



Dear Parents/Carers

This week in School:

Last Friday, our Year 3 & 4 Gala squad attended the second round of the Essex Swimming Gala in Great Dunmow, and what an incredible performance it was. The children swam amazingly – out of 22 races, they won an outstanding 17 and came second in the remaining 5. This exceptional effort meant the team secured an overall victory by more than 30 points, which is a truly remarkable achievement. We are incredibly proud of the swimmers for their determination, teamwork and fantastic sportsmanship throughout the event. A big thank you to the staff who help with this as well – thank you all for your commitment.

Year 5 travelled back in time this week to Ancient Greece to launch their new history topic. Throughout the day children acted as skilled crafters and made a variety of things including pendants, medicines for common ailments, clay pots and wax tablets. They were told several ancient Greek myths and in the afternoon enjoyed a Greek feast whilst watching each other perform marches, dances, tragedy and comedy plays. Everyone had a superb day and all staff complimented the children on their engagement, curiosity and behaviour throughout the day. Well done Year 5!



Menu (w/c 27th April)

Week 3

Monday 27th April

Year 4/5 Swim

Tuesday 28th April

Dolphin Class Forest School

Wednesday 29th April

Year 4 Residential to Caythorpe

Year 2 Swim

Friday 1st May

2.15pm Infant School May Day Celebration in infant playground

Year 4 return from Caythorpe

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.

Quiz Night – rescheduled date! – PLEASE BOOK BY MONDAY!!!

Mr Aiken will be running his very popular quiz night on Friday 15th May. 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. We have some people coming alone, or in smaller groups so please let the office know if you would like to be placed into a team! If you already brought tickets (prior to the Easter holidays) then these are still valid for the new date – please let the office know if you can no longer attend and need a refund.

Summer Fayre – Help Needed with Planning

We are beginning to plan our Summer Fayre, which will take place on Friday 5th June.

More information will be shared in the coming weeks, but at this stage we are looking for volunteers to help with the planning – for example, sourcing raffle prizes, organising stalls, or helping coordinate activities.

If you are able to help in any way with the planning, please get in touch as soon as possible.

A separate form will be sent out next week for those who would like to help on the day itself. Right now, our priority is building a small team to help with the planning.

Thank you for your support!

Young carers

We are considering setting up a young carers' group. This will support children who care for a parent or a sibling. It might be you feel they do not have caring responsibilities but do have a sibling whose special educational needs or disability affects their lives and you feel they would benefit from some additional support.

This group would not start until September and only if we identify a need for this provision.

If you would be interested in accessing support for your child(ren) please email the office with your child(ren's) name(s) and why you are nominating them for support.



Infant school – May Day Celebrations

Please see the attachment detailing information about our May Day Event on Friday 1st May.

Saffron Walden County High - Teacher of Science & Chief People Office

Saffron Walden County High are looking for a Science teacher – please see the link below if you are interested.

[Saffron Walden County High School - Teaching Staff Vacancies](#)

We are also **Chief People Officer** to join the Central Trust team.

Full details, including the Candidate Information Pack and Application Form are available on the Saffron Academy Trust website, here: [Vacancies - Saffron Academy Trust](#)

Summer Term Scootathon

We are excited to announce that we will be hosting a Sponsored Ride this summer for families to attend and to raise money for the school. Please find attached the event poster.

This will take place on Sunday, the 5th of July, on a course set up around the school grounds.

Call for support:

One of our parents, Peter Scott, is the lead organiser and has asked for volunteers to help run the event on the day.

To make this happen and ensure this is run safely, Peter needs support from parents.

If you can spare an hour or two to help marshal the course or run the stands, any time you can give would be much appreciated.

Please contact Peter via text or WhatsApp on 07525987111. He will then get in touch to arrange times and roles with you. Thank you in advance.

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.

We have also had a request for parents to be mindful of how they are parking especially those in Long Horse Croft. Please leave the entrance to Golden Acre clear when parking for a longer period. There has been a blue Mini parked overhanging the entrance to the centre making it hard for cars getting in and out of the hall.

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: School bags, 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 first half of the summer term

Summer Term – First Half	PE	Swimming	Forest School
EARLY YEARS	Tuesday & Friday	n/a	Dolphins - 14/21/28 April Turtles – 5/12/19 May
YEAR 1	Tuesday & Wednesday	n/a	n/a
YEAR 2	Friday	Wednesday	n/a
YEAR 3	Monday & Thursday	n/a	n/a
YEAR 4	Tuesday	Monday	n/a
YEAR 5	Thursday	Monday	n/a
YEAR 6	Wednesday & Friday	n/a	n/a

- Children should come to school wearing their PE kit on their PE days.
- Year 1 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). We will not send an email out about this as it will be too early – but if it is raining please assume the clubs below will be cancelled.

Monday – Rounders Y3/4

Tuesday – Netball Squad

Wednesday – Netball Squad

Thursday – Tennis Y3/4

Friday – Netball & Tennis Y5/6

FUNDRAISING

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.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend

Kind regards

Julie Puxley

Executive Headteacher

