

Friday 13th February 2026



# Meadgate Mail

## Unlocking Learning Together

Dear Families,

Happy Lunar New Year to all our families celebrating next week! Wishing you all prosperity, health and happiness.



### Happy Half Term

School closes today for the half term break. We hope the weather improves and wish everyone a well-earned rest. Mr North will be at Meadgate each day with Essex Kids Camp, so if you are booked into that, have a great time. If you are interested in Essex Kids Camp over half term, bookings can be made through the website <https://www.essexkidscamp.co.uk/>. Teachers are looking forward to seeing the children back in school on **Monday 23rd February** at the normal time of 8.45am.

**FEBRUARY** half term  
**Essex Kids Camp**

JOIN US THIS FEBRUARY HALF TERM FOR OUR BRAND NEW SUPERHERO TRAINING ACADEMY!

£35 PER CHILD

⚡ DATES AND VENUES:

ELMWOOD: MONDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> - FRIDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> FEB  
MEADGATE: MONDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> - FRIDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> FEB  
PURLEIGH: THURSDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> FEB

Boom

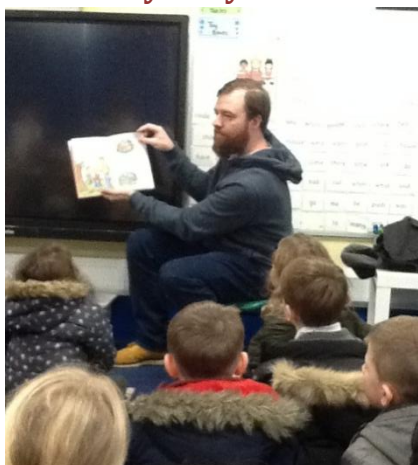
WWW.ESSEXKIDSCAMP.CO.UK

## Ramadan

This year, Ramadan is expected to begin on the evening of Tuesday 17th February. We know that a number of our children will want to join their families in observing part, or all, of the fasting during this period. We ask that if this applies to your child/ren, you complete our Ramadan Fasting Permission Slip, so that we know how much your child will be observing and that you are aware they are doing so. We also ask that you take some time to look over our Ramadan Fasting Policy which explains how we will support your child during the period and ensure that any reasonable adjustments can be made to ensure that the experience is a positive one for them. Both documents can be reached by [following this link](#).



## Year 1 Mystery Reader



This week's mystery reader was... Edward's Daddy. He read Hansel and Gretel which had some rather clever tricks from the two main characters. First they used pebbles to leave a trail and find their way back home and then they tricked the bad-sighted witch into thinking a chicken bone was Hansel's finger so that she wouldn't eat him! Year one really enjoyed this fairy tale (particularly the house made of sweets and cake) and answered some questions about it at the end. We wonder who will be our mystery reader after half term... Watch this space!

## Parent Consultations

Teachers enjoyed meeting with families this week to share achievements and discuss future targets. It's a great opportunity to see the work going on in classes and for children to be able to share with parents pieces they are especially proud of. We hope you found the appointment useful. It was lovely to see so many children proudly sharing work with parents.

Thank you to everyone that attended, the benefits of school and home working together are numerous from both an academic and social point of view as children navigate through their primary education, so it's important to keep in touch.

## Year 2 Take a 'trip' to China.



In Year 2 we have been learning about China, it's location, key landmarks and what it is like to live there. The children enjoyed creating their own questions to find out more about China and we were really pleased when Maia's mummy came into our classroom to answer them for us. She brought in a selection of photos and objects to help us understand more about the culture. Thank you for taking the time to come and talk to us.

The children have enjoyed building their own Great Wall of China, making lanterns, Chinese dragons and red packets, into which they added a note to for someone special.

## Drop - In Mornings

Please see the next dates that Mrs Ing and Ms Pointon will be at The Orchards Café from 9-10. They are looking forward to meeting you for a chat 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 love to meet you, and to get to know our families even better.

Forthcoming dates:

**Tuesday 3rd March**

**Tuesday 5th May**



Anna Ing: [aing@meadgate.essex.sch.uk](mailto:aing@meadgate.essex.sch.uk)

Mel Pointon: [m.pointon@meadgate.essex.sch.uk](mailto:m.pointon@meadgate.essex.sch.uk)

### Starting Reception Roadshows

**Is Your Little One Starting Reception in September 2026?**

Come along to our Starting Reception Roadshow!

Get ready for a fun, friendly, and totally FREE event designed to help you to support your child feel excited and confident about starting reception.

Essex Early Years has teamed up with local schools plus education, health and care partners to bring you a lively, helpful session packed with top tips and advice.

**Want to join in?**  
Ask your child's childminder, preschool, or nursery for details about your nearest event, or visit the Essex Talk, Listen and Cuddle website to find out more about dates and times across Essex.

**Starting Reception Roadshow near you:**  
[Galleywood Primary School, Chelmsford, CM2](#)  
Where: [8RR](#)  
When: Tuesday 24th March 2026  
4.30pm until 6:00pm

You can find out information about the event by scanning the QR code or visiting [www.tlc-essex.info](http://www.tlc-essex.info) and searching 'Starting reception'

Follow us on social media to join our Starting Reception Campaign

Instagram Facebook

## Kids Inspire Free Holiday Club



The Kids Inspire free Holiday Club is run once a week during most school holidays. It creates a safe space for children to:

- participate in meaningful activities
  - make friends and socialise
  - access lunch and snacks
- and all of this is while **developing** social and communication skills and exploring new talents or interests.

### Who is Holiday Club for?

Holiday Club sessions are booked and offered to families according to criteria. Priority will be given to those from lower income families, in receipt of pupil premium or eligible for free school meals.

Activities are free and suitable for children aged 6 and over in primary school.

For more information you can [read our Holiday Club Terms and Conditions.](#)

### Where are the Holiday Club activities?

Activities are held at our Kids Inspire HQ, Hargrave House, Hollycroft, Great Baddow, Chelmsford, CM2 7FW

Time: 10:30am-3:30pm

### Upcoming dates for 2026 Holiday Clubs:

#### Tuesday 17 February 2026 - Animal Discovery with [Eden Oasis](#)

This February half term, children will have the chance to meet and handle eight amazing animals with a visit from Eden Oasis! **Please be aware that this will include cockroaches, leaf insects, royal python, blue tongue skunk, tortoise, ferrets, armadillo and rabbits.**

Expressions of interest are now open for our February activity, please complete our [expression of interest form.](#)

[Eden Oasis - Animal Discovery Tuesday 17 February 2026 - Fill in form](#)

## Dates for your Diary

Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> February 2026	Half Term
WB 16 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	One Planning Meetings
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	Year 2 Trip to Chatham Green
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	Year 2 Infant Music Festival
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	Year 3 Trip to Colchester Castle
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> March – Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> April 2026	Easter Holidays
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> April 2026	Year 1 Trip to Mountfitchet
WB 27 <sup>th</sup> April 2026	Mock SATS
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> May 2026	Year 5 Trip to Chelmsford Museum
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> May 2026	Year 4 Trip to Thorndon Country Park
WB 11 <sup>th</sup> May 2026	SATS Week
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May 2026	INSET DAY
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> May 2026	May Half Term
WB 1 <sup>st</sup> – 14 <sup>th</sup> June 2026	Multiplication Tables Check Window
WB 8 <sup>th</sup> June 2026	Phonics Check Week
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> June 2026	Reception Trip to Barleylands

Tuesday 23rd June 2026	TELAT Sports
WB 29th June 2026	Year 6 Isle of Wight Week
Tuesday 30th June 2026	Year 2 Mini Games
Thursday 9th July 2026	Sports Day
Wednesday 15th July 2026	Leavers Assembly to Year 6 Parents
Friday 17th July 2026	Last Day of Term

### **2025/2026 – Term & Holiday Dates**

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