

Dr Walker's C of E Primary School

COURAGE – CREATIVITY - COMPASSION

NEWSLETTER

Friday 11th October 2024

<https://drwalkers.co.uk>

Courage – A can do attitude. Creativity – Innovation and adaptability. Compassion – Love and respect.

Head of School	St Nicholas's Church
<p>Another wet and windy week over and it certainly is now autumn! Please can we remind parents to send their children in with waterproof jackets, as we try to get outside during breaks and lunches as much as possible.</p> <p>The mystery of the strange van around the school building in the early hours some mornings has been solved! It is the milkman delivering our FREE milk for our Reception children on Mondays, Wednesday and Fridays! Mrs Spanton has kindly added this to the Fyfield Grapevine to let local residents know.</p> <p>We are looking forward to welcoming you all in on Tuesday 15th to meet with class teachers to discuss how your child has settled into their new classes. You'll also have the opportunity to look around the classrooms and look through your child's books.</p> <p>Mrs Jenny Dean</p>	<p>We are privileged to work closely with our local church, St Nicholas, Fyfield.</p> <p>You are welcome to join for worship at 10.30am on the second and third Sundays of the month, get involved in community activities, or just find a place of peace and prayer in a busy world - the church is often open during daylight hours.</p> <p><u>Get in touch</u></p> <p><i>Reverend Sam Brazier-Gibbs</i></p> <p>The Vicarage, Church Street, Blackmore, Ingatestone, Essex. CM4 0RN</p> <p>Priest with Responsibility <u>01277 821464</u></p> <p>Revd Samantha Brazier-Gibbs <u>07894 948867</u></p>



As part of our Collective Worship, we had a visit from The Open Book group who performed **Noah and the Ark – God's Promise** (Book of Genesis)

Picture news	Attendance	
	Our school target	96%
	Attendance this week	92%
	Willow	91%
	Sycamore	93%
	Maple	91%

Class news

WILLOW CLASS

We have been geographers this term. We have looked at our local area – and journey to school, our Reception / Year 1 area, our classroom, and this week, we explored our school grounds. We worked collaboratively to complete a map of the area and what we discovered.



SYCAMORE CLASS

This week the children in Sycamore class have been exploring language building to write acrostic poems on the theme of autumn. They needed to use literary techniques such as simile, metaphor and alliteration. In geography, the children have been conducting some field work on the school site, collecting weather data and using a compass to identify wind direction. In computing, the children have been unleashing their creativity by inventing new computerised devices, considering inputs and outputs and explaining how their device works. Their inventions will be on display soon, so do come and take a look! In RE, the children have continued their work on the Trinity and Baptism. In art, the children have been sketching soft toys, learning how to use shapes within a shape to assist with proportion and scale. Another super week's work Sycamore Class – thank you for your enthusiasm and creativity. We hope you have a great weekend!



MAPLE CLASS

On Thursday 10th October it was World Mental Health day. To show how important our mental health is, Maple class took part in an online assembly about perseverance, teamwork and kindness. Along with many other schools around the country, we listened to Reese James, Chelsea FC Captain talking about how to build and use innate character strength.



Rewards

Courageous optimism

It takes courage to hope for a better future. We champion a 'can do' attitude and encourage our pupils and colleagues to tackle challenges with resilience and perseverance as they reach for ambitious targets.

Boundless Creativity

Through captivating discoveries in the classroom and eye-opening adventures in the outside world, we give pupils freedom and promote varied learning experiences which stimulate innovation and develop adaptability.

Heartfelt compassion

We show love and respect to each member of our community as we nurture a powerful collective spirit. In humility we embrace difference and individuality, show forgiveness when necessary, and are united by compassion.

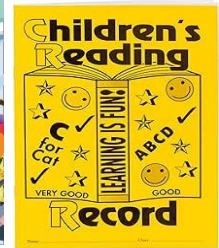
Willow Class	COURAGE	Lewis – For demonstrating a 'can do' attitude in phonics.
	CREATIVITY	Noah – For designing a wonderful poster to promote Harvest donations!
	COMPASSION	Diego – For always showing kindness to his peers.
	STAR OF THE WEEK	Jake – For participating fully in lessons.
Sycamore Class	COURAGE	Amelia-Rae - For showing perseverance in maths.
	CREATIVITY	Knightley – for enthusiasm and creativity in all that you do in school.
	COMPASSION	Lincoln – For helping the rest of the class with your brilliant answers in geography.
	STAR OF THE WEEK	Luna – For being an inclusive and kind friend to River at breaktime.
Maple Class	COURAGE	Teddy – for working on problem solving independently using prior knowledge.
	CREATIVITY	Maisey – for using images to create standard English sentences.
	COMPASSION	Paul – for working well as a team and including all children.
	STAR OF THE WEEK	Maci – for outstanding effort in her learning and amazing behaviour in school.

Other news

Little Wandle Reading Books and Reading Records

Please can you ensure that your child's Little Wandle reading books and reading records are not placed with their water bottle in their bag. This can cause damage to the books if there are leaks, and will, unfortunately, result in the need for the book to be paid for and replaced.

Every child has been provided with individual reading zip wallets to avoid this occurring, so we kindly request that you keep the reading books and reading records in these.



Please ensure that your child brings their reading zip wallet, book and reading record into school **every** day.

Karate & Swimming



Dotty and Lucas are thrilled to have finally received their new karate suits.

Lucas with his certificate and new hat after moving up a stage at swimming.



Harvest



Thank you for your kind donations! Please keep them coming!

On **Tuesday 22nd October 2024**, you are invited to join us at school for our Harvest Assembly led by Mrs Nazif and Rev. Sam Brazier-Gibbs.

10:25am – 10:45am

PTA – Friends of Dr Walker's

If you would like to get involved in the PTA, or have any questions. Please contact Friends of Dr Walkers on drwalkers24@gmail.com



Re-pollarding of tree

After some recent strong winds, we discovered a split on a branch within our Reception Mud Kitchen. This required specialists to visit and carry out re-pollarding to remedy this. Once the work was completed, it was astonishing to see just how much lighter and more spacious the area has become!



Reading for Pleasure

Every classroom now has its defined reading areas ... a place for every child to relax, read and enjoy books for pleasure!

Willow Class



Sycamore Class



Maple Class



There's even a cosy nook outside Mrs Nazif and Mrs Dean's office!



What does Ofsted say about reading for pleasure?

Reading for pleasure **boosts** comprehension

This link between reading for pleasure and increased reading comprehension has been observed through studies and research. According to Ofsted's research report, '**research indicates a positive correlation between pupils' engagement with reading and their attainment in reading**'.

Maths



Dear Parents, I am excited to say that we have joined Times Tables Rock Stars!

Times Tables Rock Stars is a maths programme that takes all the worry out of learning times tables and has a proven track record of boosting children's fluency and recall in multiplication and division.

Your child now has an account and the login details have been shared with the children. Please help your child to go on the site to start enjoying learning their times tables. Visit the parent/carer information page: trockstars.com/parent/

Please remind your child not to share their login details.

More information on competitions to follow. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to get in contact.

Many thanks

Mrs Vorster

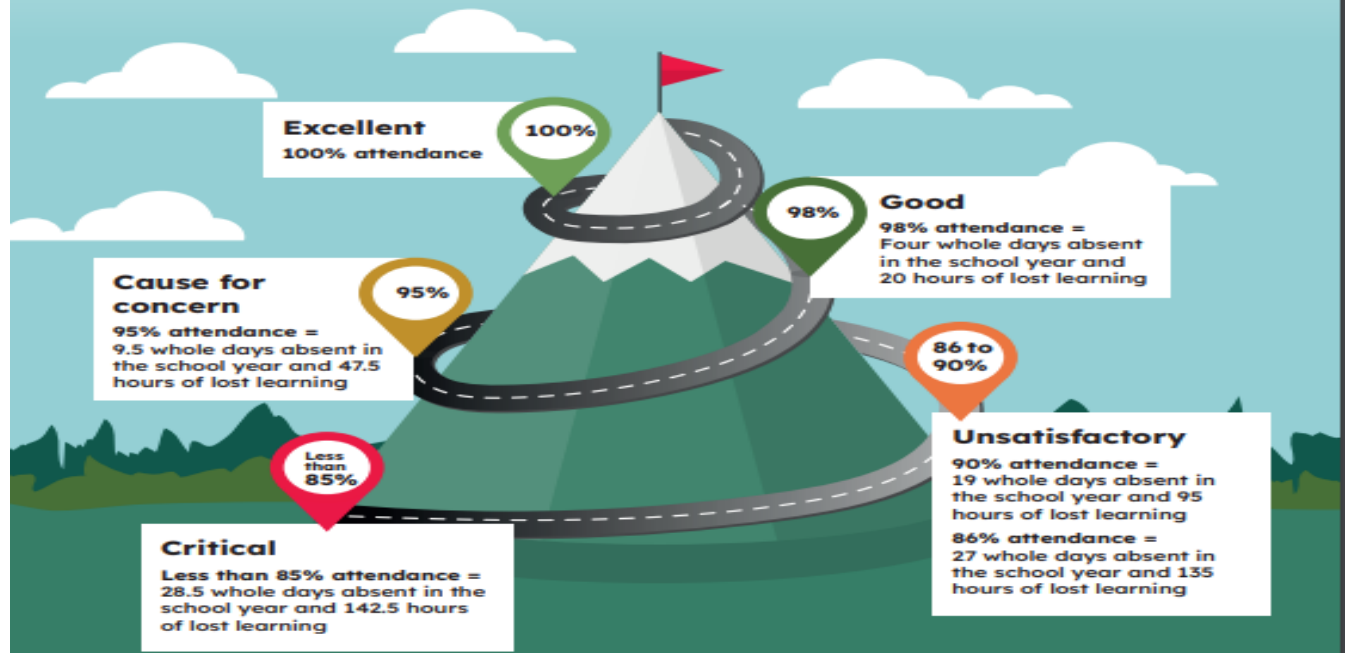
PE Top players



Well done to our top players!

Willow class	Sycamore class	Maple class
A photograph of two children in purple school uniforms. One girl is standing and the other boy is sitting in a wheelchair.	A photograph of two children in white and black school uniforms standing in front of a colorful autumn-themed backdrop.	A photograph of two children in blue and black school uniforms holding certificates, standing in front of a colorful autumn-themed backdrop.
Ellen and Alfie	Madison and Knightley	John-James and Teddy

Where does your child sit on the attendance mountain?



Helping to create a pattern of regular attendance is the responsibility of parents, pupils and all members of school staff.

To help us all to focus on this, we will:

- Submit a daily attendance return to the Department of Education, in line with the legal expectations placed on all schools;
- Build strong relationships and work jointly with families;
- Give parents/carers details on attendance in our newsletters;
- Promote the benefits of high attendance;
- Accurately complete admission and, with the exception of schools where all pupils are boarders, attendance registers and have effective day to day processes in place to follow-up absence as required by law;
- Celebrate excellent attendance by displaying and reporting individual and class achievements;
- Reward good or improving attendance;
- Report to parents/carers regularly on their child's attendance and the impact on their progress;
- Contact parents/carers should their child's attendance fall below the school's target for attendance.

If attendance is below **95%** / causing concern, and/or where punctuality is a concern, we will;

- Write to you;
- Arrange a meeting so that you may discuss the situation with our Senior Attendance Champion.
- Create a personalised action/support plan, such as an attendance contract, to address any barriers to attendance and make clear each person's role in improving the attendance patterns of your child;
- Offer signposting support to other agencies or services, if appropriate;
- Refer the matter to the Local Authority for relevant legal sanctions, if attendance deteriorates following the above actions.

Music

Sycamore class completed their first composition on glockenspiels. Some of them were a little too nervous to introduce themselves but we thought it would be a wonderful celebration to share with grown-ups at home, even if some are anonymous.

Some children notated, practised, assessed and adjusted and asked for advice as they went; our music provider, Mr Eastwood, was very impressed with their efforts.

Listen [here](#)



Northern Lights in Fyfield

Mr Bianchi and Mrs Spanton shared pictures of the Aurora Borealis (photo captured by her daughter) in Fyfield, during Thursday evening.



COLLECT YOUR
BAUBLE BETWEEN
8.15- 8.45
ON 5TH NOVEMBER

ENTRIES NEED TO
BE HANDED TO
KATE BURLING BY
22ND NOVEMBER



Christmas Bauble Competition

**TO CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS AND OUR SCHOOL WE WOULD
LIKE PUPILS TO DECORATE A CHRISTMAS BAUBLE**

A winning bauble design will be chosen from each class by Mrs Dean and Mrs Nazif. The designer of each winning bauble will receive a prize and pride of place on our very own tree which will be placed in Ongar High Street as part of the Ongar Christmas Lights event on 1st December. All funds will go towards Ongar Christmas Lights in return for promotion of the school meaning that your contribution could really help the school.

£2 PER ENTRY



Important dates

08.10.24	Shenfield High School Open Morning
14.10.24	Year 5 Road Safety – Rescheduled date
15.10.24	Parent Consultation Evening
18.10.24	Individual School Photos
22.10.24	Harvest Festival 10.25am
26.10.24	Break up for Half Term
06.11.24	Flu Immunisations
Nov ' 24	Odd Socks Day – date to be confirmed
15.11.24	Heights & Weights for Reception and Year 6
12.12.24	Christmas Jumper Day
17.12.24	Christmas Nativity Performance (Rec – Year 3) & Carol Service Performance (Year 4 – 6)
20.12.24	Class Christmas Parties (pm) – More information to follow
20.12.24	Break up for Christmas