



# North Crescent Primary School

*Guiding Explorers of the Future*

**Coming Soon!**

North Crescent will soon be receiving a clothes and shoes donation bin. Not only can you have a sort out, but you can help raise money for your school by donating any unwanted items.



## Diary Dates

**Monday 17th - Friday 21st February**

-  
Half Term Break

**Monday 24th - Friday 28th February**

- Travelling Book Fair Week

**Monday 3rd March -**

Visions & Values Day (see next page)

**Thursday 13th March -**

Year 4 Sharing Assembly @ 2:50pm

**Monday 17th March -**

Parent Consultations

**Thursday 20th March -**

Parent Consultations

**Thursday 27th March -**

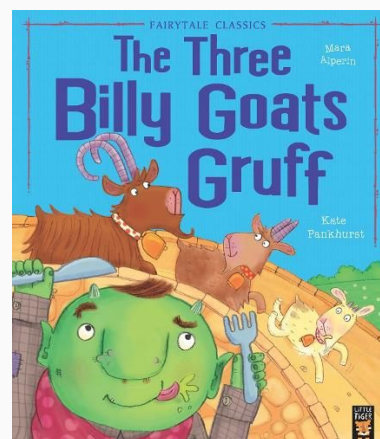
Year 5 Sharing Assembly @ 2:50pm

When the three billy goat brothers reach the bridge to the meadow, to eat the green grass on the other side, they are faced with with a mean troll. They take it in turns to cross the bridge starting with baby billy goat.

How do you trick a troll?

My First Fairy Tales are a magical introduction to the well-loved stories that are a key part of every childhood. With fresh and fun illustrations, these simple retellings of classic fairy tales make a perfect bedtime read.

## Book of the Week



**'The Three Billy Goats Gruff' By Mara Alperin and Kate Pankhurst**

Huge congratulations to the following children who have been chosen as the Lead Learners.

Pathfinders 1

Aracel

Pathfinders 2

Freya & Ellie

Adventurers 3

Athena

Adventurers 4

Tommy & Bernie

Navigators 5

Navigators 6

Ella

Each week we celebrate the class that have shown respect for their classroom. The children really love our gold, diamante dustpan and brush award! Why don't you ask them about it?

## Essex ActivAte - February Half Term

Looking for things for your children to do over the half term? Check out Essex ActivAte - they have a variety of club providers that offer free activity clubs for children and young people this half term across Essex, supporting children aged 4-16 years including, specialist SEND, mental wellbeing and youth clubs.

<https://www.activeessex.org/children-young-people/essex-activate/halfterm-club/>

Instagram: @northcrescentprimary

FB: North Crescent Primary School

Twitter/X: <https://x.com/NorthCrescentP>





Schools For  
Every Child

### **Trust Vision and Values Day – Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2025**

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I hope this letter finds you all in good health. I am writing to inform you of an exciting event that is fast approaching: our Vision and Values Day, scheduled for Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2025. This special day will serve as an opportunity to celebrate the core values of our Trust and to reinforce our collective vision of "Preparing learners for the world that awaits."

This special day will feature a non-uniform theme, encouraging students to dress as what they admire. This could be a person they admire or a career role. We believe that this will provide an engaging opportunity for children to express their ambitions, dreams, and the various career paths they may wish to explore in the future. We encourage parents to discuss with their children what they would like to wear, fostering both creativity and a sense of individuality.

We know that children may be unaware of what they want to be (and we also do not want to encourage them to grow up too soon), but this is designed to be a fun way for pupils to explore ideas about options as they leave school. Please be sensible when picking an outfit; please do not feel you need to go over the top or buy anything new for the outfit; we do not want this to be a cost burden. Please also remember to stick to common sense standards when picking an outfit: no crop tops / inappropriate clothes, makeup/face paint shouldn't be worn, football boots with studs or huge, unwieldy costumes, etc.

Throughout the day, there will be a variety of activities designed to promote reflection on our vision and the values that underpin it. We aim to inspire our young learners to think critically about their role in the world and the skills they will need to navigate a rapidly changing society. There will be workshops, creative projects, and opportunities for collaboration that will help cultivate a spirit of unity and purpose among our pupils.

We are looking forward to a memorable day that encapsulates our commitment to nurturing the potential within every child. Should you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Faris

CEO, Schools for Every Child Trust

# *North Crescent PTA needs you!*

We urgently need your support  
in order for us to continue  
raising funds for the school &  
offering enjoyable experiences  
for your children

Please contact 07951128213 & ask  
to join our WhatsApp group

Tell us your ideas and/or  
help out at an event (e.g.  
discos, fayres, Easter Egg  
hunt, movie nights etc)...

**THANK YOU!**



# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about ONLINE RELATIONSHIPS & DATING APPS

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Dating apps are used to help people find new relationships – whether casual or more long term – matching users based on age, interests, gender and more. Some may consider dating apps harmless to under-18s because they aren't able to use them, but effective age verification measures are quite scarce, and it's been known for young people to end up on apps of this type.

### EASE OF ACCESS

The relatively lax age verification process of many dating apps makes them incredibly accessible to children who really shouldn't be using them. This carries the obvious risk of exposing under-18s to a dating scene populated by adults – who may not even be aware of the young person's true age. This is concerning when we consider the 'hook-up culture' common on these apps – with many people using them to arrange casual sexual encounters.

### CONTACT AND CONDUCT RISKS

Once someone is active on a dating app, their social media profiles can be linked to the app and might be accessed by others. This can lead to random users 'sliding into their DM's' (sending a direct message) without consent. Complete strangers could start bombarding a young person's inbox with pictures, messages and sexual comments.

### SCAMS AND SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

Some young people may feel they've formed a real bond with someone through online dating, but there's always a risk that it's not genuine. Scammers on these apps often build romantic connections with their victims – then once they feel they have their victim's trust, they begin asking for money under false pretences (such as suggesting they meet in person and requesting a 'loan' to cover a train ticket).

### UNVERIFIED ACCOUNTS

As with all online interactions, you may not be talking to whom you think you are. Without paying a subscription, users of dating apps can often only view a certain number of profiles at a time. A TikTok trend has advised young people to set their age limit to 80 years and over – putting them in a sparse and more 'exclusive' category to bypass the usual restrictions. Unfortunately, this can lead to matches with someone much older.

### PEER PRESSURE

The pressure to be in a relationship can be huge, and many young people use online dating apps as a cost-effective way to meet others. Some users find it difficult to meet people organically due to their lifestyle, and may not have the time or money to go out and socialise. It's also common for young people to set up accounts for their single friends in the hope of finding a match for someone they know.

### SKEWED PERSPECTIVES

Dating apps can promote an unrealistic view of what makes someone attractive. With such vast options, some users can become both picky and extremely harsh about others' appearance. Ultimately, all you see on these apps are pictures (with no insight into someone's personality), and some young people struggle with the fear of being judged. Even when someone does start dating, there's a persistent paranoia that their partner is only one swipe away from a potentially better match.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### TALK ABOUT DATING APPS

Let young people know that they can talk to you about anything, even something as private as their dating life. At school, the relationships, sex and health curriculum can assist with conversations around healthy relationships, consent and online safety. Emphasise the message that you want to help them make healthy, safe and informed choices. If they feel embarrassed talking to you, make sure they have a trusted adult who can help them.

### ENCOURAGE DATA PROTECTION

Empower young people to protect their data and personal information. Explain why including things like their school, age and surname in their profile could potentially be dangerous. Make sure they know never to give out personal details, and that there's no reason for other users to ask for them. If they feel uneasy about a situation online, they need to speak to someone that they can trust.

### VERIFICATION STAMPS

Explain that someone using a dating app should only communicate with those who have gone through a verification process. Online dating apps use a variety of methods to ascertain a user's identity, including scanning valid documents (such as a driver's licence or passport). Verification can also involve users taking a selfie to ensure that the photos on their profile match it.

### REPORT AND BLOCK

Remind young people that they can always report or block (or both) anyone who makes them feel uncomfortable on any platform. Ask if they know how to do this and offer to help them figure it out if they're unsure. Every app should have advice on how to report or block another user, so be sure young people are familiar with the settings.

### Meet Our Expert

Rebecca Jennings works at RAISE ([www.raiseducation.org.uk](https://www.raiseducation.org.uk)) in the field of relationships, sex and health education, providing educational, age-appropriate workshops for pupils around the more sensitive areas of the curriculum – including online safety and healthy relationships.



The National College

WE ACCEPT CHILDCARE  
VOUCHERS & OFFER  
TAX-FREE CHILDCARE!

# MEGA CAMPS

KIDS DAY ACTIVITY CAMPS

CHILDCARE FROM  
8am - 6pm

AGES  
4 - 14

## FEBRUARY CAMP 2025

SAVE ££'s - EARLY BIRD OFFERS END 31<sup>st</sup> JAN  
CHECK WEBSITE FOR DATES & LOCATIONS



WALL CLIMBING



ANIMAL WORKSHOP



ARCHERY & AXE THROWING



FENCING

2025  
DATES  
LAUNCHED

DIFFERENT MEGA ACTIVITIES, ARTS & CRAFTS 🎨 AND  
SPORTS ⚽ AVAILABLE EACH DAY

MULTIPLE LOCATIONS THROUGHOUT  
ESSEX, KENT & SURREY THIS FEBRUARY

Ofsted  
Registered

**BOOK ONLINE NOW!**  
[WWW.MEGACAMPS.NET](http://WWW.MEGACAMPS.NET)  
OR CALL 0333 012 4378

ALL OUR  
STAFF ARE





## Join Our Community – ADHD & ASD!

Become part of a community that understands and supports. Our FREE online ADHD, and ASD sessions are more than just learning opportunities—they're a chance to connect, grow, and thrive together.

- Understanding ASD in children (a bitesize, online, 1 week session)
- Understanding ADHD in children (a bitesize, online, 1 week session)
- Understanding ADHD & ASD In Girls (online, 4 sessions over 4 weeks)

Whatever your situation, our non judgemental sessions have got it covered.

Sign Up!  
Scan the QR code, or  
Visit our website [acessex.com](https://acessex.com)  
and type **ASD** or **ADHD** in to the  
'Find a course...' box



SCAN ME



# Carousel Gymnastics Holiday Courses

## February HT ACTIVITIES

Tuesday 18th 9am-3pm	Full Day Rochford	£35
Wednesday 19th 9am-3pm	Full Day Wickford	£35
Thursday 20th 9am-12noon	Half Day Rochford	£20
Thursday 20th 9am-3pm	Full Day Wickford	£35
Friday 21st 9am-12noon	Half Day Wickford	£20

All camp bookings must be made via the customer portal

Fun sessions: POSTPONED Until further notice. We hope to be back soon and will be in touch with an update

BOOK our camps using the QR code

