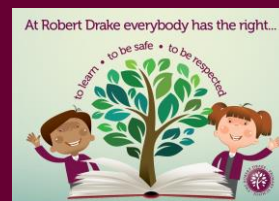




School values:



School Rules:



## Message from Mrs Coe and Mrs Jackson, Co-Headteachers



Welcome back to school!

It is lovely to see all the children back in the classroom and around the school, and also welcoming the new Reception children to their first days at school.

As you will see, we are changing the newsletter and instead of being monthly going forward it will be sent out every two weeks. It would be helpful if you could ensure that you take the time to have a look through as it will be full of lots of useful information.

We have included our school rules and values at the top of the newsletter. The pupils are learning about these during our Random Acts of Kindness assembly each week.

The phase newsletters were sent out at the beginning of the term and these contain more detailed information about your child's learning for the autumn term.

We are pleased to advise that we will be holding several 'Tea and Talk' sessions over the year. Please do just let the office know if you are able to come along for a chat as we would love to meet with you.

As always, thank you for your continued support.

### School Development Plan Priorities 2023-24

The school is constantly striving for improvement; our priorities for 2023-24 are:

#### 1 To Continue to Enhance the Already Strong Speech and Language Provision

A range of strategies are being implemented to enhance all pupils' fluency when speaking, reading and understanding key vocabulary and key learning, including those with additional speech and language provision.

#### 2 Leadership at all Levels Across the School

During the past few months, the school has been through a period of change which means that we have the opportunity to further develop the school's curriculum and provision. Exciting times ahead!

#### 3 Attendance and Punctuality

##### Attendance

- Our target, set by the governing body, for 2022-23 was 96.5%
- The actual attendance at the end of 2022-23 was 95.5%

##### Persistent Absence (attendance below 90%)

- Our target, set by the governing body, for 2022-23 was 1.6%
- The actual persistent absence figure for 2022-23 was 7.41%

We are working closely with the governing body, School Attendance Officer and families to improve these figures.



Tel no: 01268 754124

Email Address: [admin@robertdrake.essex.sch.uk](mailto:admin@robertdrake.essex.sch.uk)

Website: [www.robertdrake.co.uk](http://www.robertdrake.co.uk)

House colours:

Dragon	Green
Griffin	Yellow
Pegasus	Blue
Phoenix	Red

#### Reading

The importance of reading for children should not be underestimated. The expectation is that children should read at least four times a week; please ensure you complete your child's reading record as rewards are given in class for regular reading.

#### PE Days

CLASS	DAYS
EYFS	Wed and Thu
ER	Thu and Fri
NB	Mon and Fri
WB	Mon and Fri
ML	Tue and Thu
CMDH	Tue and Fri
DC	Tue and Fri
KS	Mon and Wed
DN	Tue and Fri
NP	Tue and Fri

For health and safety reasons, all jewellery must be removed for PE lessons by the pupils themselves or at home before coming to school. If they cannot be removed, then the pupil will not be able to take part in the PE lesson.

#### Menu

Details for this week's menu can be found at: <https://robertdrake.co.uk/about-us/school-dinner-menu>

## Attendance

National expectation for regular attendance is that children must be in school every day. Every second counts and we must work together to improve attendance and punctuality.

Class	Week 1	Week 2
Miss Baldwin	NA	NA
Miss Simpkin	NA	NA
Miss Ramsey	97.6%	96.8%
Miss Bradfield	96.7%	98%
Mr Bye	98.7%	98.9%
Miss Leckerman	100%	98%
Mrs Malyan/Mrs Herbert	99.1%	97.2%
Mr Chaplin	99.6%	100%
Mr Smith	95.8%	98.3%
Mr Newton	95.7%	95.5%
Mrs Parrag	97.1%	95.3%



This is Geraldine the Giraffe. From Monday to Friday Geraldine spends the week in the classroom who has had the highest attendance the previous week.

In Week 2 Geraldine spent the week with the children in Miss Leckerman's classroom, and this week she will be spending the week in Mr Chaplin's classroom.

Well done to those classes, and all pupils that are in school every day!

## Achievements

Each week during the Monday Achievement Assembly we celebrate our children's achievements. We are so proud of all our pupils, but use this assembly to celebrate positive achievements linked to general life skills, for example, growth mindset, attitude to learning and social and emotional skills. If your child has any achievements outside of school, please do ask them to share them with us so that we can recognise them and their accomplishments.

This week we were very proud to celebrate the following achievements:

Year 1: Scarlett  
Year 2: Angela and Oliver  
Year 3: Klaydon  
Year 4: Jesse and Josh  
Year 5: Luke  
Year 6: Samuel and Ollie



Well done all, but remember that all our pupils are stars !



### Dates for Class Assemblies, all start 9 am:

Mr Chaplin: Thursday 28 September  
Mrs Malyan/Herbert: Friday 13 October  
Miss Leckerman: Friday 20 October  
EYFS: 13 December / 14 December  
Miss Glover: Friday 19 January  
Miss Bradfield: Thursday 8 February  
Miss Ramsey: Thursday 14 March  
Year 5: 26 June  
Year 6: 22 July

### Dates for Parent Consultations:

Years 1 – 6: 26 and 28 September  
EYFS: 17 and 18 October  
All years: 4 and 5 March  
All years: 11 July – open evening



### Term Dates:

**Half term:** 23 to 27 October  
**Christmas:** 21 December to 3 January  
**Non pupil day:** 16 February  
**Half term:** 19 to 23 February  
**Easter:** 29 March to 12 April  
**Half term:** 27 May to 7 June  
**Non pupil day:** 12 July  
**Summer:** from 24 July

**Other dates: we will update with most events for the whole year in the next newsletter**

20 September, 9 am: Appleton Roadshow (Y6 parents/carers)  
21 September, 11.30: EYFS parents / carers invited to lunch  
21 September, 2.30 pm: Tea and Talk with the Headteachers – all welcome  
29 September: individual pupil photographs  
29 September: Roots to Food (5 – 6)  
4 October, 1.30 pm: EYFS parent/carer workshop – phonics and tapestry  
5 October: trip to Thorndon Park (Y3 - 4)  
19 October, 4 pm: KS1 Fancy Dress Disco  
19 October, 5.30 pm: KS2 Fancy Dress Disco  
30 November: Cinderella Pantomime at Towngate Theatre (Y1 – 6)

### All dates are subject to change

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

### Pre Loved Uniform Shop

Each item is priced at £1.00; all payments to be made via ParentPay.



Purchases can be made 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

### Friends of Robert Drake

The school has an active fundraising group. They are always looking for volunteers and hold regular meetings at the school; everyone is welcome. The next meeting is taking place at 6 pm on 28 September at the Zach Willsher.

They can be contacted through their Facebook page:



'Friends of Robert Drake School'

Please check out their site for full details of forthcoming fundraising events

### Water Bottles



It is important that all pupils bring in a water bottle each day filled with plain water; it can be filled up at water stations during the day. This helps the children to remain hydrated and helps them to focus on their learning - 'knowing more and remembering more'.

The water bottles should have a sports cap to avoid spills.

### Uniform

All pupils should adhere to the school's uniform policy. The policy can be found on the school's website at

<https://robertdrake.co.uk/about-us/school-uniform>



Please ensure that all items of uniform are clearly labelled.

A reminder that if hair can be tied up, then it should be.

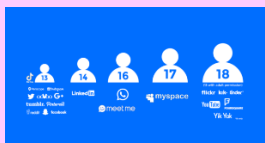
### E-Safety

E-Safety information from the Robert Drake website:

<https://robertdrake.co.uk/about-us/e-safety>

NSPCC website with useful information on online safety:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>



### School Premises/Parking



Please note that dogs should not be brought on to the school grounds at any time, unless they are assistance dogs for the blind; this includes whether on a lead or being carried.

We would also request that all parents/carers respect the school's neighbours and only park legally and with consideration for others. **For safety reasons, at no time of the day should cars pull into the school's driveway.**



### School Council

School Councillors are voted for by the children during the school year. Two per class.



The councillors meet regularly and discuss and decide upon events and changes they would like to put forward, ie, menu items, fundraising days, sport played in school, to give some examples.

The next council meeting is due to take place 19 September.

### Clubs



There are several clubs that take place at the school every week; full details are available on the school's website

<https://robertdrake.co.uk/clubs> or from the office.

Taking into account parents' views at the Tea and Talk sessions, the school has introduced new clubs and is trying to provide a broad spectrum of clubs available, and these include, among others, drama, football, karate, netball, computing, music, fencing, crafting, Bricks4Kidz, etc.

### Nut Free School/Packed Lunches



The Robert Drake Primary is **NUT FREE**. We have pupils with severe air borne nut allergies and to safeguard our children all visitors must refrain from eating nuts and nut based products for at least 6 hours before visiting the school.

All packed lunches should be healthy and nut free.



### Pupil Premium / Free School Meals

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, Working Tax Credit run-on, and Universal Credit.

If you think you may be eligible:

**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>