



THE ROBERT DRAKE PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

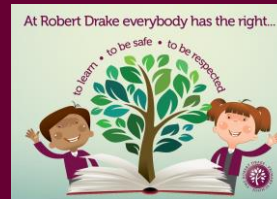
12 February 2024



School values:



School Rules:



As you know we were visited by Ofsted last week. We would like to extend a big thank you to all parents for your support and positive comments during this time. The children were a huge credit to the school and also deserve a massive thank you. The report will be published in approximately 30 day's time.

Thank you again for your continued support, Mrs Jackson & all The Robert Drake Staff

No Pen's Day

The School Council arranged a No Pen's Day. Instead of writing the children were taught alternative lessons such a Drama and Art. The children really enjoyed the day!



The Great Duck Hunt

Last week 100 mini ducks were hidden all over the school for the children & staff to find. The ducks were numbered and the children had to cross the number off the chart and place the duck in a bowl once it was found! A really fun activity for all the children and staff!

Diary Dates (all dates are subject to change)

- 13 February: Music Mission Drumming Workshop
- 13 February: Year 6 NHS Height and Weight Check
- 14 February: Year 5/6 Badminton Festival
- 14 February: Fundraising - Wear Red or Pink Dress Down day
- 28 February: Cross Country Competition
- 4 - 5 March: All Years Parent Consultations
- 7 March: World Book Day
- 8 March: Year 5 Appleton Day
- 8 March: Year 1/2 Parent Involvement Morning
- 11 March: Science Week
- 11 March: The Big Walk and Wheel
- 12 March: 9am Tea and Talk with Mrs Jackson
- 13 March: 2.15pm Road Safety Presentation to EYFS Parents
- 14 March: 9am Year 1 Class Assembly - Miss Ramsey
- 15 March: Comic Relief
- 19 March: Year 5/6 Parent Involvement Morning
- 19 March: Infant Music Festival
- 20 March: KS1 trip to Braintree Museum
- 21 March: World Poetry day
- 25 March: 9am EYFS walk to St Peter's Church
- 26 March: 9am Y6 SAT's and Stubbers Meeting
- 27 March: Easter discos
- 22 April: Year 5/6 Mini Tennis
- 26 April: Fundraisers Quiz Night
- 8 May: Character and Life Skills event Year 5/6
- 9 May: 9am Tea and Talk with Mrs Jackson
- 10 May: EYFS trip to Barleylands
- 13 May: SAT's week
- 22 May: Year 6 Rounders Tournament
- 23 May: KS1 trip to Sealife Adventure
- 24 May: Mad Hair Day
- 3-21 June: Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check
- 13 June: Junior Music Festival, Cliffs Pavilion
- 14 June: Year 3/4 Trip to Museum of Power
- 17 - 21 June: Year 6 Residential trip to Stubbers
- 19 June: KS1 Summer games - Deanes
- 21 June: Year 3/4 Parent Involvement morning
- 24 June: Tea and Talk with Mrs Jackson 2.30pm
- 24 - 28 June: Book Fair
- 25 - 26 :- Year 6 Secondary School Transition days
- 26 June - 9am Year 5 Class Assembly
- 27 June: Sports Day
- 28 June: Year 5 Danbury Trip



Tel no: 01268 754124

Email Address: admin@robertdrake.essex.sch.uk

Website: www.robertdrake.co.uk

Pupil Support Officer, Mrs Green: welfare@robertdrake.essex.sch.uk

Designated Safeguarding Leads:
Mrs Jackson – Mrs Coe
Deputy Safeguarding Leads:
Mr Smith - Mr Chaplin
Safeguarding Governor:
Mrs Foster

House colours:

Dragon	Green
Griffin	Yellow
Pegasus	Blue
Phoenix	Red



Total words read by the pupils of Robert Drake to date: **21,355,419!**

Owen S in Mr Newton's class won the accelerated reader prize this half term! He has won a pass to Adventure Island. Well done Owen!

PE Days

CLASS	DAYS
EYFS	Wed and Thu
ER	Thu and Fri
NB	Mon and Fri
SG	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

All jewellery must be removed for PE lessons by the pupils themselves or at home before coming to school.

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 4	Week 5
Miss Baldwin	97.6	98.6
Miss Simpkin	94.6	97.4
Miss Ramsey	99.2	94.8
Miss Bradfield	97.5	96.3
Miss Glover	95.7	93.8
Miss Leckerman	98.3	94.7
Mrs Malyan/Mrs Herbert	99.1	97.9
Mr Chaplin	95.6	99.4
Mr Smith	94.6	98.3
Mr Newton	99.2	96.3
Mrs Parrag	95.0	99.7



Geraldine the Giraffe

Well done to Miss Ramsey's year 1 class & Mr Newton's year 5/6 class for attaining the joint highest attendance in week 4! Amazing!

Geraldine will be spending this week with Mrs Parrag in Year 5/6!

Well done all pupils that are in school every day and on time!



Dates for Class Assemblies, all start 9 am:

Miss Ramsey: Thursday 14 March
Year 5: Wednesday 26 June
Year 6: Tuesday 23 July

Dates for Parent Consultations:

All years: 4 and 5 March – **please remember to complete the online form advising the school of your availability**

All years: 11 July – open evening



Term Dates:

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

Achievements

Last week and this week we are proud to celebrate the following who received Achievement awards:



Miss Ramsey: Jesse B & Marnie
Miss Bradfield: Harry & Finley H
Miss Glover: Beau & Sydney
Miss Leckerman: Scarlett H-P & Albert,
Mrs Malyan/Mrs Herbert: Sam & Summer
Mr Chaplin: Bobby & April
Mr Smith: Leo B & Freddie
Mrs Parrag: Ronnie, Charlie & Harlow & Owen
Miss Baldwin: Harry B & Abigail
Miss Simpkin: George & Joe
Mr Newton: Oscar & Harry

Scarlett K successfully auditioned for Grease the Musical (by Time to Shine) at the Towngate Theatre and has started the rehearsals which are going well.

Zoe K successfully swam 20m and completed her objectives resulting in moving from green cap to light blue cap in swimming



Younes did incredibly well in being the youngest in his karate class to achieve his yellow belt in his first ever karate grading.

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

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.

Tea and Talk Sessions All are welcome to the 'Tea and Talk' sessions with the Co-Headteacher Mrs Jackson. Sessions are as follows:

Tuesday 12 March, 9 am

Thursday 9 May, 9 am

Monday 24 June, 2.30 pm



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.



Thank you to all the children that joined in the Green Football Weekend, and shared their vegetarian meals with the school. They looked amazing !

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.

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 with details of the items they require, ie, item required, size, gender, etc
- Parents/carers can enquire at the school office.

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.

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.**



Robert Drake promotes healthy living and seeks to provide a no smoking environment, both within the school building and grounds, that help protect the health of the whole school community and visitors to the school. Also, the effect of second hand smoking has been shown to cause serious health issues.

We would therefore like to request that parents and carers refrain from smoking near the school and around other parents and children

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.

Details of the most recent council meeting will be shared on the next newsletter.

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.

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.

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.

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>

Is my child too ill for school?

It can be tricky deciding if you child is too ill for school. Please find below a link to the NHS website which provides guidance on common childhood illnesses and advice. [Is my child too ill for school? A parent's guide to keeping kids healthy this school term](#)

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