

The Robert Drake Primary School - Newsletter 17.10.2025

Community Police Officer Visit

Thanks again to Paul and Warren our community police officers for a superb talk with the Year 6 children. The chat about anti-social behaviour is something that we look forward to every year as it has a real impact on the pupils and how they conduct themselves inside and outside of school. We look forward to welcoming them back next year.

Poppies on the Pier

Thank you to all the brilliant volunteers who gave up part of their lunch time to sew poppies onto chains for this year's Poppies on the Pier installation at Southend Pier. These amazing pupils gave up their free time to help us create a truly moving tribute, honouring our armed forces heroes. Every stitch they sewed has brought us closer to covering the pier in a stunning cascade of red.

Huge thanks to all the children and their supervising adults! You are a brilliant example of community spirit.





Roots to Food

The children once again had a fantastic time during their Roots to Food Workshop, spending the entire day fully immersed in all things cookery. They explored topics such as food hygiene, nutrition and even delved into a case study on the renowned chef Monica Galetti. Guided by a skilled instructor, the children learned how to chop, marinate and sizzle their way to creating a delicious Tandoori Chicken with a Bombay Saag Aloo. It was a memorable experience from start to finish!









Mr Chaplin's Class Assembly - Year 3/4

Mr. Chaplin's class delivered a fantastic and highly informative performance all about the Stone Age. Every pupil spoke with confidence, showing just how well they had learned their lines. A huge well done to all of Year 3 and 4 – you were brilliant!



Year 3 and 4 Trip to Thorndon Country Park

Year 3 and 4 recently travelled back in time during their exciting school trip to Thorndon Country Park! The pupils represented the school beautifully, demonstrating exemplary behaviour and impressing the rangers with their impressive Stone Age knowledge. Throughout the day, they built shelters, created stunning natural art, and even took part in a woolly mammoth hunt! It was a great day out for all!!







Happy's Circus - 3rd October 2025

Happys Circus Fundraising Event – Thank You!

A huge thank you to everyone who supported our Happys Circus fundraising event! We're thrilled to share that we raised around **£1,000** — an amazing achievement!

The feedback has been overwhelmingly positive, and it's clear that many **wonderful memories** were made. Your enthusiasm and generosity truly made the event special.

Thank you again for being part of it!





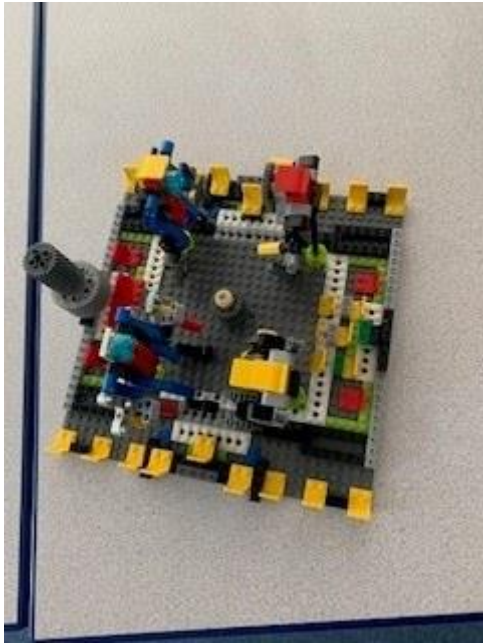
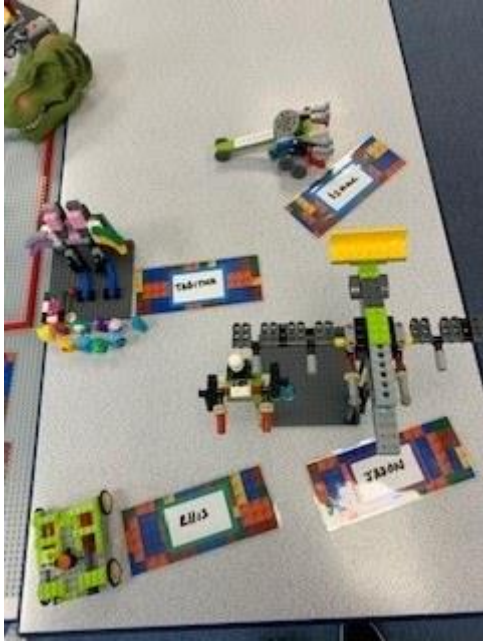
Children's Christmas Cards

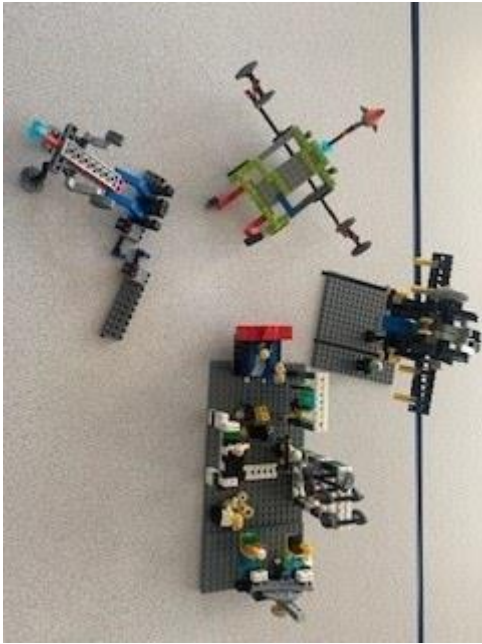
The children have brought home their wonderful Christmas card designs! If you'd like to place an order, please make sure the designs are returned to school by **Wednesday 22nd October**, so we can send them off to the company in time for Christmas.

Thank you for your support!

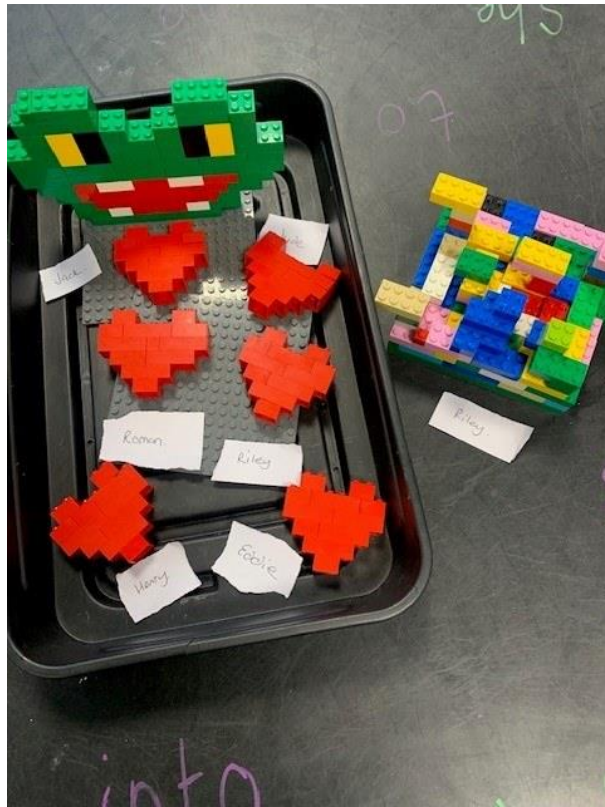
Brickz 4 Kids Club Creations

Here are some lovely photos showcasing the amazing creations made by the children during their time at the Brickz 4 Kidz after school club.











Maths Calculation Policy

We are pleased to let you know that our updated Maths Calculations Policy is now available on the school website in the 'Curriculum' section. This policy clearly outlines the methods and strategies we teach the children for addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division across all year groups. Please take a moment to look at it, as it's a great resource to help you support your child's maths learning at home!

Christmas Ball

We wanted to inform you that there will **not be a Fancy Dress Disco** this year. Instead, we're excited to share that we are currently planning something very special for the festive season – a **Christmas Ball** for all the children to enjoy!

The Christmas Ball will be a joyful celebration, filled with music, dancing, seasonal treats and plenty of festive cheer. We are working hard to make this event memorable and magical, and we will be sharing more details soon – including the date, time, dress code and how to get involved.

We understand that some children may be disappointed about the change, but we hope the excitement of the Christmas Ball will more than make up for it.

Thank you for your continued support and we cannot wait to celebrate the holiday season together.

The Friends of Robert Drake.

Awards

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

KS1 Awards

Miss Ramsey - Max & Pippa

Miss Covey - Princess & Aria

Miss Leckerman - Abigale T & Lyra

LKS2 Awards

Mrs Herbert/ Mrs Malyan - Ava, Remi & Chloe

Mr Chaplin - Eva A & Hudson

Miss Glover - Alex & Jade

UKS2 Awards

Miss Woodward - Scarlett, Eliza & Charlie

Mr Newton - Bella & Olive

Mrs Parrag - Jason & Jake A

Gratitude - Thank You Moments

Miss Leckerman's class were grateful that they were all able to get on with their work and enjoy their learning.

Head Pupils

Head Pupils:-

Ted V & Ariana C-T

Deputy Head Pupils:-

Kyle C & Alexa C

Attendance

EYFS

Miss Simpkin/Mrs Worboys -

- Week 5 - 95.5%
- Week 6 - 94.5%

Miss Imbush - 100%

- Week 5 - 100%
- Week 6 - 96.3%

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KS1

Miss Ramsey -

- Week 5 - 96.5%
- Week 6 - 96.1%

Miss Covey -

- Week 5 - 95.3%
- Week 6 - 92.0%

Miss Leckerman -

- Week 5 - 97.4%
- Week 6 - 97.4%

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LKS2

Mrs Herbet/Mrs Malyan -

- Week 5 - 93.3%
- Week 6 - 94.0%

Mr Chaplin -

- Week 5 - 96.7%
- Week 6 - 99.3%
- Miss Glover -
- Week 5 - 98.3%
- Week 6 - 100%

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UKS2

Miss Woodward -

- Week 5 - 93.7%
- Week 6 - 93.0%

Mrs Parrag -

- Week 5 - 98.7%
- Week 6 - 98.7%

Mr Newton - 97.4%

- Week 5 - 97.4%
- Week 6 - 98.4%



Well done to Miss Imbush's class for attaining the highest attendance in week 6! Amazing! Geraldine will be spending this week with Miss Glover's class for the highest attendance in week 7.

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

Secondary School Applications for Year 6

As you may be aware, the new secondary school admission round opened on Friday, 12 September 2026, for parents of current Year 6 children to apply for a secondary school (Year 7) place for September 2026.

The statutory national closing date for applications is 31 October 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.

The website also has a copy of the Secondary Education in Essex 2026-27 booklet which contains details of all secondary school admission policies.

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 & 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.

Girl Guides

Girls aged 5 - 10 year old, we have spaces in many of our units and would like to invite anyone interested in joining us for skill learning, challenge busting fun, crafting, adventures, making new friends and lots more activities.

Girl Guiding is known to shape many of our members into confident young women and can even make a difference on a job C.V. and other channels. Girls in guiding are up to 23% more confident than the UK on average, and 3 times more likely to have done something good for their local community or environment.

To sign up please register at www.girlguiding.org.uk/information-for-parents/register-a-child/

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.

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

Find below dates for the academic year. Please note these dates are subject to change.

2025-2026 Diary Dates

02.10.2025	Census Day
02.10.2025	2.30pm EYFS Parent Workshop – Phonics & Tapestry
03.10.2025	Happy's Circus
09.10.2025	Year 3 and 4 Class Assembly
09.10.2025	9.15am – Police Visit
10.10.2025	Roots to Food – Year 5 and 6
10.10.2025	Year 3 and 4 Trip to Thorndon – Caveman Day
14.10.2025	EYFS Parent Consultations 3.30am – 6pm
15.10.2025	EYFS Parent Consultations 3.30am – 4.30pm
22.10.2025	Year 3 Class Assembly
24.10.2025	Non- Uniform day
05.11.2025	Year 5 and 6 Career Day
06.11.2025	EYFS Parent Involvement Afternoon 1.45pm – 3pm
10.11.2025	Flu vaccinations - morning
11.11.2025	New Intake Open Evening
13.11.2025	Year 5 and 6 girls football Thundersley away, 3.30 pm
14.11.2025	Children in Need
21.11.2025	Year 5 and 6 Production
24.11.2025	Xmas Bazaar
25.11.2025	Xmas Bazaar
01.12.2025	Tea and Talk 9am
01.12.2025	Santa Fun Run
04.12.2025	KS1 Performance to parents 9am
04.12.2025	Year 5/6 boys football away Thundersley, 3.15 pm
05.12.2025	KS1 Performance to parents 9am
05.12.2025	Year 3 and 4 Performance at the church
05.12.2025	Year 5 and 6 Trip to Cardfelds
10.12.2025	Pantomime at Towngate Theatre
12.12.2025	Christmas Jumper Day
16.12.2025	EYFS Xmas Production - am
17.12.2025	EYFS Xmas Production - am
18.12.2025	Talent Show
19.12.2025	Inset Day
09.01.2026	Year 5 Maya Day
22.01.2026	Dance Festival Year 3 – 9am- 11.30am
22.01.2026	Year 2 Class assembly 9am
22.01.2026	Y5/6 Boys Football Home vs Hadleigh
30.01.2026	Parental Involvement Year 3 and 4
02.02.2026	Art Challenge
03.02.2026	Class Photos
05.02.2026	Year 1 and 2 Class Assembly
09.02.2026	Safer Internet week
12.02.2026	Year 1 Class Assembly
13.02.2026	Non-Uniform Day
26.02.2026	KS1 Parental Involvement
05.03.2026	World Book Day
06.03.2026	KS1 Trip to Weald Park
10.03.2025	Tea and Talk 9am
10.03.2026	Parent Consultations
12.03.2026	Parent Consultations
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
21.03.2026	Red Nose Day
23.03.2026	World Maths Day
25.03.2026	Easter Discos - TBC
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
11.06.2026	EYFS Parental Involvement Afternoon
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
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