



Friday 25 September 2026

NEWS & VIEWS

Kindness, Honesty, Confidence, Perseverance, Safety

Headteacher: Miss V Townsend



Headteacher's Comment:

This week, our Inclusion Partner Rachel, alongside Mrs Chalkley, held a coffee afternoon for parents. It was lovely to see such a fantastic turnout and to have the opportunity for parents to come together, chat and meet with members of the team. The afternoon was so successful that we are pleased to say this will now become a regular event. We will share further details and dates with you soon.

This week, I also met with Luz from the Parish Council to talk about how we can continue to work together positively as a school and as part of our wider village community. Ultimately, we all have the same goal, to keep everyone safe and happy, particularly our children.

With this in mind, I would once again ask everyone who drives to school to please be courteous and considerate of our neighbours. Please do not park on or across residents' driveways and be mindful of where and how you park. At the beginning and end of the school day, there are lots of children and families walking and crossing roads, and visibility can very quickly become restricted by parked cars. The safety of our children has to come first. None of us ever wants to be in a position where a child is seriously injured because they could not be seen by a driver, or because their view of the road was obstructed.

We regularly teach our children about respect, consideration for others and keeping themselves and each other safe, and it is important that, as adults, we model these same values. We are very fortunate to be part of a village community and maintaining positive relationships with our neighbours is important to us. Thank you for working with us to help make the area around our school as safe as possible.

A quick reminder about water bottles: please ensure children's bottles contain water rather than juice or squash. Water is the healthiest option for keeping children hydrated throughout the school day and, importantly, if a bottle leaks or is knocked over, water is far less likely to damage books, children's work, carpets or equipment. Thank you for your support with this.

We also had the pleasure this week of presenting Miss Walker, Miss Lambeth and Mrs Chalkley with their long-service badges from the Trust, although one of them may have been celebrating *slightly* longer service than the others! It was lovely to recognise and celebrate their commitment to our school and the Trust. Having long-serving members of staff is incredibly valuable; they bring a wealth of experience and knowledge and have been part of the school journey for so many children and families over the years. We are very lucky to have them as part of our team.

We would like to extend a warm welcome to Mrs Hobbs, who will be joining us next week. We are very much looking forward to welcoming her to our school community and having her as part of our team.

It has also been great to see a little more uptake in our after-school clubs this week. These clubs give children opportunities to try different activities, develop new skills, build confidence and spend time with children who share similar interests.

However, for us to be able to continue offering a range of clubs, we do need families to make use of them. If you have any questions about the clubs available, please contact the school office or speak to a member of SLT.

Each Friday, we celebrate our children's achievements in assembly, and we love celebrating what they achieve outside of school too. Please encourage your child to bring in anything they are particularly proud of to share with us. This might be a certificate, medal or trophy, or they might simply want to tell us or demonstrate something new they have learnt. Giving children the opportunity to stand up and share their achievements not only allows us to celebrate with them, but also helps to develop their confidence in speaking in front of others, an important skill that we want to nurture throughout their time with us.

With this in mind, we are thrilled that the Greater Essex Music Hub have celebrated the value that we place on music in our school by presenting us with the Music Mark of Recognition for Dedication & Improvement.

Finally, I am delighted to welcome our new School Councillors for this academic year. Each representative has been elected by their classmates and has the important responsibility of being the voice of their class. Miss Allen and I are really looking forward to working with them, hearing their ideas and ensuring that our children continue to have a meaningful say in school life.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend. Let's hope we can enjoy a little more sunshine while it lasts!



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Weekly Attendance

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Class	Reception	Year 1/2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Whole School
Attendance	98.5%	93.9%	98.6%	95.7%	89.4%	86.2%	93.6%

1 st	2 nd	3 rd
Year 3	Reception	Year 4



Yearly Attendance

Yearly Attendance – from 2 September

Class	Reception	Year 1/2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Whole School
Attendance	97.9%	97.8%	98.8%	96.7%	92.8%	88%	95.5%

1 st	2 nd	3 rd
Year 3	Reception	Year 1/2



Stars of the week

Reception	Year 1/2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Freddie	Lottie	Jake	Pollyanna	Fife	Madeline



Miss Townsend's Headteachers Award

This week's Headteacher's Award goes to Maggie in Year 1/2 for demonstrating our KHCPs values and always being polite & respectful. Well done!



Important reminders

We encourage children to bring in healthy snacks for breaktime and in their packed lunch if they have one.

Snacks and packed lunches should **not** include the following: confectionery such as chocolate, sweets, fruit strings, crisps or cheddars.

Alternatives can be breadsticks, fruit, vegetables, popcorn or dairy products. Bottles should only contain water.

Please remember we are a nut-free school due to allergies. This includes no peanut butter or Nutella as part of snacks/lunch.



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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	
Reception	3 (20%)		1 (6%)	3 (20%)	4 (27%)	4 (27%)	8 (54%)
Year 1/2	5 (17%)	2 (7%)	1 (3.5%)	4 (14%)	7 (24%)	10 (34%)	17 (59%)
Year 3	2 (9%)			4 (18%)	2 (9%)	15 (64%)	17 (73%)
Year 4	7 (28%)	1 (4%)	1 (4%)	5 (20%)	1 (4%)	10 (40%)	11 (44%)
Year 5	3 (12%)		2 (8.5%)	2 (8.5%)	4 (17%)	13 (54%)	17 (71%)
Year 6	3 (19%)	1 (6%)	1 (6%)		1 (6%)	10 (63%)	11 (69%)
Well done to Years 3 and 5, where over 70% of their pupils read four times or more this week.							



Diary Dates

Wednesday 30 September – Year 3 trip to Chelmsford Museum

Thursday 1 October – Individual and sibling photographs

Thursday 1 October – Favourite's Day lunch

Monday 12 October – Year 5 Ancient Egyptian workshop

Tuesday 13 & Wednesday 14 October – Parent's Evening

Thursday 15 October – Reception trip to Thorndon Park

Friday 16 October – Last day of half term & non-uniform day

Monday 2 November – Back to school

Friday 6 November – Year 3 start Forest School

Tuesday 10 November – 100% attendance party

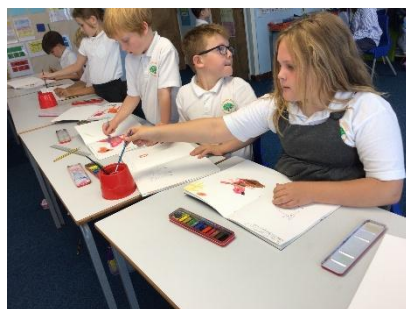
Thursday 12 November – Prostrike fundraising event

Wednesday 18 November – Flu vaccinations

Thursday 19 November – Essex Child and Family Wellbeing service drop in (09.00)

Tuesday 8 December – EYFS & KS1 nativity

Please note that some dates unavoidably may change. We apologise if this does happen.



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Eat the colours of the rainbow

Eating lots of different coloured fruits and vegetables helps keep our whole body healthy from head to toe.

How many should we eat?

Try to eat 5 portions of fruit and vegetables every day. A portion is about the size of your hand.

Why do we need to eat different colours?

Different colours can help your body in different ways.

RED

Keeps your skin and eyes healthy, helps your brain and can stop you from getting ill.



ORANGE & YELLOW

Keeps your eyes healthy, helps your immune system, contains fibre to keep our digestive system happy, keeps your heart healthy.



GREEN

Helps your body heal wounds, helps us store energy, helps us improve our immune systems.



BLUE & PURPLE

Protects cells in our bodies against damage, helps our memory and helps fight infections.



Try this at home!

Today we made colourful fruit kebabs, ask your grown up if you can make your own at home using different coloured fruits.



pabulum
HONESTLY GOOD FOOD



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