



Friday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2019

Dear Families,

Happy New Year to you all! Christmas seems a long time ago now and it was so lovely to see all the children on Monday and to hear about their holiday news. The children have settled very quickly into the new term and we welcome some new children and Mrs Shoulders into Amber Class. We also welcome Miss Qureshi and Mr Hyams who will be working at Stambridge this term.

The staff were busy on their training days last week and also found time to relocate the library. Thank you to the Parent Council for purchasing the new shelving units. We are still putting the final touches to it and purchasing some new books. The old books are currently being sorted and we will be having a book sale where any money raised will go towards purchasing some more up to date books. We will be having a grand opening soon so watch this space.

The children have received their Autumn Term Reading certificates today and our Spring Reading Challenge is starting next week. Keep reading!

Enjoy your weekend.

Best attendance of the week goes to Onyx Class **with 100%**  
Whole school attendance: 96.83%  
(target 97%)

### Stars of the Week

**Amber** – Elsie

**Amethyst** - Alfie

**Sapphire** – Isla H

**Onyx** – Lillyann

**Writer of the week** – Oliver

**Mathematician of the week** – Alfie S, All year 1 and Isobel



### Awards this week

#### Platinum

Isla H

#### This weeks 100% attendance with no late mark.

##### Amber Class

Pearl, Vinnie, Alfie, Bill, Berty, Chloe, Bobby, Sam, Anais, Indie

**Amethyst Class** Sophie, Bailey, Lexi, Poppy, Rose, Elliot, Dylan, Jasmin, Alfie, Sophia, Summer, Chloe, Annabelle, Ashton, Ava-Joyce, Willow, Harvy, Kyeron.

##### Sapphire Class

Oliver, Max, George, Isla, Daniel, Olivia, Teigan, Ruby, Alina, Keira, Sienna, Robbie, Nadine, Tiarna, Isla-Rose

##### Onyx Class

Charley, Issy, Gui, Jessie, John, Isabella, Danny, Belle, Isobel, Ethan, Lillyann, Henry, Danny, lilah, Miah.

### SchoolMoney

The price of a school dinner is now £2.20  
The new cashless system is now live and parents have been texted/emailed a link to set up an account with their own unique password. If you have any problems please speak to Ms Maynard.

The new holiday dates for the academic Year 2019-2020 have been agreed at Trust level this week. Please see the annual calendar for when holiday dates and non-pupil dates have been set. If you would like a copy please ask at reception.  
The Trust has acknowledged the struggle parents have in affording a holiday for their families during the school holidays. As a result, the week beginning Monday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2019 has been set as an additional week off, which allows parents to take their children away at a possibly cheaper cost. All other holiday during term time is unauthorised, so please do take full advantage of this extra week, if you decide to take your children away next year.

Applications for September 2019 Reception new-starters need to be made via Essex County Council School Admissions by 15th January 2019.

### Upcoming dates

Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> January – Toy Story special lunch  
Friday 18<sup>th</sup> January – English morning 8.40-8.55am  
Friday 25<sup>th</sup> January – Maths morning 8.40-8.55am  
Friday 25<sup>th</sup> January – Funky Hair day - Donations for Princess Trust  
Next week SCHOOL DINNER MENU – Week 2

### Head Pupil corner

First week back and we are already off to a great start! The certificates for the Autumn reading challenge have been given out and we are very excited about the new library. Keep the pictures for the library coming everyone.  
Have a lovely weekend

Henry & Jessie ☺

This week Amber class has been very busy exploring our new classroom set up. We have been introduced to our topic of construction and enjoyed role playing in the construction area, where we were challenged to make the large scales balance! We thoroughly enjoyed showing off our artistic skills to parents during our art morning. Thank you to everyone that attended. Next week, our number of the week is 11. We will also be thinking about measuring. Using non-standard units of measurement. We will first be estimating and then measuring different creations and different objects around the classroom.

Amethyst class have come back to school with fantastic attitudes! We have been using the character Mumble from the film Happy Feet to inspire our writing, and our character descriptions have used some lovely adjectives to help create a picture in our minds. In maths we have been looking at scales and how to read them as well as comparing and ordering numbers. We have been focusing on the vocabulary we can use to discuss numbers. Next week, we will be looking at place value and writing narratives telling the story of Happy Feet. Look out for our story maps on Dojo so your children can tell you their story!

Sapphire Class has been thinking about the value of esteem and what it means. They have thought about the things they are good at and how they can develop their self-esteem and that of others. They have enjoyed finding out about Amelia Earhart and her amazing life and achievements. Our English has been writing character descriptions of grannies based on the book Gansta Granny. Next week, they are creating a Gansta Grandad! In maths they have been studying angles and shapes which we will continue next week.

In Onyx Class this week we have been working with decimals and converting them into fractions. It has been a tricky week but - with lots of perseverance - they have now all mastered it! In English, we are looking at the book Wonder and how the young boy in it feels about having a facial disfigurement. The children have been so mature and thought-provoking in their answers and discussions. It is wonderful to hear what respectful, caring children we have in our class. Next week, we shall be reading more of our book and starting to write our own diary entries. We will also be learning how to sort and round decimals up to 3 decimal places.