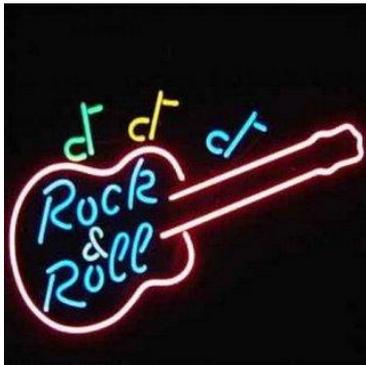




Meadgate Mail

Unlocking Learning Together

Dear Families,



Feel Good Friday

This week we have been rockin' and rollin' as we have learnt about Rock and Roll. An exciting style of music that began in the United States in the 1950s, it grew from a mix of blues, jazz, gospel, and country music, and it made people want to dance and move. One of the first big rock and roll stars was **Elvis Presley**, known as the "King of Rock and Roll," who helped make the music popular around the world. Other early artists like **Chuck Berry** and **Little Richard** added fast beats and catchy guitar sounds. In the 1960s, bands such as **The Beatles** and **The Rolling Stones** became famous and helped rock music develop even more. Over time, rock and roll changed and spread into many new styles, but it has always been about energy, creativity, and having fun. On the gate this morning we enjoyed Rock Around The Clock by Bill Haley and the Comets.

Fairy Tales in Year 1



On Monday afternoon, Year 1 were excited to see Tilly's grandma appear at the door with a bag of story props! She had come to read them the story of The Three Little Pigs. As the story unfolded, knitted piggies popped out of the bag with straw, sticks and bricks to build their houses. A wolf puppet blew down some of their homes but luckily the pigs were safe in the last house made from bricks. The children loved listening to this fairytale and are very excited to see who their mystery reader will be next Monday... Thank you Tilly's

Grandma for kick-starting this fun activity with us this term and for bringing the cute props with you.

There are still slots for Year 1 parents to come in on 2nd Feb, 9th Feb, 9th March and 23rd March so if you are interested in reading a story to the children from 3-3.15, please speak with Mrs Francis at the gate.

The Big Garden Birdwatch 23rd – 25th January 2026



Do you know the names of the birds you see out of your window, in your garden or at the park? Why not take part in this year's Big Garden Birdwatch, count how many of each bird species you see in one hour, while learning their names too. You might like to record your observations on the rspb website, [please follow this link.](#)

To further support the birds in your local area, you might like to leave some bird food out for them and make sure they can access some fresh water to drink too, which is especially important on these cold and frosty mornings, when the ground is hard and puddles of water are frozen. The link below shows how you can make your own feeders for the birds!

<https://www.rspb.org.uk/helping-nature/what-you-can-do/activities/feed-the-birds>



Clubs

Clubs start next week and slips went home on Friday informing families which clubs children have been allocated. Please make sure that if your child has a place in a club, they do attend each week as most will have a waiting list. If they have changed their mind, please tell us now so that we can offer the place to another child, before the course starts.

If your child is in Year 6 you **must** collect them after the club, as the nights are still dark and staff will not release unaccompanied children for obvious safety reasons.

Drop – In Mornings



We would like to invite all parents and carers to our drop-in mornings at the Orchards Café (next door to the school). Primarily, it is an opportunity for us to meet more of our parents and carers and ensure you are feeling supported within the school community. It is also a chance for you to chat with us about any concerns you may have regarding your child or family, i.e. children's additional needs, housing, benefits, counselling, foodbank, etc. Or just drop-in to purchase a drink and say hello! We would love to meet you, and to get to know our families even better. Any questions please don't hesitate to contact either of us using the email addresses at the bottom of this page.



Many thanks
Anna Ing (SENDSCO) and Mel Pointon (Family Support Worker)

New session dates all between 9-10am:
Tuesday 3rd February (Mel only)
Tuesday 3rd March
Tuesday 5th May

Anna Ing: aing@meadgate.essex.sch.uk

Mel Pointon: m.pointon@meadgate.essex.sch.uk

We look forward to seeing as many of you there as possible!

Winnie The Pooh Day

Winnie the Pooh Day is celebrated annually on January 18th, which is the birthday of A.A. Milne, the author who introduced the world to Winnie the Pooh in 1926. The day has been celebrated by readers and fans of all ages since the stories first captivated audiences in the 1920s. Over the years, Winnie the Pooh has become an iconic figure in children's literature, and the day dedicated to him serves as a reminder of the power of storytelling and the simple joys of childhood.

If the weather is rotten, it's the perfect excuse to revisit one of the classic stories. Children can either read themselves or share the magic with a grown up. Equally, enjoy a Winnie The Pooh film, there are several, and be reminded of the iconic characters with their timeless appeal, relatable personalities, gentle humour, and heart-warming lessons on friendship.

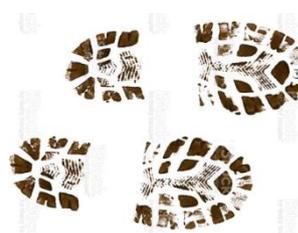


SNAP Charity Parent Information Morning

Thank you very much to all who came along to the SNAP Charity information morning when unfortunately it had to be cancelled due to their family worker no longer being able to attend. This event has now been moved to **9:30am on Tuesday the 10th of February in the school hall**. I would love to see the same faces again plus anyone else who would like to come along and find out more. You do not have to have a child on the SEND register to attend.

Mud

With this wet, cold weather we find that our site can get very muddy. If the children could try and keep from running around on the muddy, grassy bits when they arrive at school, and keep to the pathways, that would stop an awful lot of mud making its way into the building and onto the carpets. Thank you.



Letters Sent Home

Friday 16 th January 2026	Year 2	Infant Musical Festival
Friday 16 th January 2026	Year 4	Superstars Event

Dates for your Diary

Monday 19 th January 2026	Clubs Begin
Monday 26 th January 2026	Year 6 – Parents SATS Presentation – 3:30
Wednesday 4 th February 2026	Year 4 Superstars Event
Tuesday 10 th , Wednesday 11 th , Thursday 12 th February 2026	Parent Consultations
Monday 16 th – Friday 20 th February 2026	Half Term
WB 16 th March 2026	One Planning Meetings
Thursday 19 th March 2026	Year 2 Trip to Chatham Green
Friday 20 th March 2026	Year 2 Infant Music Festival
Wednesday 25 th March 2026	Year 3 Trip to Colchester Castle
Monday 30 th March – Friday 10 th April 2026	Easter Holidays
Wednesday 15 th April 2026	Year 1 Trip to Mountfitchet
WB 27 th April 2026	Mock SATS
Tuesday 5 th May 2026	Year 5 Trip to Chelmsford Museum
Thursday 21 st May 2026	Year 4 Trip to Thorndon Country Park
WB 11 th May 2026	SATS Week
Friday 22 nd May 2026	INSET DAY
Monday 25 th – Friday 29 th May 2026	May Half Term
WB 1 st – 14 th June 2026	Multiplication Tables Check Window
WB 8 th June 2026	Phonics Check Week
Monday 15 th June 2026	Reception Trip to Barleylands
Tuesday 23 rd June 2026	TELAT Sports
WB 29 th June 2026	Year 6 Isle of Wight Week
Tuesday 30 th June 2026	Year 2 Mini Games
Thursday 9 th July 2026	Sports Day
Wednesday 15 th July 2026	Leavers Assembly to Year 6 Parents
Friday 17 th July 2026	Last Day of Term

2025/2026 – Term & Holiday Dates

Monday 16 th – Friday 20 th February 2026	Half Term Holiday
Monday 30 th March – Friday 10 th April 2026	Easter Holiday
Monday 13 th April 2026	First Day of Summer Term
Monday 4 th May 2026	May Day Bank Holiday
Friday 22 nd May 2026	Non Pupil Day
Monday 25 th - Friday 29 th May 2026	Half Term Holiday
Monday 20 th July 2026	Non Pupil Day
Tuesday 21 st July 2026	Break up For the Summer Holiday