



# NEWSLETTER

June 2023

## NEWS AND INFORMATION

### *Message from Mrs Coe and Mrs Jackson*

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to summer, finally! When we are walking around the school each day, it's really lovely to see all of the children enjoying this glorious weather and playing happily with their friends. As we move towards the end of this school year, we are all looking forward to the fun activities on offer including the Summer Fun Day and Sports Day. We look forward to seeing you at these events.

Kind regards

Mrs Coe and Mrs Jackson  
Co-Headteachers

### *FORTHCOMING AND PREVIOUS EVENTS – please note all dates are subject to change*

#### **Tea and Talk Sessions with Mrs Coe and Mrs Jackson**

Many thanks to all those that attended that Tea and Talk Sessions. It was lovely to have a meet and chat with you, and we hope that you found it useful.

Thank you for the feedback. We are currently looking into all points raised and will share the outcomes with you shortly. We have already addressed some of the points:

- attendance badge information has been sent out again to all parents;
- the PE uniform policy has been amended to include blue T shirts for PE

We will organise more 'Tea and Talk' sessions next term.

#### **Junior Music Festival**

The children had a great time at the Cliffs Pavilion taking part in the Junior Music Festival. It was a packed audience and the children performed so well.

#### **Year 3 / 4 Trip to Hyde Hall**



The children in Years 3 and 4 had a great time at Hyde Hall last month. The visit was part of the science curriculum and the children were investigating the importance of plants.



#### **Eco Warriors strive to keep our streets litter free!**

On Friday 19 May Robert Drake Eco Warriors went for a litter picking journey along Church Road up to Manor Trading Estate. We used our new gloves, bin liners and litter pickers which had been kindly donated by Castle Point Council. We were amazed at the amount of rubbish we found on the grass verges, pavement, and bushes. This mainly consisted of wrappers, bottles and cans.



Please can you help us keep our local environment clean and safe by placing your rubbish in the bin!

Herewith dates for your diary:

<b>Monday 19 – Friday 23 June</b>	Book Fair
<b>Tuesday 20 June</b>	Year 5 Assembly – 9 am
<b>Friday 23 June</b>	Year 1 / 2 trip to Call of the Wild
<b>Friday 23 June</b>	Year 3 – 6 e-safety parent workshop, 9 – 11 am
<b>Saturday 24 June</b>	Summer Fayre – 12 – 3 pm
<b>Thursday 29 June AM</b>	Sports Day – EYFS and KS1, 9.30 am
<b>Thursday 29 June PM</b>	Sports Day – KS2, 1.30 pm
<b>Tuesday 4 July</b>	Alice in Wonderland play to school
<b>Wednesday 5 July</b>	Swimming Gala
<b>Thursday 6 July</b>	Parents / carers open evening – 4 – 5.30 pm
<b>Wednesday 12 July</b>	District Sports – 9.30 am to 12.30 pm
<b>Friday 14 July</b>	Year 5 Trip to Danbury Outdoors
<b>Monday 17 July</b>	Year 5 disco – 1.45 pm
<b>Monday 17 July</b>	Year 6 disco – 3.45 pm
<b>Friday 21 July</b>	Leaver's Assembly – 9 am

## **SPORTS NEWS**

### **Netball Tournament**

Last month members of the Netball Team took part in a netball tournament. Mrs Pollock and Mrs Collins would like to congratulate the children, they were a credit to the school.

Emir in Year 5 said: *'It was so much fun. We played 6 games and got through to the quarter finals, losing to Edward Francis who went on to win the tournament.'*

## **GENERAL**

### **Gardening Club**

There is a Gardening Club that takes place every Friday within KS1, with Mrs Kinrade volunteering and helping out each week.

Scarlett in Year 2 had this to say about the Club: *'We took out all the weeds and dead leaves from the gardening patch. We are growing strawberries, tomatoes, broad beans, carrots and onions. We have planted some sunflower seeds.'*

With regards to the Gardening Club, we are looking for donations if anyone is able to assist, in particular the following are needed:

- Compost
- Children's gardening tools
- Big post for growing vegetables

### **Essex County Council**

Please see below information from Essex County Council:

[LEGO® in Libraries](#) - KS1 to KS5 - If you're a parent or carer with a child aged 6 to 11 years who loves LEGO®, why not sign up for our new free [LEGO® in Libraries](#) project. Your child will get the chance to improve their Maths and English skills, while having fun playing with relatable LEGO® characters.

[EYFS to KS5](#) - The Your Essex e-newsletter provides a snapshot of news, events and activities from across the county. [Sign up to Your Essex](#) and receive monthly news on families and children, health and wellbeing, the environment and much more, straight to your inbox.

### **Hot Weather**

A reminder that during the hot weather children should have suncream (nut free) applied before coming to school. They should also have a hat to wear outside. All children should bring a water bottle to school, filled with just water.

## FUNDRAISING

Please be advised that the non uniform day on Friday 19 May 2023 raised £145.50 in donations. With many thanks to those who contributed. These monies will be put towards additional resources for the curriculum.

A reminder that bands for Adventure Island are available for £17.00 each. Details of how to purchase have been previously circulated via ParentMail.

### The Summer Fun Day

The Summer Fun Day is taking place on **Saturday 24 June, 12 – 3 pm**. The Fundraisers are still looking for volunteers if you are able to assist, even just for an hour or so – please let the office know if you can help and when. They are also requesting soft drink donations if you are able to assist, ie, bottles of squash.

Entry to the Fun Day is via donation on the day – the monies raised will be put towards curriculum resources including: sensory equipment, DT and computing equipment and geography and history resources.

## GOVERNOR NEWS

**Attendance** - The attendance for the month of May was 96.4%

## REMINDERS

### Pre Loved School Uniform

A reminder that the school sells pre loved school uniform. Each item is priced at £1.00 and can be purchased as follows:

- The pre loved uniform shop is open in the small hall at 3.15 pm on the last Friday of each month
- Parents / carers can email into [admin@robertdrake.essex.sch.uk](mailto:admin@robertdrake.essex.sch.uk) with details of the items they require, ie, item required, size, gender, etc
- Parents / carers can enquire at the school office

All payments are to be made via ParentPay

### Pupil Premium / Free School Meals

Pupil Premium Funding is allocated to children from families who are currently known to be eligible for free school meals and children who have been looked after continuously for more than six months.

You may register your child for Free School Meals if you receive a range of benefits with qualifying conditions such as Income Support, Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance, Income-related Employment and Support Allowance and Child Tax Credit (provided your annual income does not exceed £16,190), Working Tax Credit run-on, and Universal Credit.

If you think you may be eligible, registering is quick and easy.

**If your child is in Year 2 or below**, please call the School Office and we will send you through a form to complete.

**If your child is in Years 3—6**, Essex County Council has an online application form on their website: <https://www.essex.gov.uk/free-school-meals>.

If you meet the eligibility criteria, registering for Free School Meals will bring more money to the school which will benefit your child. Our Pupil Premium Funding is used to provide support for pupils in a number of ways. As well as enabling your child to have the option of a free, healthy meal at lunchtime, other benefits may also be available for registered children, such as help with the cost of school trips. Further details are available on the school website.

Please be assured that registering for Free School Meals is completely confidential. Please contact the school office if you have any questions or require help with your application.

**A reminder that all children in Year 3 and above have to pay for their school dinners unless they qualify for, and have been accepted for, Free School Meals.**

***TERM HOLIDAY DATES***

**Friday 7 July 2023 – non pupil day**

**Friday 21 July 2023 – last day of Summer Term**

**Tuesday 5 September 2023 – children due back at school**

**PLEASE NOTE ALL DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE**

**ROBERT DRAKE IS A NUT FREE SCHOOL**



A reminder that Robert Drake is a nut free school. There are children within the school who have severe air borne nut allergies and all parents and carers are reminded that no nuts of any type should be brought in to school.

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.