

Newsletter date: Friday 17th April 2026

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Collective Worship Inclusive - Invitational – Inspiring
This term's theme: **FRIENDSHIP**

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

Dear Parents and Carers,

It was exciting to welcome children and families back to school after the Easter break, and to officially welcome Mrs Taylor to Dr Walker's in her capacity as Executive Headteacher. She has already met many of you on the school gate in the mornings, but there will be an opportunity to meet with her on Wednesday 22nd April 2026 at 3:30pm.

EYFS welcomed caterpillars and worms as part of their Minibeast topic. They will be exploring facts about worms and making a wormery!

Our KS2 SATs Revision Programme is well underway to maximise the children's outcomes ahead of SATs Week – 14 school days away! The programme, along with the work that they have been doing throughout the year, allows the children to be more confident during the actual test. They have been working extremely hard and are determined to succeed!

Sadly, we will say goodbye to Ms Rider on Friday 1st May 2026. Ms Rider has been with us for almost three years and has been a great asset to Dr Walker's. She has worked with many children, including those that may require more specialist provision. Ms Rider is embarking on new adventures with her family – and we wish her well, although her absence will be a great loss to our community.

We have received our long awaited SIAMS inspection notification, and we are looking forward to welcoming Mrs Wickens to Dr Walker's on Monday 20th April 2026. We would like to extend our appreciation to the parents who have agreed to be part of the parent voice meeting.

Mrs Melissa Taylor (Executive Head Teacher)

Mrs Jenny Dean (Head of School)

OUR THEME: FRIENDSHIP

This week we have been looking at:
Sticking Together

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

Lord Jesus,
thank you for the gift of my friends. Thank you for the ways they encourage and uplift me. I pray that you would help us to love one another deeply, and that our friendships would be marked by kindness and humility. As iron sharpens iron, may we make each other better, wiser, and closer to you. Protect them, strengthen them, and let our bond reflect your love,
Amen

TERM DATES:

Upcoming Dates and Events

Open the Book – Family Collective Worship

10:25am

20th April - On the Road to Damascus

11th May - Mistaken for Gods

Half-Term

1st June - Paul is Shipwrecked

15th June Tea at Auntie's House

29th June The Greedy farmer

13th July Everyone Gets the Same

21st Apr – KS1 SATs Revision Programme to start

22nd Apr – Meet the Exec Head 3:30pm

28th Apr – Daisy May's Farm EYFS/Yr 1

4th May – MAY BANK HOLIDAY – SCHOOL CLOSED

6th May – Children return to school

11th May – KS2 SATs Week

12th May – LIFE Ambassador Meeting

11-17th May – Mental Health Awareness Week

12th May – RSE Parent Meeting

14th May – Year 6 after SATs Treat

18th May – KS1 SATs Week

18th May – Maple Class USA Day (in school)

20th May – NO PENS DAY

21st May – Summer Census

22nd May – Break up for half term

1st June - Children return to school

1st June – Year 4 MTC

8th June – Year 1 PSC (and Year 2 resits)

8th June – Year 6 Chelmsford Cathedral Leavers' Service 10 - 11:30am – more info to follow





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National: 95% Our School Target: 96%							
	WC 13.4	WC 20.4	WC 27.4	WC 4.5	WC 11.5	WC 18.5	
Willow	89%						
Sycamore	90%						
Maple	92%						
Whole School	90%						

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	

Before the Easter, our Class Ambassadors selected the winners of the FODW Easter Egg Design Competition. They then awarded the prizes to Ivy, Evie-May and Eva.



FODW have kindly donated £44 from both the Easter Egg Design Competition and the pre-loved uniform donations for us to be able to use towards the playground sensory shed project.

TERM DATES:

Upcoming Dates and Events

- 15 – 21st June – Refugee Week
- 16th June – New EYFS Intake – Session 1
- 16 – 22nd June – Nat’l Sports Week – Always Active
- 15th June – Havering Festival of Education
- 22nd June – EYFS Dinosaur Topic Day (in school)
- 22nd June – Year 6 Secondary School Transition Week
- 23rd June – Year 1 and 2 Seaside Day (at school)
- 23rd June - New EYFS Intake – Session 2
- 25th June – National Writing Day
- 29th June – Funfair Day (at school)
- 29th June – Year 1 and 2 Football Tournament (MPS)
- 1st July – Zoe Bear’s 10th Birthday
- 7th July – KS2 SATs Results released
- 7th July – LIFE Celebration Event
- 7th July – Reports sent home to parents
- 7th July – Meet the New Teacher 9-10am
- 7th July – Teddy Bear’s Picnic New EYFS 9-10am
- 13th July – International Week
- 13th July – Year 6 Leavers’ Service – St Nicholas’ Church
- 15th July – Sports afternoon (from 1pm)
- 20th July – Year 6 Memories Assembly for Parents (am)

Monday 20th July: End of academic year – 1:00pm finish (after registration)

