



THE ROBERT DRAKE PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

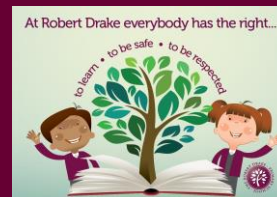
17th September 2024



School values:



School Rules:



Firstly, we wanted to say how well the children have settled back into school. It is lovely seeing so many smiling and happy faces around the school. We also wanted to thank you for your patience and understanding whilst all the building works are taking place. We apologise for the inconvenience that this is causing, especially to the EYFS and Key Stage One parents and carers who have been very accommodating.

We are delighted to introduce exciting new links made with primary schools in Australia. During Friendship Week, our pupils wrote letters to their peers at primary schools in Australia. We hope to then receive letters in return that we can share with the pupils.

Diary Dates – we will list on the newsletter most diary dates. Please do check the calendar on the website as going forward that will be updated with all dates too. All dates are subject to change.

September to December Diary Dates

- 20/9 - Multiply Session in Small Hall 9-11 KS2 Parents
- 23/9 & 24/9 - Parent consultations 3:30pm – 7:30pm (not EYFS)
- 26/9 - Individual photos
- 26/09 – DC class assembly
- 27/09 – Roots to Food - Y5-6
- 4/10 - Tea and Talk 2.30pm
- 7/10 - Walk to School Week
- 10/10 - EYFS Parent Workshop- Phonics & Tapestry
- 07/10 – 10/10 - Bikeability
- 11/10 - Y3/4 class assembly to parents
- 14/10 - Space Week
- 15/10 - EYFS Parental consultations 1:30-6pm
- 16/10 - EYFS Parental consultations 3:30-4:30pm
- 16/10 - Y3/4 - Tag Rugby Festival
- 18/10 - Year 3 and 4 School Trip – Colchester Castle
- 21/10 - Y5/6 - Lloyd Burton Tennis Festival
- 21/10 - 24/10 – Bikeability
- 24/10 - 'Fancy Dress Disco' after school
- 06/11 - KS2 - New Age Curling and Boccia (Paralympics)
- 7/11 - New Intake Open evening 4-5.30pm
- 7/11 - EYFS Parental Involvement afternoon
- 8/11 - KS1 Local Area Walk
- 11/11 - Bikeability
- 12/11 & 14/11 - Bikeability
- 15/11 - Children In Need
- 18/11 - Odd Socks Day
- 20/11 - Y5/6 production
- 25/11 & 26/11 - Xmas Bazaar
- 27/11 - No Pens Wednesday
- 02/12 - Santa Fun Run
- 02/12 - Tea and Talk 9am
- 05/12 - Yr1 – Yr 6 Pantomime Towngate Theatre
- 06/12 - Y3/4 performance at St Peter's Church
- 06/12 – Winter Wonderland
- 09/12 - Flu Vaccinations
- 11/12 & 12/12- KS1 performance to parents 9am
- 16/12 - Xmas Jumper Day and Xmas dinner
- 17/12 & 8/12 - EYFS Xmas production AM
- 19/12 - Talent Show



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 Chaplin
Safeguarding Governor:
Mr King

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	N/A	94.8
Miss Simpkin	N/A	87.0
Miss Ramsey	96.3	96.3
Miss Bradfield	94.6	99.3
Miss Glover	96.7	95.7
Miss Leckerman	99.6	99.7
Mrs Malyan/Mrs Herbert	95.8	96.0
Mr Chaplin	97.1	98.7
Miss Woodward	99.2	99.3
Mr Newton	99.2	94.7
Mrs Parrag	95.0	97.3



Geraldine the Giraffe

Well done to Miss Leckerman's class in weeks 1 & 2 for attaining the highest attendance. Amazing!

Geraldine will be spending this week with Miss Leckerman's class.

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

Achievements

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



Our newly elected School Councilors and Eco Warriors are as follows:-

School Council 2024-2025

DN – Lily M and Charlie W
NP – Leo B and Olivia H
CW – Lexi C and Freddie H
NB – Kayden and Frieda
CMDH – Finley & Willow

ML – Olly M and Poppy H
SG – Millie and Tommy
DC – Jake A and Scarlett P
ER – Freddie B and Sienna H

Eco Warriors 2024-2025

DN – Paige M
NP – Lily B
CW – Noah M
DC – Logan L
ER - Alfie

ML – Lucy B
SG – Kerrie
NB – Oscar
CMDH - Noah R

Zoe in year 3 attended the Essex County Teddy Bear Elite Gymnastics competition in Colchester representing South Essex Gymnastics Club. She came 3rd overall. Well Done Zoe



Dates for Class Assemblies, all start 9 am:

Mrs Malyan/Herbert: 11th October 2024
Miss Leckerman: 25th October 2024
Mr Chaplin: 26th September 2024
EYFS: 17th & 18th December 2024
Miss Glover: 23rd January 2025
Miss Bradfield: 13th February 2025
Miss Ramsey: 13th March 2025
Year 5: 25th June 2025
Year 6: 22nd July 2025

Dates for Parent Consultations:

EYFS: 15th & 16th October 2024

Years 1-6: 23rd & 24th September 2024

All years: 11th & 13th March 2025

Attendance

As of 19th August 2024, the DfE implemented the new statutory school attendance guidance. We circulated the relevant information before the summer holidays but we have sent the letter again explaining the changes via Parentmail.



Term Dates:

Half term: 28th October to 1st November 2024

Non pupil day: 20th December 2024

Christmas: 23rd December to 3rd January 2025

Half term: 17th February to 21st February 2025

Easter: 7th April to 21st April 2025

Non pupil day: 19th & 20th May 2025

Half term: 21st to 30th May 2025

Non pupil day: 4th July '25

Summer: From 23rd July '25

Secondary School Applications

As you may be aware, the new secondary school admission round opened on Thursday, 12 September 2024, for parents of current Year 6 children to apply for a secondary school (Year 7) place for September 2025. The statutory national closing date for applications is 31 October 2024. Applications can be made online via www.essex.gov.uk/admissions. 99% of parents in Essex applied online last year. All of the application information is available on the website above.

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

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

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.

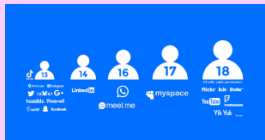
E-Safety

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.

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 & BANANA FREE**. We have pupils with severe air borne nut & banana allergies and to safeguard our children all visitors must refrain from eating nuts &

bananas and nut/banana based products for at least 6 hours before visiting the school.

All packed lunches should be healthy and nut/banana 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>



The Robert Drake Primary School

**Is your child due to start school in September
2025?**

(Children born between 01/09/20 and 31/08/21)

Open Evening for Children on

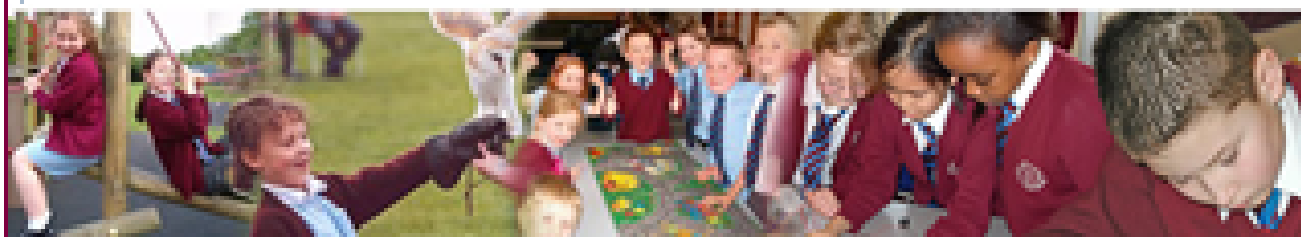
Thursday 7th November 2024

4:00pm to 5:30pm

This is an opportunity for you to bring your child along to meet the staff and pupils. There will be a range of activities for them to take part in. It is not an occasion for parents to come alone. There is no need to book for the Open Evening

You can be sure of a warm welcome!

If you would like a small group personal tour of the school, please contact the school office to make an appointment.



For further details please contact:

The Robert Drake Primary School
Church Road,
Thundersley,
Essex SS7 3HT

Tel: 01268 754124
Email: admin@robertdrake.essex.sch.uk
www.robertdrake.co.uk