

NEWSLETTER

INSPIRING ALL TO SOAR TO NEW HEIGHTS

CHALLENGE - CREATIVITY- CRITICAL THINKING-
COLLABORATION - COURAGE



Edition 27: 24th April 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

Our new playgrounds have been buzzing with excitement this week! With the sun finally making an appearance, the children have had a wonderful time exploring our brand-new outdoor equipment. From testing their balance to imaginative play, it has been a joy to see them burning off energy, building confidence, and enjoying the fresh air together. The swing arrived on Wednesday and was an instant hit!

We have also been admiring our new mural, based on our class names and our school vision of '*Inspiring All To Soar To New Heights*'. Every child in the school took part in making one of the fabulous birds now proudly up on display in the hall.

This week, we also took delivery of our new TV/interactive screen, ready to be installed in the hall. This was funded by our PTA, and we are extremely grateful to them for their hard work - and of course, to the whole school community who took part in their events to raise valuable funds for the school.

Next week, we wish Year 4 well, as some of them take part in the Mighty Oak Public Speaking competition at Anglia Ruskin University! We wish them all the best as they demonstrate courage, collaboration and challenge.

Don't forget the meeting for Year 6 parents in the hall on Monday afternoon at 2.30pm. Have a wonderful weekend!

Ms Walker, Executive Headteacher (NPQEL) & Miss Bailey, Executive Deputy Headteacher (NPQH)



WEEKLY ATTENDANCE

EYFS - 99.5%
Year 1 - 97.7%
Year 2 - 96.5%
Year 3 - 98.6%
Year 4 - 94.2%
Year 5 - 98.3%
Year 6 - 95.8%
Total - 97.3%



WELL DONE DUCKLINGS!

MAKE THE RULES DAY!

The PTA have raised £456 today - well done all! What a great day we have had!



OUR DOWNHAM 5C AWARD WINNERS FOR THIS WEEK:

EYFS - Winter for creativity
Year 1 - Chloe for critical thinking in improving her writing
Year 2 - Arthur for challenge
Year 3 - Daisy for creativity in trying really hard with the presentation of her work
Year 4 - Matilda for challenge in athletics for excellent technique in running
Year 5 - Johnny for always being ready to take on challenges
Year 6 - Darcie Rae for challenge



IMPORTANT DATES:

27 April: Y4 Mighty Oak at Anglia Ruskin University
27th April: 2.30pm Meeting in hall about Yr 6 residential
29th April: Mini-London Marathon in school - all children to wear trainers to school
30th April: Trust Orienteering event (selected pupils)
1 May: INSET Day
5th May: 9am EYFS Class assembly & presentation of Bibles
6th May: Year 3 Colchester Castle trip
6th May: Ursuline School staff visiting Year 5 girls
11th - 14th May: KS2 SATs
14th May (am): KS2 SATs treat
15th May: Eurovision celebration (am)
15th May: Junior Music Festival rehearsal (pm)
18th - 22nd May: Sports week
19th May: Mayflower School staff visiting Year 6 pupils
20th May: 9am Year 4 Class assembly
20th May: 10am Year 1 Class assembly
20th May: 12pm Sports afternoon/family picnic
1st June: Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check this week
8th June: Year 1 Phonics Screener Check this week
14th-17th June: Year 6 Residential
21st June: Year 1 Teddy Bears Picnic at Mayflower
1st-5th June: Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check
8th - 12th June: Year 1 Phonics Screener Check
24th June: Class photographs

HEADTEACHER'S CUP



This week's Headteacher's Cup goes to Lukas. Year 5 and Year 2 did PE together yesterday and Miss Boyd said that Lukas was amazing with the younger children, and was really supportive and kind.