



Menu (w/c 2 Feb)

Week 2

Monday 2nd February

Year 3/6 Swim

Tuesday 3rd February

9am – Y5 Orangutan Maths workshop

Wed 4th February

8.55am Elephant Class assembly

Year 2 Swim

Thu 5th February

9am Y5 Jaguar Maths Workshop

Friday 6th February

8.55am Okapi class assembly

Early Years parent workshop straight after reading morning (until 9.30am)

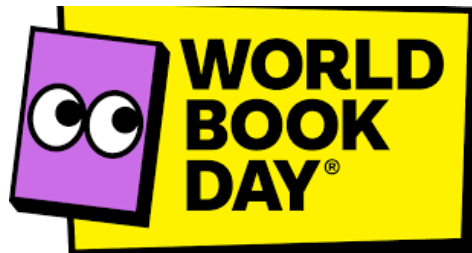
Just a reminder squads begin at 8.15am. (8.10am for netball). Please be punctual. We cannot admit children after 8.20am. You will need to stay with your child until school starts if you arrive late.

Dear Parents/Carers



This week in School:

Our Year 5 classes had a wonderful visit to the William Morris Gallery in London. Throughout the day the children made careful observations of William Morris wallpaper, furniture and textiles. They had a lot of fun with hands on activities including building a stained glass window, weaving and using view finders to sketch more details of his work. Taking inspiration from William Morris, the children also designed their own illuminated letters. Year 5 will continue with their William Morris learning in school over the next few weeks and hopefully be inspired by what they saw at the gallery and use this to design their own wallpapers.



Thursday 5th March 2026

2026 is The National Year of Reading, with a focus on Reading for Pleasure. This is in response to the steep decline which has been seen in children choosing to read for enjoyment.

With this in mind, we want our World Book Day to focus on Reading for Pleasure

Our theme this year is: **The Ultimate Character Champion Battle**

Children are invited to come **dressed as their favourite book character** (and bring in the book) – ready to do battle!

In addition, the day will be peppered with buddy reading, mystery readers and the very popular, masked reader!

We will also be revealing some of the wildest reading places the children have read so do take part in our extreme reading challenge - you might even win a prize! Attached is more information.

Reminder

We urgently need to remind all parents and carers to take extreme care when stopping near the school at drop-off and pick-up times. A child was nearly struck by a vehicle this week, and we must prevent anything like this from ever happening again. Under no circumstances should vehicles stop or park on the yellow zig-zag lines outside the school—these areas must remain completely clear to keep children visible and safe. Please prioritise the safety of every child by following these rules at all times.

Essex Child & Family Wellbeing Service

We are currently experiencing a very high level of requests for support by parents.

Essex Child and Family Wellbeing service Health advice can support parents with many of these requests. Please see attached poster with details for drop-in sessions or contact information for support.





INFANT SCHOOL

Items needed

Our Early Years team desperately need donations of good quality, clean underwear, tights and socks which can be kept for emergency use. If you have children who have outgrown these items we would welcome them! Please drop anything into the office. We are also in need of navy blue joggers.

JUNIOR SCHOOL

School Meal Price Update

Due to the continued rise in food costs, we will unfortunately need to increase the price of school lunches to £2.70 per day from February half term. Our school kitchen is currently operating at a deficit, and although we have worked hard to avoid passing on these increases, we are not willing to compromise on the quality, freshness, or nutritional value of the meals we provide. We remain committed to offering children healthy, well-balanced dishes each day and appreciate your understanding and support. We would like to understand why your child may not always choose school dinners and kindly ask that you complete this survey - [School lunches survey – Fill out form](#)
Please don't forget parents are welcome to come and join us for a school lunch (£6 per adult) – just contact the office to book in! We would love you to see how amazing our meals are!

Class Assemblies

Year 4 class assemblies will be taking place next week, and parents/carers of children in these classes are warmly invited to attend. Each assembly will last no longer than 20 minutes.

Parents are welcome to bring pre-schoolers or babies; however, please note that buggies and prams must be left in the foyer before entering the hall.

Squads and Wet weather

Just a reminder that if it is raining on a mning the following clubs/squads will be cancelled (as we do not have an indoor space availabel).

Monday – Year 3/4 Football Club

Tuesday – Netball Squad

Wednesday – Netball Squad

Thursday – Tag Rugby Y3/4 (first half) and Tennis Squad Y3/4 (second half)

Friday – Cross County (1st half), Athletic Squad Y3/4 (second half) & Netball Squad

REMINDERS

PE Timetable

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

Spring Term – First Half	PE	Swimming	Forest School
EARLY YEARS	Tuesday & Friday	n/a	n/a
YEAR 1	Tuesday & Wednesday	n/a	n/a
YEAR 2	Friday	Wednesday	n/a
YEAR 3	Thursday	Monday	n/a
YEAR 4	Monday & Tuesday	n/a	n/a
YEAR 5	Monday	n/a	n/a
YEAR 6	Wednesday	Monday	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 3/6 children should wear their school uniform on Swimming days and bring their swimwear to change into at the pool.





Reception Deliveries – A Kind Reminder

We've noticed an increase in the number of items being dropped off at reception during the school day. While we completely understand that things can be forgotten in the morning rush, we kindly ask families to consider whether these items are truly essential, as frequent deliveries can disrupt lessons.

Going forward we will only be able to accept and deliver the following items:

- Medication
- Glasses
- PE kits
- Swimming kits

Please note: Homework, planners, and reading books will not be accepted for delivery, particularly for children in Years 5 and 6, in line with SWCHS policy which does not allow items to be dropped to the classrooms. We hope this will support children in building resilience and independence.

If your child forgets their water bottle, please don't worry — cups are available in classrooms so they can stay hydrated. However, having their own water bottle is always preferable.

FUNDRAISING

Plea for help – rescheduled date for meeting

As school budgets get tighter each year it is vitally important that we raise some additional funds from fundraising events or projects. Our school's success and ability to provide enriching experiences for our children heavily depend on the collaborative efforts of our dedicated parent community. We believe that with your creativity, enthusiasm, and organizational skills, we can orchestrate successful fundraising initiatives that will greatly benefit our school. In an ideal world we would have an active fundraising team with a committee that meets with staff members on a regular basis to help plan and run events. If this is not possible (and we know how busy parents are) then we would welcome parents volunteering to run one off events.

We will be holding a coffee morning on Friday 13th February at 9.00am where we would love to chat to anyone who might have ideas or be interested in running an event. If you are able to attend please just come to the main office after drop off – younger siblings are of course welcome!

We know this time isn't ideal for everyone – so we will hold an evening meeting if there is enough interest. Please contact the office (admin-inf@katherinesemar.net) if you would be interested in attending an evening meeting.

Pre Loved Uniform

Should you ever need contact any preloved uniform please contact preloved@katherinesemar.net. Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards

Julie Puxley
Executive Headteacher

