



Newsletter

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28th March 2024

Dear Parents & Carers

We've reached the end of another term, with many new experiences for our children.

The Year 6s had an incredible week at Thorpe Woodlands last week and even the weather was fairly kind to us! The children were a credit to the school with good teamwork, a spirit of wanting to try new things and enjoyed a couple of nights away with their friends.

But although Thorpe Woodlands is over for this year, Mrs Filby is already busily planning and booking next year's visit. Further information will be sent home very soon for our current Year 5 children who will be taking part next year.

Year 1 has been exploring animal life and habitats at Colchester Zoo whilst Year 2 have been time travelling to Framlingham Castle with their project on castles and Years 3 & 4 had a fabulous day at Colchester Castle.

EYFS will be off to visit Easton Farm Park after the Easter break to look at new life with the new spring arrivals of lambs etc.

The school works hard to enrich the curriculum and feels that these types of extra activities enhance and bring the learning experiences alive. We fully appreciate that the costs of trips have increased over the last couple of years, this has mainly been due to very large increase in the cost of coach hire, due to fuel increases.

We would like to reassure you that each trip/event is organised with as much care and consideration to costs as possible. More than one coach company is approached to ensure that we get the best price and this is spread evenly between the number of children in the year group, so the voluntary contribution requested is only for your child. On top of this, we also request your child's entry/activity fee. Where possible the school adds funds to the visit and the PTA very kindly offer a donation, specifically for trips and events, which is spread equally over the 7 year groups that we have in school.

Please remember that we suggest a voluntary contribution for your child's costs ONLY. Contributions are voluntary, but should the school not receive sufficient funding to allow the event to take place, we reserve the right to cancel it. Naturally, any funds received from parents/carers would be refunded in the event of this happening.

Building Works

We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for your patience and understanding with the changes to school access whilst the building works are taking place. We understand that the changes to access may have caused some inconvenience, but this has been necessary to ensure that the site is safe for all. Building work is reduced at the beginning and end of the school day so that parents and carers can drop off/collect children, but rest assured it is a very much in progress throughout the day! The works on the roof have been progressing well, despite the weather and the classrooms and areas in EYFS Yr1 have been completed. The next stage is the kitchen and main hall - work which is planned to take place over the Easter break due to the massive impact that this will have on the building.

Reduced access to the site will continue after the break and we will advise you of any changes to the entrances/exits for your child if/when they place as they occur.

Once again, many thanks for your patience and understanding with this matter, which is entirely out of our hands.

Uniform & PE Kits

Please remember our uniform code, a quick guide below confirms what can/cannot be worn on a normal and a PE day for your information.

Non PE Days		PE Days	
Do wear	Don't wear	Do wear	Don't wear
<p>School uniform:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Trousers/skirt/shorts/dress * Shirt or polo shirt * School jumper or cardigan * Shoes, no heels & safe enough for usual daily activities, playtimes etc. <p>* NB. Skirts should no be no shorter than just above the knee.</p> <p>* Leggings are not acceptable on their own but can be worn under skirts. Sports leggings are to be worn on PE days only.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Trainers * Leggings on their own, they become too thin very quickly. * Jewellery - a watch may be worn at the owners own responsibility but must be taken off for PE * Earrings - stud earrings may be worn, but must be removed for PE * Nail polish * Headbands - small hairbands may be used * Hoodies 	<p>PE Kit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * T-shirt * Sports shorts * Trainers/plimsolls * School jumper /cardigan * Sports leggings/ jogging bottoms * In cold weather bring an additional sweatshirt 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Earrings - it's best to remove these before school on PE days unless the child can remove & reinsert them by themselves. * Thin leggings on their own

Attendance

As you are aware, the Department for Education are changing Fixed Penalty Notices with effect from September, our Attendance Policy will be amended over the summer in line with their new guidelines and we will keep you up to date of any changes.

Please remember that term time holidays will not be authorised, except in exceptional circumstances, but you MUST inform the school at least a week in advance of any planned leave of absence, the relevant form to advise of this is available from the main office. The DFE guidelines state that absences cannot be authorised on or after the event. All absence requests are considered on an individual basis. Where the school feels that an absence has been reported by parent/carer as illness and it is believed that this was not the case, the school may request further information.

We appreciate that holidays outside of term time are more expensive - we understand this very well as school staff are also restricted by term times. However, school attendance is another of the foundation blocks to a good, rounded education whilst allowing the building of social skills and friendships. Please book family holidays outside of term time.

Please be advised that for children with known medical conditions, reasonable adjustments allowing an individual attendance target is agreed. The school actively works with families to arrange school activities around the child's individual needs.

Congratulations to the Green Team!

Well done to all the children over this term for all your hard work - this is shown by the huge number of house points that have been awarded this term, which are collected for their House colour. We are pleased to announce that the Green Team have won the greatest number of points this term. As agreed with our children, the winners will be having a non-uniform day. Therefore, children in the Green Team may wear non school uniform on **Monday 22nd April**.

Book Fair

Thank you to everyone who joined us at our latest Book Fair, we hope that you found some amazing holiday reading along with some good bargains!

Your support is really appreciated, as you are aware, we truly value children's reading as this is a foundation of their learning, offers new ideas and widens imaginations and leads on to enhancing children's own stories and writing.

With your valued purchases we are please to tell you that the school received £625 commission from sales, which is received in fiction and non fiction books for our library for use across the school.

PTA

Thank you to our PTA for their recent events - it looked like the children on the Easter Egg hunt last weekend were having a fabulous time, despite the many changes of weather!

The Wonky bars were also a huge success, details of prize winners will be shared by the PTA shortly.

Once again, thank you to the members of the PTA for giving their own time for fund raising efforts - they support all areas of the school from purchasing reading books for the library to buying additional items for use at playtimes.

Dinner Money

Please remember that for children in KS2 (Yrs 3 - 6), if you are not in receipt of Free School Meals, fund should be in your child's Parentmail account PRIOR to any meals being taken.

The school cannot allow school meal debts to accrue and asks that should your child's account be in debit, that it is cleared as soon as possible.

If you think that you may be eligible to claim free school meals please visit the Suffolk County Council site at <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/children-families-and-learning/schools/school-meals-uniforms-and-trips/apply-for-free-school-meals> or follow the link on our website (Parents, School Dinners & click on the link SCC Free Scholl Meal Application).

This is especially important for children currently in Year 2, as from September you will need to pay for school meals as your child will no longer be eligible for Universal Free School Meals.

Quick Reminders

Please do not scoot or cycle on the school premises - this is for everyone's safety. We have experienced several near misses of accidents and do not want anyone to be hurt.

Please do not walk across the carpark - **especially** with children. This is an exceptionally busy and dangerous area. Use the pedestrian gates and pathways.

If sending correspondence to the school, please include your name and contact details so that we can respond and answer your questions, many thanks.

We hope that everyone has a fun, safe Easter holiday and look forward to seeing you all on Monday 15th April ready to start the summer term.





Trimley St Mary Primary School Calendar of Events

Thursday 28 th March	Last day of Spring Term
Easter Holidays	
Friday 12 th April	Non Pupil Day
Monday 15 th April	First day of Summer Term
Wednesday 17 th April	Yrs 3 & 4 Farm & Country Fair
Friday 26 th April	EYFS - Visit to Easton Farm Park
Monday 6 th May	Bank Holiday
Monday 20 th May	Class Photos Day & Yr 6 Individuals
Week Commencing Monday 27th May Half Term	
Monday 3 rd June	Non Pupil Day
Tuesday 25 th June	Yr 2 - Visit to Foxburrow Farm
Friday 28 th June	Yr1 - Visit to Felixstowe Beach & Landguard Fort
Friday 19 th July	Last day of Summer Term
New Academic Year 2024/25	
Monday 2 nd September 2024	Non Pupil Day
Tuesday 3 rd September 2024	First Day of Autumn Term
Week Commencing Monday 28th October 2024 Half Term	
Monday 4 th November	Non Pupil Day
Thursday 14 th November	Individual & Sibling Photos
Friday 20 th December	Last Day of Autumn Term
Monday 6 th January 2025	First Day of Spring Term
Week Commencing 17 th March 2025	Yr 6 Thorpe Woodlands Residential Visit
Week Commencing Monday 17th February 2025 Half Term	
Friday 4 th April 2025	Last Day of Spring Term
Tuesday 22 nd April 2025	First Day of Summer Term
Monday 5 th May	Bank Holiday
Friday 23 rd May	Non Pupil Day
Week Commencing Monday 26th May 2025 Half Term	
Friday 18 th July 2025	Last Day of Summer Term
Monday 21 st & Tuesday 22 nd July 2025	Non Pupil Days