

Newsletter date: Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2026

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

Dear Parents and Carers,

Spring appears to be underway, bringing sunshine, warmth and for some – dreaded pollen! The good weather lifts spirits even further and it is delightful to see the children engaged in positive outdoor interactions with each other.

Children celebrated Chinese New Year – the Year of the Fire Horse, the first Fire Horse year in 60 years, symbolising rapid change, boldness, and intense energy. People born in this year are thought to be charismatic, stubborn, and full of enthusiasm, while the year itself encourages bold action, growth, and embracing new experiences. Children tantalised their tastebuds with a variety of Chinese food options on the dinner menu!

Thursday was awash with vocabulary as the children – and staff – were invited to join us to celebrate World Book Day dress as a **word**. There was incognito, villain, hero, whimsical, dazzle, artist, magician, astronaut and fraction – to name but a few of the fantastic examples that we saw!

**IMPORTANT NOTICE: A change of date and time for our annual Easter Service that will be held at St Nicholas' Church. The event will now be held on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2026 at 1:30pm.** Rev. Albert, who has links with the school through Open the Book, has agreed to lead this for us. We look forward to welcoming parents, carers and extended family members to the service.

#### Attendance Matters

Our school attendance is currently **below national expectations**. We are on a mission to turn this around! **Every Day Counts**: Missing just two days a month drops a child's attendance to 90%. Let's work together to get our school back on track. If you are struggling with morning routines or attendance, please contact the school office—we are here to help.

A reminder to be courteous of the residents in Walker Avenue and to avoid blocking driveways.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Hafise Nazif (Executive Head Teacher)

Mrs Jenny Dean (Head of School)

#### **OUR THEME: FORGIVENESS**

**This week we have been looking at:**  
Forgiving others as God forgives us.

Home school values – explore the value at home. Click the link [here](#)

Heavenly Father,  
I come before You with a grateful heart,  
thanking You for Your boundless mercy  
and forgiveness through Jesus Christ.  
Lord, I know that in my own strength,  
I cannot fully forgive those who have  
caused me deep pain. I ask for the grace  
to forgive, just as You have forgiven me.  
Please soften my heart, replace my  
anger with Your peace, and help me to  
let go of resentment. Teach me to be  
kind and tender-hearted, reflecting Your  
character in my broken world. I choose  
to release the hurt and extend grace,  
in Jesus' name,  
Amen.

#### **TERM DATES:**

##### **Upcoming Dates and Events**

**Family Collective Worship @ 10:25 (please arrive for 10:20am)**

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March

9<sup>th</sup> Mar – Whole School Assessment Week

17<sup>th</sup> Mar – LIFE Ambassador Zoom Meeting

**20<sup>th</sup> Mar – Sycamore Ancient Egypt Day (in school - info to follow)**

23<sup>rd</sup> Mar – Mid-Essex has Got Talent (Ford End Primary School)

24<sup>th</sup> Mar – Annual reports home to parents

26<sup>th</sup> Mar – Wilderness Foundation Day

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27<sup>th</sup> Mar – End of Term

13<sup>th</sup> Apr - Children return to school

22<sup>nd</sup> May – Break up for half term

1<sup>st</sup> June - Children return to school

**Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July: End of academic year – 1:00pm finish (after registration)**





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**National: 95% Our School Target: 96%**

	WC 23.02	WC 02.03	WC 09.03	WC 16.03	WC 23.03		
Willow	91%	91%					
Sycamore	90%	90%					
Maple	92%	91%					
Whole School	91%	91%					

The effect of of absence on progress					
A whole year has 365 days; a school year has 178 days. That leaves 187 days to spend on family time, visits, holidays, shopping and other appointments.					
No absence	9 days absence	11 days absence	18 days absence	27 days absence	36 days absence
100%	95%	94%	90%	85%	80%
Very Good		Worrying		Serious Concern	
Best chance of success. Gets your child off to a flying start.		Less chance of success. Makes it harder for your child to make progress.		Your child will find it very difficult to make progress	

World Book Day – Dress Up as a Word



Mr Dutnall & Zoe Bear's Bedtime Story

If you missed Mr. Dutnall reading with Zoe Bear, you can watch it [here](#).

