



THE ROBERT DRAKE PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2019

FUNDRAISING NEWS

Non-Uniform / Cake Sale day

Thank you for the cakes and fruit sent in for 25 October. We raised £200.23 for Little Havens Hospice.

Christmas Bazaar

*This will be held on **Friday 29 November and Monday 2 December**. Helpers are needed for the Monday. If you are able to help out, then please contact the school office.*

Christmas Raffle

Tickets

*Raffle tickets will be sent out shortly. The draw will be held on **Tuesday 10 December**.*

We would greatly welcome any raffle prize donations.

Fund-Raising Meeting

*The next meeting will be held on **Friday 31 January 2020** at 2.00 pm. All parents and carers are welcome.*

CURRENT NEWS

STAFF CHANGES

Sadly we said goodbye to Mrs Pardoe at the end of October. We all wish her the very best for the future. We would like to welcome Mrs Macdonald to Robert Drake, our new Midday Assistant.

11+ EXAMINATION

Many congratulations to the eleven pupils that passed the 11+ examination this year. Well done to you all!

NOVEMBER DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

Tuesday 12 November—Indoor Athletics at Deanes—Miss Bradfield's Class

Thursday 14 November—Year 5/6 Performances of Robin and the Sherwood Hoodies—9.15 am and 1.45 pm

Friday 15 November—EYFS Parent Involvement (PM) / Children in Need

Tuesday 19 November—Flu Vaccinations

Wednesday 20 and Thursday 21 November—Talent Show Auditions

Wednesday 27 November—EYFS Road Safety Presentation—9 am

Friday 29 November and Monday 2 December—Christmas Bazaar

COATS

As the weather is changeable at present please ensure that your child brings their coat to school every day. Thank you.

KS1 OUTSIDE PLAY AREA

We are very grateful for the donations received for the above new area, but we are still in need of the following if you are able to assist:

- Bark chippings
- Compost
- Plants, seeds or bulbs

As always, your generosity is much appreciated.

GOVERNOR NEWS

Attendance

The attendance for October was 97.5%

RECEPTION APPLICATIONS FOR SEPTEMBER 2020

Applications for Reception places for children starting school in September 2020 will open on **Monday 11 November**. Applications can be made online from this date (via www.essex.gov.uk/admissions), and the statutory closing date for applications is **15 January 2020**.

All relevant information in respect of admissions is available on the above website.

If you submit your application on-line, please ensure you receive an acknowledgement.

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING

THE SCHOOL COUNCIL

At the October School Council meeting, the Councillors discussed pen recycling and brainstormed some ideas for Children in Need.

At the November meeting, the Council discussed how the pen recycling was working and it was confirmed that there were recycling boxes in each of the classes and that the pens were being recycled. It was also noted that parents and carers had been informed about Children in Need 2019, which was due to take place on **Friday 15 November**.

EARLY BIRD INITIATIVE

Mrs Rawling was delighted with the Early Bird Initiative that took place last month. The children really enjoyed meeting Early Bird and punctuality at the school did improve. The initiative will be taking place again later in the year.

KS1 PARENT INVOLVEMENT DAY

The children in KS1 had a great day last week building a moving vehicle which had to be able to carry a toy for a distance of 1 metre.

Thank you to all the parents and carers for your contributions. Much appreciated.



HARVEST FESTIVAL

The Harvest Festival took place on 25 October, with Mrs Vickery's class taking assembly. Many thanks to all the parents and carers for your generous donations. All your donations went to the Yellow Door Charity who were very appreciative of your generosity.

PARALYMPICS

Because of their excellent attitude to learning, six pupils were invited to take part in a Paralympic Games Festival at Deanes School, taking part in Paralympic events. The children did fantastically well, and won through to the County Finals in the New Age Kurling event. This final will be taking place in March 2020. The children also did really well in the Seated Volleyball event, losing the final by two points. All the children were a credit to the school and were amazing sportsmen.

Well done Kyle, Alfie, Alysha, McKenzie, Jack and Isabelle. Great achievement !



SPORTS RESULTS

Football: The girls team played in a football tournament at Waterside in October. They played really well as a team, and although they didn't get through to the quarter finals the school was very impressed with the way they encouraged each other and their positive attitude.

Netball: The mixed netball team placed South Benfleet on Thursday 7 November. Although they lost the match 4-9, the team played well and battled hard.

DODGEBALL COMPETITION

Frank, who participated in the Dodgeball Competition, gave the following report: 'On 22 October the Dodgeball Team went to The Deanes Academy to compete in the schools' annual Dodgeball Tournament. Schools taking part included Kents Hill, Riverside, Thundersley and Grovewood (who had five teams in the tournament). Although we got through to the quarter finals, the team persevered and felt triumphant with a 60% win ratio. We accepted that we didn't win, but were proud of the way the team played.'

ALDI'S KIT FOR SCHOOLS

Over the last few weeks the school has been collecting Team GB stickers with Aldi's Kit for Schools for the chance to be one of 20 primary schools to win £20,000 to build a health legacy at our school. The last day for sending your stickers in is **Wednesday 13 November**.

We already have three completed posters and are hoping to have enough stickers to finish a fourth poster.

POPPY APPEAL

Poppies have been on sale in school this month, and children have been spoken with about the significance of Remembrance Day. A two minute's silence was held in school on **Monday 11 November** at 11 am.

Mrs Vickery's and Miss Bradfield's classes also had a visit from Mr Richard Burgess of the Worksecure Group who gave a living history talk on life during the war.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

YEARS 5 & 6 PERFORMANCES - 'ROBIN AND THE SHERWOOD HOODIES'

This year the Year 5 and 6 performances will take place on **Thursday 14 November**. There will be a morning performance at 9.15 am and an afternoon performance at 1.45 pm. Tickets will be limited to 3 per pupil and are available to purchase on ParentPay.

Further details have already been circulated.

CHILDREN IN NEED - NOVEMBER 2019

As advised above, Children in Need is taking place on **Friday 15 November**.

All children should wear normal school uniform to school on this day, but they can wear Pudsey Ears or a Children in Need wristband to school.

All children had been invited to enter a Pudsey Bear picture competition. All pictures need to be brought in to school by the morning of **Friday 15 November**—judging will be taking place later the same day and a prize given to the winning picture from each phase group.

All donations for Children in Need this year are to be made through ParentPay.

CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCE DATES

Years 1 and 2 Christmas performances will be taking place on **Wednesday 4 and Friday 6 December**, both at 9.15 am.

Children in EYFS will be perform their Christmas show on **Wednesday 11 December** at 9.15 am and at 2.30 pm.

The children in Years 3 and 4 will be taking part in a Carol Concert at St Peter's Church on **Thursday 12 December** at 9.30 am.

Further details of these events will be circulated closer to the dates.

FORTHCOMING DATES

- Thursday 14 November**—Year 5/6 Performances (AM and PM)
- Friday 15 November**—EYFS Parent Involvement (PM)
- Friday 29 November and Monday 2 December**— Christmas Bazaar
- Wednesday 4 and Friday 6 December**—KS1 Performances (AM)
- Tuesday 10 December**—Year 5/6 Visit to Cardfields
- Wednesday 11 December**—EYFS Performances (AM and PM)
- Thursday 12 December**—Year 3/4 Carol Concert at St Peter’s Church, 9.30 am
- Friday 13 December**—Christmas Jumper Day / Christmas Dinner
- Monday 6 January**—Non-Pupil Day
- Monday 13 January**—Handwriting Week
- Friday 24 January**—Year 3/4 Theatre Visit
- Thursday 30 January**—Year 3/4 Parent Involvement Morning
- Wednesday 5 February**—Class Photographs
- Monday 10 February**—Creative Arts/Art Challenge Theme Week
- Tuesday 3 and Thursday 5 March**—Parent Consultations
- Friday 6 March**—Year 5 Appleton Day
- Wednesday 18 March**—Year 1/2 Visit to Boydells Farm
- Monday 11 to Thursday 14 May**– KS2 SATS
- Saturday 16 May**—Robert Drake Summer Fayre
- Thursday 21 May**—Sports Day
- Monday 15 to Friday 19 June**—Year 6 Stubbers Residential Trip
- Wednesday 24 June**—Year 1/2 Visit to Hedingham Castle
- Friday 26 June**—Year 3/4 Visit to Hyde Hall
- Thursday 2 July**—Open Afternoon
- Friday 10 July**—Non-Pupil Day
- Monday 20 July**—Year 6 Leaver’s Disco
- Wednesday 22 July**—Last Day of Term

TERM HOLIDAY DATES

- Friday 20 December to 3 January 2020**—Christmas Break
- Monday 6 January**—Non Pupil Day

Monday 17 to Friday 21 February 2020—half term

Monday 6 to Friday 17 April 2020—Easter Break

Monday 25 May to Friday 5 June 2020—half term

Friday 10 July 2020—Non Pupil Day

Wednesday 22 July 2020—Last Day of the school year 2019/20

Please note that all dates are subject to change

**PLEASE NOTE THAT ROBERT DRAKE IS A NUT FREE SCHOOL
AND CHILDREN OR VISITORS SHOULD NOT BRING INTO SCHOOL
ANY NUTS OR NUT BASED PRODUCTS**

The Governing Body of The Robert Drake Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.