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UFOs are school's hot air

UFO SIGHTINGS over Chelmsford last week have turned out to be a lot of hot air.

And it is all down to the youngsters at the town's Melbourne Park Primary School. For the children caused the stir of UFO excitement when they launched model hot air balloons as part of a project on air movements.

Deputy headmaster, of the Melbourne Road school Mr Richard Sawyer said the connection between the sightings and hot air balloons was made by a friend, who, after hearing about the school project had read the UFO report in his Chronicle on Thurs

Reports of UFOs over

town came last Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. A former RAF man told police that he and his wife had seen an object in the sky Tuesday and Wednesday.

He described the object as "balloon shaped, grey at the top with a brown band at the bottom."

The balloons made from tissue paper, cane and wire were created by a class of 10 to 11 year-olds, then launched from the playground the same week as the UFO reports.

Mr Sawyer said, "We built four balloons altogether and

the best flight went about 2 to 3 miles to New Hall Convent.

The balloons which have a note attached asking to be returned have also landed at Chignal St James, Broomfield and Pump Lane, Chelmsford. Mr Sawyer added laughing that someone who had returned one balloon thought it was a parachute.

The class have two models left to launch, but are waiting for a calm day.

Mr Sawyer described the model making as "play-time with a purpose" and a similar project at a previous school he had taught at had failed to cause such interest.



Youngsters read about their hot air balloon UFO in last week's Essex Chronicle.