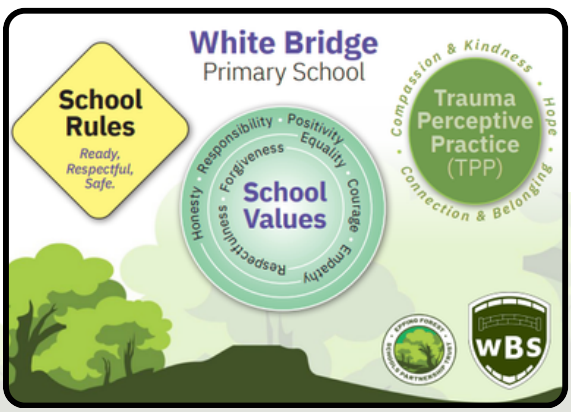
It would be great to see as many of you as possible at the sessions to support parents with home learning. I have set 4 dates, please try and make one. If you cannot make the one for your children's year group, please feel free to attend the other one as they will be similar. I will attempt to send out a recorded version of me delivering the training for anyone who cannot make it.

Dates for your diary

- HALF TERM - Monday October 26th to Friday October 30th
- INSET DAY - Monday 2nd November (SCHOOL CLOSED)

Please remember that the children return to school on TUESDAY 3rd November 2026.

- Tuesday 3rd November - Yr2-5 Parents' Homework ONLINE Session - 6-7pm
- Thursday 5th November - Yr2-5 Parents' Homework Session (KS2 Hall) - 9-10am
- Thursday 5th November - Yr6 Parent's Homework Session (KS2 Hall) - 2-3pm
- Thursday 5th November - Y6 Parents' Homework ONLINE Session - 6-7pm
- Tuesday 10th November - Blossom Nursery Tour - 9:15am-10am
- Wednesday 11th November - Yr1 Parents Phonics Workshop - 2:30pm
- Thursday 12th November - Yr1 Parents Phonics Workshop - 2:30pm
- INSET DAY - Friday 27th November (SCHOOL CLOSED)
- Friday 4th December - Christmas Fete
- Thursday 17th December - Christmas Disco
- LAST DAY OF TERM - Friday December 18th. We close at 1.30pm



Our School Value of the half term is HONESTY. Please discuss its meaning with your child.

Did You Know?

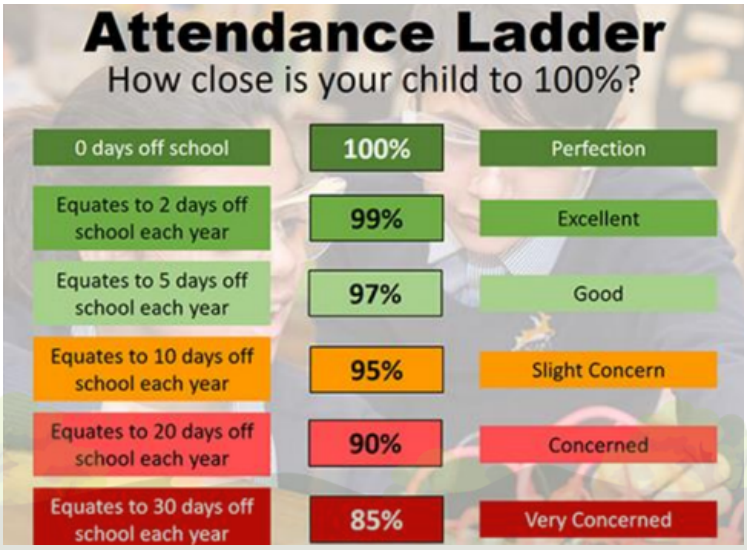
All Hallows' Eve refers to the night of October 31, which is the evening before All Hallows' Day (All Saints' Day) on November 1.

Christian Origins: The word "Hallow" comes from Old English (hālig), meaning holy. In the Christian calendar, the evening before All Saints' Day was a sacred vigil marked by prayer, lighting candles, and remembering the dead.

Cultural Evolution: Over time, the religious observance blended with older autumn traditions and evolved into the modern, secular holiday known as Halloween.

Head Lice

Some cases of head lice have been reported this week. We kindly ask all parents and carers to be vigilant and check their children's hair regularly for signs of head lice or eggs, particularly behind the ears and around the nape of the neck.
If lice are found, please treat them promptly and continue to check your child's hair regularly to help prevent them from spreading further. Thank you, as always for your support and cooperation.



A Reminder To Year 6 Parents

IMPORTANT - Year 6 Parents must apply for a Y7 place before 31 October 2026 - even if they already have a sibling in the school they prefer

https://www.essex.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools/admissions/secondary-school-places

On completion of the ECC online process, parents should receive an automated email response within 48 hours - if they don't then they must contact ECC School Admissions as their application didn't go through properly. Failure to apply by 31 October will result in their application being considered as a late application which may jeopardise their chances of being offered a school of preference as their application will not be dealt with until after National Offer Day on 1 March 2027.

Attendance

Thank you to all parents for supporting our school by ensuring your children attend well. Our attendance this year is 97.1% - which puts us in the top 11% of schools nationally. Special congratulations to Year 3 who are currently in the lead.

Year Group Present R/C: Marks (%)

Year 3 98.13%

Year 6 97.53%

Year 4 97.00.%

Year 2 96.85%

Year 2 97.1%

Year R 96.60%

Year 5 96.43%

Year 1 96.29%

WB Superstars

Stars of the Week w/b 12/10/26: Anna, Abdullah, Peter, Marley, Yana, Amelie, Anais, Arthur P, William W, Annie, George P, Edward, Anastasia, Rebeca, Daniel G, Lily Ann, Maxim, Valentina, Luca, Joaquim

The UK Bebras Challenge 2026

White Bridge Primary School children in years 2 - 6 will be taking part in the Bebras Challenge again this year between 9th - 20th November.

The Bebras Challenge brings computational thinking to schools worldwide. Last year more than 4 million children from over 80 countries took part.

The UK Bebras Challenge exists to promote and build computational thinking. This is a set of problem solving skills that underpins computing and beyond.

Every task is built around one or more of these skills: Decomposition, Pattern recognition, Abstraction, Algorithms, Logical thinking, Debugging, Evaluation and Generalisation.

Our children will get the opportunity to practice in school in the lead up to the competition but if your child would like to practice at home and over the half term break they can visit www.bebras.uk and look at the practice questions.

There tends to be quite a buzz around the school following this competition. The children are always very keen to learn how well they have done, lots aiming for the prestigious Gold Award which is awarded to the top 10% in the country! Every child will get a certificate and we really enjoy celebrating their success.



FAMILY LINKS
The Centre for Emotional Health

The Nurturing Programme

Information for parents and carers

How to get the best out of family life



The 10-week Nurturing Programme for parents and carers

Where:
Bloom Room,
Alderton Junior School
Alderton Hall Lane,
Loughton,
IG10 3HE

When:
Starting Monday 9th November 2026

9.30am - 11.30am

9 week programme

Contact details:
Karen Bowden (Family Support Worker)

07570438103

kbowden@facss.efspt.org

Call or email to book a free place

FAMILY LINKS
The Centre for Emotional Health

familylinks.org.uk
Registered charity 1062514

What is the Nurturing Programme?

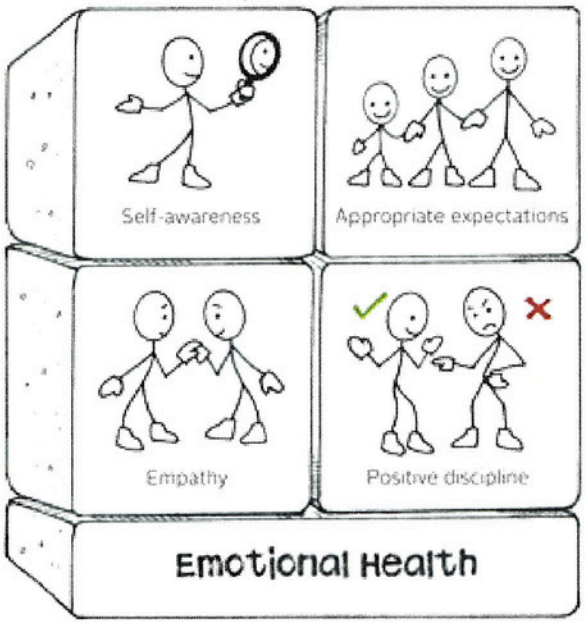
Children are rewarding, stimulating and fun, but looking after them can be stressful and challenging.

The Nurturing Programme helps deal with those challenges so that you can have a calmer, happier life.

A tried and tested programme, it helps us think about what we do, why we do it and how it makes us feel.



The Building Blocks of the Nurturing Programme



What does it cover?

Over the 10-week Programme, you will look at lots of different topics, including:

Understanding
why children behave as they do

Recognising
the feelings behind behaviour (ours and theirs)

Exploring
different approaches to discipline

Finding ways to develop co-operation and self-discipline in children

Learning the importance of looking after ourselves

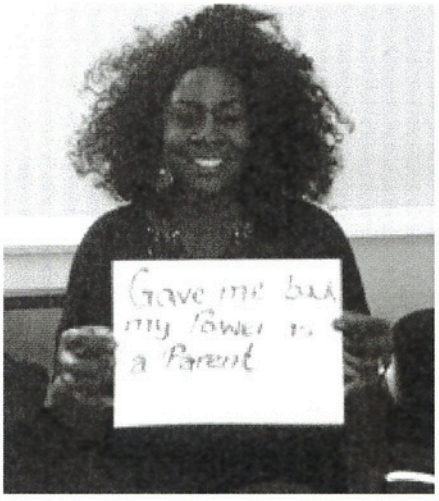
How Nurturing Programme Parent Groups have helped other parents

"I am a much more confident, positive and understanding parent. I feel much more able to cope now."

"We are having less family arguments and the household is a lot calmer."

"The group was fun. It's the only two hours I have for myself each week."

"The atmosphere was really relaxed. No-one judged anyone and everyone was listened to and respected."



Check out **familylinks.org.uk** for more information on *The Parenting Puzzle* book and the Nurturing Programme

Practical information

Partners are welcome and it's also fine to come on your own or with a relative or friend

There are ten 2-hour sessions with a tea and coffee break

8-10 parents are invited and there are two Family Links trained group leaders

Some groups provide a creche; check with group leaders beforehand

You need to come to all ten sessions as they fit together like a puzzle

the best chance in life