



# NEWSLETTER

July 2023

## NEWS AND INFORMATION

### Message from Mrs Coe and Mrs Jackson

Dear Parents and Carers

As the end of our first term as Co-Headteachers comes to a close, we would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support.

We look forward to continuing working together with all children and families in our lovely school community.

We wish you all the very best for the summer. May it be a safe, healthy and happy one!

Kind regards

Mrs Coe and Mrs Jackson  
Co-Headteachers

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

### Book Fair

Thank you to all those that visited the Book Fair last month. We are pleased to advise that a total of £373 was raised for the school to spend on books for the library.

### Year 1 / 2 trip to Call of the Wild

The pupils in KS1 had a fantastic trip to Call of the Wild in support of the science curriculum. They met lots of interesting animals and reptiles !

### Year 3 – 6 e-safety Parent Workshop

Thank you to all those parents and carers that attending the recent e-safety Parent Workshop. Can we please remind everyone that there is e-safety information available on the school website which can be found through the following link: <https://robertdrake.co.uk/about-us/e-safety>

### EYFS Parental Involvement Afternoon



Thank you to all the parents and family members who joined us for our Pirate Parental Involvement Afternoon. The children all looked amazing in their pirate costumes.

It was lovely to see such a large turn out and the children all enjoyed completing the different activities and teaching their 'grown ups' what they have been learning at school.

### School Sports Day



The postponed School Sports Day took place on Monday 10 July. It was a lovely day of sunshine, with Pegasus winning both EYFS and Key Stage 1 in the morning, and Key Stage 2 in the afternoon. The totals were as follows:

	EYFS AND KS1	KS2
Griffin	608	1396
Pegasus	651	1657
Phoenix	609	1483
Dragon	591	1576

## The Robert Drake Eco Warriors



### The Big Switch Off

The Robert Drake Eco Warriors are always looking for ways to save electricity and look after our planet, from litter picking to switching lights off. On the afternoon of Friday 30 June they helped to organise 'The Big Switch Off!' Teachers were asked to switch off their computers and interactive whiteboards and teach ideas which were suggested by the children. Children participated in a range of activities which included music, sport and guided reading outside. Inside were discussions about recycling, making puppets and weaving using natural materials. An enjoyable afternoon for all and we saved electricity! Please help us to save electricity by switching off any electrical items when you are not using them.



Herewith dates for your diary:

<b>Monday 17 July</b>	Year 5 disco – 1.45 pm
<b>Monday 17 July</b>	Year 6 disco – 3.45 pm
<b>Wednesday 19 July</b>	Year 4 – 6 Drama Assembly – 9 am
<b>Thursday 20 July</b>	End of Year School Picnic (at lunchtime during the school day)
<b>Friday 21 July</b>	Leaver's Assembly – 9 am
<b>Friday 21 July</b>	Pre Loved Uniform Shop will be open - 3.15 pm

## **SPORTS NEWS**

### **Swimming Gala**

We are so proud of the swimming squad, who took first place overall at the swimming gala last week. Such a fantastic result. Each member of the team was outstanding.



## **GENERAL**

### **Arriva**

Arriva has given us the following details so that Year 6 parents and carers can check the details for bus travel from September.

[www.arrivabus.co.uk/monthlytickets](http://www.arrivabus.co.uk/monthlytickets)

QR code



### **Essex Fire Museum - Summer Open Days (free entry)**

#### Family open days:

- Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> July
- Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> August
- Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> August

There will be opportunities for families to get involved in history trails around the museum, spot hazards in the new fire safety room, partake in craft activities and a sit on our fire engines.

The museum is free entry (but visits are by appointment only as they are on the site of an operational fire station).

If families are interested, could they please email at: [museum@essex-fire.gov.uk](mailto:museum@essex-fire.gov.uk) and advise the number in the party and the time they would like to arrive (open from 10.30am to 4.00pm)

## **FUNDRAISING**

### **Summer Fun Day**

It was lovely to see so many of you and your families at the Summer Fun Day. The net proceeds raised totalled £2,792.80. Thank you all for your support.

### **Sports for Schools**

The children have been using new sports equipment purchased using the sponsorship money that was raised by the pupils during our Sports for Schools event in February. Some of this equipment was used during sports day. Thank you once again for raising such a huge amount of money for sports equipment in our school.

## **GOVERNOR NEWS**

**Attendance** - The attendance for the month of June was 96.7%

## **REMINDERS**

### **The School Day**

A reminder that as from September, there is change to the hours of the school day. From September onwards the school hours are:

**8.45 am until 3.15 pm** (or 3.10 pm for EYFS)

Therefore, the school gates will open at 8.35 am (instead of 8.40 am).

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

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



**Goodbye and good luck to all the Year 6 leavers**

**We hope everyone has a lovely summer holiday, and we look forward to seeing you back in September**



**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.