



Friday 13th October

Menu (w/c 16 Oct)

Week 1

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> October

Year 3/5 swim.

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> October

Flu Immunisations

Skylarks Forest School

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October

Year 2 Swim

Gala

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October8.55am - Grey Falcon  
Class AssemblyYear 6 Henry Moore  
trip – packed lunch  
needed.Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October8.55am Flame Robin  
class assemblyBreak up for half term  
– normal finish timeHALF TERMMonday 23<sup>rd</sup> – Friday  
27 OctoberReturn to school –  
Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October

Dear Parents/Guardians,

It has been such a pleasure to welcome so many parents and carers into school this week to celebrate harvest. We have continued to teach our core values and this week we have learnt with Turbo the Turtle to be resilient using the book 'The most magnificent thing' by Ashley Spire.

**This week in school:**

A huge thank you for all your harvest donations for the foodbank. We have donated an incredible 19 crates of food to Uttlesford foodbank.

Our year 5/6 Football squads also took part in the USSP Football tournament which was held jointly on our sports pitch and Herberts Farm. The children had a fantastic time and our 5/6 boys football team came 3<sup>rd</sup> overall earning them all bronze medals and the 5/6 girls team came 5<sup>th</sup>.

**ACE**

FINAL CHANCE to book for ACE for the October half-term. Please click on the link if you would like to book in – please note any sessions booked will be charged. <https://forms.office.com/e/bGz17ZHAYm>.

**Bookings must be made by 9am 16<sup>th</sup> October**

**Parents Evening**

Most parents have now booked for our Parents Evenings on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October. Please book via Parentmail or the Office if you have not yet done so. The focus of the meeting will be to discuss how your child has settled in, their wellbeing and the teacher's current assessment of their progress to date. It is also a time for you to share any information that will help your child's learning and well-being. The meetings will last no longer than 10 minutes and we ask that all parents respect this and turn up on time and leave after their allocated 10 mins. It is also a valuable opportunity to look at your child's books with them. If you need to bring your child along, Mrs Puxley and other staff can look after them in the infant school hall whilst you have your appointment.

**School dinners**

Just a reminder that parents/grandparents are welcome to join **JUNIOR** children for lunches. The cost of a parent meal is £5.00. **To book please email the office on [admin-inf@katherinesemar.net](mailto:admin-inf@katherinesemar.net) with the date you wish to attend (3 days notice is required) and the colour meal (green or yellow) you would like.** We will then confirm whether we have availability on this date and how you can make payment. Once all the Early Years children are settled we will extend this invitation to parents/grandparents with children the infant school.

Our menu can be found here: <https://www.katherinesemar.co.uk/page/?title=Meal+menus&pid=39>





## Parent Forum

Our Parent Forum is a good opportunity for parents to share their views. Each year has their own representative, who will listen to your views and suggestions and then bring them to our termly Parent Forum meeting. They will also have a key role to play in the fund-raising group which will form part of every agenda. Please see our website for minutes of last terms meetings. We are looking for at least one volunteer from each year group – please contact Kate Brown in the office if this is something you may be interested in or if you would like more information.

## Hairstyles and accessories

We have noticed some of our children particularly our youngest children are not tying their hair back when in school. Hair that is longer than shoulder length should be tied up. We have also noticed that there are a lot of hair accessories being worn including novelty hairbands. Whilst they are really lovely - they can be very distracting for the children and are best saved for parties or going out rather than worn to school. Where possible, hair accessories including hair ties and hairbands should be plain and ideally navy. Thanks so much for your support.

## PE Timetable

Please find below the timetable for PE for the first half of this term.

AUTUMN TERM – FIRST HALF	PE	Swimming	Forest School
EARLY YEARS	Wednesday & Friday	n/a	n/a 3
YEAR 1	Monday	n/a	Red Squirrels – Tue 19/26 Sep & 3 October. Skylarks Tue 10/17/31 October
YEAR 2	Thursday	Wednesday	n/a
YEAR 3	Tuesday	Monday	n/a
YEAR 4	Wednesday & Friday	n/a	n/a
YEAR 5	Thursday	Monday	n/a
YEAR 6	Monday and Wednesday	n/a	n/a

- Children should come to school wearing their PE kit on their PE days.
- Year 2 children should also wear their PE kit to school with their swimming costume on underneath on swimming days.
- Year 3/5 children should wear their school uniform on Swimming days and bring their swimwear to change into at the pool.
- Year 1 children should wear their Forest School clothes into school on their Forest School day.

## Online learning

We are delighted to be working with MIND to support children's mental health and well-being. We are delighted that they are offering a suite of online training for parents. Please look at the attached link to see the range of courses. As MIND are working with a school, there would be no charge if you joined a course. If you need any further help then do speak to Laura Quinn (our family engagement champion in Reception).

## *JUNIOR SCHOOL*

### Year 6 Secondary Applications & Open Evenings

If your child is in year 6, you can apply for a secondary school (year 7) place between 12<sup>th</sup> September 2023 and 31 October 2023. You **MUST NOT** miss the application deadline! Here is the link to apply. <https://www.essex.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools/admissions/secondary-school-places>

Please speak to the office if you need assistance in applying for your place.

### Year 3 Class Assemblies

Our Year 3 class assemblies take place next week. Parents with children in these classes are invited to attend, the assemblies should last no more than 30 minutes. Pre-school children are welcome however due to space restrictions buggies and prams should be left in the main reception area.

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October at 8.55am – Grey Falcon

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October at 8.55am – Flame Robin

### Morning Squads

Just a reminder that if your child attends an outside squad (Football/Netball or Cross Country) and it is raining then the squad will be cancelled and your child should come to school at the normal time. We do not have an indoor space to use for these squads as we also have an indoor squad & ACE club running at the same time. We cannot send a Parentmail out as it is too early – the office opens at 8.15am.



## FUNDRAISING



### ***The Change Challenge***

We will be holding a change challenge during October and November. In the main reception area there is a giant bottle which we hope to fill with loose change (ideally silver, but any coins are fine). Once the bottle is full children are invited to guess how much is in the bottle. There will be a prize for whoever guesses the closest. The money raised from this will help pay for the Pantomimes we have booked for the children to enjoy just before Christmas – Treasure Island for the Infants and Cinderella for the Juniors. Please bring any change to the reception area.

### **Christmas Fayre**

We are starting to plan our Christmas Fayre. We always hold a raffle and are looking for some raffle prizes. Do you own your own business and could you provide a gift voucher or prize for one of our hampers? We will send out a form next week asking for offers of help as we cannot run the fayre without some parental involvement. Please see Kate in the office if you can help in any way!

### **Pre-Loved Uniform**

Should you ever need contact any preloved uniform please contact [preloved@katherinesemar.net](mailto:preloved@katherinesemar.net). Thank you for your continued support.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

Kind regards

Julie Puxley

Executive Headteacher