

Newsletter

Spring Term

Date: 04.03.22

An Exceptional Place to Flourish

Though your beginning was small,
your future will flourish indeed.
Job 8:7



Our school attendance target is:

96%

Actual attendance this academic year:

92.41%

Attendance this week:

Reception	97.07
Year 1	99.29
Year 2	95.00
Year 3	97.33
Year 4	94.29
Year 5	88.00
Year 6	89.17
Whole school	94.2

Winning year groups:

Gold – 1 st	Y1
Silver – 2 nd	Y3
Bronze – 3 rd	R



Millions of Christians all over the world will be marking the start of an important period of time on 2 March 2022 - the festival of Lent.

That is because it is Ash Wednesday, which marks the beginning of Lent in Western Christian churches.

During Lent, many people decide to give something up that they love - perhaps chocolate, sweets or even using social media.

Others might decide to take *up* something, like helping out more at home or making an effort to be nicer to their brother or sister.



Sources:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/43045086>

Attendance continues to be mandatory for all pupils of compulsory school age and schools should communicate clear and consistent expectations about attendance. We are **really concerned** about the attendance figures at school, especially compared with the previous three years for the same period: **1 September – 4 March**.

Academic year	Period average attendance	Number of persistent absence pupils (below 90% attendance)
2018/2019	95.25	6
2019/2020	95.85	3
2020/2021	92.83	26
2021/2022	92.41	25



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Big questions of the week:

Reception	Year 1	What do you do to stop feeling lonely? How could you help someone feeling lonely?
Year 2		What if a teapot was made out of chocolate?
Year 3		What if people had eyes in the back of their head?
Year 4		What do you think the saying – ‘many hands make light work’ means?
Year 5		What if you become an astronaut?
Year 6		How many mathematical words can you think of beginning with the letter M?

Value this half-term



Achievers of the week

		Reader of the week	Writer of the week	Mathematician of the week	Scientist of the week	Star of the week
Reception		River	Ethan	Alice	Stanley	Knightley
Year 1	Year 2	Jacob	Alice	Teddy	Maci	Dotty
Year 3	Year 4	Teddie	Freya	Aviella	Lillie	Ralph
Year 5	Year 6	Jaycee	Charlie	Finlay	Freddy H	Ayla

House Points:

		Ants			Badgers			Locusts			Lizards		
Reception		37	+	7	26	+	10	26	+	11	26	+	8
Year 1	Year 2	67	+	19	41	+	16	67	+	23	66	+	30
Year 3	Year 4	111	+	26	88	+	21	91	+	24	87	+	29
Year 5	Year 6	131	+	20	149	+	26	144	+	23	140	+	23
TOTAL		418			377			328			409		

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Tommy for being awarded Braintree Marvels' Rugby Player of the Week trophy!

If you've achieved something outside of school we would love to share and celebrate this with you!



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What is Lent?

Lent is a period of 40 days during which Christians remember the events leading up to and including the death of Jesus Christ, whose life and teachings are the foundation of Christianity.

The 40-day period is called Lent after an old English word meaning 'lengthen'.

This is because of the time of year when it happens, as this is when the days start to get longer, as we approach Summer.



It is a time of reflection and of asking for forgiveness, and when Christians prepare to celebrate Jesus's resurrection at the feast of Easter, which comes at the very end of Lent.

On Ash Wednesday, churches hold special services, at which worshippers are marked with ash.

This is a symbol of death and remembering bad things that we have done, and is where the day gets its name from.

Typically, the ash is made from burning special crosses made out of palm wood, which were used in church services on the previous year's Palm Sunday. It is sometimes mixed with special oil.

DO YOU WANT TO FAST THIS LENT?

In the words of Pope Francis

Fast from hurting words and say kind words.

Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.

Fast from anger and be filled with patience.

Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.

Fast from worries and have trust in God.

Fast from complaints; contemplate simplicity.

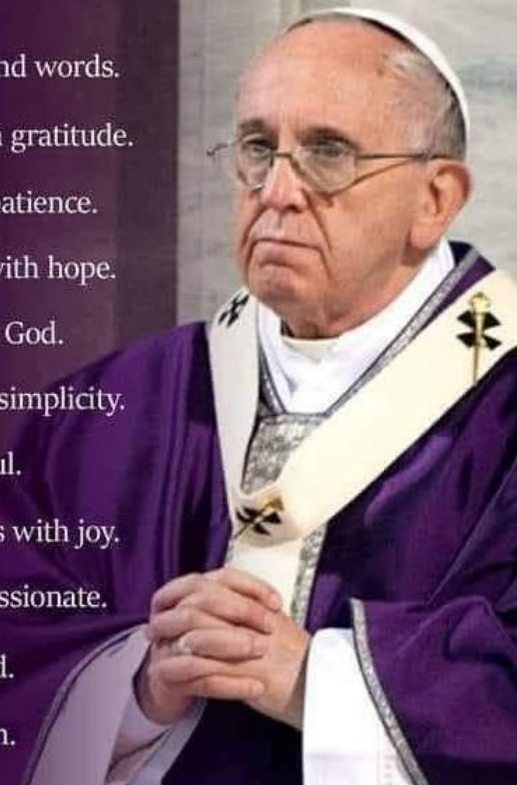
Fast from pressures and be prayerful.

Fast from bitterness; fill your hearts with joy.

Fast from selfishness and be compassionate.

Fast from grudges and be reconciled.

Fast from words; be silent and listen.



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Lent

Helen Craig, our Diocesan Schools Adviser & Collective Worship Lead, has shared the following message with us on Lent.

“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest”
Matthew 11:28.

This year the Bishop of Chelmsford invites us to use the period as a Holy Sabbatical. It is an opportunity for us to pause, reflect on the changes that we have experienced during the past two years and then set our faces to the future, pressing into what God is calling us towards.

It is a time in which we can look for opportunities for prayer and reflection with our leadership team and staff. This time of rest can also be reflected in collective worship with our children as we embrace the Holy Sabbatical across our whole Diocesan family.

Bishop Guli has recorded a Lent message for our schools, which can be incorporated into your Collective Worship. Further details are below. You can also view the Holy Sabbatical introduction from Bishop Guli, along with resources and readings on the [Diocese of Chelmsford website](#).

I leave you with a beautiful poem by Hafiz, a 14th Century Persian poet, whose words encourage and lighten our hearts. I hope you find the time to reflect, replenish and renew this Lent.

Created for Joy

I sometimes forget that I was created for Joy.

My mind is too busy.

My Heart is too heavy for me to remember

that I have been called to dance the Sacred dance of life.

I was created to smile

To Love

To be lifted up

And to lift others up.

O' Sacred One

Untangle my feet from all that ensnares.

Free my soul.

That we might Dance

and that our dancing might be contagious.



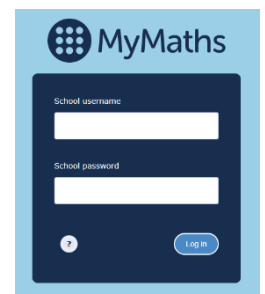
Year 6 SATs revision



Year 6 - remember to access [maths.co.uk](#) to complete the SATs revision allocated.

Further revision work is on MyMaths

More supporting documents our school:



website: <https://www.fyfieldrwalkersprimary.co.uk/sats-revision/>
(Further updates will be made)



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Best Friends of the week

These pupils are the class buddies, helping other pupils in class.



Reception



Years 1 and 2



Years 3 and 4



Years 5 and 6

Red Class has enjoyed learning all about Shrove Tuesday!

We explored the ingredients needed to make pancakes and practised flipping them.

Reception

Shrove Tuesday

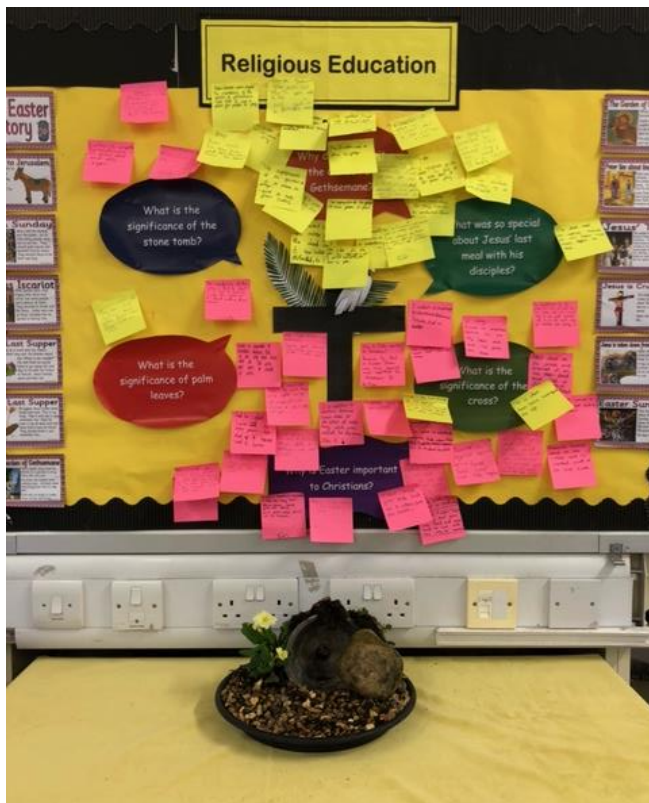


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Indigo-Violet have been preparing for our RE Christianity topic. We have been considering some questions relating to why Easter is important to Christians and even created our own Easter Garden!

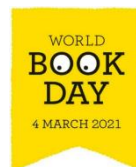


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We Celebrated World Book Day – 4th March 2022



To celebrate World Book Day's 25th Anniversary, we decorated our t-shirts with our favourite books! This allowed us to promote books and celebrate our favourite authors!

A winner was selected from each year group, and received a prize:

World Book day

Reception	Molly	Bart the Shark
Year 1	Daisy	Giraffes Can't Dance
Year 2	Amelia-Rose	Travelling Books £5 Prize Voucher
Year 3	Cash	Travelling Books £5 Prize Voucher
Year 4	Talia	Travelling Books £5 Prize Voucher
Year 5	Chloe	Travelling Books £5 Prize Voucher
Year 6	Thomas	Travelling Books £5 Prize Voucher

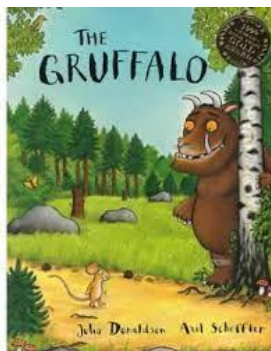
Virtual authors



KS2 had a LIVE virtual visit from Michael Rosen! This was fun and engaging and there were many giggles!

The session was recorded and can be watched in the comfort of your home, using the following link <https://www.crowdcast.io/e/vh58u68k/1>

In the afternoon, Reception and Years 1 & 2 had a Virtual Storytelling event all about the Gruffalo!



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Reception



Molly is the class winner!



Years 1 and 2



Years 3 and 4

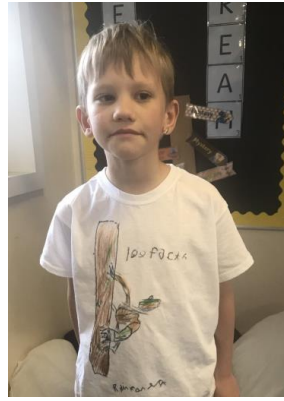


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Year 3 and 4 and the winners are...



My favourite book is called '100 facts about the rainforest'. I like it because there are lots of cool facts about animals and it is actually quite fun to read.

My favourite book is Adolphus Tips. It is about a cat who is left behind when his owner moves. The author is called Michael Morpurgo. I like this book because my favourite animal is a cat and I like that it has got lovely descriptions in the book.



Years 5 and 6



The years 5 and 6 winners...



Family engagement – dad also took part (photos on the right)!



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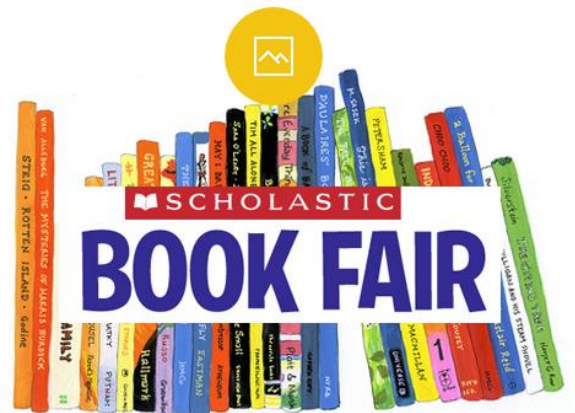
Thank you!

THANKS A BUNCH!



Thank you to Mrs Dean for arranging our fun activities for World Book Day.

Remember the Book fair will be next week!

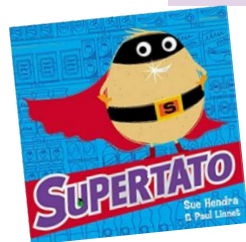


In celebration of World Book Day, we will have an adapted fun menu next Tuesday.

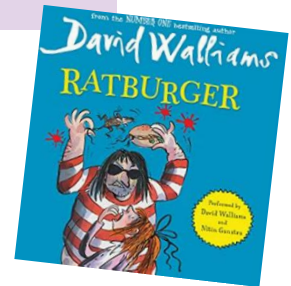
Essex Year of
REAding

World Book Day Menu

Menu next
Tuesday



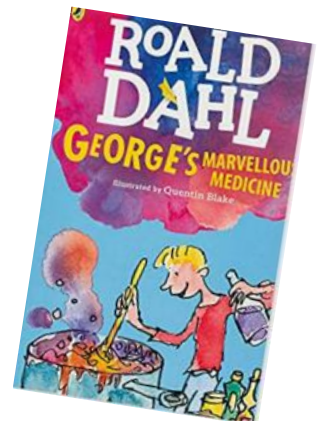
A chance of
David Walliams' Ratburger



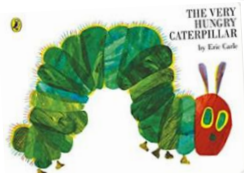
Or fancy a Supertato?
(jacket potatoes)



Mr Muddle's
Sweetcorn and Peas



George's Marvellous
Marble Cake



The Very Hungry Caterpillar's
Fruit platter and Yoghurt

Lunch Menu

Next week is Week 3 on the menu, which can be viewed [here](#) on our website.



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28 February – 1 June

We have signed up again to participate with *Eat Them To Defeat Them*, to encourage pupils to make healthy choices in promoting Healthy Lifestyles.

Schools have a critical role to play in getting children eating vegetables – through learning, play and school food.



Initiative: Eat Them To Defeat Them



The programme has been designed by top educators, public health professionals, school caterers and our creative team, in line with the curriculum and government healthy-eating guidelines.

This year over 1 million children in 3,800 primary and special schools are taking part.

Pupils have received an activity pack and will receive a sticker once they have tried one for the 5 vegetables.

For more information and downloads, visit:
www.eatthemtodefearthem.com/en

Parent workshops

Parent workshops will be offered after the holidays for:

- Phonics
- Maths and
- English.

This will be an opportunity for collaboration between staff and parents and also to support the school's Development Plan. The main focus of these workshops will be to get ideas and tips to support your child at home with their learning.

More detail will be shared once staff have planned these sessions.



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Sponsored Read throughout March

To celebrate and encourage a lifelong love of reading at home and school, we will be running a sponsored read between 1st March 2022 and 31st March 2022.

Children can use the challenge sheet, which we will provide, or read anything with words or spend time being read to.

Please support our sponsored read so that you child has more books to read, share and enjoy!

Also log your reading on GoRead to make Dr Walker's Readathon Winners!



The Big GoReadathon

Thursday 3rd March - Thursday 31st March

Your mission:

to read as much as you can for the Big GoReadathon!

Our school is in with the chance of winning up to £250 of books!



What do I need to do:

Simple: Read and log your reading on GoRead

Starting on World book day (3rd March) until Thursday 31st March read as much as you can to help our school be the winners!



Enjoy your reading



Log it on GoRead





Help your school win the Big GoReadathon



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<p>Essex Library Service</p>	<p>www.libraries.essex.gov.uk/news/world-book-day/</p> <p>Thursday 4 March was World Book Day and, though it looked a bit different this year, there'll still be lots of fun booky things for families to do!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have a look at the Essex Libraries YouTube channel for some great Story Times and Rhymetimes • For older children looking to write their own story, check out this great video from children's author Catherine Emmett with loads of tips for budding writers • Have a look at our family reading activity ideas • There's loads of great children's e-books, e-audio and e-comics available to borrow via the Essex Libraries website • BookTrust HomeTime has loads of great videos, games, quizzes and activities for children of all ages • The World Book Day website also has loads of great resources including activity sheets and videos. They would also love to see families reading their favourite books together, so share your pictures on social media using #WorldBookDay and #ShareAStory 								
<p>Dates to remember</p>	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Monday, 7th March</td> <td>Parents meeting (15.30-18.00)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wednesday, 9th March</td> <td>Year 6 Boosters: Comprehension – Mrs Vorster (08.15-08.45)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Thursday, 10th March</td> <td>Year 6 Boosters: SPAG – Mrs Dean (08.15-08.45)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Friday, 11th March</td> <td>Year 6 Boosters: Mental Arithmetic - Dr Lawson (15.30-16.30)</td> </tr> </table>	Monday, 7th March	Parents meeting (15.30-18.00)	Wednesday, 9th March	Year 6 Boosters: Comprehension – Mrs Vorster (08.15-08.45)	Thursday, 10th March	Year 6 Boosters: SPAG – Mrs Dean (08.15-08.45)	Friday, 11th March	Year 6 Boosters: Mental Arithmetic - Dr Lawson (15.30-16.30)
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<p>Important term dates</p> 	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Start</th> <th>Finish</th> <th>Half-term</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>4 January 2022</td> <td>1 April 2022</td> <td>14-18 February 2022</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Start	Finish	Half-term	4 January 2022	1 April 2022	14-18 February 2022		
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4 January 2022	1 April 2022	14-18 February 2022							
<p>Job Advert for Everbrite Cleaning company</p>	<p>Recruitment: School cleaner</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Term time only, • Mondays-Fridays. • 2 Hours per day . • Approximately 4pm start. • £9.50 p/h plus 28 days holiday pay (out of term time). • Salaried pay possible. • Immediate start. • DBS needed but can be applied for apply on behalf. Cost £60 from 1st wage. <p>Please contact Mr A Perridge via aperridge@everbritecleaning.co.uk for more information.</p>								



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