

Newsletter

Dear Parents/Carers

This Week

This week I held an assembly where I discussed the religion of Christianity. We discussed the different Christian beliefs such as God and Jesus, how Christians believe that God created the world and how we celebrate this at Christmas and Easter. I also discussed that not everybody is a Christian and that we must all be respectful of each others faiths.

This week some year groups visited St James' Church in Clacton as part of the R.E. and History curriculum. The children were given a talk by Fr. Justin who told them about some of the history of the Church and explained some of the Church rules. He told them about St James and some of the other Saints and their significance in the Church. He also spoke about the different chapels in the Church and the stained glass windows around the Church.

The classes then went round the Church looking at the different chapels, artwork and areas of the Church. Paul Siddall, the Church's organist and a Governor at Oakwood, played the organ for the children and let them take it in turns to play the Church organ.

Fr Justin took each class down into the Vestry and showed the children the different robes he has to wear for each occasion, and explained the significance of the incense that is burned in the services at St James. The children then had the opportunity to ask questions at the end.

The children had a wonderful time. They all found it very interesting and wanted to learn as much as they could. Any trips that were postponed will be rescheduled.

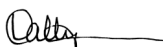
Today was Red Nose Day and it was wonderful to see so many children taking part. Thank you to all those who kindly donated. I will advise next week of the amount raised and can confirm that all the money will be given directly to Comic Relief—whose vision is to live in a just world, free from poverty.

Next Week

Next week there will be Parents' Evenings on Tuesday and Thursday, where there will be refreshments and raffle tickets to purchase. If you have not returned your slip to book a time slot, please speak to your child's teacher first thing on Monday morning.

Have a good weekend.

Kind regards



Mrs K Maguire-Egan: Head Teacher



March Key Dates	
19th & 21st	Parents' Evenings
27th	Easter Cake Sale: 3pm
28th	Easter Assembly
28th	Last day of term
April	
15th	Back to school
Menu	WC March 18th Week 2

Attendance

Year	Last Week	This Week
Reception	93.3%	88.3%
Year 1	92.8%	92.6%
Year 2	91.6%	92%

Please be advised we will ask you for medical evidence if your child is absent for 3 or more days. This follows our School Policy. Should you wish to see the policy, it can be viewed on our website.

REMINDER

After School Clubs Cancelled Next Week

Due to preparing for and undertaking Parents' Evenings next week, all after school clubs will be cancelled.

Reading



Once again I would like to ask all parents/carers if you can please make every effort to read with your child daily.

Once the reading has taken place, please complete their Reading Log.

Your support is appreciated.

PARKING IN AND AROUND THE SCHOOL

I have observed how very dangerous the driving and parking is surrounding the school and can confirm I am working closely with North Essex Parking Partnership to monitor the situation.



If you are a driver please make sure you do not park directly outside the school or outside our neighbours' drives. Please drive slowly and park considerately in the roads surrounding the school.

Thank you for your support.

Breakfast Club

Due to Health & Safety reasons we cannot open the school office door until 7.40am. If you arrive earlier than this, you will need to wait outside until a member of staff lets you in.

Thank you for your understanding.

Last Day of School Thursday 28th March. First Day Back Monday 15th April.

Children's Easter Raffle



A reminder that tickets for the Easter Raffle are now on sale from the school office for 25p each or £1 per strip. You can also put the correct money in a named envelope and give it to your child's class teacher.

Additional Information

Easter Cake Sale



Our Easter cake sale will take place in the hall on 27th March at 3pm. If you would like to treat yourself and your children to a delicious cake, please pop along.

No Dogs



A reminder that no animals are permitted onto the school site (even if being carried) Thank you for your support.

World Book Week

I would like to thank all the children for their tremendous reading efforts during World Book Week. Some children from each year group will receive a reading award next week to celebrate their outstanding achievement.

RE: PE Kits and the participation in PE lessons

Dear Parent/Carer,

PE is a statutory part of the curriculum and children are entitled to 2 hours of PE each week from KS1 upwards. We have noticed that throughout school there are some children who are regularly forgetting their PE kits and this is having a detrimental effect on their learning as it may be that children cannot participate without the correct clothing.

It is compulsory that children are required to have their PE kit in school. Our school uniform for PE is:

- A white t-shirt
- A pair of black/navy shorts
- A pair of black pumps / trainers
- During winter months, children may wear a pair of jogging bottoms and a jumper.

Please ensure all items are clearly labelled.

We have numerous children throughout school who are turning up to their PE lesson in their school shoes. This is a serious health and safety risk and can result in serious slips, trips and falls. It is part of the school's uniform policy, that every pupil should be fully equipped with the required PE kit for every lesson. Also, earrings must be able to be removed by the pupil prior to them participating in PE lessons, or in any other sporting activity.

This is monitored; therefore, if a pupil does not have the required kit or cannot remove earrings, then this will result in an initial verbal reminder to the child, followed by a letter to parents/carers if the reminder proves to be unsuccessful.

We really appreciate those who do bring their PE kits to school regularly and want to make sure that this does not go unnoticed, therefore children who bring their PE kits every week will be rewarded and will be invited to additional sporting events with Mr Widlarz.

It is recommended that PE kits are brought to school on a Monday and left until Friday in case hall slots are changed or there are extra sporting activities taking place that week. With sporting events coming up in the next term, it is essential that all our pupils have the right kit.

Spare kit

If you have any spare PE kit, we would be grateful if people could donate, so that we have some spare kit for children to use if they forget their own. This is a great way to ensure that all children are able to access their learning and other events we provide. Please leave it at School Reception for Mr Widlarz.

Thank you for your support and understanding. If you have any concerns or questions, please feel free to contact school.

Mr Widlarz (PE Leader)