



08/11/21
Issue 3



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 19th November. The children can wear pyjamas for a suggested donation of £1.00.

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.

In the lead up to Children in Need we will be selling Pudsey wristbands and pin badges for £1.00 each. We will have some Pudsey/Blush ears for £2.50. These will go on sale from Monday 15th 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?

DIARY DATES



Friday 19th November
Children in Need - details across

Friday 3rd December
Christmas Fete 3.15-5.00pm

Friday 10th December
Jolly Jumper Day - Details to follow

Friday 17th December
Last day of term

Tuesday 4th January
Return to school

ATTENDANCE

The classes with the best attendance in week ending 05/11/21 and the winners of the Graham James Attendance shield are:

EYFS/KS1

Miss Cape's Class RAC with 96.5%

KS2

Miss Dibble's Class 4SD with 96.1%

Graham James Primary Academy
Christmas Fete
Friday 3rd December 2021
3.15 – 5.00pm
FREE ENTRY

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Santa's Grotto

Sparkling dreams Appearance

Arts & crafts

Lots of fun games! (50p a game)

Pop up photo studio
Face Painter
Body shop
Carvers Cupcakes
Dominos Pizza
Raffle with some amazing prizes
Many amazing gift stalls...
...and much, much more!

Designed by Ana Tizon (BICA)

This event is organised by Graham James Primary Academy PTA

PRIZES TO BE WON!

ENGLAND ROCKS 2021

PLAY NOVEMBER 8TH-11TH
FROM 7:30AM TO 7:30PM DAILY

1-HOUR TIME LIMIT PER PERSON PER DAY

ANSWER AS MANY QUESTIONS AS POSSIBLE

WINNING CLASS WILL HAVE THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF CORRECT ANSWERS PER PUPIL

PLAY IN ANY GAME TYPE

ASK YOUR TEACHER FOR FULL DETAILS OR VISIT:
TTROCKSTARS.COM/PAGE/ENGLANDROCKS2021

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 £11.00. We will not provide a school dinner for children if the arrears are over £11.00 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 £11.00, 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're 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 we went into another lockdown.

CHANNELS OF COMMUNICATION:

Should you have any queries or concerns, in the first instance please ensure you speak with your child's teacher.

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)

CHURCH VISIT



On 15th October our Year 6 children visited St Michael's Church in Fobbing to learn about local history and World War I. Staff and children alike enjoyed the visit.

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 won't 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.

APPLYING FOR RECEPTION 2022 PLACE

If your child was born between 1 September 2017 and 31 August 2018, you must apply for their reception school place for September 2022.

The applications opened on Monday 1st November and you must apply before 15th January 2022.

KAIDEN

Well done to Kaiden who was awarded his Chief Scout Silver Award at Scouts on 14th October.



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 ran by Angela Conquest	
Wednesday	Football Club	Year 1
Thursday	Boys' Football Football Club Study Club	Year 5 Year 3 Year 6
Friday	Girls' Football Boys' Football	Year 6 Year 5-6

CRAZY HAIR DAY

On Friday 22nd October staff and pupils came to school with crazy hair! We raised £245.60 for our PTA.



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, we do ask that you pre-book. Places should 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 8.20am for your child to receive breakfast.

Although we ask parents not to, we know that some do continue to drive into the school grounds and we ask that you ensure you turn your engine off when the car is stationary to prevent the amount of exhaust fumes in the air.

MUDDY SHOES

Where possible could you please ask your children to avoid walking on wet/muddy grass on the way to school please.

The mud transfers to the carpets in class and we would like to avoid this as much as we can.

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. This is to ensure the safety of the children.

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).

WILL YOUR CHILD BE 5 YEARS OLD BETWEEN SEPTEMBER 2022 AND AUGUST 2023?

WHY DON'T YOU COME ALONG FOR A TOUR OF OUR SCHOOL TO VISIT THE CLASSROOMS AND SEE THE CHILDREN AT WORK?

WE WILL BE CONDUCTING TOURS ON:

TUESDAY 9 th NOVEMBER 2021	2.00pm
THURSDAY 11 th NOVEMBER 2021	2.00pm
WEDNESDAY 17 th NOVEMBER 2021	10.00am
MONDAY 22 nd NOVEMBER 2021	2.00pm
WEDNESDAY 5 th JANUARY 2022	10.00am

ALL YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED!

NO NEED TO PRE-BOOK. JUST TURN UP.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU

MUSIC LESSONS (Current Year 3-6)

If your child is interested in participating in Music lessons from January, then please contact the office. A minimum of at least 3 children per instrument is required for the lesson to go ahead.

The cost is £57.50 for 10 lessons. **Payment due by Monday 29th November.** The cost is £28.75 for those entitled to free school meals.

KAYDN



Kaydn was privileged to meet and be interviewed by Daniel Radcliffe (Harry Potter) on 3rd October.

Kaydn has recently been a stunt double in a new upcoming film.

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.

LILLY

Well done to Lilly who swims for Thurrock Swimming club and recently got moved up into silver squad. On Saturday 9th and Sunday 10th of October she took part in her first swimming gala the Early County Qualifier Open Meet that took place at the London Aquatics Centre, Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park.

Lilly competed in 8 races overall and came first in two of them, she also beat her personal best time in every race.



NUMBOTS WINNERS

HIGHEST NUMBER OF LEVELS PASSED From 1st-14th October



1 st	Maddox Newman	1GS	1 st	Elizabeth Walker	1KC
2 nd	Lottie Walshe	1GS	2 nd	Anastazja Baffour-Asare	1KC
3 rd	Lacie Whittle	1GS	3 rd	Jake Adams	1KC
1 st	Arthur Lloyd	2KR	1 st	Connor Griffiths	2LP
2 nd	Christopher Davies	2KR	2 nd	Henry Rose	2LP
3 rd	Oyin Ilori	2KR	3 rd	Jackey Fryatt	2LP

GOLD AWARDS

04.11.21	Harry Baalham	5RW	}	For knowing all their times tables out of order
04.11.21	Oliver Evans	5RW		
04.11.21	Travis Gorham	5RW		
04.11.21	Eren Van Litsenborgh	5RW		
04.11.21	Alessia Latham	5RW		
04.11.21	Arlo Robinson	5RW		
04.11.21	Danny Brine	5RW		
04.11.21	Elsie Wright	5RW		
04.11.21	Jacob Foote	5RW		
04.11.21	Minh Tran	5RW		
04.11.21	Vydah Alexis	5RW		
04.11.21	Harry Johnson	5RW		
04.11.21	Olivia Bassett	5RW		
04.11.21	Freya Harvey	5RW		
04.11.21	Eren Van Litsenborgh	5RW	}	Times tables Multiplication Grid 144/144 in 5 minutes or under
04.11.21	Travis Gorham	5RW		
04.11.21	Minh Tran	5RW		
04.11.21	Harry Johnson	5RW		



TIMES TABLES ROCKSTARS AWARDS

Most Coins - 1st-14th October 2021



Ashton Gorham	3OT	1 st	Amelia Clark	3MW	1 st
Kylan Whittaker	3OT	2 nd	Ethan O'Sullivan	3MW	2 nd
Savva Lapajev	3OT	3 rd	Jesse Renew	3MW	3 rd
Mia Clark	4AS	1 st	Sarina Kaur	4SD	1 st
Hannah Ojuri	4AS	2 nd	Charlie Lloyd	4SD	2 nd
Ayden Nason	4AS	3 rd	Elise Rayner	4SD	3 rd
Jessie Flowers	5ES	1 st	Minh Tran	5RW	1 st
Tyler Holmes	5ES	2 nd	Danny Brine	5RW	2 nd
Kayden Joseph	5ES	3 rd	Eren Van Litsenborgh	5RW	3 rd
Harry Spenceley	6CM	1 st	Joseph Mann	6JCA	1 st
Kenaya Idikayi	6CM	2 nd	Thomas Pope	6JCA	2 nd
Cassie Peters-Clark	6CM	3 rd	Adam Wafik	6JCA	3 rd

SAFEGUARDING SECTION

Would you like to understand more about County Lines in Essex?

Join our panel of experts for a live webinar



Lindsay Dalton
CEO, Pace



Sarah Pritchard
Barnados



Your local
Police Officer

Free webinar for parents & carers

23 November, 7.00 - 8.00pm

Do you know how to keep your child safe?

✓ Learn what county lines is

Do you know about child criminal exploitation in Essex?

✓ Understand the signs that your child might be at risk or involved

Are you worried someone is taking advantage of your child, making them do something illegal?

✓ Learn how offenders groom and exploit children

✓ Understand what is happening in your local area

Register <https://essexwebinar.eventbrite.com>



HOLIDAY DATES 2021-22	
Autumn	<p>Wednesday 1st September to Friday 17th December</p> <p>Half term: Monday 25th October to Friday 29th October</p> <p>Christmas break: Monday 20th December to Monday 3rd January</p>
	<p>Tuesday 4th January to Friday 1st April</p> <p>Half term: Monday 14th February to Friday 18th February</p> <p>Easter break: Monday 4th April to Monday 18th April</p> <p>Bank holidays: Good Friday 15th April, Easter Monday 18th April</p>
	<p>Tuesday 19th April to Wednesday 13th July</p> <p>Half term: Monday 30th May to Friday 3rd June</p> <p>Bank holidays: Monday 2nd May, Thursday 2nd June, Friday 3rd June</p> <p>Last day of school is Wednesday 13th July 2022</p>