

Parents' Newsletter

Love, Respect, Honesty, Perseverance



Friday 17th April 2026

Dear Parents

Welcome back from the Easter Break.

Alongside this newsletter, you will receive a class dojo message with the home-based learning for reading and maths for the summer term. We cannot express enough how much work on these contributes to your child's progress. Just a reminder, that this delivery method, as opposed to fixed paper-based tasks, has been designed to fit around often busy lifestyles. It encourages a "little and often" approach to skill practice and aids in the recall of both working methods and elements of the curriculum, such as times tables and number bonds. In addition to these, please do take advantage of the school's Times Tables Rockstars Membership.

For children in Year 6 we are also linking the BBC Bitesize activities, games and video access. These are a great way to support children in the final month before the tests. Any children in Year 5 who want to explore these ahead of next year can obviously use the links too.

https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zrybvk7?dm_i=3YNL,1S5W3,41XC5C,71ZTA,1,0,0,0#z x9smbk

Congratulations to all the parents who supported our travelling book fair, your purchases earned the school £556.90 worth of books for the children to enjoy, thank you.

Warm regards

Bridgette Gough
Headteacher

Happy Shoes Day (Tuesday 28th April)

Children can wear any shoes that make them happy for the day.

As colourful and bright as you wish or simply as comfortable as you can get in slippers or clogs. We are asking for a donation of 50p or a £1 if you can for the children to take part. Funds raised will be used to support various well-being supportive projects in school. These include the arts and extending outdoor activity.



Love Life and Learning

Collective Worship: Theme for this week

This week, our theme for Collective Worship has centred around one of our learning for life behaviours 'Don't Give Up'. We have explored the ideas of perseverance and self-belief. We explored the importance of having patience with ourselves as we learn, using the story 'Stuck' to highlight how mistakes made, can guide us towards better solutions. It was essential to recognise that errors were a natural part of being human.

Additionally, we discussed the significance of supporting one another in keeping at a goal, inspired by 'Jabari Jumps'. This illustrates how family members, friends and community members encouraging each other to achieve their goals is so supportive, Christians can see God as a cheerleader in their lives in the same way.

As a starting point for one session the children watched the clip of Derek Redmond aided by his father to cross the finish line in the 400-metre semi-final at the 1992 Barcelona Summer Olympics. After Derek tore his hamstring halfway through the race, his father ran from the stands, bypassed security, and supported him as he hobbled to the finish line in a display of perseverance, emphasising the importance of faith in our journeys.

Congratulations to the new Mrs Baldwin

We are pleased to announce that during the Easter holidays, Miss Payne married. Please join us in congratulating her, now Mrs Baldwin, on this special event. We extend our best wishes to her and her husband as they begin this new chapter together.

Local Tennis Talent Scouting Event...

Tennislessons4u are running an exciting tennis event for children born in 2020 and 2021. It is a fun talent ID day where your child can give tennis a go with the opportunity to be selected for the Essex Tennis pathway program run at Earls Colne Tennis Club. The free taster event will be held on 18th April at Earls Colne Tennis Club from 2-3pm, you can book on here:

<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/NAledkkaw4?origin=lp rLink>

Headteacher's Cup

Joey Class: W1-Emilia
W2-Lavayah

Aardvark Class: W1-Gracie
W2-Tommy

Giraffe Class: W1-Belle
W2-Imogen

Capybara Class: W1-Aubrey
W2-Chloe

Koala Class: W1-Whole Class
W2-Dolcie

Jellyfish Class: W1-Willis
W2-Tyller

Falcon Class: W1-Enola
W2-Dougie



Birthdays in April

Sonny Leonardo
Maisie Brody
Connie Ayla
Arthur B Gracie T
Miami Imogen
Penelope
Hugo
Mabel
Evie
Miles
Matilda



Going For Green

Carter

Sports Cup

Darcey W

Stay Safe in the Sun!

With the recent warmer weather over the school break, it's important to keep our pupils safe while they enjoy outdoor activities. Remember to send your children to school with sun hats and apply sun cream at home before they leave – it's worth noting that there are long-lasting types now available, providing up to 8 hours of protection. This is particularly relevant for our EY pupils who may be using the outside space for their learning, giving them the ability to spend an extended amount of time outside.

As lunchtimes are spent outside and shade can be limited, please ensure your child has a water bottle to stay hydrated throughout the day. Keeping these tips in mind will help everyone make the most of the sunny weather while staying safe. Letting us enjoy the sunshine responsibly.

Important Information - Chickenpox

We want to reach out about the recent rise in chickenpox cases affecting not only our community but also locality. It's essential for us to support ensuring everyone is informed. If you're pregnant and have not previously had chickenpox, please make sure to inform your midwife or GP if you suspect any exposure. They can arrange for a blood test to check your immunity, which is crucial for your and your baby's health. Additionally, keep in mind that shingles, caused by the same virus, poses a risk to those who have never had chickenpox, especially after close contact with a shingles case.

If your child contracts chickenpox, they should remain at home until all blisters have crusted over, which occurs within five days after the rash starts.

Thank you for your understanding and co-operation in minimising the spread of the virus.

Your PTA Needs You

Our wonderful PTA has reached out with a heartfelt plea for your support. While some of you have generously offered to help with events, we are still in desperate need of new committee members and additional volunteers to take on roles that are vital for our activities. Without these key positions filled, the PTA will struggle to continue raising the much-needed funds that contribute to the extras we all cherish and to organise the fantastic events that bring joy to our children.

The work of the PTA truly makes a difference, not just through the funds raised for enriching experiences, but also by creating memorable moments such as our lively school discos and the much-anticipated annual Christmas Pantomime. If you can spare some time to help, please do get in touch. Your support is invaluable to us and to our children!

Thank you for considering this opportunity to make a positive impact.