

The Robert Drake Primary School - Newsletter 7

KS1 Parental Involvement

Thank you to everyone who joined the children last week to help them create their vehicles for our wheels-and-axes morning. It was wonderful to see so many of you there. We are very grateful for all the resources you provided to make the session possible. Everybody thoroughly enjoyed the morning, and the children's designs were both innovative and outstanding.









Quiz Night

Huge thanks to everyone who joined us for our recent quiz night!

It was a fantastic evening, and those mind-boggling questions certainly got everyone thinking.

We're delighted to share that we raised approximately **£1,125**, supporting **Little Havens Hospice** and fundraising for our **KS2 play equipment**. Your generosity and support truly make a meaningful difference.

Thank you once again for being part of such a wonderful event!

Cross Country

A huge **well done** to all our amazing pupils who represented the school at Cross Country this week!

Despite the chilly weather on Wednesday afternoon, our team of over 30 runners showed incredible spirit competing against schools from all across South Essex. We are so incredibly proud of every single one of them for their effort and sportsmanship.

A special shout-out goes to the group for their dedication—seeing them show up for those early morning training sessions before school really paid off. Your hard work truly shone through!

World Book Day

World Book Day was an absolute triumph this year. The creativity on display—from costumes to storytelling to activities completed in the classroom—was wonderful to see. I especially enjoyed speaking to children about who they had dressed up as and what their favourite book was. We had many pupils complete the bingo cards and some seriously impressive photos of children taken in unusual places! Well done to our brilliant pupils and thank you for your cooperation with costumes.









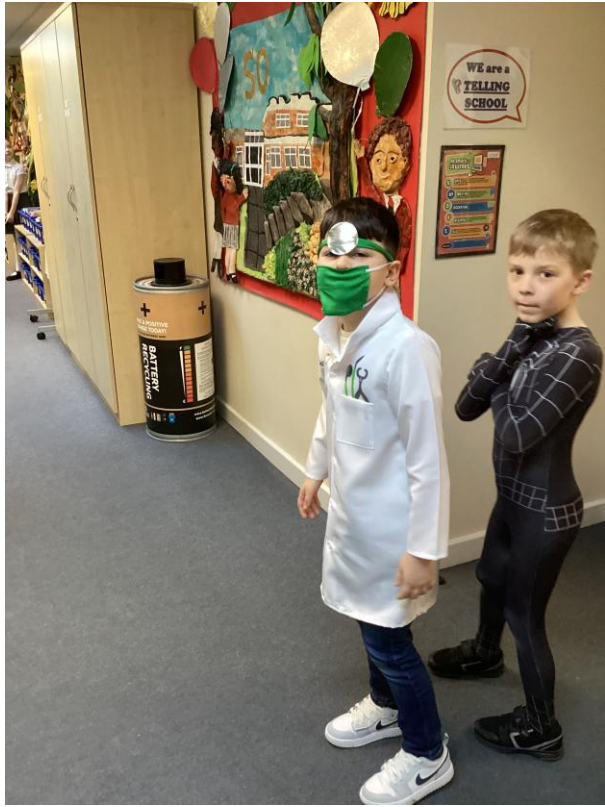
























KS1 Thorndon Park Trip

Despite the chilly weather, Year 1 and Year 2 thoroughly enjoyed their trip to Thorndon Country Park. The children took part in a range of activities inspired by the book *Stick Man*, using natural resources from the local area. They were a credit to the school, demonstrating excellent behaviour and remaining highly engaged throughout the day.











Infant Music Festival

A group of children in year 2 took part in the Infant Music Festival last week alongside other schools. After weeks of practise, the children performed their songs beautifully and were a credit to our school!



Awards



We are proud to celebrate the following children who have received achievement awards

KS1 Awards

Miss Simpkin/Mrs Worboys - Esme, Ivy

Miss Imbush - Freya, Evelyn

Miss Ramsey - Millie, Scarlett

Miss Covey - Aria, Freddie

Miss Leckerman - Joe, Riley C, Pmrose, Daisy, Neave, Isabella

LKS2 Awards

Mrs Herbert/Mrs Malyan - Rafe, Leo, George C

Mr Chaplin - Poppy, Sophia E

Miss Glover - Ted, Dolly

UKS2 Awards

Miss Woodward - George, Scarlett M, Caelan, Jess, Sam

Mr Newton - Dempsey, Paige

Mrs Parrag - Ellis, Edee, Summer

Gratitude - Thank You Moments

We are delighted to share that both staff and children continue to celebrate kindness and gratitude during our celebration assemblies. We are very proud of all the children, and they have had a busy term filled with lots of activities. We look forward to all the wonderful opportunities ahead in the summer term.

Netball Results

Well done to our Netball team winning 11-2 against Hadleigh Junior School.

Achievements



Well done to Noah and Bobby who played so well against the Arsenal Pre-academy team for their team Hadleigh Youth!

The Little Recyclers

A GREAT BIG THANK YOU!

On Wednesday 11th February, the Eco Warriors helped to organise a recycled clothes collection, and it was a great success. We raised a fantastic £106.20, which will help us purchase equipment for our Forest School area. Thank you to everyone who brought in bags of unwanted clothes. Not only are we raising money for the school, but we are also helping to reduce textile waste from ending up in landfill.



Eco Warriors strive to keep our streets litter free!

On Friday 13th February, Robert Drake Eco Warriors went for a litter picking walk along Church Road. We were disappointed at the amount of rubbish we found on the grass verges, pavement and bushes. This mainly consisted of crushed cans, plastic bottles and food wrappers. We even found an old umbrella! We used 2 bags, one for general rubbish and the other for recyclable rubbish. When we arrived back at school, we recycled the cans and bottles in the bins by the gates. Please can you help us to keep our local environment clean and safe by placing your rubbish in the bin! Don't forget to recycle any plastic bottles and cans.



Cake Sale

We would like to say a big thank you to all the parents and children who brought cakes from the School Council's cake sale on the last day of term. Your generosity helped us raise £112.61 for the school.

EASTER FUN DAY

4TH APRIL 2026
THE BEACON, KENNETH RD, SS7 3AL
11:00AM - 3:00PM

INFLATABLES, CRAFT, MESSY FUN, ACTIVITY BUS,
REFRESHMENTS, TODDLER PLAY, CRAZY GOLF & MORE!

ACTIVITY WRISTBANDS FOR ALL DAY FUN
£7.00 OR £5.00 IF PRE-BOOKED

BOOK NOW TODAY!



Head Pupils

Head Pupils:-

Ted V & Ariana C-T

Deputy Head Pupils:-

Kyle C & Alexa C

Attendance

EYFS

Miss Simpkin/Mrs Worboys -

- Week 21 95%
- Week 22 92%

Miss Imbush -

- Week 21 92.7%
- Week 22 95.5%

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KS1

Miss Ramsey -

- Week 21 91.0%
- Week 22 94.2%

Miss Covey -

- Week 21 97.0%
- Week 22 97.9%

Miss Leckerman -

- Week 21 96.0%
- Week 22 95.8%

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LKS2

Mrs Herbert/Mrs Malyan -

- Week 21 93.8%
- Week 22 90.9%

Mr Chaplin -

- Week 21 97.7%
- Week 22 97.2%
- Miss Glover -
- Week 21 96.9%
- Week 22 97.0%

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UKS2

Miss Woodward -

- Week 21 94.1%
- Week 22 92.9%

Mrs Parrag -

- Week 21 98.7%
- Week 22 99.2%

Mr Newton -

- Week 21 94.2%
- Week 22 96.0%



Well done to Mrs Parrag's class for attaining the highest attendance in week 20! Amazing! Geraldine will be spending this week with class for the highest attendance in week

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

School Council - Help Needed!

The school council would like to create a snake of happiness for our Forest School. Therefore, we are asking for donations of smooth stones, at least 3" in length. If you have any you can kindly donate, please leave them at the office.

General Information

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.

Allergy Aware School

The Robert Drake Primary is an **Allergy Aware School**. We have pupils with severe **airborne nut and banana allergies** and to safeguard our children all visitors must refrain from bringing nuts/products containing nuts and bananas into the school, and refrain from eating nuts/products containing nuts for at least 6 hours before visiting the school.

Uniform and Water Bottles

All pupils should adhere to the school's uniform policy. The policy can be found on the schools website at

[School Uniform Policy](#)

It is important that all pupils bring in a water bottle each day filled with 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'. Water bottles should have a sports cap to avoid spills.

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 EYFS, Year 1 or Year 2, please call the School Office and we will send you through a form to complete.

If your child is in Years 3, 4, 5 or 6, Essex County Council has an online application form on their website: <https://www.essex.gov.uk/free-school-meals>

Young Carers

We are delighted to announce that the school has won the prestigious **Young Carers in Schools Award Plus** for our work in supporting pupils who have caring responsibilities at home.

We are very proud to share that we are only the **second school in Essex** to achieve this award.

The award was formally presented to the school on 23rd February 2026.

This recognition reflects the dedication, compassion, and hard work of all our staff in supporting our pupils and ensuring their needs are always at the heart of everything we do. As a school, we remain committed to continually improving our provision so that every child receives the understanding, support, and opportunities they deserve.

What is a young carer?

A young carer is a child or young person under 18 who helps to look after a family member who has an illness, disability, mental health condition, or struggles with substance misuse. This caring role can involve practical tasks, emotional support, or taking on responsibilities beyond what is typical for their age.

How can we help?

At our school, we are committed to supporting young carers so they can thrive both academically and personally. If you think your child may be a young carer, please contact the school. There is lots

of support available, and we can access this in a confidential and supportive way to ensure your child and family receives the help they need.

Your partnership is vital in helping us provide the best care and opportunities for every child.

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

2025-2026 Diary Dates

20.03.2026	Sports Relief
20.03.2026	Year 5 and 6 Parental Involvement
20.03.2026	Year 6 SAT's and Stubbers Parents meeting
20.03.2026	Red Nose Day
23.03.2026	World Maths Day
25.03.2026	Easter Discos - EYFS & KS1 2pm-3pm – KS2 4pm – 5.15pm
22.04.2026	Y1/2 Panathalon, Deanes
01.05.2026	Year 3 and 4 Trip to Museum of Power
05.06.2025	Tea and Talk 2.30pm
08.05.2026	EYFS Trip to Barleylands
14.05.2026	Inflatables Event after school
15.05.2026	Non Uniform Day
01.06.2026	Coin Drive
11.06.2026	EYFS Parental Involvement Afternoon
11.06.2026	Junior Music Festival, Cliffs Pavilion
12.06.2026	Sports Day
15.06.2026	Stubbers Week
22.06.2026	Year 5 Trip to Danbury
22.06.2026	Book Fair week
23.06.2026	Year 6 Transition Day
24.06.2026	Year 6 Transition Day
24.06.2026	Y1/2 Summer Games Festival, Deanes (AM)
26.06.2026	Year 1 & 2 Sealife Centre Trip
26.06.2026	Year 5 Assembly to Parents
29.06.2026	Jungle Book Production – Year 6 Workshop
30.06.2026	Meet the teacher
02.07.2026	Open Evening
03.07.2026	Inset Day
08.07.2026	BATIC District Sports
10.07.2026	School council fundraising day