

Update from Headteacher



We had a good week with KS2 taking part in Cross county. Book Fair is back and next week we are looking forward to The Bird Man.

Value this half-term



Big Question of the week

What is Mutual respect?

Congratulations







Congratulations to Teddie T (year 4) who came 2nd overall for the Year 3 / 4 Boys category at the inter-schools' Cross Country competition this week.



Upcoming dates for the diary

11.03.23	Volunteers helping – POSTPONED due to weather
13.03.23	Bird Man to visit the school (like last year)
17.03.23	Dress up: Red Nose Day / St Patrick's Day / Mother's Day Gift buying Pupils to dress up for Comic Relief and bring a £1 donation
w/b 20.03.23	Science week focus in school
20.03.23	Circus and Skills Workshop – thank you for your payments.
21.03.23	Year 6 TOA Transition Event at Ongar Academy. Time 09.15-12.15
21.03.23	Science week: Poster competition: Connections
23.03.23	Parents are invited into their children's classes from 2:50 - 3:20 to look at Science books and visit while the children conduct experiment(s).
24.03.23	Dress up THEME: CONNECTIONS
24.03.23	Years 5 and 6 assembly for parents and carers (Indigo/Violet)
28.03.23	Parent Consultation evening 15.30-18.00
29.03.23	Parent Consultation evening 15.30-18.00
30.03.23	Easter Bonnet Parade / Easter Egg Hunt / Raffle / Easter service at St Nicholas Church

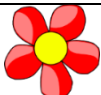
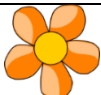









Whole School House Points

	Ants 	Badgers 	Locusts 	Lizards 
Red-Orange Class	28	21	22	24
Orange-Yellow Class	19	2	6	10
Green-Blue Class	20	15	7	20
Indigo-Violet Class	32	17	14	18
TOTAL	1700	1634	1703	1816

Attendance

	
Our school target	96%
Attendance this week	95
Attendance this year	93

Academic year	Period average attendance	Number of Persistent Absence pupils (below 90%)
2022/2023	93	17
2021/2022	93	13
2020/2021	94	14
2019/2020	95	3
2018/2019	95	5

Class	Ants	Badgers	Total	Award
Red-Orange Class			91	
Orange-Yellow Class			96	
Green-Blue Class			95	
Indigo-Violet Class			97	

100% attendance this week: 68 pupils out of 79 pupils which is 86%

Gabriella	Teddy Davis	Jude	Sienna M	Amelia
George A	George D	Autumn	Jett	Cash
Jessica	Madison	Ava Grist	Sidney	Kai
Amelia-Rae	Teddy D	Jesse	Amber	Tilly
John James	Scarlett	Cassidy	Harrison P	
Ralph	Lillie	Freya J	Sebastian	
Emily	Charlotte	Eva	Naomi	
Archie	Dylan F	Evie-May	Maxwell	
Alice Burke	Sienna F	Ava M	Ethan	
Florence	Joey	Nellie	Knightley	
Barney	Chloe	Mikey	River	
Teddy CG	Freya G	Paul	William	
Kezia	Rafe	Talia	Daisy	
Alice Curtis	Dolly	Harrison Mc	Brooke	
Dylan Curtis	Freddy	Dotty	Mason	
Lucas	Freya Grant	Jude M	Teddie T	

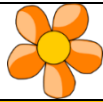
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Reception



Year 1

Red-Orange Class

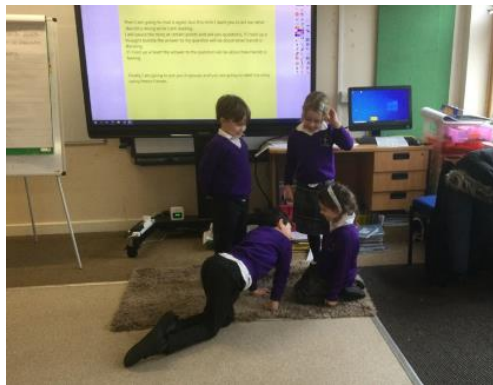
Class Register Teacher:
Mrs Joanne Hammond

This week in English Reception have been learning how to write a sentence about a picture they have been looking at, using the skills they have learnt in phonics.

Year 1, have been learning how to retell a story by creating freeze frames.

In Maths, Reception have been exploring measurement. Year 1 have been working on place value, numbers within 50, and one more and one less.

Both year groups were working on problem solving during Maths day on Wednesday.



In Geography we have been learning about The London Landmark, The Monument and its significance to The Great Fire of London.

In Art we have been exploring transient art.

Can you please make sure your child's reading book and reading record is in school every day so we can write in them during our reading sessions.

Have a great weekend!

Thank you once again for your kind support.

Little Wandle books should have now been sent home to all children. Please ensure you read with them and write in their reading records.

Please remember to put reading books in book bags! Otherwise we cannot give out a new reading book. If books are lost or damaged parents will be charged a fee to replace.

Merits and Awards

Reader of the week	Knightley
Writer of the week	Evie
Mathematician of the week	Jett
Scientist of the week	Rafe
Star of the week	Scarlett
Pen licence	N/A

Buddies of the Week



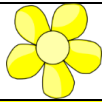
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Year 1



Year 2

Orange-
Yellow Class

Class Register Teacher:
Miss Lauren Seeley

This week, in Science, we have been looking at temperature and how it changes during the day. We looked at how it is usually colder in the morning and warmer in the afternoon. We looked at how temperature is measured using a thermometer and learnt how to use one. We went outside to measure the temperature changes and we recorded them.



We also spoke about how the temperature changes with the seasons. In the UK, it is colder in the winter and hotter in the summer.

The children had lots of fun for Maths day this week. They worked really hard in pairs to answer a variety of fun, problem solving questions.

Merits and Awards

Reader of the week	Joey
Writer of the week	Daisy
Mathematician of the week	Sienna
Scientist of the week	Lucas
Star of the week	Cassidy
Pen licence	N/A

Buddies of the Week



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Year 3



Year 4

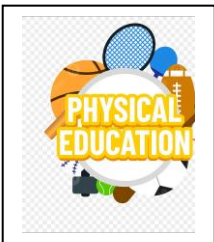
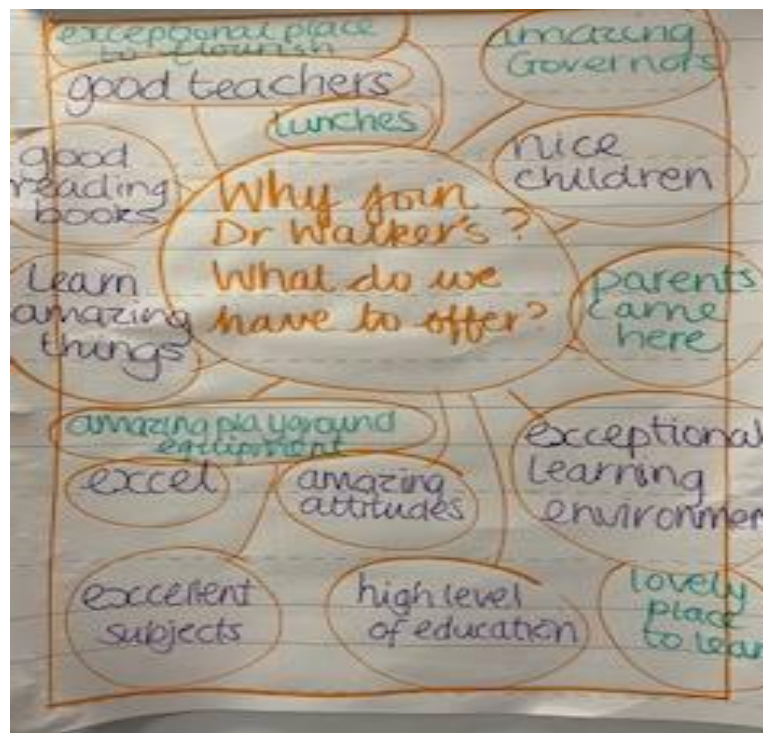
Green-Blue Class

Class Register Teacher: Mrs Jenny Dean

In English, we have been exploring persuasive flyers in readiness to create our own.

We will create ours to persuade people to join Dr Walker's CofE!

The children brainstormed reasons to join Dr Walker's and what we, as a school, have to offer. This is what they generated:



This week's Physical Education Top Players are: Max & Gabby



Follow the link for the weekly homework. <https://app.atomlearning.com/>



Click [here](#) and [here](#) for the links to daily Times Tables practise

Merits and Awards

Reader of the week	Amelia
Writer of the week	Ralph
Mathematician of the week	Sid
Scientist of the week	Phoebe
Star of the week	Jude
Pen licence	Tilly Paul

Buddies of the Week



We are all Buddies this week!

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Year 5



Year 6

**Indigo-Violet
Class**

**Class Register Teacher:
Mrs Karin Vorster**

On Wednesday 8th March, we celebrated World Maths day. This year we focused on problems that are intended to challenge students and extend their thinking. While some of them may have been solved fairly quickly, others needed perseverance and extended our thinking.

The children had to draw on a range of skills to solve the problems. These included: working systematically, sorting and classifying information, reasoning, predicting and testing hypotheses as well as evaluating the solutions.



Merits and Awards

Reader of the week	Autumn
Writer of the week	George D
Mathematician of the week	Ava
Scientist of the week	Mason T
Star of the week	Sienna
Pen licence	N/A



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Industrial strike action next week

Please be informed of national Teachers industrial strike action planned for both Wednesday (15th March) and Thursday (16th March).

Please check the school website for updates regarding possible closure or potential closure. We are trying our utmost to plan for the school to be open.

To celebrate – more improvements in school



Thank you to Mr Bianchi who has put up two chalkboards in the EYFS play area.

We also have a BIG chalkboard up in the playground for pupils to be creative.



Let's celebrate our drawings, poems and creative thought.

This is an opportunity to develop well-being and to have FUN!



The Book Fair is back!



The children enjoyed a pre-visit to the Book Fair to have a look at the amazing books that are available!

Remember - you can also complete orders online too! Just return the wish list with the titles and we'll get the books to your child by Thursday 16th March (dependent upon stock availability and if the books need to be ordered).

Thank you for your continued support!

Please note the times for visiting the book fair below:

- Friday 3:10pm - 3:30pm
- Monday 3:30pm - 4pm
- Tuesday 3:30pm - 4pm
- Wednesday 3:30 - 4pm




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	<p>Please come around to the front of the school and enter via the main entrance. We do need these few minutes to ensure that the staff manning the book fair have been able to dismiss all the children and make their way to the hall.</p>
Help needed	<p>Thank you for showing an interest to help out at school this coming Saturday, 11th March. Unfortunately the weather forecast is not looking great, so we have decided to postpone it till Saturday, 25th March.</p> <p>The following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents are kindly requested to bring gardening tools/equipment/tools/cleaning supplies to help. • Refreshments (coffee, tea, biscuits) will be provided. • Start: 10.00 • Finish 13:00 <p>Things to do – Helpers/Volunteers - Please let the office know which you can assist with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take bunting off • Relocate two plastic tables to KS2 playground • Decking in EYFS to be replaced • Jet wash moss on pathway • Jet wash algae on fences / wooden surfaces • Jet wash wall with logo • Small chalk boards to be put up on fence • Whiteboard to be moved in Reception class • Display board to be put on wall in Reception class • Mud kitchen - leaves to be raked up / area to be tidied up • Mud kitchen – clean wooden structures • Mud kitchen – Teepee structure to be sanded down and painted • Sanding down of objects (e.g. pot plants, etc.) • Stump seating to be relocated • Cow gate to be put up • Obstacle course objects to be stacked neatly • Play house roof felt to be fixed • PE equipment to be sorted • Containers to be sorted and relocated to shed (possible visit to the skip) • Under-cover area to be cleared • Allotment area to be cleared • Help with sorting books in Library (Accelerated Reading scanning) • Old PE metal shed to be dismantled • Old wooden shed to be dismantled • Removal of rubbish
Mother's day Gift buying event	<p>The Mother's day Gift buying event (scheduled for 17.03.23), unfortunately has to be cancelled, as the parent volunteers will not be able to run the event.</p>
Notice board	<p>We have moved the notice board to the front entrance for better visibility and communication, so please do have a look as you walk through at the beginning of the school day.</p>
New gates	<p>The gate should remain unlocked between 8:20 and 8:45am to allow entry and exit without needing to press the call button.</p> <p>After this time you will need to use the call button on the front to speak to request entry. The exit release button is at the top of the final fence post on the right hand side as you are leaving.</p>



<p>Attendance: Penalty notices and/or prosecution</p>	<p>Please be informed of guidance from the Local Authority regarding holidays taken during term time.</p> <p>Important information - Term time holidays</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improving school attendance is a key priority for all schools across Essex. Where families choose to take a family holiday during term time, this can detrimentally impact a pupil's progress and can prevent them from fulfilling their true academic potential. Our school attendance policy, available via our school website, clearly sets out the process that parents should follow if they wish to apply for leave during term time. Please note that applications should only be made, if you feel that there are exceptional circumstances which mean that the leave cannot be taken during the school holidays. We would ask all parents to note that, where families choose to go on holiday during term time and the absences are coded as unauthorised, Essex County Council may not issue penalty notices and may instead proceed to prosecution and place the case directly before the Magistrates for their consideration in court. If found guilty by the Magistrates, parents could face a fine of up to £2,500 and/or 3 months imprisonment.
<p>Reminder</p>	<p>Please do not enter the building when dropping off or collecting your children from school. If you wish to speak with the Class Teacher please arrange this via the school office.</p>
<p>Reception and Year 1 Phonics Lesson Invitation</p>	<p>In order for us to support parents with teaching Phonics at home, and for parents to see how Phonics is taught at Dr Walker's, we would like to invite Reception and Year 1 parents in to watch a reading and Phonics lesson. Please feel free to join us on Friday 17th March at 9a.m. to watch a Phonics and Reading lesson in action. More dates will be available for you to see your child learning during their phonics' session in the Summer term.</p>
<p>Packed Lunches</p>	<p>We are working alongside all other local schools, towards the Healthier Schools Award, Please can you ensure that a healthy packed lunch is provided, without chocolate, crisps and other sugar snacks.</p>
<p>Coronation Coins</p>	<p>We have been given the opportunity to purchase a King Charles III Commemorative Medal marking the accession of our new King.</p> <p>These are supplied by Tower Mint and are exclusive for schools and councils.</p> <p>The 32mm commemorative medal features a brand-new portrait of His Majesty and is presented in a bespoke regal blue and gold embossed card surround within a protective Perspex case. They are priced at £4 per medal.</p> <p>These have been added as a shop item on School Money and will be available to purchase until Friday 10th March. If you need a reminder of your school money log in details please contact us.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;">  </div>
<p>Parent Governor</p>	<p>We have a vacancy for a parent governor and would be grateful for any parents who want to make a positive contribution to school to show an interest to perhaps join the Governing Body.</p> <p>Kindly contact the office for more information.</p>
<p>Essex Fire Museum</p>	<p>It's Essex Fire Museum's 75th Anniversary, please click here for more information!</p>

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Dr Walker's Church of England Primary School

Term and Holiday Dates - Academic Year 2023-2024

September 2023							October 2023							November 2023							
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	
				1	2	3							1			1	2	3	4	5	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
25	26	27	28	29	30		30	31						27	28	29	30				
December 2023							January 2024							February 2024							
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	
				1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30	31					26	27	28	29				
March 2024							April 2024							May 2024							
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	
				1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4	5
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
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18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30					27	28	29	30	31				
June 2024							July 2024							August 2024							
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17	18	19	20	21	22	23	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31					26	27	28	29	30	31		

School closed: Holidays	School closed: Bank Holiday	School closed: Staff training (INSET)	School days	Weekend
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In addition, schools allocate five non-pupil days out of the school days indicated, or the equivalent in disaggregated twilight sessions.

Autumn Term	Monday, 4 September 2023 – Wednesday, 20 December 2023 <i>Half Term 23 October – 27 October</i>	73 days
Spring Term	Thursday, 4 January 2024 – Thursday, 28 March 2024 <i>Half Term 19 February - 23 February</i>	56 days
Summer Term	Monday, 15 April 2024 – Tuesday, 23 July 2024 <i>Half Term 27 May – 31 May, and May Bank Holiday - 6 May</i>	66 days
		195 days

You are strongly advised to check with the school before making any holiday or other commitments.

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