



THE ROBERT DRAKE PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2017

FUND-RAISING NEWS

Non-Uniform / Cake Sale day

*This will be held on **Friday 20th October 2017**. Further details will follow.*

Fund-Raising Meeting

*The next meeting will be held on **Friday 3rd November** at 2.00 pm. All parents and carers are welcome.*

Adventure Island Tickets

There are still a limited number of mini / junior Adventure Islands tickets available. Please contact the school office if you are interested. The tickets are valid until December 2017, subject to park opening times.

GOVERNOR NEWS

Attendance

The attendance for September was 97.9%.

DELIVERY OF ITEMS FOR PUPILS TO THE OFFICE

We would like to remind all parents/carers that any letters, permission slips etc. should be sent into school via your child's book bag. It is not necessary for parents/carers to queue up at the school office each morning and hand letters in personally.

Additionally, please could all parents and carers remember to send in with your child everything that he/she needs for the school day. This includes packed lunches, water bottles, coats and clothing for PE and clubs. This will reduce the number of interruptions that have to be made to the children in class, as they have to come to the office to collect their belongings. On the rare occasion that a delivery has to be made during the day, please ensure that the item is **clearly labelled** as it will be put in a box in the office for your child to collect.

Thank you.

CENSUS DAY THEMED LUNCH

We are holding a special 'Pirates' themed lunch on School Census Day, **Thursday 5th October**. We would like to encourage all pupils to try a school lunch on this day. The menu is as follows:

Me Hearty Hotdogs **or** Veggie Hotdogs

Captain Jack Wedges

Pieces of Eight Sweetcorn

Blackbeard's Baked Beans

Jolly Roger Waffles & Berries

The cost will be £2.10, as usual, for pupils in Key Stage 2.

YEAR 6 - SECONDARY SCHOOL APPLICATIONS - SEPTEMBER 2018

All places for secondary schools are allocated by the Local Authority. It is imperative that all parents and carers of children in Year 6 submit their applications by **31st October 2017**.

If your application is not made by this date you will be considered a 'late applicant' and your child will be put to the bottom of all lists and allocated a space at the nearest available school, which is usually out of the area.

Applications can be made online via www.essex.gov.uk/admissions. 98% of parents in Essex applied online last year.

The website also has a copy of the Secondary Education in Essex 2018-19 booklet

which contains details of all secondary school admission policies. The link to the booklet is below.

http://www.essex.gov.uk/Education-Schools/Schools/Admissions/Documents/Secondary_Admissions_Booklet.pdf

If you submit your application on-line please make sure it is acknowledged.

TRAVELLING BOOK FAIR

Thank you to everybody who bought books from the Book Fair. As a result of your purchases we are able to spend **£466.90** on books for our school, which is fantastic.

EYFS PARENT CONSULTATION MEETINGS

On **Tuesday 17th October** and **Thursday 19th October** there will be an opportunity for parents and carers of pupils in EYFS to have an initial meeting with your child's class teacher. Further details will be circulated in due course.

ROOTS TO FOOD DAY—FRIDAY 13TH OCTOBER

All pupils will be participating in our Roots to Food Cookery Workshop on **Friday 13th October**. Pupils will also be considering healthy options for packed lunches and school meals as well as healthy activities.

ARCTIC THEME DAY— 4 PINT MILK BOTTLE DONATIONS

Year 5 and 6 pupils will be taking part in an Arctic Theme day later this term. As part of this they will be constructing an igloo made from 4-pint plastic milk bottles (these must have lids). We need approximately 300 and would appreciate donations of these. Please could you ensure that they are washed before they are sent to school.



OUTDOOR LIBRARY

We would just like to remind parents and carers about our outdoor library, which was donated to the school last year by Thundersley Congregational Church. This is a book sharing scheme enabling the children to put a book into the library and take one out. As this is a community project, parents and carers will be responsible for making sure that books are age appropriate and changed on a regular basis. The outdoor library is situated outside the school next to the gate leading through to EYFS and KS1.

CLASS ASSEMBLIES

The following class assemblies are due to take place this term:

Mr Chaplin's class - **Friday 6th October** at 9.00 am.

Mrs Vickery's class - **Friday 20th October (Harvest Festival)** at 9.00 am.

All parents and carers of pupils in these classes are most welcome to attend. Tea and coffee will be available afterwards.

NHS ADVICE

We have been asked to remind all parents and carers that children who have been sick or have upset stomachs must be kept off school for 48 hours after their last bout of sickness or diarrhoea. Thank you.

COATS

As the weather is changeable at present please ensure that your child brings their coat to school every day. Thank you.

CHILDREN IN NEED - NOVEMBER 2017

The School Council has decided to support Children in Need on **Friday 17th November**. Further details will be circulated shortly.

EDUCATIONAL VISITS

The following educational visit will take place this term:

Thursday 12th October Y2/1 visit to Wat Tyler Country Park

Wednesday 13th December Y5/6 visit to Cardfields

NEW INTAKE - SEPTEMBER 2017 - OPEN EVENING

We will be holding an Open Evening on **Thursday 2nd November** between 4.00 pm and 5.30 pm for children due to start school in September 2018. If you know anybody with a child due to start school next September please can you inform them of this date. Further details can be obtained from the school.

A number of school tours will be held during the term for parents/carers of children due to start school in September 2017. Please contact the school office to book a place.

YEARS 5 & 6 PERFORMANCE - ALICE IN WONDERLAND

This year the Year 5 and 6 performances will take place on **Thursday 16th November**. There will be a morning and an afternoon performance. Tickets will be limited to 3 per pupil and will be available to purchase on ParentPay nearer the time.

Further details will be sent out in a separate letter.

CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCE DATES

Children in Years 3 and 4 will be taking part in a carol concert at St Peter's Church on **Thursday 14th December** at 2.00 pm. Children in Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) will be performing their Christmas show on **Tuesday 12th December**.

Years 1 and 2 (KS1) will be taking part in their Christmas performances on **Wednesday 6th December** and **Friday 8th December**, both at 9.15 am.

ACTIVE KIDS FESTIVAL

Eleven pupils from Year 3 to Year 6 attended an Active Kids Festival at The Deanes School. They took part in a carousel of sporting activities which included Tag Rugby, Aerobics, Yoga, Football Skills, Tennis and Circuit Training. The children said that they had an amazing time.



SKIPPING FESTIVAL

On **Tuesday 26th September** several pupils from years two and three had the opportunity to take part in a Skipping Festival at The Deanes School. They were taught many different skills using a skipping rope, and they have been very excited to share these skills with their classes. The children used their growth mindset to work through the challenges and are keen to continue to improve on their skipping skills in PE lessons, at playtime and at home.



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.