



NEWSLETTER

May 2023

NEWS AND INFORMATION

Message from Mrs Coe and Mrs Jackson

Dear Parents and Carers

It is our privilege to write our first newsletter to all the wonderful children and families at Robert Drake. It's been so lovely to meet lots of you on the playground in the morning and after school. It's a very busy term ahead with exciting opportunities for all the children; we start this week with celebrating the Coronation of King Charles III. The children across the school have continued to amaze us with their positive attitudes towards their learning, demonstrating their commitment to our school values.

Finally, we would like to invite you to pop in for 'Tea and Talk' after half term. This will be an opportunity for you to come and say hello.

- Monday 5 June 2.45 - 3.15pm
- Thursday 8 June 9 - 9.30am

Please let the office know if you would like to attend.

Kind regards

Mrs Coe and Mrs Jackson
Co-Headteachers

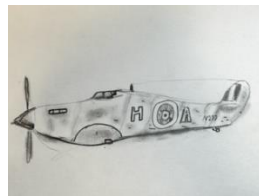
FORTHCOMING AND PREVIOUS EVENTS – please note all dates are subject to change

Art Challenge

The Art Challenge was completed last month and there were so many brilliant sketches to choose from it was really hard for the judges to make their decisions. The winners, together with their winning sketches, are as follows:



Alice in Year 6



Frankie in Year 5



Drew in Year 4



Toby in Year 3



Katie in Year 2



Jayde in Year 1



Jessie in EYFS

The pictures are now on display in the School Reception. Special thank you to Frameworks (Essex) who have kindly arranged, framed and labelled the sketches for the school.

EYFS visit to St Peter's Church

Last term the EYFS children enjoyed a visit to St. Peter's Church to learn about celebrations that take place in a church. The children enjoyed taking part in a mock wedding and Reverend Hudson baptised all of the children's teddies! The children were amazed to find so many crosses in the church and were able to relate this to the Easter story. Thank you to all parents and relatives that accompanied us.



Year 5 Visit to Appleton School

All Year 5 pupils last term enjoyed a day at Appleton School. This gave them all a great experience as to what it is like at secondary school, and how different it is from primary school.

Friday 5 May	Year 3 / 4 trip to Hyde Hall
Friday 12 May	EYFS trip to Barleylands
Thursday 18 May	Mrs Parrag's Class Assembly – 9 am
Monday 12 – Friday 16 June	Year 6 residential at Stubbers
Monday 5 June	'Tea and Talk' with Mrs Coe and Mrs Jackson – 2.45 – 3.15 pm
Thursday 8 June	'Tea and Talk' with Mrs Coe and Mrs Jackson – 9 – 9.30 am
Thursday 15 June	Junior Music Festival, Cliffs Pavilion
Friday 16 June	Year 3 / 4 Parental Involvement – 9 am – 11 am
Monday 19 – Friday 23 June	Book Fair
Tuesday 20 June	Year 5 Assembly – 9 am
Friday 23 June	Year 1 / 2 trip to Call of the Wild
Saturday 24 June	Summer Fayre
Thursday 29 June	Sports Day
Tuesday 4 July	Alice in Wonderland play to school
Thursday 6 July	Parents / carers open evening – times to be confirmed
Wednesday 12 July	District Sports
Monday 17 July	Year 5 disco – 1.45 pm
Monday 17 July	Year 6 disco – 3.45 pm
Friday 21 July	Leaver's Assembly – 9 am

SPORTS NEWS

Cross Country

In total 37 children from KS2 took part in the cross country competition at Garons Park. They competed against 26 schools, with around 150 children in each race, with years 3 and 4 running 1km, and years 5 and 6 running 1.5km.

All the pupils had a fantastic attitude, persevering to the very end, with many children achieving places much greater than expected.

The Year 3 race was won by Abiola, who then competed in the Essex Primary School Individual Cross Country Event and came fourth. Well done Abiola !

Netball League Results

23rd March – Away v Thundersley Primary v Robert Drake mixed – 7- 2 Lost

27th March – Away v Kents Hill v Robert Drake girls – 7 – 5 lost

19th April – Away v South Benfleet mixed – 6 - 3 win

26th April – Home v Woodham Ley girls – 13 - 2 win

GENERAL

Absence from School

Could we please remind all parents and carers that if your child is absent from school, then the school should be notified before 9.30 am on the day of absence. A message can be left on 01268 754124 or an email can be sent to admin@robertdrake.essex.sch.uk

When notifying the school of the absence, please ensure that the full name of the child is given and the class; the reason for the absence must also be given, ie, sickness and diarrhoea and not 'unwell'.

Punctuality

Please see the attached sheet regarding punctuality, which highlights how much teaching can be missed just by being a few minutes late.

Bad weather / emergency school closure

If the school has to close for any reason, ie, adverse weather conditions, notification will be put on the school website and parents and carers will be sent a message via ParentMail.

In addition, a list of closed schools will appear on the Essex County Council website at the following link:
<http://www.essex.gov.uk/Education-Schools/Schools/Dates/Pages/Emergency-School-Closures.aspx>

FUNDRAISING

The Fundraisers would like to thank all parents and carers for their support of the school discos: **a fantastic profit of £395.21 was made.**

The Fundraisers would also like to thank everybody for the very generous donations of chocolate eggs before Easter. In fact, there was such a great response that some donations were made to Changing Pathways, Heston Lodge and Glenwood School. They were all very grateful.

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

GOVERNOR NEWS

Attendance - The attendance for the month of March was 94.4%, and for the month of April it was 95.6%.

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 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.

Water Bottles

A reminder that all children should bring a water bottle to school, filled with just water. Could you please ensure that the bottles have drinking caps rather than screw tops as there have been spillages in class. Thank you

TERM HOLIDAY DATES

Monday 8 May 2023 – Bank Holiday

Monday 22 May to Friday 2 June 2023 – May half term holiday

Monday 5 June 2023 – return to school after May half term holiday

Friday 7 July 2023 – non pupil day

Friday 21 July 2023 – last day of Summer Term

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.