



NEWS & VIEWS

Kindness, Honesty, Confidence, Perseverance, Safety

Headteacher: Miss V Townsend



Headteacher's Comment:

As we come to the end of week three, it was lovely to see so many of you at the Parent Welcome Meetings. We hope these sessions gave you the chance to meet your child's teacher, find out what the year ahead may look like, and understand what to expect from their learning journey. Working in partnership with you is so important, and these meetings are a key way of building those strong home-school links.

This week, I had the pleasure of hearing an incredibly inspirational speaker who spoke about the lifelong importance of reading. Their words really resonated with us as a school, as they reinforced something we already believe deeply, that reading is one of the most powerful tools we can give our children. We ask that children share a book with an adult a minimum of four times a week, and ideally five times or more. We know that the habits children build now have a lasting impact, which is why we have developed a rich and engaging curriculum to provide as many opportunities as possible for learning. But you, as parents and carers, are absolutely vital in this process. The time you spend interacting with your child, asking questions, looking at pictures together, or exploring new words, helps them become active participants in their own reading journey. The power of the conversations we have with our children cannot be overstated. Research shows that these daily interactions help to develop:

- Brain structure, building strong neural connections
- Brain function, strengthening memory and thinking skills
- Reading skills, improving comprehension and fluency
- Social-emotional development, building empathy and emotional understanding
- Executive function and reasoning, supporting problem-solving and decision-making
- Vocabulary skills, expanding language and communication abilities

Together, we can nurture a love of reading and give our children the very best start in life. Thank you for the time, energy, and encouragement you give your children, it really does make a difference.

This week, our Year 6 children proudly shared their manifestos for the Head Pupil positions, they were enthusiastic, well written, and brilliantly presented. Well done to everyone who took part, and a huge congratulations to Maddie and Sid T, our new Head Pupils, and to Heidi and Oliver, our Deputy Pupils – we know they will represent our school wonderfully!

Attendance Club started again this week, and the children have loved exploring the new figures – be ready to hear all about them when they come home! Thank you for your continued support, have a lovely weekend.

The statutory closing date for parents of current Year 6 pupils to apply for a secondary school (Year 7) place for September 2026 is 31 October 2025. Applications can be made online via www.essex.gov.uk/admissions. The website also has a copy of the Secondary Education in Essex 2026-27 booklet which contains details of all secondary school admission policies.



Diary Dates

Wednesday 30 September – Harvest Festival Assembly

Thursday 2 October – Individual & sibling photographs

Thursday 2 & Friday 3 October – Book Fair

Wednesday 15 & Thursday 16 October – Parent's evening

Friday 17 October – Non-uniform day & last day of term

Monday 3 November – Return to school

Please note that some dates unavoidably may change.

Apologies if this does happen.



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Weekly Attendance

Weekly Attendance

Class	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Whole School
Attendance	100%	96%	99.1%	97.9%	94.6%	93%	96%	96.5%

1 st	2 nd	3 rd
Reception	Year 2	Year 3



Yearly Attendance

Yearly Attendance – from 1 September

Class	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Whole School
Attendance	97.9%	98.7%	99.4%	94.7%	93.1%	93%	94.6%	95.6%

1 st	2 nd	3 rd
Year 2	Year 1	Reception



Stars of the week

Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Lily-Mae	Willow	James	Isla S	Evie	Delilah	Oliver



Miss Townsend's Headteachers Award

A huge well done to Wren in Year 1, who has received the Headteacher's Award this week for showing such compassion and kindness, and for being a fantastic role model to others! Well Done!



Important reminders

If you move house, or update your email address or phone number, please ensure you inform the school office so we have the correct contact details for you and you receive all communication from us.

PE kits should be left in school all week as sometimes the day of lessons need to change or the children may have additional workshops booked in for which they require their kit. These will be sent home at the end of each half term.



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Reading at Home

Class	This table shows the number of children and percentages of children that have read this week. Number of times children have read this week						Percentage reading 4 times or more
	0	1	2	3	4	5 or more	
Year 1			2 (13%)	1 (6%)	3 (20%)	8 (53%)	73%
Year 2		1 (4%)		3 (13%)	4 (17%)	15 (65%)	82%
Year 3	2 (8%)	3 (13%)	3 (13%)	3 (13%)	3 (13%)	10 (40%)	54%
Year 4		2 (7.4%)	2 (7.4%)	4 (14.8%)	2 (7.4%)	17 (63%)	70%
Year 5	1 (5%)			1 (5%)	6 (30%)	12 (60%)	90%
Year 6					15 (52%)	14 (48%)	100%
Well done to Year 6 where every child has read 4 times or more this week. Well done Year 5 who are in close second place.							

Well done to our Year 6 children who all spoke confidently and articulately during their manifesto.



Layla has returned and the children (and staff) enjoyed seeing her again! We are working through the list of children that want to see her.



Year 4 have enjoyed their debating lessons this week. Well done on your use of persuasive language.



Attendance Club returned once again. I know both parents /carers have been asking me about its return!
Day: Wednesday Lunchtime



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