

**Kindness, Endurance, Friendships, Forgiveness, Thankfulness**

'Learning with our head, heart and hands so that we can experience life in all its fullness'



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## **News Update 2 20<sup>th</sup> September 2023**

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have so much more to share with you so have sent an additional newsletter this month. Please also check the diary dates section carefully as some exciting extra dates have recently been added.

Over the summer holidays the school had many upgrades. The corridor outside the School Office had its windows replaced so that they are now all double glazed, the corridor roof was insulated and preparations for a radiator were made (which should hopefully arrive soon). This now means we have a much warmer corridor! Hand dryers were also installed in all of our toilets reducing the need for blue paper towels. Lastly, we had to make some repairs to our playground equipment. These repairs were made possible by a generous donation from the Car Club of Matching Green.

Our value for the month of September is community. During Collective Worship the children will listen to stories about different communities from across the world, they will be reminded what it means to be part of the Matching Green CE Primary School community and they will think about how community is expressed in the bible.

### **School Data**

Every year we have to submit data either at a local or national level. This includes the Good Level of Development data at the end of Reception, phonics screening data at the end of Year 1, Key Stage 1 SATs data at the end of Year 2, Multiplication Times Table Check at the end of Year 4 and finally the Key Stage 2 SATs data at the end of Year 6. This data has now all been checked and verified. We are delighted to share with you our school data, so please find it attached to this newsletter. Please note that no local (Essex) data has been released for KS2 data yet so that is why it has not been included.

### **Parent Governor**

We currently have a vacancy for a parent governor on the governing body. As a governor, you will be expected to attend full governing body meetings (4 evenings per year) as well as joining other committees (each one meets at least once a term). In addition to this, there are other areas where you can have a governor responsibility. The majority of our governors have full time jobs so please don't let that be a deterrent to considering being involved.

If you would like to nominate yourself to join the governing body, please complete the attached application. I am happy to have a chat with anyone who would like to know more before applying or you can look at the following website: <http://www.nga.org.uk/Be-a-Governor.aspx>.

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Please complete the attached nomination form and return to school by Friday 29th September. If we have a successful candidate you will be invited to our first Full Governing Body meeting of the academic year on the 3rd October at 7:00pm.



### **Phonics Workshop**

On Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> October at 2:30pm we would like to invite Reception and Year 1 parents into school for a phonics workshop. We will inform you about how we teach phonics in school, the importance of phonics, how you can help out at home and the phonics screening check that will take place in June 2024 for Year 1 children. Younger siblings are welcome we will have some quiet activities laid out for them. Please also find attached our next reading poster all about Phonological Awareness and Phonics.



### **Papyrus**

All schools have a Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) and Deputy Safeguarding Leads. I am the DSL and Mrs Swanton and Miss Roach are the deputy DSLs for our school. We frequently have to go on training and updates as there are so many different aspects to safeguarding our children in school. Last week Mrs Swanton and I went to a conference where we were spoken to by a man called Tim who represents one third of Three Dads Walking. They are three dads that have come together as a result of their daughters taking their own lives and now walk together across the country to raise awareness about suicide. His story was exceptionally sad but inspiring. Alarmingly, more people die as a result of suicide than road traffic accidents. He supports the charity Papyrus who run a 24 hour Hopeline I wanted to share this with our community so that you can share this too and hopefully we are all able to help someone.

<https://www.papyrus-uk.org/>

### **Pokemon and Football Cards**

Prior to the summer holidays the children were bringing in their football/pokemon cards and were playing really well together, which is why we continued to allow the children to bring them into school. However, since we have returned problems have started to arise with children taking cards that don't belong to them, cards/folders/tins going missing etc. It is impacting on learning time and causing upset to some children. We are therefore not allowing cards to be brought into school anymore. Thank you for your understanding.

### **Open Days**

Although we have only just welcomed our new Potter children into class we are already thinking about the next academic year. If you or anyone you know would be interested in coming to visit the school on one of

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our Open Days you are more than welcome. You can apply for primary (reception) school place at an Essex primary school between 6 November 2023 and 15 January 2024. **Offers will be sent to online applicants by email on 16 April 2024.**

Open Days are on the following dates:

Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> October	9.30 or 11am
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> October	9.30 or 11am
Tuesday 31 <sup>st</sup> October	9.30 or 11am
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> October	9.30 or 11am
Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> November	9.30 or 11am
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	9.30 or 11am

## Secondary School Places

If you have a child who will be moving to secondary school in the next academic year then please remember that your application must be in by 31<sup>st</sup> October 2023. If you would like to discuss secondary school places and missed the drop in session last week, please don't hesitate to come and speak to either myself or Miss Roach.



Parents/Carers and members of the community are invited to take part in our MacMillan Coffee Morning. This charity is important to so many people in our community and is always a great way to start the academic year; having tea and cake, a chat and raising money for a worthwhile cause. As always with a Matching Green bake sale there is a theme. This year it is reading. So think about favourite book characters old and new, it can be linked to your child's class book at the moment or it can be from a favourite book at home. There will be prizes for the best bakes.

Please do not feel obliged to bake. Shop bought cakes are just as welcome. Please remember that no bakes can contain nuts and if they are baked at home a list of ingredients must also be provided.

All bakes to be brought into school on the morning of the 29th September. The bake sale will start at 9am. Cash only.

## Labelling

Please label **EVERYTHING** that your child brings into school whether it is uniform, non-uniform, a Tupperware box, water bottle, a lunch box, a pair of shoes. We already have lots of lost property and are being asked to find things that are unfortunately without a name. If it has a name on it we can return it to the right child.

## School Uniform

Please can children be in their PE kit on their PE days. You do not need to have the school logo PE kit or jumpers etc, however they must still be within the school uniform policy e.g. red cardigans/jumpers and navy blue for PE kit. I appreciate that often parents may wait until the end of the summer to buy new school shoes and that there can be some delays to this. However, by now all children need to have a pair

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of black school shoes on their non PE days. Trainers are only allowed on PE days or for exceptional circumstances e.g. injury

### Census Day

We are encouraging all children to have a school lunch at Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October as the number of children having a lunch that day will have an impact on our school funding for the academic year. Lunch will be crispy chicken wraps, potato wedges and sweetcorn with fruit jelly.



We are delighted to announce that on Tuesday the 19th October 2023 we have booked for the Two Johns to come and visit our school once again to raise awareness about how to keep safe online.

They last visited four years ago and were exceptionally well received as they use their own experiences and up to date information to share with us potential dangers our children could be exposed to when using a computer, tablet or phone.

Throughout the day, The Two Johns will work with the children in their class groups at an age appropriate level. After school, the staff will take part in some training, so that we are better equipped to support our children. Finally, parents/carers will be invited to attend a presentation by the Two Johns from **6pm till 7.30pm**. The information that will be shared throughout the day and evening can really be eye opening and it is so important for us all to be aware of dangers modern technology poses. In the meantime please have a look at their website <https://www.esafetytraining.org> We hope to see you there!

Best wishes,

Miss Wareham



Fri	22 <sup>nd</sup>	Sept	Celebration Assembly	@ 9am Parents welcome
Mon	25 <sup>th</sup>	Sept	PTA meeting	9:00am all parents/carers welcome
Fri	29 <sup>th</sup>	Sept	MacMillan Coffee Morning	@ 9am start parents/community invited
Fri	6 <sup>th</sup>	Oct	Shakespeare Class Assembly	@ 9am Shakespeare parents/carers
Tues	10 <sup>th</sup>	Oct	Tri Golf Festival	Invited children only
Weds	11 <sup>th</sup>	Oct	Phonics Workshop	All Reception and Year 1 parents @2:30
Thurs	19 <sup>th</sup>	Oct	Two Johns Online Safety Day	@6pm for parents workshop
Fri	20 <sup>th</sup>	Oct	Celebration Assembly	@9am Parents welcome AND Last day of half term 3:15pm finish
Mon	23 <sup>rd</sup>	Oct	Half Term	All children
Mon	30 <sup>th</sup>	Oct	Back to School	All children

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Tues	31 <sup>st</sup>	Oct	Tag rugby festival- Ongar 9am-12pm	Slips sent home to Shakespeare Class
Fri	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Nov	Royal Gunpowder Mill Trip	Shakespeare Class details to follow
Fri	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Nov	Darwin Class Assembly	@9am Darwin parents/carers
Mon	6 <sup>th</sup>	Nov	Parents Evening 5-7pm	
Weds	8 <sup>th</sup>	Nov	Parents Evening 3:30-5:30pm	
Fri	10 <sup>th</sup>	Nov	Flu Immunisations	For children with consent from parents
Mon	13 <sup>th</sup>	Nov	Start of Anti Bullying Week	Whole School
Weds	15 <sup>th</sup>	Nov	DEAR with a twist	2:30pm prompt start parents invited
Fri	17 <sup>th</sup>	Nov	Celebration Assembly	@9am Parents welcome
Weds	22 <sup>nd</sup>	Nov	Potter Class Assembly	@9am Potter parents/carers
Fri	24 <sup>th</sup>	Nov	Nightingale Class Assembly	@9am Nightingale parents/carers
Thurs	30 <sup>th</sup>	Nov	Robin Hood Pantomime	All children
Fri	1 <sup>st</sup>	Dec	WB Studios Harry Potter Trip	Darwin Class – Details to follow
Weds	6 <sup>th</sup>	Dec	DEAR with a twist	2:30pm prompt start parents invited
Fri	8 <sup>th</sup>	Dec	Christingle Making	All children in school
Sun	10 <sup>th</sup>	Dec	Christingle Service @ St Marys Church	4pm all families invited
Mon	11 <sup>th</sup>	Dec	Christmas Nativity	2pm start parents/carers welcome
Tues	12 <sup>th</sup>	Dec	Christmas Nativity	2pm start parents/carers welcome
Weds	13 <sup>th</sup>	Dec	Christmas jumper day & lunch	All children
Tues	19 <sup>th</sup>	Dec	Last day of term	All children
Weds	20 <sup>th</sup>	Dec	INSET Day	
<b>Return to school Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2024</b>				

**INSET Days**

**Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2023**

**Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2024**

**Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2024**