



School values:



School Rules:



Boccia & New Age Curling Competition

Last week, children in Year 5/6 competed in a Boccia and New Age Curling competition. The children supported each other and worked together as a team. All children involved had a superb time and the Boccia team have qualified for the County Finals in January- well done all involved!



EYFS parental involvement

Our parental involvement was lots of fun with everyone getting involved in a 'squiggle whilst you wiggle' session. They also participated in a phonics session, learning the E and R sound and applying this knowledge to read words. The children thoroughly enjoyed being able to share their learning with their adults and hopefully it gave an insight into our learning.

Non-Uniform day raised £186.50. Thank you for your support!

KS1 Playground – New Equipment

We are excited to confirm that our Key Stage 1 playground will be getting new play equipment fitted on the 13th November 2024. The children asked for a bright, cheerful playground so the floor is being fitted with yellow crumble!



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.

December to January- Diary Dates

- 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
- 17/12 - Xmas Jumper Day and Xmas dinner
- 17/12 & 18/12 - EYFS Xmas production AM
- 19/12 - Talent Show
- 06/1 - Back to school
- 21/01 Year 5 Speed Awareness am & EYFS in Afternoon (small hall with parents)
- 21/01 - Year 3 Dance Festival
- 24/01 - Year 6/5 Trip to Gunpowder Mills
- 23/1 - Tea and Talk 2:30
- 23rd - Year 2 class assembly to parents
- 29/1 - School Council meeting
- 28/1 - Teachrex Workshop



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 9	
Miss Baldwin	95.7	
Miss Simpkin	89.0	
Miss Ramsey	99.7	
Miss Bradfield	97.0	
Miss Glover	87.3	
Miss Leckerman	97.9	
Mrs Malyan/Mrs Herbert	95.0	
Mr Chaplin	96.0	
Miss Woodward	99.3	
Mr Newton	95.0	
Mrs Parrag	96.3	



Geraldine the Giraffe

Well done to Miss Ramsey's class in Year 1 for attaining the highest attendance. Amazing!

Geraldine will be spending the week with Miss Ramsey'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: Princess
Miss Bradfield: Teddy
Miss Glover: Finley B
Miss Leckerman: Riley

Mrs Malyan/Mrs Herbert: George E
Mr Chaplin: Charlie
Ms Woodward: Noah L
Mrs Parrag: Georgia

Mr Newton: Ibrahim

Well done to Amelia C in year 6 for getting into the Essex Girls Cricket Team!

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:

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:

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

As you may be aware, the primary school (Reception) admission round opened on **Monday 4 November 2024**, for parents of children to apply for a Reception school place for the academic year that starts in September 2025. The statutory national closing date for applications is **15 January 2025**. 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>