



Dear Parents/Carers



This week in School:

Year 1 had a fantastic day at Boydells Farm today. The children had the opportunity to milk a cow, feed a lamb and hold rabbits & chicks. Please look at the website next week for more photos!

We were also so proud of the children who took part in the Gym & Dance Display at Saffron Hall this week. They all performed brilliantly – the performances can be viewed here:

Year 3 and 4 Dance: <https://youtu.be/UJRLeZzdu1Y>

Year 5 and 6 Dance: <https://youtu.be/qiMAPCIJhHQ>

Gymnastics: <https://youtu.be/gCk8ZzdZ6og>

Clubs & Squads – Summer Term (Years 1–6)

A full letter will be sent out on Monday detailing all clubs and squads available for the summer term for children in Years 1–6. When you receive this letter, please read it carefully. We are extremely proud of the wide range of provision we offer, but we know this can sometimes lead to confusion, so careful reading will help ensure a smooth booking process. Please note that we are unable to offer refunds or switch club bookings, so it is important to choose carefully. Club bookings will go live at 7:30pm on Wednesday. We are also unable to individual feedback if your child does not get in a squad so please remember this when deciding if your child should trial. We have over 250 children in the junior school and this would just not be possible. To give all families a fair opportunity to secure their preferred club, we ask that you book only one club initially.

From 7:30pm on Friday, you will be able to book additional clubs if you wish.

Golden Acre Car Park

Following recent security changes at the Golden Acre car park, the gate will now be locked when there are no hall bookings. We know many parents value using the car park at drop-off and pick-up, as it helps ease congestion and keep everyone safe. Golden Acre has kindly agreed to let us continue using the car park, but this is only possible if we can open the gate for around 30–40 minutes at the start and end of each school day. **The key must be collected from the school office each day and returned once the gate is locked.**

We need volunteers to unlock the gate before drop-off and lock it again after parents have left, and the same at pick-up. This keeps the car park secure and prevents vehicles being left for long periods.

We already have a volunteer for Tuesday and Wednesday after school, and we know others had offered previously— please get in touch again if you can help. With enough volunteers, we can keep the car park available at both drop-off and pick-up.

Easter Egg Hunt and Easter Raffle

Our annual Easter Egg hunt takes place during the school day in the last week of term (parents do not attend but photographs will be on the website). The children will have great fun hunting for clues and finding some treats on the way! The cost of this is £1.50 per child and is payable on SchoolMoney. As always if you wish to support another child there is the option to do so in the shop section of SchoolMoney. **Infant children will be given a small bag of Haribo – please let the office know if your child should not have these. The Junior children will receive some chocolate – the school have dairy free options available.**

On Friday 27th March we will also be holding an Easter Raffle as part of our fundraising – each class will hold their own raffle with several Easter themes prizes available in each class. Tickets cost £1.00 and can be purchased from the shop section of SchoolMoney by Wednesday 25th March. There is no limit on the number of tickets you can purchase however please make sure you purchase under the correct child. Cash cannot be brought in on the day for this event.

Parent Forum Meeting & RHSE Parent Consultation

Our next Parent Forum meeting will be held on Friday 24th April at 2.30pm. There will be a slightly different format to this meeting as we will be consulting with you on the development of our updated RHSE curriculum. This is an opportunity for you to share your views, ask questions, and help shape the content we will be teaching. If you would like to attend, please let us know. *(Parent reps have already been informed and do not need to respond.)*

Menu (w/c 23 March)

Week 2

Monday 23rd March

Year 4/5 Swim

Book Fair

Tuesday 24th March

8.55am - Orangutan Class Assembly

Wednesday 25th March

8.55am Jaguar Class Assembly

Year 1 Swim

Easter Raffle ticket deadline

Thursday 26th March

Early Years visit Colchester Castle

Friday 27th March

8.55am – Infant Easter Hat Parade.

End of Term Easter Raffle – tickets can be purchased from the shop section of SchoolMoney.

Deadline to buy tickets is Wednesday 25th March.

End of term: School finishes at 2pm today. School reopens on Monday 13th April

Book Fair

We are holding our annual Book Fair after school in the library on Monday 23rd March. Please arrive via the main office entrance.

The fair will be open until 4.30pm each day, so you can even pop in after a club.

Please note that we are unable to accept cash – card payments only, please.

The school receives a commission on all books purchased, so by buying a book you are also helping us replenish and refresh our library stock. Thank you for your support!

INFANT SCHOOL



Easter Hat Parade – INFANT CHILDREN ONLY

We are looking forward to our Easter Hat Parade on Friday 27th March at 8.55am in the Infant playground. All families and preschool children are welcome to come along and watch. This only lasts around 10 minutes so please be punctual. All Infant children get to wear an Easter hat they have created at home & parade through the infant playground. There will be no reading morning on this day.



JUNIOR SCHOOL

Junior School Easter Disco

Our Junior Easter disco will take place on Thursday 26th March at the times detailed below. There will be no Junior School after school clubs or squads on this day. Tickets can be purchased on SchoolMoney and must be booked **by Friday 20th March**. **Late bookings cannot be accepted under any circumstances as we need to arrange staffing/print fire lists etc.**

Tickets cost £3.50 and will include an Ice Lolly for all children.

Year 3 & 4 – 4.00 – 5.00pm (Y3 to arrive & exit from Flame Robin front door. Y4 to arrive & exit from Okapi front door)

Year 5 & 6 – 5.15 – 6.15pm (Y5 to arrive & exit from old junior entrance. Y6 to arrive & exit from Junior Hall door)

Our pocket money stall is always popular and so we will be offering this again. Children may bring some pocket money (suggested amount of no more than £2.00 – we will not be able to give change) to purchase items in our shop.

Alternatively, you can pay £2.00 on SchoolMoney if you don't have cash and we keep a list of those who have spending money. Again, the deadline for this is Friday 20th March.

REMINDERS

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.



PE/CLUBS/SQUADS INFO

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

Spring Term – Second Half	PE	Swimming	Forest School
EARLY YEARS	Tuesday & Friday	n/a	n/a
YEAR 1	Tuesday	Wednesday	n/a
YEAR 2	Wednesday & Friday	n/a	n/a
YEAR 3	Monday & Thursday	n/a	n/a
YEAR 4	Tuesday	Monday	n/a
YEAR 5	Thursday	Monday	Orangutans – Tuesday 3 rd March Jaguars – Tuesday 17 th March
YEAR 6	Wednesday & Friday	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 4/5 children should wear their school uniform on Swimming days and bring their swimwear to change into at the pool.

Squads and Wet weather

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

Monday – Year 3/4 Football Club

Tuesday – Netball Squad

Wednesday – Netball Squad

Thursday – Tennis Squad Y3/4

Friday – Tennis Y5/6 & Netball Squad

FUNDRAISING

Quiz Night - Friday 17th April

Mr Aiken will be running his very popular quiz night on Friday 17th April. This will be an evening event for parents/carers. Tickets can be booked now from the shop section of SchoolMoney. Tickets cost £7.50 per person, there will be a bar selling drinks however you are welcome to bring along nibbles (no nuts please). Maximum of 8 people per team, please email the office (admin-inf@katherinesemar.net) at least 7 days before the event letting us know your team's name and team members. If you are coming in a small group and would like to pair up with others, please let us know. This event always sell-outs so please book your ticket asap.

Amazon Wish-list

Lots of families have indicated that they do not have time to support our school by helping out at fundraising events but would be happy to purchase items needed by the school. We have therefore created an amazon "wish list" of additional items we would love for the children. The list can be accessed here, <https://amzn.eu/2G57jB4>. If you choose to buy an item – you do so via your own account but it is shipped directly to school. Thank you in advance! We are also very short on Glue Sticks!!! We would welcome any donations of Prittsticks!

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

