



**An Exceptional
Place to Flourish**

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

Newsletter

Autumn Term

Date: 03.09.2021

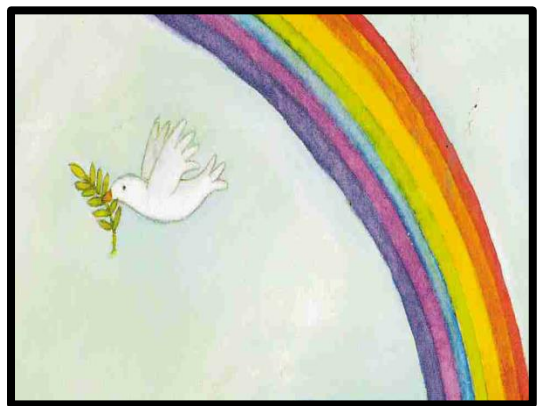
Welcome Back!

A very warm welcome to all our new pupils, who have joined us, and also our returning pupils and staff. We have had a very positive start to the year, especially with the easing of COVID restrictions.

There is a lovely buzzing atmosphere in school and I really appreciate the friendly faces and warm wishes on the gate yesterday and today. I am really encouraged to finally being able to meet and see more parents face-to-face. More of this will be arranged formally and informally.

I am sure you will be in agreement that the last year and a half have been very challenging and it is with great relief that we can start the new academic year with returning back to normality.

In light of this, I would like us to embrace and hold on to HOPE. In many regards, the rainbow has become the symbol of HOPE last year, and we would like to use this element this year to remind us of HOPE, which is also one of our school values.



Each year group will represent a colour:

Red	Reception	Red
Orange	Year 1	Orange
Yellow	Year 2	Yellow
Green	Year 3	Green
Blue	Year 4	Blue
Indigo	Year 5	Indigo
Violet	Year 6	Violet

A few new introductions to be aware of:

School logo

The school logo has been updated to include our Bible verse as a Church of England school:
Job 8:7 – *Though your beginning was small, your future will flourish indeed.*

New staff

We welcome the following staff to Dr Walkers C of E:

- Mrs Nicola Sladden – Bursar



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- Miss Marie Hazelton – SENCO (working on Tuesdays)
- Mr Jon Horne – Teacher for Years 3 and 4
- Mrs Jenny Dean – Senior Teacher for Years 5 & 6
- Mrs Bernadette Eyo – HLTA and SENCO Assistant
- Mr Guiseppe Bianchi Caretaker/Site supervisor (Part-time)

Classes

Classes will be referred to as:

- Reception – Red class
- Year 1 & 2 – Orange-Yellow class
- Years 3 & 4 – Green-Blue class
- Years 5 & 6 – Indigo-Violet class



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Class teachers

Reception – Red class	Miss May Tierney
Year 1 & 2 – Orange-Yellow class	Miss Jessica Adams
Years 3 & 4 – Green-Blue class	Mr Jon Horne
Years 5 & 6 – Indigo-Violet class	Mrs Jenny Dean

School times

	EYFS Reception	Key Stage 1 Years 1 and 2	Key Stage 2 Years 3, 4 and 5
School gates open	08.45	08.45	08.45
Start of the school day	08:55	08:55	08:55
Registration closes	09:05	09:05	09:05
Collective Worship (Monday-Thursday)	09:15-09:45	09:15-09:45	09:15-09:45
Morning break (am)	10:45-11:00	10:45-11:00	10:45-11:00
Lunchtime break	12:00-13:00	12:00-13:00	12:00-13:00
Afternoon break	Brain Break when appropriate	N/A	N/A
Assembly (Friday)	14:45-15:15	14:45-15:15	14:45-15:15
School finished	15:15	15:15	15:15
After School Club	15:15-16:15	15:15-16:15	15:15-16:15

Procedures for the start of the day

- The school gate will be opened at 8:45.
- From 8:45, parents and carers to drop off their children.
- Children enter the school via the black gate and go to their classrooms.

Procedures at the end of the day

- Pupils are dismissed at 15:15.
- Staff to hand pupils over to parents/carers.



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Gates

All pupils to enter and leave the school using the **black gate** at the side of the Reception and Years 1&2 classrooms. All other gates will be locked. Parents/Carers to enter and leave, using the black gate.

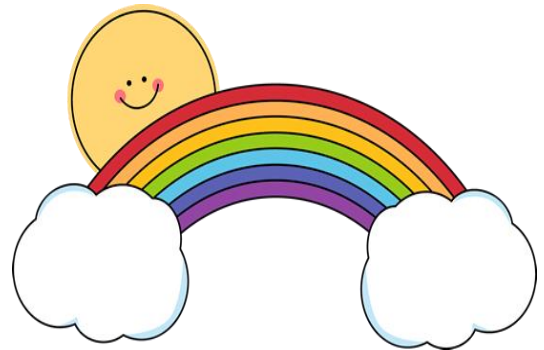
Pupils who arrive late, to go to the main office.

At the end of the school day, parents/carers can enter the school site via the black gate and wait for their child to be handed over to them by the class teacher. Parents/Carers of pupils in Years 3-6 to congregate just past the wooded cow gate. Teachers will call pupils once parents have been seen to be handed over.

School Rules

Pupils and staff have worked collectively on setting 7 school rules. These rules will be displayed within the 7 colours of the rainbow:

- 1) Walk around the school quietly and safely.
- 2) Take care of school property and environment.
- 3) Try our best, taking pride in all we do.
- 4) Use kind words, hands and feet.
- 5) Be polite and respectful.
- 6) Listen and tell the truth.
- 7) Behave and do what is right.



Curriculum

The curriculum has been streamlined to ensure that the National Curriculum aims are fully covered. In addition pupils will also receive some access to online learning portals. Passwords and logins will be sorted in the coming weeks.

Pupils will be challenged regarding their learning stamina. We will continue to have a good balance between learning and having fun. Staff will also be planning termly educational visits to extend learning outside of the classroom.

Essex has made changes to the RE curriculum, and has adopted the **Norfolk RE syllabus**. We will be delivering this alongside **Discovery RE**. We will also be following the diocese' **Goodness and Mercy PSHE/RSHE** curriculum alongside **LifeWise**.

Phonics	English	Writing Assessment	Handwriting	Maths	Science	Religious Education
Art & Design / Design & Tech	Geography History	MFL (French) Years 3-6	Music	Computing	PE	PSHE / RSHE

Art & Design, Design & Technology and PE will be taught by specialist teachers. Pupils will also be given the opportunity to do practical food preparation once a term.



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Presentation will be a key focus this year and handwriting will be formally taught with parent-pupil access to online resources and activities.

School uniform expectations

I am really impressed with how well our pupils are presented in their school uniforms. A reminder:

Girls	Boys
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • White shirt not polo. • School tie. • Checked kilt **or grey trousers. • School logo purple jumper. ** • White or Grey socks. • Black shoes/Black trainer style shoes – these should not have colour on and be plain. • Summer purple checked dress. • No Denim please. • School book bag OR School dispatch bag. • Back packs are discouraged as they are very large. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • White shirt not polo. • School tie. • Grey shorts or grey trousers School logo purple jumper. ** • White or Grey socks • Black shoes/Black trainer style shoes – these should not have colour on and be plain. • No Denim please. • School book bag OR School dispatch bag. • Back packs are discouraged as they are very large.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please note – there is not a cardigan option – only jumpers available from School trends. • ** items are available from school trends only. www.schooltrendsonline.com • Hair bows should be small and purple or black only. • Large fashion bows are strongly discouraged. • Small stud earrings only and they will need to be removed by the child for PE. • No make-up or nail polish. • Elaborate sock frills/shirt frills are strongly discouraged. • Ties and book bags are available from the school office. 	

PE

Pupils to come in to school dressed in their PE kit on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, as they will be doing PE on these days. The appropriate kit will be monitored.

Girls	Boys
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Black shorts or skirt • White Dr Walker's logo Polo shirt • Black/white plain trainers or plimsolls • Black tracksuit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Black shorts • White Dr Walker's logo Polo shirt • Black/white plain trainers or plimsolls • Black tracksuit

Collective worship and Assemblies

Parents will be invited to Class assemblies on Fridays (14:45-15:15) on the day that their child's class is presenting. Each class will also be awarding five certificates weekly for:

- Reader of the week
- Writer of the WEK
- Mathematician of the week
- Scientist of the week
- STAR of the week.

Attendance

The school's attendance target is **96%**. Classes will have a weekly competition for the attendance trophy and Gold, Silver and Bronze awards allocated in the Friday assembly.



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Election of prefects

This will take place in the coming weeks as part of celebrating the British Value of Democracy. Year 6 will be electing the Head Boy and Head Girl. As part of the Student Council, all classes will have representation as part of pupil voice.

Homework

Teachers will update more on this through the Class curriculum newsletter next week.

Pupils will be given the opportunity to work on a topic based project each half term. There is an expectation that all pupils read daily at home and practice their multiplication timetables.

Reading Books

Reading books will again be sent home. All pupils will have a reading log.

Clubs

We are in the process of looking at possible clubs. Some clubs will incur a fee. More information to follow.

- Tuesdays during lunch - Art
- Tuesdays after school - Football
- Wednesdays after school - Multi-sport
- Thursdays (possibly) - Boosters for years 4, 5 and 6

SENCO meetings

Miss Marie Hazelton (SENCO) and Mrs Bernadette Eyo (HLTA/SENCO Assistant) will be contacting parents/carers of pupils on the SEND register, to arrange a meet-and-greet meeting in due course.

Parent-teacher consultations this term

- 19 October at 15:30-18:30
- 20 October at 15:30-18:30

Amendment to school calendar dates

Government has legislated for an 'extra' bank holiday on Thursday 2 June 2022, to supplement the already 'moved' usual late May bank holiday to Friday 3rd June, in recognition of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

As both of these dates fall in the normal, already scheduled summer half term break, legislation has also been amended for the 2021-22 academic year to require that there are only 189 'teaching days' (378 sessions), as opposed to the standard 190 teaching days.

As a result, Essex County Council, which sets the term dates for community and voluntary controlled schools has amended the term dates calendar for 2021-22 so that the summer term will now end on **Thursday 21 July 2022**, instead of the previous end of term date of Friday 22 July 2022 (which will now be a non-school day).

Newsletters

Newsletters will commence as of next week.

Kind regards,
Dr L Lawson
Headteacher



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Dr Walker's Church of England Primary School

Term and Holiday Dates - Academic Year 2021-2022

September 2021							October 2021							November 2021						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
		1	2	3	4	5					1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
27	28	29	30				25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30					
December 2021							January 2022							February 2022						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
		1	2	3	4	5						1	2		1	2	3	4	5	6
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28						
							31													
March 2022							April 2022							May 2022						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6					1	2	3							1
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28	29	30	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	
														30	31					
June 2022							July 2022							August 2022						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
		1	2	3	4	5					1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
27	28	29	30				25	26	27	28	29	30	31	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	Wednesday 1 September 2021 – Friday 17 December 2021 <i>Half Term 25 October – 29 October</i>	73 days
Spring Term	Tuesday 4 January 2022 – Friday 1 April 2022 <i>Half Term 14 February – 18 February</i>	59 days
Summer Term	Tuesday 19 April 2022 – Thursday, 21 July 2022 <i>Half Term 30 May – 3 June, and May Bank Holidays, 2 and 3 May</i>	62 days
		194 days

You are strongly advised to check with the school before making any holidays arrangements.



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