



School values:



School Rules:



World Space Week

We had a very exciting week at Robert Drake this week! The pupils had the opportunity to reach for the stars when they were able to participate in a call with astronaut Sunita Williams who was orbiting Earth on the International Space Station (ISS). This was an amazing opportunity for the pupils and one that will not be forgotten quickly! Please see the attached Space Newsletter.

Tag Rugby Festival

The children in year 3/ 4 enjoyed the tag rugby festival at Deanes last week. They took part in a range of activities alongside 6 other schools.



Colchester Castle Trip 3 & 4

The children had a wonderful time at Colchester Castle. They enjoyed lots of activities such as building a Roman Roundhouse and listening to stories. The children used their knowledge gained in class to answer questions about the Romans. We were very proud of them.



Mrs Herbert - 3 & 4 Assembly

The children put on a great assembly about The Romans and what their contributions to our society. They all had to learn lots of information & songs and had amazing costumes. We are very proud of them all. Well Done!



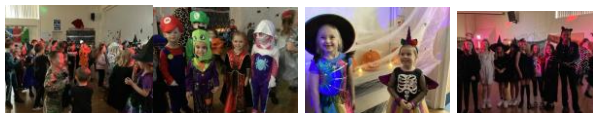
Miss Leckerman – Year 3 Assembly

The children all did very well in their Harvest Festival Assembly. They sang beautifully and remembered all of their lines. Well done! Thank you for all of your kind donations, they are going to the food bank at The Salvation Army.



Halloween Disco

The Halloween Disco was a roaring success! The children all had a great time. Thank you to the Friends of Robert Drake for organising.



Eco Warriors strive to keep our streets litter free!

On Thursday 24th October, Robert Drake Eco Warriors went for a litter picking journey along Church Road up to Manor Trading Estate. We were amazed at the amount of rubbish we found on the grass verges, pavement and bushes. This mainly consisted of food wrappers, paper cups, cans and even an old sock!



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 - Miss Bradfield

Miss Simpkin

Safeguarding Governor:

Mr King



Totals reset at the start of the new school year.

Total words read by the pupils of Robert Drake to date:

3,583,491!!!

House colours:

Dragon	Green
Griffin	Yellow
Pegasus	Blue
Phoenix	Red

Reading

The expectation is that children should read at least four times a week.

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

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 5	Week 6
Miss Baldwin	92.2	88.6
Miss Simpkin	95.9	92.2
Miss Ramsey	96.0	93.1
Miss Bradfield	96.7	92.7
Miss Glover	94.3	93.3
Miss Leckerman	95.9	93.8
Mrs Malyan/Mrs Herbert	94.3	99.0
Mr Chaplin	98.3	98.7
Miss Woodward	97.7	94.7
Mr Newton	97.3	98.0
Mrs Parrag	98.0	98.0



Geraldine the Giraffe

Well done to Mr Chaplin's class in week 5 for attaining the highest attendance. Amazing !

Geraldine will be spending the week with Mrs Herbert's class.

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

Achievements

We are proud to celebrate the following who have received Achievement awards:



Miss Ramsey: Zachary
Miss Bradfield: Myhail
Miss Glover: Sofia
Miss Leckerman: Aleeza

Mrs Malyan/Mrs Herbert: Alex & Leonel
Mr Chaplin: Sophie
Ms Woodward: Jason & Noah
Mrs Parrag: Leonardo & Zane

Well done to Jess S in Mr Chaplin's class, who made Loom band bracelets and sold them to raise money for the school. Jess raised £5. Thank you Jess!

We would like to remind all parents and carers to park responsibly, sensibly and in accordance with parking regulations. It has been brought to our attention that several cars are parking in the road next to the school that leads down to Heston Lodge. When they have been asked to move their cars, as this is an access road and access is required for emergency vehicles at all times, staff at the Lodge have received verbal abuse and threatening behaviour. If this abuse continues, then it could result in Heston Lodge reporting the behaviour to the police. Could we please ask everyone not to park in this road, or block/restrict access to it.



Dates for Class Assemblies, all start 9 am:

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:

All years: 11th & 13th March 2025

Head Pupils Deputy Head Pupils

Joseph & Poppy Robby & Harriet

Sports Captains

Freddie & Grace

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.



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 effects 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

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>



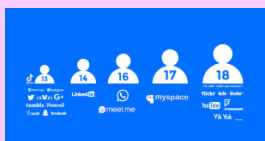
Please ensure that all items of uniform are clearly labelled.

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, i.e., 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:

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Church Road,
Thundersley,
Essex SS7 3HT

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