

# Newsletter

## Autumn Term – 16.09.2022



### Update from Headteacher

The state funeral of Queen Elizabeth the II will take place at 11am on Monday, 19<sup>th</sup> September at Westminster Abbey. This will be an official bank holiday and schools and colleges will be closed.

### Value this half-term




Big Question of the week

What do Christians believe?

### Important dates for next week





<b>Monday 19.09</b>	Bank Holiday – State funeral of Queen Elizabeth II
<b>Tuesday 20.09</b>	
<b>Wednesday 21.09</b>	Year 6 Residential – Bawdsey Manor
<b>Thursday 22.09</b>	Year 6 Residential – Bawdsey Manor
<b>Friday 23.09</b>	Year 6 Residential – Bawdsey Manor

### Attendance

	
<b>Our school target</b>	<b>96%</b>
<b>Attendance this week</b>	<b>92.72%</b>
<b>Attendance this year</b>	<b>95.4%</b>

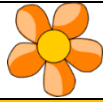
Academic year	Period average attendance	Number of Persistent Absence pupils (below 90%)
2022/2023	95.4	8
2021/2022	94.96	11
2020/2021	98.86	3
2019/2020	95.26	5
2018/2019	96.7	3

### Whole School House Points

Ants	Badgers	Locusts	Lizards
			
<b>81</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>90</b>

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**Red-Orange  
Class**

**Class Register Teacher:  
Miss Isabella Curtis**

**Reception**

**Year 1**

**Buddies of the week**

**Class information**

We are all buddies this week!



**Class attendance this week**

**88.75%**

**Next Week:**

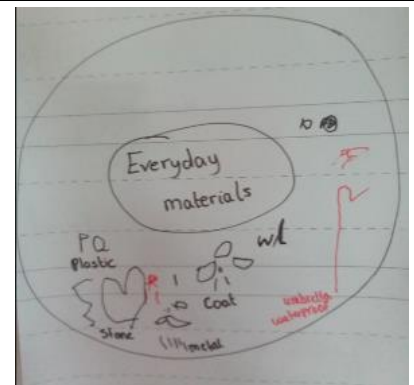
On Thursday please could you send your child in with **one** item to support our Everyday Materials topic in science? It could be something metal, plastic wood etc. In history we are learning about childhood. Please could you send your child in with **one** toy or teddy.

**We were...**

The children are starting to settle and get in to the routine of things which is lovely!



This week in science we have been learning about everyday materials. We went on a walk around the school to see what different objects there were and what they were made of. We even brought back a basket full of objects we found and the children enjoyed sharing them with the class.



We have started our new Phonics scheme, Little Wandle, this week. Your child should have received a home reading book. This book is to be read at school and at home and will be changed on a weekly basis. It is vital you bring this book into school every day because your child will need it for the group reading sessions. At first the focus is to decode the words (sound out), the second focus is to work on prosody which is reading with expression and the third focus is to look at comprehension and consolidation. This is done to develop fluency, the more children see words, the more they begin to read them automatically without having to sound them out. We will also send home a book to read for pleasure- this may be a book that you read to your child or you both read together. In addition to this, you will also

be receiving weekly homework as of today. Please ensure this is returned each week by the following Friday.

**Achievers of the week**

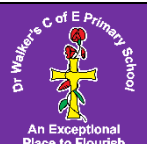
Reader of the week	Writer of the week	Mathematician of the week	Scientist of the week	Star of the week	Pen licence
William	Florence	Rafe	Dylan	Darcie	N/A

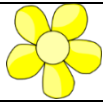
**Class House Points**

Ants	Badgers	Locusts	Lizards
<b>25</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>28</b>

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**Orange-  
Yellow Class**

**Class Register Teacher:  
Miss Lauren Seeley**

**Year 1**

**Year 2**

**Buddies of the week**

**Class information**

We are all buddies this week!



**Class attendance this week**

**98.81%**

**Notes for next week:**

On Wednesday, for our History lesson, please send your child in with **one** toy or teddy. We are looking at childhood items.

On Thursday please send your child in with **one** item from home that we can use for our 'Everyday Material' lesson and display. This can be something small that is made out of metal, wood, plastic, glass or any other material you deem appropriate.

**We were...**

The children have had a great couple of weeks back at school! They have enjoyed settling into Orange and Yellow class. Their favourite lesson this week was Science; our topic is 'Everyday Materials'. We went on to the playground to investigate which materials there are in our school, we was also describing the properties.







We have started our new Phonics scheme, Little Wandle, this week. Your child should have received a home reading book. This book is to be read at school and at home and will be changed on a weekly basis. It is vital you bring this book into school every day because your child will need it for the group reading sessions.

At first the focus is to decode the words (sound out), the second focus is to work on prosody which is reading with expression and the third focus it to look at comprehension and consolidation. This is done to develop fluency, the more children see words, the more they begin to read them automatically without having to sound them out. We will also send home a book to read for pleasure- this may be a book that you read to your child or you both read together. In addition to this, you will also be receiving weekly homework as of today. Please ensure this is returned each week by the following Friday.

**Achievers of the week**

Reader of the week	Writer of the week	Mathematician of the week	Scientist of the week	Star of the week	Pen licence
Ralph	Joey	Lucas	Dotty	Madison	N/A

**Class House Points**

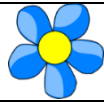
Ants	Badgers	Locusts	Lizards
			
<b>24</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>32</b>

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**Green-Blue  
Class**

**Class Register Teacher:  
Mrs Jenny Dean**

**Year 3**

**Year 4**

**Buddies of the week**

**Class information**



We've all been Buddies as we have been settling in.

**Class attendance this week**

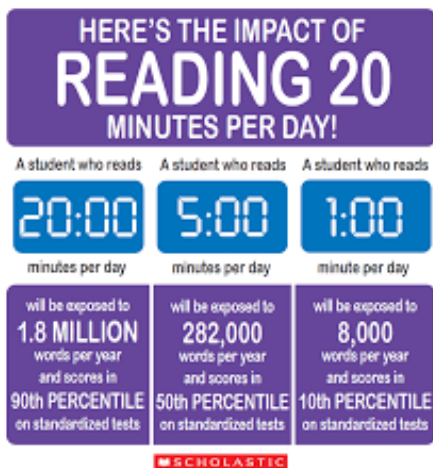
**91.07%**

A reminder that Reading Records and books should be brought in every day.

Registration closes at 8:45 and collection is at 3:20 (Monday to Thursday) and 3:00 on Friday.

**We were...**

The children have all settled in really well this year and are adapting to the new curriculum and ways of teaching. They are being taught foundation subjects by myself, and for this half term I am teaching English and Mrs Vorster is teaching maths.



Reading is a key focus this academic year, and you will notice that your child now has a Reading Record Book. The expectation is that your child reads 8 pages a day, 6 days a week. As a class, we are building a vocabulary bank; therefore, the children will record 3 higher-level vocabulary words that appear in the 8 pages that they have read, e.g. gloom, manuscript, and pseudonym – please support your child with their definitions. I have also provided your child with a list of suggested books for their year group.

Regular times tables practise can be completed here: <https://www.timestables.co.uk/multiplication-tables-check/>

**Achievers of the week**

Reader of the week	Writer of the week	Mathematician of the week	Scientist of the week	Star of the week	Pen licence
Maci	Max	Noah	Freddie	Barney	n/a

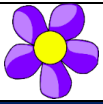
**Class House Points**

Ants	Badgers	Locusts	Lizards
17	14	12	14

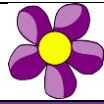
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Year 5



Year 6

Indigo-Violet Class

Class Register Teacher: Mrs Karin Vorster

Buddies of the week

Everyone is a buddy this week!



Class information

Class attendance this week

92.75%

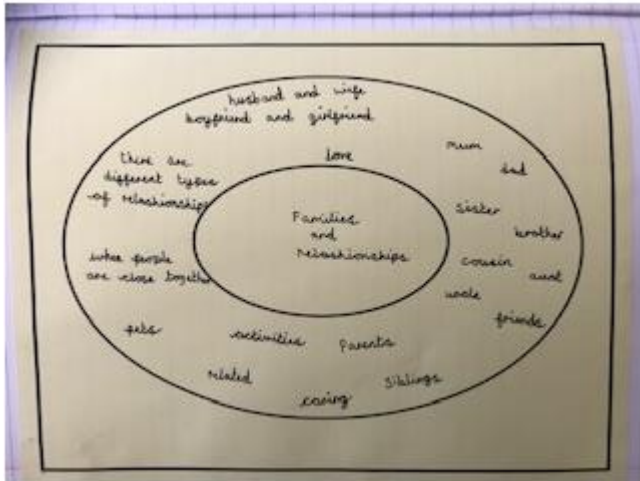
A reminder that Reading Records and books should be brought in every day, starting Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> September. Children are to write in their diary 6 days a week please.

Registration closes at 8:45 and collection is at 3:20 (Monday to Thursday) and 3:00 on Friday.

Please remind your children to practise their times table facts at home.

We were...

In PSHE we have been looking at how to form and maintain positive relationships. We came up with a recipe to 'build' a friend. Some of the attributes that we agreed are needed for a good friend are: loyalty, kindness, honesty and a sense of humour. We then wrote a recipe to 'build' our friend:







- How would you put your friend together?
- ∞ cups of loyalty. ✓
  - 20 cups of honesty. ✓
  - 32½ cups of fun. ✓
  - 28 cups of funny/humor. ✓
  - 20 cups of understanding. ✓
  - 15 cups of good listening. ✓

Achievers of the week

Reader of the week	Writer of the week	Mathematician of the week	Scientist of the week	Star of the week	Pen licence
Mason	Talia	Lara	Teddy	Kezia	n/a

Class House Points

Ants	Badgers	Locusts	Lizards
			
15	14	16	16

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## Any other updates and news

### State funeral of Queen Elizabeth II

I am sure many of you followed the events over the weekend with the official proclamation of King Charles III taking place on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> September at St James' Palace, where his accession to the throne was formally confirmed. The state funeral of Queen Elizabeth II will take place at 11am on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> September at Westminster Abbey. This will be an official bank holiday and schools and colleges will close.

The DfE will make legal adjustments to the school year and teachers' terms and conditions to reflect this change in the school year.

The DfE issued guidance for settings, schools and colleges regarding the day of the funeral and also the national period of mourning.

### Staffing

As mentioned in last week's Curriculum Newsletter, Mrs Eyo resigned in the holiday. The school is currently recruiting to fill this post.

As it is the beginning of the year, some staff might need to attend some curriculum trainings. This is part of the school's Development Plan, focusing on the further development of Teaching and Learning, which your child(ren) will benefit from.

Illness and staff absences do unfortunately occur from time to time. This is similar to pupils.

As explained before, small schools have less capacity and less staff compared to bigger school and therefore the school Leadership and Management Team alongside the Governing Body address the Operational and Strategic management of the school.

We will appreciate your support for this month in getting the new academic year running smoothly.

### End of day pick up

Please collect your child(ren) punctually from school at the end of the day. We had a number of pupils who were not collected last week, especially on Friday, when school was dismissed at 15:00.

### Clubs and sporting events

We will be starting clubs this term.

Multi-sports and Computing will be arranged by the companies themselves. Clubs will not be free and we will be charging a fee for these to cover the overheads. More information to follow.

Monday	Arts & craft	Mrs Snow	8-10 pupils
	Dance	Mrs Freeman	8-10 pupils
Tuesday	Football Y1-Y3	Mr Jarvis	Arranged by SCS coaches
	Computing	Mr Alexander	Arranged by Mr Alexander
Wednesday	Football Y4-Y6	Mr Jarvis	Arranged by SCS coaches
	Board/Card Games	Mrs Spanton	8-10 pupils
Thursday	No clubs		-
Friday	No clubs		-

We will also look at the sporting events offered by West Essex School Sport Partnership (WESSP) this year. Please note that the school does not have to attend all of these events and that it will be offered on availability of staff.

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The school needs to complete Risk Assessments for these events and a Paediatric First Aid trained member of staff needs to accompany the group. As you are aware, Mrs Eyo who oversaw the sporting events, has resigned and we are in the process of recruiting a new HLTA.

Please do not tell children they will attend, unless you have received a letter from the school to invite your child. This will help with not creating unnecessary disappointment. Again, the school does engage with sporting events, but as a small rural school, there are limitations in what we can offer.

#### Holiday requests during term time

The Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006 were amended in September 2013. All references to family holidays and extended leave have been removed. **The amendments specify that headteachers MAY NOT GRANT any leave of absence during term time unless there are "exceptional circumstances" and they no longer have any discretion to authorise up to ten days of absence each academic year.**

#### We will not consider applications for leave during term time:

- at any time in September. This is very important as your child needs to settle into their new class at the start of the academic year as quickly as possible.
- during assessment and test periods in the school's calendar affecting your child.
- when a pupil's attendance record already includes any level of unauthorised absence or they have already been granted authorised leave within that academic year.
- this includes postponement of holiday booking due to COVID.

It is a rule of this school that a leave of absence shall not be granted in term time unless there are reasons considered to be exceptional by the headteacher, irrespective of the child's overall attendance. **All applications for a leave of absence must be made in writing on the prescribed form provided by the school *at least 2 weeks prior to the requested absence.***

Where a parent removes a child when the application for leave was refused, or where no application was made to the school, the issue of a penalty notice may be requested by this school in accordance with the Essex Code of Conduct.

Penalty Notices may also be issued if there have been at least 6 consecutive sessions of unauthorised absence during the first two calendar weeks of September, due to a term-time holiday.

#### Parent Governor

We are looking for a Parent Governor!

The governing body is responsible for both the conduct of the school and for promoting high standards. The governing body carries out its role by setting the vision for the school and then ensuring that the school works efficiently and effectively towards achieving that vision. It does this by building a thorough knowledge of the school and its community, by both supporting and constructively challenging the school, and by ensuring accountability and compliance. The governing body of our school is made up of parent, staff, co-opted and Foundation governors.

A vacancy has arisen for a parent governor on our governing body. The governing body is asking you to nominate someone (maybe yourself!) with parental responsibility for a child at the school. If we receive more than one nomination, then a ballot will be held.

Before you decide to nominate someone, or indeed stand yourself, you may want to know a bit more about what is involved. Governors do not need to be experts in the field of education. What they do need is an interest in the school and in the welfare of our children and the time and willingness to get involved. The skills you have can be very useful to the governing body. Governors need what is known as 'soft skills' – the ability to be able to build relationships with a range of people, to be able to work as part of a team, to be able to question, and to make connections between different types of information. All governors are expected to be able to read straightforward budget reports and data on school standards.

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Our governing body expects governors to:

- attend 6 half-termly meetings of the full governing body
- visit the school formally for monitoring purposes at least 2-3 times a term/year
- visit the school informally at least 2 times a year
- commit to attend training courses, perform additional research as required.

In return, our governing body commits to:

- provide you with a structured induction
- provide access to quality training
- provide you with an experienced governor as mentor
- provide informal feedback on your contribution to the governing body on a bi-annual basis

If you would like to find out more about how you can contribute to governance at our school, please email the school office with your contact details and it will be passed on to the Chair of Governors, who will then arrange a time for a conversation.

#### Dress-up costumes

Our reception pupils would love to receive any dressing-up costumes to be used in class as part of creative roleplay. If you have any spares you would like to donate to the school, please contact the school office.

#### Sporting events this term

Finally something for all the KS1 and KS2 pupils. Hopefully this will prevent disappointment this term.



<b>TAG Rugby Competition Year 5&amp;6</b>  <b>PARENTS ARE ALLOWED TO SPECTATE.</b>	Tuesday 1st November 2022	Arrive: 9:15am Start 9:30am Finish 12:00pm	Ongar Sports Ground (Jubilee Park), Love Lane, Ongar, CM5 9BL
<b>KS1 Multi-Skills Event Years 1 and 2 to attend</b>  <b>PARENTS ARE NOT ALLOWED TO SPECTATE.</b>	Wednesday 9th November 2022	Arrive from 09:15am for a 09:30am START. FINISH TIME: 11.45am	Ongar Academy, Fyfield Road, Ongar CM5 0AN
<b>ONGAR FAMILY CROSS COUNTRY EVENT – 1 km Only year 3 and 4 to attend</b>  <b>PARENTS ARE ALLOWED TO SPECTATE.</b>	Thursday 10th November 2022	Arrive: 9.30am Start: 10am Finish: 11am	Ongar Sports Ground, Love Lane, Chipping Ongar, CM5 9BL

#### SCS Football Clubs

Flyers were sent home last week for the afterschool football clubs which have now started, if you would like your child to join please return the completed form and payment to the office – e-copies are attached or you can pick up a spare from the office.

#### Year 6 Secondary Applications

The new secondary school admission round has now opened, the statutory closing date for applications is **31<sup>st</sup> October 2022**. Applications can be made online via [www.essex.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.essex.gov.uk/admissions)

We have added details of some local open evenings to the school website [here](#)

#### Change to lunch menu

Owing to the Bank Holiday and our delivery schedules the lunch options on Tuesday will now be Pasta with a tomato sauce / Macaroni Cheese / Jacket Potato

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