



# John Ray Infant School

"learning together, aiming high, proud to be ourselves"

Notley Road, Braintree, Essex, CM7 1HL

Telephone: 01376 323071

Email: [enquiries@johnrayinfants.essex.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@johnrayinfants.essex.sch.uk)

6<sup>th</sup> October 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have been celebrating all things active this week at John Ray Infants were delighted to welcome Eilidh Gibson to our school. The children completed a circuit of exercises and we were all then treated to an assembly led by Eilidh Gibson who explained her journey to a Silver medal in the World Championships in Canoe Slalom. She showed pictures of her sport and her actual canoe, which the children (and staff!) were very excited about. A quote from Eilidh herself was very inspirational and we hope it motivates some of our potential athletes of the future to dream big. *"Have a goal. Take action. Commit to success."*



Thank you to all those who have raised money through sponsorship of this event. Money coming back into school will be spent on purchasing new sports equipment and additional resources to enhance our PE sessions. School council, along with Mr Mills and Mrs Yates will work together to choose these and we will share the results when it has been delivered. Money can be donated both online or in person through the office.

We continue, this year, to have a big focus on phonics and its application into reading and writing. It has been good to see this in practice when I have been walking around the classrooms. For parents of those children in EYFS and Year One – please note when the 'phonics workshops' are for each year group in order for you to see these in practice within the classroom (October Year 1, November EYFS) . As well as observing a session then there will also be opportunity at these for you to complete some phonics activities with your child. We had great feedback last year about how valuable these were in order to help you consolidate these skills at home. Year Two will be hosting similar formatted sessions but with a focus on maths.

Please note next Wednesday is a non-uniform day to support Mental Health Awareness Day, the children may come to school in sensible relaxed clothing. If it is your child's PE day then they may still wear non-uniform but please ensure trainers are also worn. It is also the Fluenz vaccination day for anyone who has completed the consent form. This can still be done online if you wish your child to have the nasal-spray vaccination.

Have a relaxing weekend,

*L Christian*

Headteacher

