



# NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2019

## **FUNDRAISING NEWS**

### ***Xmas 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.*

### ***Happy's Circus***

*Thank you to everyone that supported the circus. It was great evening and the fantastic amount of £2,407 was raised.*

### ***Raffle Items***

*If any parents or carers work for a company that would like to donate a main prize for the Christmas raffle, then please contact the school office.*

## **GOVERNOR NEWS**

### ***Attendance***

*The attendance for September was 97.5%*

## ***STAFF CHANGES***

Sadly we said goodbye to Mrs Wilkins last week. We all wish her the very best for the future.

## ***DELIVERY OF ITEMS TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE***

Please could all parents and carers remember to send in with your child everything that they would need for the school day. This includes packed lunches, water bottles, hats, coats and clothing for PE or clubs. This will reduce the number of interruptions that have to be made to the teachers and children in class. On the rare occasion that a delivery has to be made during the day, could you please ensure that the item is clearly labelled.

## ***THE SCHOOL COUNCIL***

For those parents and carers that are not aware, Robert Drake has a School Council that meets every month. The Council Members are children from within the school; there are two children from each class (except Reception) that attend and these students are voted for each term by their classmates. The Year 6 students remain on the Council for the year.

The School Council meets to discuss various matters, and then feeds back to the school the outcome of those discussions. The main topic of discussion at the September Meeting was the Aim of the School Council, and the following was written by one of the Members:

‘The aim of the School Council is to share ideas to make the school a better place. We listen to everyone’s opinions and we love to hear everyone’s ideas.’

If your child/children have any ideas or matters that they would like the Council to discuss, then please do encourage them to speak to one of their Class Council Members.

## ***EXEMPLARY BEHAVIOUR***

Owen and Jake recently demonstrated some exemplary behaviour. On their own initiative they litter picked on their way home and nearly filled a whole black bag of rubbish. The school is very proud of their work. Well done Owen and Jake!

If there are any other potential litter pickers in the school, please be advised that if you visit the Council Offices in Kiln Road then they will provide you with a free litter pack.

## ***PACKED LUNCHES FROM HOME / NUT FREE SCHOOL***

Circulars have been circulated to parents and carers recently regarding packed lunches from home and Robert Drake being a nut free school. We very much appreciate the assistance that all parents and carers provide us by adhering to school policy. Thank you for your attention in this matter.

## ***EARLY MORNING READERS***

Mrs Rawling, the School's English Lead, would like to give a big thank you to all those parents and carers who have volunteered to attend the school early morning to listen to the children read. The giving of your time is much appreciated. If any other parents or carers wish to volunteer their time, please advise the School Office.

## ***EARLY BIRD INITIATIVE***

Next week is our '*Early Bird Be-ON-Time- Week!*' All children arriving on time at school (8:40am) will receive a special bronze sticker to go on their Early Bird Certificate.

All the names of children arriving on time that day will be put into a class hat. Early Bird will be visiting classes throughout the week to pull a name out of a hat and that child will then receive a little prize. Children who are on time for the whole week will get an additional break time on Friday.



## ***OCTOBER DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES***

Friday 11 October—Roots to Food Roadshow

Tuesday 15 and Thursday 17 October—EYFS Parent Consultations

Friday 18 October—Little Haven's Hospice Assembly

Monday 21 to Friday 25 October—Mental Health Awareness Theme Week

Friday 25 October—Mrs Vickery's Class Assembly

Non-uniform day—collecting for Little Haven's

Last day of half term

Monday 28 October—start of the half term holiday

## ***BARK CHIPPINGS !***

If any parents or carers have any spare bark chippings that they would like to donate to the school for the KS1 outside area, then please contact the school office.

## ***VISIT FROM LABORSCHULE BIELEFELD***

The school had a fabulous time meeting our German friends from Bielefeld last month. It was an excellent visit and we look forward to seeing them again next year !

## ***MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS WEEK—21 OCTOBER***

During Mental Health Awareness Week, pupils will be focusing on the positive aspects of emotional well-being, staying healthy and keeping safe. During the week there will be a range of activities taking place, including art, yoga and mindfulness.

## ***YEAR 6 SECONDARY APPLICATIONS***

All places for secondary schools are allocated by the Local Authority. It is imperative that all parents and carers of children in Year 6 submit their applications by **31 October 2019**.

If your application is not made by this date you will be considered a 'late applicant' and your child will be put to the bottom of all lists and allocated a space at the nearest available school, which is usually out of the area.

Applications can be made online via [www.essex.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.essex.gov.uk/admissions). The website also has a copy of the Secondary Education in Essex 2020-21 booklet which contains details of all secondary school admission policies.

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

## ***ROOTS TO FOOD DAY—FRIDAY 11 OCTOBER***

Pupils in Years 4, 5 and 6 will be participating in our Roots to Food Cookery Workshop on **Friday 11 October**. Pupils will also be considering healthy options for packed lunches and school meals as well as healthy activities.

## ***EYFS PARENT CONSULTATION MEETINGS***

On **Tuesday 15 October** and **Thursday 17 October**, during the afternoon, there will be an opportunity for parents and carers of pupils in EYFS to have an initial meeting with your child's class teacher. Details have been circulated.

## ***NEW INTAKE - SEPTEMBER 2020- OPEN EVENING***

We will be holding an Open Evening on **Thursday 24 October between 4.00pm and 5.30pm** for children due to start school in September 2020. If you know anybody with a child due to start school next September, please can you inform them of this date. This is an ideal opportunity for parents or carers to visit the school with their children.

A number of school tours will also be held during October and November for parents and carers of children due to start school in September 2020. This is for parents and carers only; bookings are required for these tours.

Please contact the school office for further information.

## ***FORTHCOMING DATES***

**Tuesday 15 and Thursday 17 October**—EYFS Parent Consultations

**Friday 18 October**—Little Haven's Assembly

**Monday 21 October**—Mental Health Awareness Week

**Friday 25 October**—Mrs Vickery's Class Assembly / non-uniform day

**Monday 4 November**—Handwriting Week

**Wednesday 6 November**—Year 1/2 Parent Involvement Morning

**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***

**Monday 28 October to 1 November 2019**

**Friday 20 December to 3 January 2020**

**Monday 6 January—Non Pupil Day**

**Monday 17 to Friday 21 February 2020**

**Monday 6 to Friday 17 April 2020**

**Monday 25 May to Friday 5 June 2020**

**Friday 10 July 2020—Non Pupil Day**

**Wednesday 22 July 2020—Last Day of Term**

**Please note that all dates are subject to change**

**PLEASE NOTE THAT ROBERT DRAKE IS A NUT FREE SCHOOL  
AND CHILDREN 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.