

# NEWSLETTER

INSPIRING ALL TO SOAR TO NEW HEIGHTS  
CHALLENGE - CREATIVITY- CRITICAL THINKING-  
COLLABORATION - COURAGE



## Edition 32: 12th June 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

Good luck, Year 6! The countdown is finally over! Our Year 6 pupils are off to their residential trip to Bawdsey Manor on Sunday. This is a fantastic opportunity for them to challenge themselves, try new activities, and build even stronger bonds as a year group. We wish them a brilliant, fun-filled week. Show everyone what you're capable of, Year 6—we are already so proud of you! ★ The school is certainly going to be very quiet for the next few days.

Our Sports Day, which was postponed due to the ground being too wet, will now take place during the afternoon of Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> June. As we have our class photos that morning, the children will need to come to school wearing smart school uniform. They will need to bring their PE kits to change into once their class photo has been taken. The children will eat lunch at school as normal and we will walk to the field at 1.15pm, to begin races at 1.30pm. Please join us!

Miss Bailey, Executive Deputy Headteacher (NPQH)



## MEET THE STAFF MEMBER: MRS SUTERS

My name is Mrs Suters and I am delighted to be teaching Year 6 this year.

I grew up in the beautiful town of Bridgend in South Wales, where all of my family still live today. Whenever I can, I love heading back home for a good Welsh cwtch, some family time and a chance to recharge by the coast.

I have been teaching for almost 20 years (which seems impossible because I'm sure I'm still 25!). My teaching journey began in the Welsh Valleys before I packed my bags and moved to London in my early twenties. I taught in Neasden and then Greenford for four years before joining the Downham family 12 years ago—and I haven't looked back since.

Over the years, I have spent most of my career teaching Years 5 and 6, which is my favourite place to be. I love helping children grow in confidence, discover their strengths and prepare for the exciting adventure that is secondary school. There is something incredibly special about watching children realise just how capable they are.

Alongside teaching Year 6, I am also the school's English and Art Lead. Unsurprisingly, books, stories and creativity are some of my greatest passions. I have always been an avid reader and writer and firmly believe that reading can transport us anywhere, whilst writing gives us the freedom to create worlds, explore ideas and discover our own unique voice. Whether it's getting lost in a brilliant novel, sharing a favourite story with a class or encouraging children to take risks with their writing, I love helping young people find joy and confidence in expressing themselves.

Outside of school, life revolves around my nine-year-old son, Charles. He is completely Formula 1 and car mad and can probably tell you more about engines than I ever could! We love spending time together building Lego creations, although he is now at the age where he finds my enthusiastic car karaoke performances slightly embarrassing. (Personally, I think my singing is excellent, but apparently I am in the minority!)

When I'm not teaching, you'll often find me at a yoga class, dancing around the kitchen, singing loudly, curled up with a good book or spending time with friends and family. I also have a slight obsession with vintage clothes and thrift shopping. My home is an eclectic mix of treasures, quirky finds and things that simply made me smile.

## WEEKLY ATTENDANCE

EYFS - 99.1%  
Year 1 - 95.2%  
Year 2 - 97.4%  
Year 3 - 96.7%  
Year 4 - 99.2%  
Year 5 - 95.3%  
Year 6 - 99.2%



**Total - 97.3%**

**WELL DONE EAGLES!**

## HEADTEACHER'S CUP

This week's Headteacher's Cup goes to Grace in Year 2. Grace is such a joy to have in Collective Worship every day. She sings her heart out, dances and is always smiling! She gets 10 out of 10 for effort!

She is also incredibly polite and always greets me with lovely manners.



## REMINDER

Probably the most informative and valuable event you could ever attend whilst your child is at primary school, is to see the 2 Johns and hear what they have to say about internet safety and the perils of growing up in a modern digital world. **We strongly recommend you attend their session in the hall on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> July at 5pm.** It will be a real eye-opener! Please note this is not suitable for children to attend.

## IMPORTANT DATES:

14th-17th June: Year 6 Residential  
16th June: 7pm Junior Music Festival  
17<sup>th</sup> June: PTA World Cup day (wear something red, white or blue)  
18th June: BAT football and netball tournaments (invited pupils) at The Willows  
18<sup>th</sup> June: Year 2 Mini-games at Mayflower School  
19<sup>th</sup> June: 12pm Year 1 lunch with a special man in their lives  
23<sup>rd</sup> June: District sports at Billericay High School (selected pupils)  
24th June: Class photographs  
24th June: 1.30pm Sports day  
25th June: 10-11am EYFS Teddy Bears picnic at Mayflower School  
30th June: Non-uniform day (theme of sparkles/fun/party - basically wear what makes you happy!) in return for a donation towards our bouncy castle  
1<sup>st</sup> July: Trust swimming gala at James Hornsby (selected pupils)  
7<sup>th</sup> July: Year 6 production - dress rehearsal  
7<sup>th</sup> July: SATs results released  
8<sup>th</sup> July: Samba drumming workshops for all classes  
9<sup>th</sup> July: 5pm Year 6 production to families

## OUR DOWNHAM 5C AWARD WINNERS FOR THIS WEEK:

EYFS - All of Ducklings for the way they showed all of the 5Cs on our trip to Barleylands!  
Year 1 - Ronnie for Challenge  
Year 2 - Johnny for Challenge  
Year 3 - Daisy for Challenge and Critical Thinking  
Year 4 - Evelyn for Creativity  
Year 5 - Lottie - for Courage and Challenge during Test Week  
Year 6 - Jamie for all of the 5Cs

