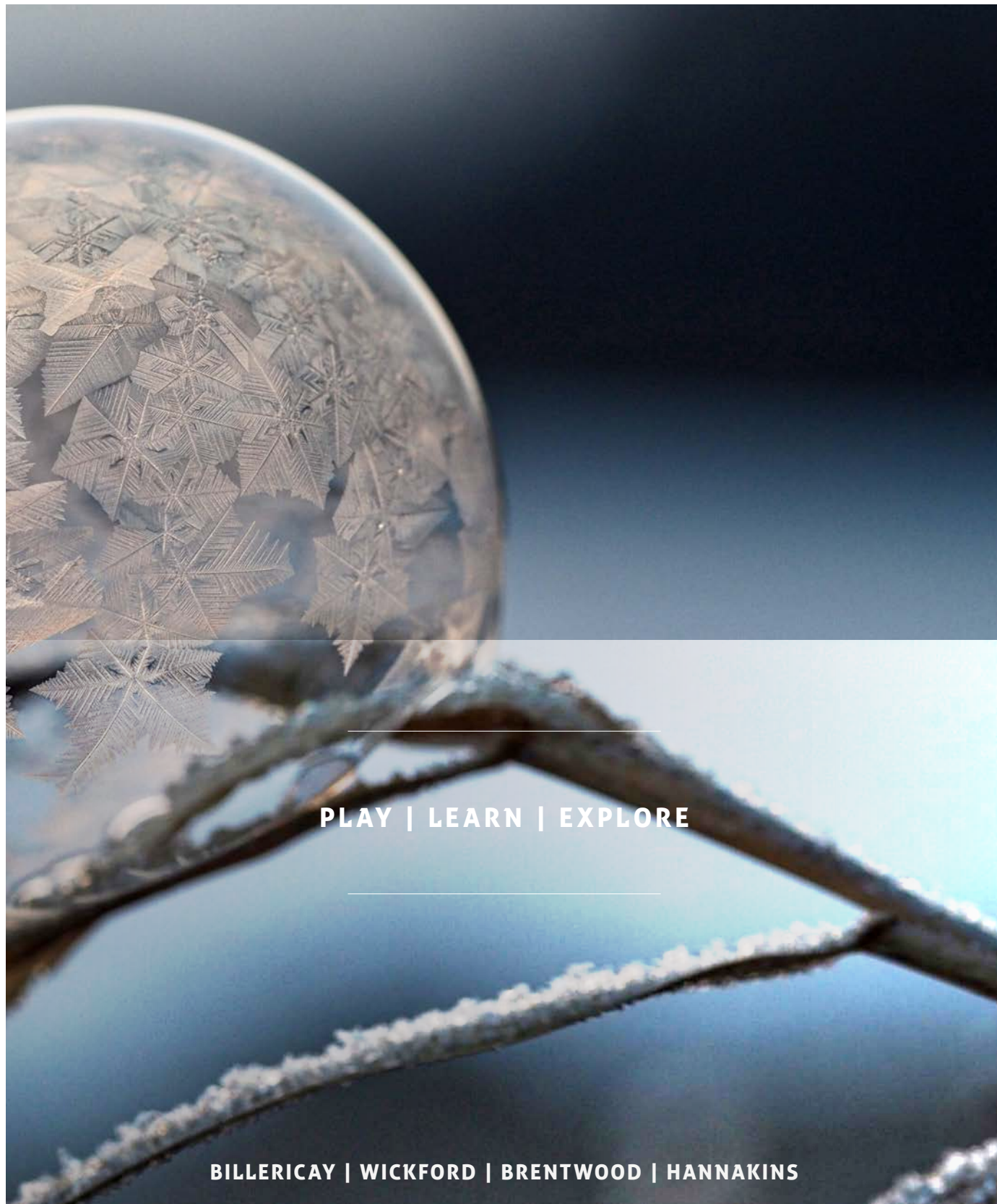




Newsletter W/19



PLAY | LEARN | EXPLORE

BILLERICAY | WICKFORD | BRENTWOOD | HANNAKINS



WELCOME

2018 YEAR IN REVIEW -
MESSAGE FROM OUR DIRECTOR

2018 was a big year for the Treehouse Club family, growing considerably with a new setting, extending classrooms for the children and upgrading toys.

Our ethos has always been to create a calm warming atmosphere for the children, surrounded by as much natural resources as possible.

In April, we built our new baby unit at our Wickford setting, creating 16 new baby spaces and 16 - 2 year old places with an interactive sensory room for special needs children. The expansion continued in July with a new cabin classroom accommodating an additional 24 nursery children.

Summer proved to be an extremely busy time for Treehouse Club, with receiving planning permission by Brentwood Council to build a completely new setting in Thriftwood Scouting Village. We had developed a wonderful team for this project and the facilities were built in 6 weeks, in time for September term.

Brentwood has really come into it's own and features all the services you expect for the Treehouse Club- baby room facilities, pre-school, nursery, forestry education, holiday club and after-schools programmes.

This autumn, Norsey Woods saw a number of vital improvements and refurbishments to the existing building including; new kitchen, new children's toilets in the pre-school room, newly refurbished 2-year old room complete with new finishes and educational equipment.

We strive to improve the experience that we offer your child at Treehouse Club and we believe that communication is at the heart of every healthy relationship. We seek to have a great relationship with our families; it's a passion we endeavor to develop. 2018 was a fantastic year for expansion and we look forwards to an adventurous 2019. We'll continue our growth plan, offering improved facilities, gardens, additional enrichment classes and much more.



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"IT HAS BEEN A PLEASURE TO BE PART OF THE NEW SETTING FOR THE TREEHOUSE CLUB IN BRENTWOOD. THE CHILDREN HAVE SETTLED VERY WELL AND ARE ENJOYING EXPLORING OUR WONDERFUL FOREST ENVIRONMENT. LOOKING FORWARD TO THE REST OF THE YEAR AND HOPEFULLY A LITTLE BIT OF SUNSHINE."

Rachel & The Brentwood Team



SPREAD THE WORD

NEW BABY ROOM COMING TO NORSEY WOODS

Connecting Kids with Nature



MOTHER NATURE IS A GREAT TEACHER...

and getting kids outside to learn and play is good for their brains and their bodies. Winter is a great time to bundle up in waterproofs and wellies and head out. We encourage the children to go outside everyday, embrace winter and discover the wonders of this great cold season.

Try out these outdoor activities at home, at your local park or a nearby forest. Not only are they fun, they encourage physical movement, supports children's motor development and improves overall health.

SOUNDS AROUND

Our ears are constantly being bombarded with sound – so much so that we automatically “tune out” a lot of it. This activity helps children “tune in” to the sounds of their environment and helps them to explore the sounds of nature. Nature provides us with many unforgettable sounds. Breezes whistling through the leaves, birds singing early in the morning, and streams gurgling over rocks are just some of the sounds children recognise.

Sound helps animals in a number of ways. Explain to children that having ears on opposite sides of our heads enables us (and other animals) to judge the location a sound comes from. Find a safe, comfortable outdoor space where children can sit quietly. Then have them close their eyes and listen to the sounds around them for several minutes.

- Provide pencils, crayons, and paper, and ask children to make a “sound map.” They can put an X in the middle of a page to represent themselves, and then use pictures or words to show the locations of the sounds around them. Encourage them to use lines to show directions and distances.
- When reviewing the sound map, ask children: Which sounds did you like most? Least? What else did you hear? What might have caused the sounds you heard?
- Ask children to name some animals that are active at night. Do they have any special adaptations for seeing and hearing in the dark? For example, foxes have large ears for picking up small sounds. Have children mimic fox ears by cutting off the bottoms of paper cups and gently fitting the cups over their ears (see example). How does this change what you hear? Can you add any new sounds to your map after listening with these new ears?

Make-Your-Own Animal Ears




Activities for cold days!

EVERGREENS IN WINTER

Evergreen trees offer a sensory overload! Through these experiences, children will touch, smell, see, hear, and taste the season of winter. Consider trying these experiences year-round in areas with or without snow.

Bundle up and enjoy a stroll around your garden, neighborhood, local park, or evergreen forest. On your winter walks, try the following:

Stop and listen to the sounds of winter (e.g., wind or snow under feet). Ask: How does our walk sound, smell, or look different from the last time we walked? What is the same?

- Search on the ground for cones. Look up high in the trees for cones still on them. Look at the branches and knobs on deciduous trees. With the leaves gone, these shapes are easier to see.
- Find places that are out of the wind (e.g., close to a building or next to a tree or hedge). Ask: If you were an animal outside in winter, where would you stay? Search on the ground for tracks and other animal signs.
- Search for animal homes in deciduous trees. Nests and holes should be more visible now. Look for evidence of ways animals survive in winter.
- Lie down under evergreens, and look up through the branches. Talk about the visible patterns, and experience the way evergreens provide shelter from wind, rain, and snow.

Once back inside, prepare and enjoy some hot tea or cocoa, and remind children that these tasty treats also come from trees! Plan to visit the trees again in the spring to look for new growth.

Winter Treats

Mix one part peanut butter (or suet, if available) with five parts corn meal and pack the mixture into the crevices of a large pinecone. This Audubon-approved, all-season mixture will attract woodpeckers, chickadees, titmice, and warblers.






Forestry Education

Forest school sessions led by Barry have been extremely busy this winter season. The temperature took a drop but the energy for play, learning and discovery remained high.

The children have been enjoyed staying warm in the forest by participating in running races, obstacle courses, learning about spatial awareness, dancing, frosty science, crafts and plenty of imagination and story telling. Cosy fires, outdoor cooking and using new forestry tools have been a favourite.

EXPLORING COLD
 PROBLEM SOLVING
 NEW CHALLENGES
 VITAMIN D EXPOSURE
 GETTING FRESH AIR
 EXERCISE & MOTOR SKILLS

UPCOMING IN FORESTRY- NEW TOOLS

WE HAVE NEW TOOLS COMING SOON THAT WILL BE UTILIZED BY PRE-SCHOOL AND OUT OF SCHOOL CLUB. THESE NEW TOOLS WILL ALLOW US TO CREATE A NUMBER OF DIFFERENT RESOURCES FOR FIRES AND CRAFTS AND ALSO TO IMPROVE OUR LOG/FIRE CIRCLE.



EYFS - Understanding our amazing world



We have been recently learning about 'Understanding the World' according to EYFS curriculum. We can never really get our heads around this incredible planet and understand the world we live in, can we? But this EYFS area is definitely a great place to start.

Understanding the World (UW) is one of the four specific areas of learning in the EYFS framework. It involves guiding children to make sense of their physical world and their community through opportunities to explore, observe and find out about people, places, technology, and the environment.

HOW WE HELP THE CHILDREN LEARN ABOUT THE WORLD

At Treehouse Club, we place great value on the use of open-ended materials, natural and reclaimed, to encourage children to investigate, developing their curiosity, imagination and creativity. This is one of the ways we assist with 'Understanding the World'. The children spend periods of time discovering the potential of open-ended materials – what they are and what they will do – encouraging them to build on their previous experiences of the world and how it works.

Through 'Treasure Basket Collections' the children are encouraged to handle large quantities of interesting objects made from natural materials. Smaller baskets contain handling collections of everyday items, which the children explore and investigate using all their senses. Our baskets contain natural materials such as: shells, large pebbles or polished stones, different sized pine cones, leaves of different shapes and sizes, large seed pods, conkers, driftwood, and pieces of tree bark.

Within our outdoor and indoor classrooms the children love learning about cause and effect and engaging in conversations with adults and other children about the things they observe.



IDEAS FOR HOME - THERE ARE LOTS OF EASY WAYS YOU CAN HELP YOUR CHILD TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE WORLD.

- ENCOURAGE YOUR CHILD TO EXPLORE THE WORLD USING ALL OF HIS SENSES - HAVE FUN GUESSING WHAT COVERED UP OBJECTS ARE BY TOUCHING THEM, LISTENING TO THEM OR SMELLING THEM.
- YOU CAN GROW CRESS IN AN INDOOR PLANTER USING HALF AN EGG SHELL. PAINT A FACE ON THE EGG SHELL, FILL IT WITH FINE SOIL OR SEED COMPOST, AND SPRINKLE CRESS SEEDS INTO THE SHELL. AND WATCH THE HAIR GROW...

Create a Stir

MOST KIDS LOVE TO COOK, IT'S YUMMY, IT'S HANDS ON, IT'S CREATIVE, MESSY AND A GREAT SENSE OF ACHIEVEMENT AT THE END. COMBINE IT WITH YOUR REGULAR COOKING AND GET THE KIDS INVOLVED.



Lemon & Yoghurt Chicken Flatbreads

Ingredients

- 2 skinless chicken breasts, cut into strips
- 1 lemon
- 1 tsp dried oregano(optional)
- 1 garlic clove, crushed
- pinch of cinnamon
- 1 tbsp olive oil
- 4 flatbreads
- 4 tbsp Greek yogurt
- ¼ red pepper, finely chopped
- 1 Little Gem lettuce, finely chopped



Method

1. Put the chicken in a bowl. Pare strips of zest from the lemon using a vegetable peeler, then juice the lemon too. Add the peel and half the juice to the chicken, along with the oregano (if using), garlic, cinnamon and oil. Mix well, cover and chill for an hour. The lemon juice will start to 'cook' the chicken, so don't leave for longer.
2. Heat a griddle pan. Thread the chicken strips onto a couple of metal skewers to stop them falling through the grate (you don't need to do this for the griddle), then grill for a couple of mins each side. The strips will cook through quickly so don't leave them too long. Season if you like.
3. Warm the flatbreads on the edge of the barbecue (or on the griddle) for a minute, then transfer them to plates and spread each with ½ tbsp yogurt. Divide the chicken strips between them, then dot on the remaining yogurt and sprinkle over the pepper and lettuce. Fold or roll the flatbreads to eat.



Charities 2019

TOGETHER WE CAN BRING SMILES TO THE FACES OF LOCAL CHILDREN.

The Treehouse Club strives to support charities in the local community that do amazing things for families, children, special needs and increasing awareness.

We are delighting to be supporting 3 specially selected charities across our nurseries with different activities and fundraising days in 2019. We endeavour to get everyone involved including children, staff and parents!

OUR NOMINATED CHARITY FOR 2019 ARE:

ST. LUKE'S HOSPICE (WICKFORD SETTING)

SNAP CHARITY (BRENTWOOD)

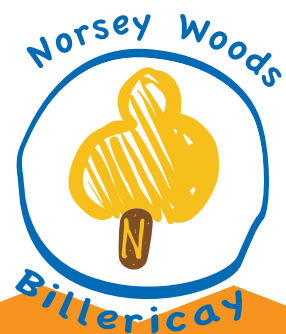
LITTLE HAVENS (BILLERICAY)

Ask your nursery why it is a cause close to our hearts and what we have in store for this year.

At Treehouse Club, we believe it's never too early to get children interested and involved in giving back and learning about the importance of giving. Children are capable of tremendous compassion, and with a little help and direction, kids can begin to make a big impact in their communities. We look forwards to supporting these worthwhile causes.



Norsey Woods



IT'S BEEN A BUSY FEW MONTHS AT NORSEY

Our Norsey Woods children continue to love taking part in Tatty Bumpkin yoga sessions every Thursday morning. Recently we have been celebrating the Big Garden Bird Watch this term. We have been creating our own bird feeders to place around the woods and took some home with us. The kids enjoyed learning through using binoculars and identifying different birds and watching them in their natural environment. Forest School is always popular with BushCraft Barry. There has been a large emphasis on using new tools; cutting, safeguarding and motor skills.



MAKING FRAMES WITH STICKS



MAKING BIRD FEEDERS



LOOKING FOR BIRDS



CLIMBING & CREEPING



ENJOYING WINTER

CONGRATULATIONS

CONGRATULATIONS TO BARRY FOR COMPLETING HIS WEEK OF FORESTRY TRAINING.

WELCOME TRACEY TO OUR TEAM AS OUR NURSERY COOK.

WELCOME ANNABELLE TO OUR TEAM AS OUR NURSERY APPRENTICE.

WELCOME REINER TO OUR TEAM RUNNING OUR HANNAKINS SETTING.

Billericay



LEARNING HOW TO USE TOOLS



YOGA FUN

DIARY DATES

Save the Date

Family Forest School Session: Friday 1st March 10am – 11am. Come and join us for a family forest school session to see what its all about!

Mother's Day 'Stay & Play': Join us on Friday 10th May 9:30 – 10:30.

Key Worker Appointments: These will be booked during the day between 18th – 22nd February.

A HUGE Happy Birthday to:

- | | |
|-------------|----------|
| AARON 4 | MASON 4 |
| ALORA 4 | NIAMH 4 |
| ASHTON 4 | QUINN 4 |
| EILIDH 3 | RALPH 3 |
| ESMAE 4 | REEVIE 3 |
| HUSDON 4 | RUE 3 |
| JONATHAN 3 | TEDDY 4 |
| KHIA-ROSE 3 | VIOLET 3 |
| WILL 4 | |



Dollymans



WHAT AN EXCITING START TO THE YEAR AND WE ARE SO PLEASED TO WELCOME LOTS OF NEW STARTERS TO NURSERY.

We have focused on creativity and showing our teachers what we can do using various materials and resources.

In keeping with Chinese New Years celebration, preschool created a colourful dragon using their feet. To bring in the New Year of the Pig, each room completed different activities involving pigs from egg case piggies, to cutting and sticking their very own pig design. The children also enjoyed a Chinese food tasting session. Yum!

Even though the weather hasn't been great that hasn't stopped us, Preschool have been constructing stories on our walks involving the letter of the week whilst 2's and 3's have been getting super muddy, as they demonstrate of their physical ability in the thick mud and puddles! Babies have loved exploring the different textures of the outdoor environment as they go for long walks through rain and shine!

Within the next couple of weeks, Preschool will be concentrating on exploring their forest skills with Bushcraft Barry; 3's will be learning about all the different occupations involving their parents/ carers and acting out their jobs and 2's /babies are focusing on sensory science involving lots of messy play and textures!



CONGRATULATIONS

RACHEL JOINING PRESCHOOL & NATALIE JOINING 2-YEAR ROOM

KATIE LEAVING PRESCHOOL TO JOIN 3-YEAR ROOM

JOINT BABY ROOM CONGRATULATIONS TO KAY FROM PRESCHOOL ON THE BIRTH OF HER BEAUTIFUL BABY GIRL AND GOOD LUCK TO SARAH AS SHE LEAVES TO GO ON MATERNITY.

Wickford



DIARY DATES
 Save the Date
 Graduation – Pre-school only 18th July 2019 at 2pm
 Individual Photos – Monday 3rd June 2019 available for children not attending that day from 11:30

A HUGE Happy Birthday to:

ALISTAIR 1	RUPERT 1
NOAH 2	CHARLOTTE 2
ISABELLA 2	LUCY 2
CARA 3	ELLIOT 2
RALPHIE 3	JACOB 3
CORALINE 4	KAYLEIGH 3
DARCIE 4	MAX 3
ELYSSIA 4	ARABELLA 4
HENRY 4	EDWARD 4
EVIE 4	JAMES 4
ZAK 4	JEMIMA 4
ALBIE 2	CHLOE 3
LUCAS 2	JAKE 3
ROSALIE 2	NIAMH 5
CHLOE 3	THOMAS 3
JAKE 3	



Thriftwood



THE NEW THRIFTWOOD TEAM HAS BEEN SETTLING IN NICELY, ENJOYING THE AMAZING WOODLAND SURROUNDINGS AND WELCOMING NEW TREEHOUSE MEMBERS.

The winter months are always full of great messy adventures including the sticky, slimy, gloopy mud - which has really come back in all its glory and the children have made the most of it. All our children love puddle walks and using our new large weighing scales in the garden. The wintry weather brought many opportunities for sensory exploration including discovering ice, frost and a bit of snow. We actively spent time engaging all our children, babies, toddlers and pre-school in sensory play and utilising those fine motor skills.

Every day the children have been collecting it and using it for various creative purposes. Preschool have been collecting leaves and sticks to build leaf brushes and painting. We have enjoyed the 'Stickman' story and creating our very own world based around the tale.

Do you remember making shadow puppets on your bedroom walls? Preschool made their very own shadow theatre complete with cut out animals to re-enact stories and engage in lively conversation.



SHADOW PLAY



ENJOYING THE SNOW



TREEHOUSE FROSTY

WELCOME TO OUR NEW TEAM!

JEAN - CONGRATS FOR WINNING EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH.

ELIZABETH - COMPLETING HER LEVEL-2 QUALIFICATION & STARTING LEVEL-3

RICHARD - STARTING HIS LEVEL-3 QUALIFICATION.

BIG WELCOME TO EMMA & GEMMA - FROM THE THRIFTWOOD TEAM!

Brentwood



NEW LARGE WEIGHING SCALES IN OUR GARDEN



PAINTING WITH LEAVES



SENSORY



OUR BABIES ENJOYING WINTER

A HUGE Happy Birthday to:

- | | |
|------------|-------------|
| RAY 2 | MATTHEW 3 |
| TARA 6 | SEVE 2 |
| HEDI 3 | NOAH 1 |
| SCOTT 3 | ISAIAH 3 |
| ARABELLA 1 | FRANCESCA 1 |
| ERNE 1 | EZRA 3 |
| HARRIET 3 | KYRIA 2 |
| AARAN 2 | JESSE 1 |
| ARTHUR 1 | HUGH 4 |
| WILLOW 1 | OSCAR 4 |
| MASON 2 | HARRISON 3 |
| JUDE 3 | |
| PENNY 2 | |
| WILLIAM 3 | |
| OLIVIA 4 | |
| ROHAN 1 | |



WILD THING
Holiday Club
FEB 18 - 22

The Treehouse Club
Forestry Nursery & Out of School Club

What We Offer
Winter Activities & Exploring
Bushcraft & Campfires
Adventure Games & Crafts
Plenty of Muddy Fun

Team Building
Small Groups
Highly Interactive
Enthusiastic, Fun &
Caring Team Leaders
Amazing Action-Packed
Experiences!

Develop Skills & Get Active

Forestry & Bushcrafts

Try our New Thriftwood Location

2-11 YRS

Making new friends and muddy memories

JOIN OUR POPULAR HOLIDAY CAMP!

Each session has a different theme, from bug-hunting and campfires to den building, outdoor experiments, bushcraft and much more. Grab a great offer today.

SPECIAL OFFERS

GET 25% OFF
With any 2 day booking

ADVENTURE WEEK
Book a full week & get 15% OFF
Booking Essential, Limited Spaces.
Ages 2-11. Book your space today!

Adventure awaits...

Contact Us
01277 656 921
Billericay
01277 402 016
Brentwood

Billericay - Norsey Woods
Outwood Common Rd.
Billericay CM11 1HA

Brentwood - Thriftwood
Orchard Ave.
Brentwood CM13 2DP

Trusted by Parents
Open 7am to 7pm
Flexible Days
Ideal for Busy Families
Three Great Locations
Sibling Saver 10%
Prices start from £30
Book online,
by phone or email

Register Today | adventure@thetreehouseclub.co.uk

www.thetreehouseclub.co.uk

FSA Ofsted
raising standards
improving lives

KINDLY SPREAD THE WORD - WE HAVE A GREAT HALF TERM HOLIDAY CAMP



Reminders

GETTING THE MOST OUT OF YOUR EXPERIENCE

At Treehouse Club your child will have an outdoor experience every day, so please bear in mind when packing their nursery bag.

A spare change of clothes is ideal, as well as suitable warm clothing, coat, hat, scarf and gloves. Outdoor footwear such as welly boots, winter boots and warm socks is a must.

Polite reminder to make sure your child's belonging are clearly named.

Polite reminder we are a NUT FREE Nursery.

PASSIONATELY COMMITTED TO DELIVERING HOLISTIC EDUCATIONAL CURRICULUM AND HIGH QUALITY CARE; TO CREATE A COMMUNITY OF RESILIENT ACTIVE CHILDREN, EMPOWERED BY VALUING, ENJOYING AND BEING CURIOUS ABOUT THEIR NATURAL AND SOCIAL SURROUNDINGS.

Treehouse Club Ethos



DAILY ADVENTURES



OUTDOOR EDUCATION

Our door is always open!
Feel free to contact us, we would love to hear your feedback and comments:

adventure@thetreehouseclub.co.uk
01277 656 921 (Billericay - Norsey Woods)
01268 956 005 (Wickford)
01277 402 016 (Brentwood)