

Long Road, Canvey Island, Essex SS8 0JG
Acting Headteacher Miss H Maynard BA (Hons)
Acting Deputy Headteacher Miss V Bright BA (Hons)
Tel. No. 01268 683257
Email: admin@canvey-inf.essex.sch.uk
Website: www.canveyislandinfantschool.co.uk



Wednesday 8th October 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

The new term is already flying past. The children have all settled in well and there is a lovely atmosphere throughout the school and nursery with children demonstrating our school values of Respect, Resilience and Responsibility.

EYFS Visitors

I would like to extend our thanks to members of our local community who have given their time to come in and enhance our Reception children's experiences for their topic this term, 'People Who Help Us'. Firstly, I would like to thank Matt and two of his colleagues from the fire brigade for giving an informative talk to the children and for bringing in a fire engine. The children thoroughly enjoyed exploring the equipment they use and the opportunity to climb into the fire engine itself. Secondly, I would like to thank Stephanie and her two colleagues from the coastguard for again talking to the children about what being a coastguard is like; letting the children explore and use a variety of equipment; and bringing in a coastguard vehicle for them to see.

PTFA

Our Parent, Teacher and Friends Association (PTFA) have been an invaluable support to the school since they formed in 2021. They have, and continue to enable us to provide enhanced opportunities for our pupils, many of which create core memories for our children. With your continued support the PTFA strive to continue to enrich the children's school life at Canvey Island Infant School and Nursery. I am sure I am not alone with appreciating everything they do. They are holding this year's **Annual General Meeting** on **Friday 10th October** at **2pm** in the **school hall**. This is an opportunity to show your support for the PTFA and discover the events they have lined up for the year ahead. Our PTFA also have a separate Facebook page to keep you updated on their events.

Parents Evening

You should have all received an email providing you with the opportunity to book a parents' evening appointment. Our parents' evenings are taking place next week on Tuesday 14th October and Thursday 16th October.

You will enter the school via the office doors, these will be opened at 5pm on Tuesday and 3.30pm on Thursday. All parent meetings will be taking place in the school hall. Please feel free to look at your child's books before or after your appointment time. Please be mindful

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that appointment times are for 10 minutes only. If, after your appointment, you feel you still need to discuss your child with the class teacher, please contact the school office or speak to the class teacher the next day, to arrange a mutually convenient time.

If you have not received an email or require further support, please pop into the school office.

Parent survey

To ensure our whole school community is involved in the further development of Canvey Island Infant School and Nursery, I will be extremely grateful if you would click the link below and complete a parent survey. This should take no more than 10 minutes to do and, if you give your name, you will be entered into a prize draw to win a £20 shopping voucher. **The survey will close on Friday 7th November, so please submit your responses before then to be in with a chance of winning the voucher.**

<https://forms.office.com/e/UkGYQyP0vm>

At Canvey Island Infant School and Nursery, we very much value your comments and suggestions for how we can improve and I would like to thank you, in advance, for your time.

School Values

As mentioned previously, our school values are at the heart of absolutely everything we do at Canvey Island Infant School and Nursery and we aim to develop the children's skills linked to our value of Responsibility.

I would therefore like to introduce you to this term's monitors:

School Councillors: Sophia, Zante, Bella, Stanley

Librarians: Hallie, Grayson, Jessica, Louie

Reading Ambassadors: Lewis, Nellie, Amberle, Eddie

Friendly Faces: Ivy-Blu, Archie, Eden, Ashkan, Wiktorja, Harrison, Hudson, Annabelle

Team Captains: Jaicin, Mia, Zak, Thea, Ruby, Oakley, Mason, Louie, Miles, Aria

Corridor Monitors: Ruby, Jack, Lucie, Albert, Annaliese, Wrenley, Emily, Hudson

These children are very proud to have been chosen for their new role and are already stepping up to the mark. Miss Brown will meet with the School Councillors each month to discuss a variety of whole school issues and the Librarians each week to tidy the library and learn library skills; the 'Friendly Faces' will help other children find friends and play games with them; Team Captains will collate the team points each week, ready for achievement assembly; Corridor Monitors make sure the children leave assembly and make their way

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back to class in a smart and orderly manner; Reading Ambassadors help to promote a love for reading across the school.

Diary Dates

Please see below for some new dates to add to your diaries and some we have required to change.

Date	Event	Additional Information
Monday 20 th October	Great Athletes event - afternoon	Sponsorship forms have been sent home with the children
Change of date: Tuesday 21 st October	Open Day for prospective parents – September 2026 10am and 2pm	Call the office to book your place – 01268 683257
Amended times: Wednesday 22 nd October	Open Day for prospective parents – September 2026 7pm	Call the office to book your place – 01268 683257
Thursday 23 rd October	Multi-Schools Council meeting at Robert Drake – 10-11.30am	School Councillors and Miss Brown – letter to follow
Change of date: Friday 24 th October	REAL Workshop – Nursery and Reception parents/carers with their child/ren	Letters have been sent out
Monday 10 th November	Little City experience for Nursery and Reception	Letter to follow
Tuesday 11 th November	Remembrance Service at the Knightswick Centre	School Councillors to represent the school
Confirmed date: Tuesday 16 th December	Christingle Service at St. Nicholas Church at 10.30am	Letter to follow after half term
Friday 13 th March	Multi-Schools Council meeting	School Councillors and Miss Brown
Tuesday 16 th June	Multi-Schools Council meeting	School Councillors and Miss Brown

Pantomime

Thank you to everyone who sent the reply slip and contributions back to school by the deadline of **Friday 3rd October**. Unfortunately, as it stands, we may need to cancel this memorable trip, as we currently have not received enough contributions to cover the cost of the tickets.

As you know, our PTFA has agreed to pay for the transport, so we are only asking that you contribute £13.00 to cover the cost of the ticket. I will therefore be grateful if you will send in any further contributions by Monday 13th October, when the decision will be made whether we need to cancel the trip and lose our deposit. If you would like to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Harvest Festival

A further letter about our Harvest collection will be sent out later this week. Our Harvest Assembly will be taking place on Tuesday 21st October.

We would love to try something different this year after viewing something online from another school. This involves as many children as possible bringing in a box of cereal and trying a 'Harvest Festival Dominoes' throughout the school building with the boxes we receive. Following this, the

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boxes of cereal will be donated to the food bank at St Nicholas Church along with any other items of non-perishable food.

If you are able to donate a box of cereal or an item of non-perishable food we will be very grateful.

Great Athletes event

It is wonderful to be able to announce that we will be having an athlete visit our school who will lead a circuit session with each class (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2) and an assembly to the school on **Monday 20th October**. We had the sprinter Frederick Afrifa visit our school 3 years ago and the support from family and friends' sponsorship was phenomenal. We raised over £3,000 which provided the opportunity to enhance the children's break and lunch times and PE lessons with a variety of equipment including two large football goals, beanbags, large skittles, two large '4-in-a-Row' games and balance rockers to name a few.

This year we have the fabulous Saffron Severn who is a gymnast and competed at the 2022 Commonwealth Games. Hopefully, with the support of sponsorship from children's family and friends again, we will be able to make this another successful event for our children and school. A letter will be sent out today with further information.

Attendance

In our Achievement assemblies on Fridays, we have been celebrating class attendance. Below are the classes with the best attendance for the first few weeks.

Week ending Friday 19 th September	Class 4 – 98.94%
Week ending Friday 26 th September	Class 3 – 98.33%
Week ending Friday 3 rd October	Classes 1 and 3 – 94.67%

Our whole school attendance up until today is 96.17%.

Coats and hats

Please make sure you send your child to school with a coat every day, as we aim for the children to be outside during breaktimes as much as possible. In line with the Beach Schools philosophy that 'there is no such thing as bad weather, just inappropriate clothing', we may take the children outside when it is raining, or snowing.

If the weather is too bad we will, of course, keep the children inside. Although there are toys and games for the children to play with during 'wet playtimes', for those in Year 1 and Year 2, please send a named colouring book into school for your child to use too. Thank you.

Half term holiday clubs

With the half-term fast approaching, I have been asked to share information about a free club with Essex Activate.

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The HAF October Holiday Programme is now available for bookings. The Deanes are running Activate holiday camps for children aged 5-12 years old, who are eligible for benefits based free school meals or from 'low income' working families. The camps are free to attend and each day children will participate in both sporting and enrichment activities, as well as receiving lunch.

This October, it will be running at the Deanes Sports Centre from Monday 27th October to Wednesday 29th October at 10am-3pm.

Parents can book on via our website: www.deanessportscentre.com

Further information can be found via this link: <https://www.activeessex.org/children-young-people/essex-activate/>

Should you have any further questions please contact management@deanessportscentre.com

And finally, ...

As we do not set Home Learning, please ensure that you are practising you child's sounds and reading with them at least three times a week.

"The more you read, the more things you will know. The more you learn, the more places you'll go!" Dr. Seuss

Yours sincerely,

HMaynard

Miss H. Maynard
Acting Headteacher

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