Our School Newsletter
22nd September 2023

Our School Vision -

"In all things, treat others as you would like to be treated."

Matthew (7:12)

Dear Parents,

A belated welcome back to a new school year! We have been delighted to welcome Molly, Dolcie, Clara, Bridget, Zennor, Bella, Lacey, Evelyn-Rose, Wilf, JJ, Clay, Mabel and Freddie into Ducklings Class this year - they have already made a fantastic start to their time at school! We have also welcomed Gracie and Max into Woodpeckers, Tommy into Robins and Leo into Sparrows Class - we hope they and their families will be very happy at Great Tey. We now have 84 pupils, which means we are pretty much 'full'!

Welcome also to Mr Hallard, who has joined us as a teaching assistant in Ducklings Class and Miss Robertson, who has joined Woodpeckers Class, we hope they will enjoy being part of the team.

In class this term, Ducklings are learning about minibeasts through their Creep, Crawl and Wriggle topic; Sparrows are learning about Superheroes; Robins are learning all about food through their Scrumdiddlyumptious topic and Woodpeckers are finding out all about Space through their topic, Stargazers. In RE, Ducklings are learning about why God is important to Christians, Sparrows are investigating what our senses can tell us about faith and religion, Robins are finding out how people around the world express their commitment to religion and Woodpeckers are investigating what we can learn from the Great Philosophers Aristotle, Socrates and Plato.

Wishing everyone a very happy Autumn Term! Best wishes, Mrs Overton

Agents of CHANGE

Well done to everyone who has got started on their Agents of Change projects already - we have had posters, playlists, poems, fundraising sales and interviews completed already! It has been lovely to see the children's enthusiasm and to hear about their fantastic ideas.

Attendance News

Attendance has got off to a good start in all classes this term so far -

Ducklings - 99%

Sparrows - 97%

Robins - 96%

Woodpeckers - 97%

GREAT TEY Church of England PRIMARY SCHOOL

Email: admin@greattey.essex.sch.uk **Website:** www.greatteyprimary.org.uk

Tel: 01206 210415 **Headteacher:** Lucy Overton

Car Park Safety

Please remember, for the safety of everyone, the area around our school and the village car park has a speed limit of 10mph. We run a 'one-way' system, with cars entering and moving round to the left and around the car park in a circle, parking at the sides whenever possible and parking in the centre only when absolutely necessary. The yellow hatching and area near the yellow bollards should always be left clear - the hatching is there to provide a safe pathway for the children to use. Even if you are late, please go slowly and remember that children may be nearby. Thank you.

RAAC Concrete

The Local Authority completed a further survey of the RAAC concrete in our roof on 12th September and we are awaiting their report. However, we are reassured that the METSEC system we have in place throughout the school eliminates the issues other schools have been facing. I will keep you updated.

Y7 Applications

Applications are now open for secondary school places for September 2024. Parents and carers of Year 6 pupils can apply until Tuesday **31 October**. This is the national deadline.

Apply at www.essex.gov.uk.

Reception Places 2024

We have two open afternoons on 9th and 14th November for any parents interested in a Reception place for September 2024. Please tell your friends!

Recorders

Woodpeckers Class are currently learning to play the recorder with Mr Lund from Essex Music Services. Piano, drumming, ukulele, guitar and singing lessons can also be arranged for individual pupils in school - please ask at the office.

Clubs

Clubs started this week, and run until Friday 1st December. Most clubs run from 3.15 - 4.15, except Film Club which finishes at 5.30pm. Please get in touch if you haven't yet booked a place.

Please remember we also have Breakfast Club from 7.45 each day and Bear Club After School Care on Tuesdays and Wednesdays until 5.30pm - please contact the office to book a place.

After School Clubs		
Monday	Art	Ms Lambert
	Dodgeball	Will
Tuesday	Dance	CSoD
	Writing	Mrs Overton
Wednesday	Gymnastics	Jordan
	Cricket	Mr Maytham
Thursday	Cookery	Mrs Harvey
	Choir	Mrs Amey
	DT	Mrs Tucker
Friday	Football	Jordan
	Film	Mrs Overton
Lunchtime Clubs		
Weds/ Fri	Pokemon / Lego	Mrs Hodgkins
Thursday	Drawing	Mrs Canning
	Knitting	Mrs Tucker

Diary Dates

Sunday 1st October 12.30pm - School grounds clean up - all volunteers very welcome!

Monday 2nd October - donations to Colchester Foodbank welcome this week

Friday 6th October 11am - Harvest Festival Community Worship in church. All Welcome.

Tuesday 10th October 2.30pm Phonics Workshop / Stay and Play for Ducklings Parents

Tuesday 17th October 10.30am - Preschool Stay and Play in Ducklings.

Tuesday 17th October 3.30-5pm Parent Consultation Evening

Thursday 19th October 3.30 - 7pm Parent Consultation Evening

Monday 23rd October - Half Term Week

Monday 30th October - Non-Pupil Day

Tuesday 31st October / Wednesday 1st November - Y6 Bikeability sessions

Tuesday 7th November - School Photographs

Thursday 9th November 1.30 - 2.45 - Open Afternoon for Prospective Parents Sept 2024

Friday 10th November 10.45am - Remembrance Community Worship at church.

Monday 13th November - Book Fair Week

Tuesday 14th November 1.30 - 2.45 - Open Afternoon for Prospective Parents Sept 2024

Thursday 23rd November 10.30am - Preschool Stay and Play in Ducklings

Tuesday 5th December - Proposed Christmas Panto Day

Wednesday 6th December - Christmas Lunch / Wear A Christmas Jumper Day

Thursday 7th December - Flu Immunisations (consent required, info to follow)

Wednesday 13th / Thursday 14th December 2.15pm - EYFS / KS1 Nativity Performances

Wednesday 20th December - last Day of Term / Christmas Parties in class

Wednesday 20th December 6pm - KS2 Carol Service at Church

Thursday 5th January 2024 - First day of Term