



CHILDREN IN NEED



This year we will be supporting Children in Need by joining with millions of others in wearing "Pyjamas for Pudsey" on Friday 13th November. The children can wear pyjamas for a suggested donation of £1.00.

One of the national Children in Need activities is "Act your Age" where you take your age and do something good with it e.g. Seth is 7 years old and is planning to act his age by riding 7 miles without stabilisers. Each class will be doing something similar to this in class. You could even try something at home. See the Children in Need website for ideas.

We will also be asking you to send in any loose change/coins as each class will be filling a huge picture of Pudsey with the coins.

We hope the children enjoy these activities and it raises awareness.

In the lead up to Children in Need we will be selling Pudsey wristbands and pin badges for £1.00 each. We will also have some Pudsey/Blush ears for £2.50. These will go on sale from Monday 9th November. Unfortunately, we will only have enough for one item per child. Can you make sure children bring the money in an envelope clearly marked with Pudsey Merchandise and the correct money?

HAIR ACCESSORIES

We would ask you to keep hair accessories simple (red, black, grey or white only) and avoid items such as: large bands, large bows, flowers and bandanas.

DIARY DATES



Friday 13th November
Children in Need - see across

Wednesday 16th December
Jolly Jumper Day - details to follow

Friday 18th December
Last day of term

Monday 4th January
Return to school

Monday 10th May to Thursday 13th May
KS2 SATS WEEK

Monday 10th May to Friday 14th May
Year 5 Residential Trip to Swattenden

Wednesday 19th May to Friday 21st May
Year 6 Residential Trip to Stubbers

ATTENDANCE

The classes with the best attendance in week ending 06/11/20 and the winners of the Graham James Attendance shield are:

EYFS/KS1

Class 1MW with 97.4%

KS2

Class 3AC and 3OT with 100%

TWO TUBE ROCK STARS
PRESENTS
MATHS WEEK
England
9th - 14th NOVEMBER
ROCK OUT
2020
PRIZES TO BE WON

- ANSWER AS MANY QUESTIONS AS POSSIBLE
- PLAY IN ANY GAME TYPE
- WINNING CLASS WILL HAVE THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF CORRECT ANSWERS PER PUPIL
- ASK YOUR TEACHER FOR FULL DETAILS OR VISIT: TTROCKSTARS.COM/PAGE/MATHSWEEKENGLAND2020

IMPORTANT NOTICE -

DINNER MONEY

Reminder that dinner money should be paid on the day or in advance.

Our preferred method of payment is Parent Pay. If you do not have a log-on, please ask at the office and we can arrange this for you.

Now more than ever we are encouraging parents to pay using ParentPay where possible as receiving cash payments increases the chance of contact between staff, parents and children whilst social distancing measures are in place - exposing everyone to unnecessary risks.

It is the parents' responsibility to know how much credit is on their account. Parent Pay now shows up to date running balances.

Office staff will now only send dinner money arrears texts once per week.

However, please note that we do not allow arrears to go over £10.50. We will not provide a school dinner for children if the arrears are over £10.50 and parents will be contacted informing them that they need to either pay before lunch time, bring in a packed lunch or collect their child to take them home for lunch.

REGULAR ARREARS

When an account is regularly in arrears, we will insist on payment up front and a lunch will not be provided without payment in advance.

BREAKFAST CLUB

When arrears reach £10.50, parents will be contacted and asked to bring the arrears up to date immediately. Failure to do this could jeopardise a child's place at Breakfast Club.

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Your child may be eligible for free school meals if you receive either:

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Child Tax Credit - provided you are not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190
- Universal Credit - provided your total net earnings are no more than £616.67 each month, starting from 1 April 2018
- the guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

Please apply online if you think you may be entitled.

<https://www.thurrock.gov.uk/school-meals/free-school-meals>

Even if you do not currently pay for your child's meals (because they are in reception, Year 1 or Year 2) you should still apply if you think you are entitled. Whilst in lockdown we were able to make weekly payments to families who receive free school meals and you could miss out if schools are forced to close again.

APPLYING FOR RECEPTION 2021 PLACE

If your child was born between 1 September 2016 and 31 August 2017, you must apply for their reception school place for September 2021.

The applications opened on Monday 2nd November and you must apply before 15th January 2021.

Check out our website for virtual tours of the school. Please check these out by clicking on the link below:

<http://www.grahamjamesacademy.co.uk/>

Please share with friends and family who are looking at prospective schools for next year

VIRTUAL TOUR

Unfortunately, due to COVID-19, we are unable to have visitors in school for tours. However, our teachers have made short videos of their classrooms and some of our Year 6 children have also made some videos of our school.

Lots of children took part in the filming of these videos and the children all enjoyed taking part.

Please share this with friends with children who are due to start school next year.

We would love to have prospective parents in to see our school but we hope that these virtual tours give parents some opportunity to view the school and nursery.

<http://www.grahamjamesacademy.co.uk/>

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school office on 01375 675889 or by email.

IF YOUR CHILD IS OFF...

If your child is absent then you must phone on the first day of absence and leave a message when prompted. Please state the following:

- your child's name
- class
- **reason for being off**

It is not sufficient to just say that they will not be in. As a school we are expected by Ofsted and the Local Authority to know why a child is not in school and report any cases where there are persistent and/or unexplained absences.

Please ensure that you send a letter in with your child when they return to school. Please state the reason for absence as we need this for your child's file.

When children are off regularly and parents do not call in to report their child's absence we will consider doing a home visit.

ROLL OF HONOUR

This will now be sent out by e-mail at the end of each month and only the most recent gold awards will appear on the fortnightly newsletter.

LATENESS

Can we please remind you that the school day starts at 8.55am. We have an increasing number of children arriving after this time. It is disruptive to classroom and office staff when your child is late and your child is missing out on valuable learning time when they arrive after their classmates.

Letters are sent home to those with persistent lateness and meetings will be arranged if there is no improvement after the first letter has been sent.

MILK

Children under 5 receive free milk at school.

If your child is over 5 and you would like them to receive milk then please register your child online, visit www.coolmilk.com The current cost is approximately 22p per day.

After School - Club Timetable

Monday	Jujitsu (not running during lockdown)
Tuesday	Study Club – Year 6 – to start 3/11/20
Wednesday	After school clubs are under review and we will notify parents when they re-start.
Thursday	
Friday	

P.E. KITS

Please could you ensure children have both indoor and outdoor P.E. kits.

- | | | |
|---------|---|---|
| Indoor | - | red or black shorts, plain white T-shirt and plimsolls/trainers |
| Outdoor | - | Outdoor trainers, tracksuits or joggers and sweatshirts or hoodies (any colour) |

BREAKFAST CLUB - IMPORTANT NOTICE

Due to the popularity of our Breakfast Club, you will no longer be able to attend without pre-booking. Places must be booked by Friday for the following week. Forms can be collected from the school office.

The advance notice will help us ensure that the club is fully staffed and enough food is ordered.

Please arrive before 8.30am for your child to receive breakfast.

CHANNELS OF COMMUNICATION:

Should you have any queries or concerns, in the first instance please ensure you speak with your child's teacher. **At the current time this should be by emailing into the school office. Emails/messages will be forwarded to the class teacher who will deal with the situation accordingly.**

Please note that emails will not be routinely answered but will be actioned and dealt with accordingly.

After speaking with the class teacher, and you are unhappy with the response received please follow the escalation procedure below:

- Class Teacher
- Key Stage Assistant Head Teacher (by appointment)
- Deputy Head Teacher - Mr Turner (by appointment)
- Head Teacher - Mrs Back (by appointment)

EARRINGS ON P.E. DAYS

Reminder that the only earrings that are permitted in school are simple stud earrings. These should be removed on P.E. days. Those who have newly pierced ears i.e. within the last 6 weeks, may keep them in provided that ear tape is worn. This must be provided by the parent.

PARKING

There is no parking for parents on the school grounds. This includes Breakfast Club drop off. The gate will be closed between 14:50 and 15:30 and the Site Manager has been instructed not to open the gate to parents during this time. This is to ensure the safety of the children. Therefore, if you park at school before 14:50 you will not be able to exit the gate until after 15:30.

In addition, please be considerate of our neighbours when parking in the side roads and do not park across driveways (this includes the dentist surgery).

AFTER SCHOOL COLLECTION

Please ensure someone is here to collect your child at 3.15pm. If you know you are going to be late then please make arrangements for someone else to collect your child at 3.15pm.

If your child is going to a friend's house after school, please write a note letting the teacher know that another parent will be collecting your child.

OFFICE

Please limit your visits to the office. Where possible could you call or email instead.

Please see 'channels of communication' on next page for more information re contacting teachers.

If you do need to come into school, then we ask that only one person is at the office window at one time. If another parent is there, please wait outside until they have finished.

GOLD AWARDS

02.11.20	Maddison Fenwick	4AB	Great bus stop division
02.11.20	Arlo Robinson	4AB	Great bus stop division
02.11.20	Freddie Wright	5RW	For creating a comic
02.11.20	George Darrah	5RW	For creating a comic
02.11.20	Rhea Hall	5RW	Playing some French games
02.11.20	Cameron Akdeniz	5RW	For knowing all times tables
02.11.20	Ronni Johnson	5RW	For always giving 100%
02.11.20	Jacob Smith	5RW	For always giving 100%
02.11.20	Jacob Moloney	5RW	For always giving 100%
02.11.20	Paige Morgans	5RW	For always giving 100%
02.11.20	Max Strong	5RW	Getting 9/10 in recent SPAG test
02.11.20	Evie Bean	5RW	Getting 9/10 in recent SPAG test
02.11.20	Mia Day	3AC	Great English work
02.11.20	Blazej Samsel	3AC	Great English work
03.11.20	Amber O'Sullivan	5RW	Excellent weekly spelling scores
03.11.20	Ava Mobsby	5RW	Excellent weekly spelling scores
03.11.20	Ava Winchester	5RW	Excellent weekly spelling scores
03.11.20	Cameron Akdeniz	5RW	Excellent weekly spelling scores
03.11.20	Cassie Peters-Clark	5RW	Excellent weekly spelling scores
03.11.20	Daisy Walters	5RW	Excellent weekly spelling scores
03.11.20	Emmelia West	5RW	Excellent weekly spelling scores
03.11.20	Evie Bean	5RW	Excellent weekly spelling scores
03.11.20	Freya Rimini	5RW	Excellent weekly spelling scores
03.11.20	George Darrah	5RW	Excellent weekly spelling scores
03.11.20	George Durden	5RW	Excellent weekly spelling scores
03.11.20	Jacob Moloney	5RW	Excellent weekly spelling scores
03.11.20	Katie Moore	5RW	Excellent weekly spelling scores
03.11.20	Lexi Shuti	5RW	Excellent weekly spelling scores
03.11.20	Max Strong	5RW	Excellent weekly spelling scores
03.11.20	Noah Surry	5RW	Excellent weekly spelling scores
03.11.20	Ruby Dear	5RW	Excellent weekly spelling scores
03.11.20	Zachary Tolson	5RW	P.E. - accurate bowling
03.11.20	Thomas Pope	5RW	For always giving 100%
04.11.20	Olivia Hart	2KR	Maths - addition
04.11.20	Jessica Claisse	2LP	Fantastic progress in Maths
04.11.20	Jenson Ronthon	2LP	Fantastic progress in Maths

TOO GOOD TO GO

Did you know that you can purchase "a bag of magic" for around £4.00? Download the app for more information <https://toogoodtogo.co.uk/en-gb>

Local places include BP garages with items from M&S Food and could mean fruit, vegetables, ready meals, sandwiches, sweet treats and/or confectionery.

Too Good To Go is the free app which allows you to purchase unsold food from top eateries at the end of service, to prevent it from being thrown away. ... In fact, 8% of all greenhouse gas emissions **come** from food waste!

You can help the environment and also save some money at the same time.

**READER OF THE MONTH
OCTOBER**

RSD	Lexi Giller
RSK	Logan Bevan
1GS	Arthur Lloyd
1MW	Erny Perry
2LP	Lainey Beaumont
2KR	Michael Spicer
3AC	Daria Gorobcic
3OT	Mia Clark
4AB	Freya Harvey
4SAT	Alissia Latham
5ES	Kaiden Collier
5RW	Ava Mobsby
6CM	Tallulah Wevers
6JCA	Emily Kench

THEO



Theo recently got awarded Man of the Match. Theo is goalkeeper for his team and his manager said he has come on leaps and bounds since they have started playing matches and that he is super brave when it comes to saving goals.

YEAR 6 BIKEABILITY

In October Thurrock Road Safety Team visited our school to provide Bikeability training for Year 6 children.

More recounts to follow on the next newsletter.



HOLIDAY DATES 2020-21

	Tuesday 1st September to Friday 18th December
Autumn	Half term: Monday 26 th October to Friday 30 th October Christmas break: Monday 21 st December to Friday 1 st January
Spring	Monday 4th January to Friday 26th March Half term: Monday 15 th February to Friday 19 th February Easter break: Monday 29 th March to Friday 9 th April Bank holidays: Good Friday 2 nd April, Easter Monday 5 th April
Summer	Monday 12th April to Friday 9th July Half term: Monday 31 st May to Friday 4 th June Bank holidays: Monday 3 rd May, Monday 31 st May Last day of school is Friday 9th July 2021



TIMES TABLES ROCKSTARS AWARDS

Highest Accuracy from 14th October to 4th November



Daria Gorobcic	3AC	1 st	Dylan Gray	3OT	1 st
Charlie Lloyd	3AC	2 nd	Noah Osborne	3OT	2 nd
Eloise Harris	3AC	3 rd	Riley Henry	3OT	3 rd
Kayden Joseph	4AB	1 st	Tyler Holmes	4SAT	1 st
Caleb McQuade	4AB	2 nd	Mack Boxall	4SAT	2 nd
Anicet Mavita	4AB	3 rd	Oliver Evans	4SAT	3 rd
Adam Wafik	5ES	1 st	Ava Mobsby	5RW	1 st
Kayla-Brooke Brenchley	5ES	2 nd	Oliver Linton	5RW	2 nd
Kenaya Idikayi	5ES	3 rd	Zachary Tolson	5RW	3 rd
Georgia Unwin	6CM	1 st	Kodey Reed	6JCA	1 st
Ellie-May Mannion	6CM	2 nd	Zhané Joseph	6JCA	2 nd
Callum Clifford	6CM	3 rd	Jessica O'Rourke	6JCA	3 rd



NUMBOTS

Most coins earned in the last two weeks
up to 02.11.20



Kienan Akdeniz	1GS	Evelyn Rosales-Carlosama	1MW
Matas Eidukas	1GS	Connor Griffiths	1MW
Daisy Fitzgerald	2LP	Fletcher Rimini	2KR
Noa-May Starkey	2LP	Ashton Gorham	2KR

KAYDN

Kaydn is an elite performance gymnast. He started gymnastics at the young age of 2. From there onwards his hours increased, he has moved up through the groups ending up in the highest men's elite performance group. Kaydn has trained 22 hours per week for the last 3 years. Recently he received amazing news of being selected to be a gifted and talented child. Along with this amazing news Kaydn was asked to increase his hours which was unfortunately outside of school hours so he now comes out of school on Friday afternoons to train alongside Max Whitlock MBE and Brinn Bevan. He now trains 26 hours per week. The club believes Kaydn has full potential of reaching the GREAT BRITAIN squad next year. Well done Kaydn!



YEAR 6 BIKEABILITY CONTINUED



In October Thurrock Road Safety Team visited our school to provide Bikeability training for Year 6 children. This is what some of the children had to say about it:

"In Bikeability we learnt how to stay safe on the road. We learnt to always check around and behind us before using our bike. We have to listen and look before we go." - Emily

"We did some U-turns. We also learnt how to signal. We also went on some mini bike rides. We had to listen out for cars, and we had to look!" - Lily and Paige

"On Monday we learnt primary and secondary positions. Primary is where you are in the middle of the lane. Secondary is where you are closest to the wall. We really appreciated the support we got. On Tuesday we went on the road and learnt the basics of learning how to look back and to the left and right, put our hands out to show we are stopping. On Wednesday we were getting ready to go on a bike ride on the road but unfortunately Harry's tyre popped. So, Harry borrowed a bike and we were doing some drills to help us so that we don't crash or get run over! On Thursday we had another bike ride. We went down The Andersons and did U-turns and right and left turns." - Matthew and Tyler

"Bikeability took place between 5th-8th October. The people who did it in our group were Paige, Lily, Emily and Joshua, Marco, Adam, Tommy, Tyler, Matthew, Billy and Harry. We learnt how to do a U-turn and when to go from a minor road and from a major road. We learnt the difference of a primary and secondary. The signals we learnt were left hand stop signal, left hand for the left turn and right hand for right turn. We did a bike ride at the end." - Billy and Harry

"We did lots of things. We rode to where we going to practice then we did three different things, turning into a give way junction, recognizing road signs and to finish a bike ride before riding back." - Marco

"I had a whale of a time learning to ride a bike on the road. To practice we went to some of the smaller road to do some bike manoeuvres. Then at the end, the instructors' tyre blew and we had to walk back." - Joshua

"From Monday to Thursday we took part in Bikeability Level 2. We all brought our bikes into school. We all enjoyed riding in the road and being taught about the give way markings. Tommy enjoyed the U-turns. I (Adam) enjoyed learning when to stop and give way to people and drivers. We really enjoyed doing bikeability and can't wait to ride in the road."
- Adam and Tommy



Age restrictions



for social media platforms

What is the minimum age for account holders on these social media sites and apps?

13

Twitter Facebook Instagram Pinterest
Google + Tumblr Reddit Snapchat Path

16

WhatsApp
LinkedIn

17

Vine

18

Tinder



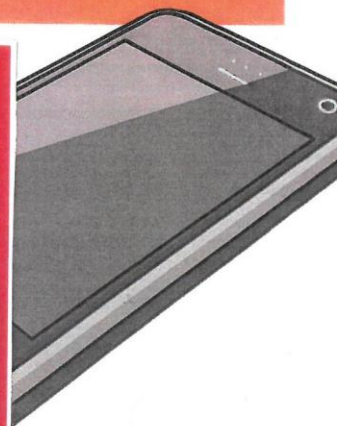
18

or 13 with parent's permission

Youtube Keek Foursquare WeChat Kik Flickr



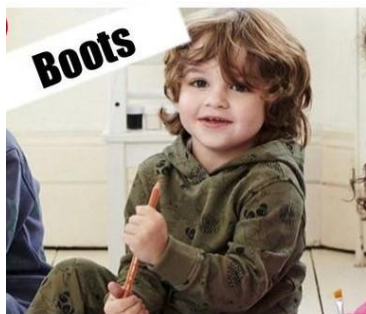
**Stay safe
online**



BEAU AND DOLLY



Mothercare store



Boots

Beau is a keen gymnast and has trained with South Essex Gymnastics Club from a young age. He now trains with the men's squad and is very proud of himself.

Beau has also done several professional modelling shoots & commercials. He now has his own Instagram page where he is a brand rep for small businesses. He also shares a YouTube channel with his sister Dolly.

Dolly recently did some modelling for Monsoon bridal collection she loved every moment of it, especially being pampered in hair and make up.



KYE AND CASEY

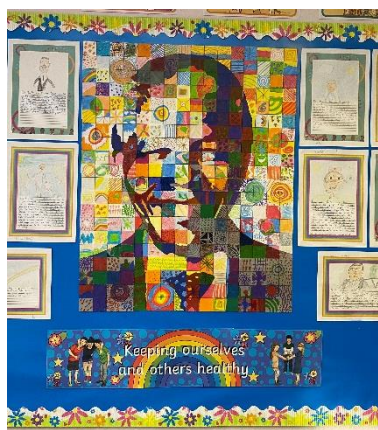


Kye - 4AB and Casey 2LP were both given an award thanking them for welcoming lots of foster children and young people into their home.

Not only do they share their home but they also share their mummy and daddy. They show kindness, compassion and patience with every child that comes into our home and we are so proud of how remarkably well they manage whilst showing love and care for children they have never met.



BLACK HISTORY MONTH - 5ES & 5RW



As part of our work on Black History Month and caring for all, we looked at some influential black people. We looked at how people like Nelson Mandela, Rosa Parks and Dr Martin Luther King brought about change and equal rights for all. We then worked together to create a whole class piece of art.

