



April 2026

COMMUNITY NEWS

# A weekend of wildlife discovery!



May Bank Holiday weekend



Family Activities



Mann Wood, CM3 1PP  
(just off the A131 at Great Leighs, look for the sign!)

## SATURDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> MAY FROM 10AM

Join our friendly experts for hands-on adventures all day long:

- Butterfly Walk
- Fungi identification
- Plant and Wildflower Hunt
- Reptile Monitoring
- Bat Survey (from 7pm)

● Family Forest Fun! Enjoy drop-in family activities.

## SUNDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> MAY 7:30AM - 10AM

See wildlife up close with Bird Ringing & Small Mammal Surveying.



# Book here

SCAN ME



# Essex Fire Museum Open Days

2026



Sunday 26th Of April

10:30AM To 4:00PM

Fire Station, Hogg Lane, Grays  
RM17 5QS



Book Now 



Museum@essex-fire.gov.uk



# CHILDREN'S

## BASKETBALL SESSIONS



**MINIS**  
3-5 YEARS

**LITTLES**  
6-8 YEARS



**BIGS**  
9-14 YEARS

**FREE TRIAL  
SESSION**



[WWW.YOUNGBALLERZBASKETBALL.CO.UK](http://WWW.YOUNGBALLERZBASKETBALL.CO.UK)  
[INFO@YOUNGBALLERZBASKETBALL.CO.UK](mailto:INFO@YOUNGBALLERZBASKETBALL.CO.UK)  
[@YOUNGBALLERZBASKETBALL](https://www.instagram.com/YOUNGBALLERZBASKETBALL)

**ENCORE**  
PERFORMING ARTS

**£20**

# **KPOP SUPERSTARS**

## **WORKSHOP**

**ACT, SING AND DANCE ALONG  
TO YOUR FAVOURITE K-POP HITS**

**ALL WELCOME  
AGE 5-12**

**EXPERIENCED  
DBS CHECKED  
TEACHERS**



**SCAN HERE  
TO BOOK**



**WEDNESDAY 27TH MAY  
10AM-1PM**

**SPRINGFIELD PARISH CENTRE,  
ST. AUGUSTINE'S WAY, SPRINGFIELD, CM1 6GX**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE EMAIL [INFO@ENCORECHELMSFORD.COM](mailto:INFO@ENCORECHELMSFORD.COM)**



**Thank you for continuing to support us  
These items are most needed at present:**

- Small jars instant coffee and hot chocolate
- Long-life fruit juice and fruit squash
- Tinned meat meals
- Instant mashed potato sachets
- Tinned vegetables, potatoes and tomatoes
- Tinned pulses, tinned spaghetti
- Cup soups and tinned soup
- Rice
- Pasta sauce
- Ketchup and mayo
- Cooking oil
- UHT milk
- Tinned fruit
- Tinned rice puddings
- Sponge puddings
- Instant custard sachets and tinned custard
- Jam and spreads
- Packets of biscuits
- Chocolate biscuit bars/cereal bars/sweets/savoury crackers
- All toiletries inc: washing up liquid, toilet rolls, deodorant,  
shower gel, shampoo, conditioner, shaving foam,  
laundry tabs/pods Nappies sizes 5 to 7

**Items can be delivered to our warehouse at  
450A Beehive Lane CM2 8RN**

[www.chelmsford.foodbank.org.uk](http://www.chelmsford.foodbank.org.uk)

See also weekly Top 5 most needed items updates on Facebook



## Wednesday classes

£5 per class or 2 for £8

### 4:30-5pm- Mini Musical Theatre

Ages 4-8

### 5-5:30pm- Mini Street

Ages 4-8



### 5:30-6pm- Junior Lyrical

Ages 7+



### 6-6:30pm- Junior Street

Ages 7+

Contact us to sign up: [silhouettes.schoolofdance@gmail.com](mailto:silhouettes.schoolofdance@gmail.com)  
07861692636

## The holidays are fast-approaching

Are you *looking* for something for your child to do during this time?

Why not sign them up to one of our Bikeability Courses.

- Chelmsford
- Harlow
- Witham
- Colchester
- Uttlesford



Please see below the link to book Easter holiday courses:  
<https://essex.cycleready.co.uk/publicbooking>



# ESSEX SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

## Free Young People's Orchestral Workshop Sunday 10th May 2026 at St John Payne School, Chelmsford

Essex Symphony Orchestra is delighted, once again, to invite young musicians to join them for a morning to enjoy orchestral playing alongside experienced players and under the guidance of professional conductor, Mr Robert Hodge (<https://www.robert-hodge.com/>)

The workshop is for pupils who learn an orchestral instrument in or out of school and who have passed Grade 1 to Grade 5. As last year, there will be just one session for everyone so that all players can enjoy the full orchestral sound created by the mix of beginner, intermediate and Grade 4/5 parts.

The workshop will be from 10.00 am - 1.00pm on Sunday 10th May 2026.

To comply with safeguarding guidelines, a parent or responsible adult will need to accompany their child to the workshop; in previous workshops, parents sat all around the edges of the hall and really enjoyed watching how the music came together.

If you would like your child to take part, please email:

Catherine Gunnett (member of Essex Symphony Orchestra) at [bassoonplus@gmail.com](mailto:bassoonplus@gmail.com) with the following information:

- Child's Name
- School's Name
- Orchestral instrument (i.e. **NOT piano, keyboard, guitar, recorder or saxophone**). We do, however, have a few spaces for drummers who would like to play orchestral percussion.
- Grade attained
- Parent/carer phone number

You will then be given further details about the day, including the music that we will be playing so that you can choose the best ability level for your child and then they can practise it at home and with their instrumental tutor before the day of the workshop.

If you would like further information about the Essex Symphony Orchestra and to see pictures and a review of previous workshops, please visit our website, <https://www.essexsymphony.org.uk/outreach/>

Our annual workshops are very popular and there are limited places for each instrument, so please reply as soon as possible to secure your child's participation. We look forward to hearing from you!

Kind regards

Catherine Gunnett (bassoonist with Essex Symphony Orchestra)



# JOIN OUR TEAM EVERY SCHOOL HOLIDAY FOR OUR ACTIVE CAMPS!

OFFERING YOUR CHILD A SAFE SPACE TO LEARN, SOCIALISE, STAY ACTIVE, FORM FRIENDSHIPS, DEVELOP INTERESTS AND BUILD CONFIDENCE.

Come and join our team every school holiday for lots of fun, sports and much more! PLUS exciting new activities & theme days we cant wait to share with you.

Book now visiting [www.cmxsc.co.uk](http://www.cmxsc.co.uk)

@cmxscactive



Funded by



## Everything you need to know!



**Venue - Mildmay Primary School, Robin Way, Chelmsford CM2 8AU**



**Time 9.00am - 3.30pm  
Early Drop Off 8.30am - Late Pick Up 4.30pm**



**Age - For all primary school aged children from Year R - Year 6**



**Activities - Nerf Fun, Laser Tag, Football, Basketball, Tag Rugby, Gymnastics, Cricket PLUS much more**



**Price - Normal Day £29.50  
Early Drop Off £3 - Late Pick Up £6**



## The award-winning Swish has new classes in: **Columbus College, CM1 4JG**

**Our classes in the Performing Arts run for Pre-School, School and College age children - from little stars to seasoned pros!**

We believe that every child has the opportunity to reach their potential using the performing arts to develop life long skills and talents.

For over 30 years, Swish has been delivering carefully structured classes, captivating shows and locally tailored opportunities. Using only dedicated professionals, we are passionate about guiding children and young people along an exciting journey where they can fulfil their dreams.

We want every child at Swish not only to discover their brilliance but also to shine as brightly as a star in their own right.



**Kelly Nicholas**  
Principal  
Swish Chelmsford

### **Book your 2 WEEK TRIAL**

scan the code to see full class information or simply call us:  
**0330 122 5 122**



## Swish's reputation speaks for itself:

- ★ Owned and run by professional actors and drama school graduates
- ★ West End stars and household TV names in our Alumni
- ★ Annual productions
- ★ TV/Film & theatre credits such as Paddington, Matilda & Cbeebies
- ★ National Runner-up in Channel 5's 'Don't Stop Believing'

AS SEEN ON  
**itv 5**

**Swish**  
Chelmsford

☎ **0330 122 5 122**  
🌐 [chelmsford.swish.school](http://chelmsford.swish.school)

**TRY A CLASS  
FOR FREE**



# Now showing, **CONFIDENCE!**

Drama, dance & singing classes  
designed to help 4-12 year olds shine

**“My son has adored his first term at Perform.  
He has blossomed and I’ve seen his confidence grow every week.”**

Pippa Wotton



# Child and Family Counselling Services

Parents are now able to access direct support for their child by referring them into the safe hands of our Child and Family Counselling Services (CFCS). We have a team of highly experienced Counsellors, Specialist Child and Adolescent Counsellors and Play Therapists available within the counselling team who work in our specially adapted therapy rooms.



We offer support to children, young people and parents through talking, play and art therapy.

CFCS provides therapy to children, young people and families. We support many different issues such as:

- Self-harm
- Identity
- Anxiety
- Bullying
- Bereavement
- Parental separation and family issues or conflict.

The pathway is overseen by our Head of Child and Family Counselling Services, who is supported by a team that are both passionate about and dedicated to the wellbeing of children and young people. The team has achieved very positive and reparative outcomes for children and families.

## What can you expect?

After an initial contact, we will arrange an assessment to explore the issues your child may be experiencing and will then identify which model best supports the difficulty your child may be facing.

## Who do you contact?

If you are worried about your child and would like to talk to us further, please either email Catherine [cmunns@bccs.org.uk](mailto:cmunns@bccs.org.uk) or call on 07792 732206 and we will be pleased to help.

Take a moment to read about the experience a parent shared with us:

*I had contacted a number of professional services to assist me in helping my daughter. At the suggestion of my daughter's school a referral was made to BCCS and it was then that I met one of their counsellors. After months of unanswered questions and "hitting brick walls" I finally had answers, structure and a profound understanding of how a small little girl's mind works.*

*For me, there has been nothing so worrying as watching your child struggle and the BCCS counsellor's help has enabled me to help her for which I will be forever grateful.*



[www.bccs.org.uk](http://www.bccs.org.uk)



[headoffice@bccs.org.uk](mailto:headoffice@bccs.org.uk)

BCCS, 133 High Street, Billericay, Essex, CM12 9AB  
Brentwood Catholic Children's Society - Registered Charity Number: 1000661

