



This is a gentle reminder to families that due to SEND meetings, there are no teacher-led clubs next week.

Dear Families,



Eid Mubarak to all our families celebrating next week.

Book Week 2026

We've had a busy week exploring all manner of book-related ideas and activities. Here is what has been going on around the school!

Reception

Reception have been making bookmarks, cutting and sticking book characters onto scenery, on a book character scavenger hunt, measuring the feet of the Gruffalo characters, making our own patchwork Elmers. Next Monday they are heading to the local library for a visit.

Year 1

Year 1 have spent the week writing sections of their own story using the book 'You Choose-Fairytales' by Pippa Goodhart, illustrated by Nick Sharratt. We have also drawn some famous fairytale characters following Nick Sharratt's 'Draw along with me' YouTube video. We read stories with Nick Sharratt illustrations that were written by the Chelmsford author- Kes Gray such as A Bunch of Daisies.

We have had lots of fairytale crafts in the classroom during rainbow challenge time and have had fairytale themed dancing in PE.

We were lucky enough to spend some time doing paired reading with Year 4 on Tuesday afternoon.

Year 2

In Year 2 this week, activities we have completed include making a passport for our favourite book character and re-designing our favourite book, writing a summary to go with it. We have also imagined a scene from a piece of isolated text and used our illustrating skills to bring it to life. We loved dressing up as our favourite book characters today.

Year 3

Year 3 have been busy! They have started their first class chapter book – I was there, Boudica's army. They have enjoyed several live lessons with authors this week – a magical one about the Nora Night sky sequel and a humorous one about the Beastie Bros trilogy.

Year 3 have made their own silly books with the help of Year 6, been part of the GREAT BIG KS2 book quiz today and BBC Live Lesson on World Book Day yesterday for the very first time.

They have also watched the National Theatre's production of The Giraffe and the Pelly and Me!



Year 4

This week, Y4 have very much enjoyed various book-week-themed activities! We have been busy designing new book covers for our favourite books whilst recommending the books to our friends. We have also done some hot-seating of characters from our favourite stories; asking questions to the characters to really dig deep into their thoughts and opinions! Earlier in the week, we popped down to Y1 to pair up and do some reading together. Both Y4 and Y1 took great delight in sharing a book together as well as making a new friend! Y4 then decided to make their young reading buddy a book mark to round off their week. All in all, a great week filled with book fun for us!

Year 5

Year 5 have loved joining authors for their book events this week. On Monday they met Liz Pichon, author of the Tom Gates series of books. They created illustrations in the style of the books. On Tuesday they met a new author called William Dobson, who is bringing out a new Japanese Folklore book called Kamizen. The class love anime and loved this session, where they got to create their own new Yokai character. On Wednesday we met Sarah Roberts, who is an inspirational conservationist, and we discovered what it would be like to work in the world of conservation. She has a new book coming out called the Wild Apprentice, which tells you all about the different conservation jobs there are in our exciting world. On Thursday we took part in a Big Footy Quiz, live event. It was great fun! On Friday we dressed up or shared clues about our favourite books. We also shared our own published adventure books with Year 4 and Year 6. What a great book week!



Year 6

In year 6 for book week we have watched a performance of Pig Heart Boy from the National Theatre, taken part in the Footy and Booky quiz as a live event, and enjoyed Stephen Fry reading us our new book - Harry Potter and the Philosophers stone - opening our eyes to the wonder of an audiobook! We are also all coming in on Friday dressed as a book character!

Year 1 Mystery Reader



This week, Henry B's Mummy read us a tale as old as time. She was dressed as Belle and brought a beautiful rose and a candelabra. Can you guess what this week's fairytale was?

Year 1 enjoyed listening to this classic and we spent some time discussing the differences between this version and the Disney film version that most of the children were familiar with. Thank you so much for coming in to our class this week Mrs Benson! Next week's mystery reader is very tall and known for singing in the corridors. Can you guess who it will be?!

Mystery Books

Today, your child may have brought home a very secret reading project – their class' Mystery Book!

Take the challenge!

Would you like to read our mystery book?

Can you keep a secret?

We would love you to take part!

We hope you enjoy sharing the book at home. Anyone can read – adults, older siblings or children – as long as you are all enjoying and talking about the book at home. There is an exercise book for anyone to add a comment or a drawing in response. **There is only one rule – try to keep this mystery book a secret once you know what it is!** When you have finished reading the mystery book, bring it back into school in the secret black folder and give it to the class teacher who can then choose someone else to take it home!



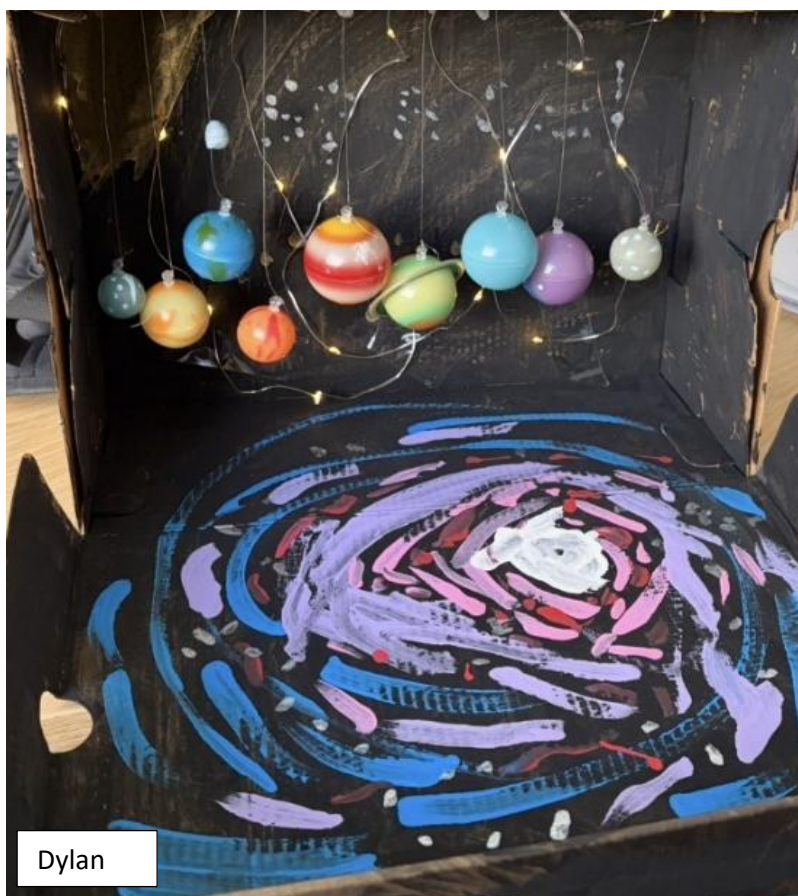
Swimming

Letters have gone home this week regarding swimming lessons for next term. Please make sure that if you would like your child to swim you respond as soon as possible to avoid disappointment. **The deadline for swimming forms and payment is 15th April.** No further swimmers can be added after that date.

Homework

We have a number of children here who use homework activities as a way of showcasing their creativity and we like nothing more than appreciating their efforts. This week, Miss Featherstone was really impressed with some homework that landed in Year 4. We thought you would all like to appreciate Dylan and Livvy's dioramas. We think they are out of this world!





SEND Roadshow for families at Chelmsford Central Baptist Church

Date: Wednesday 11th March 2026

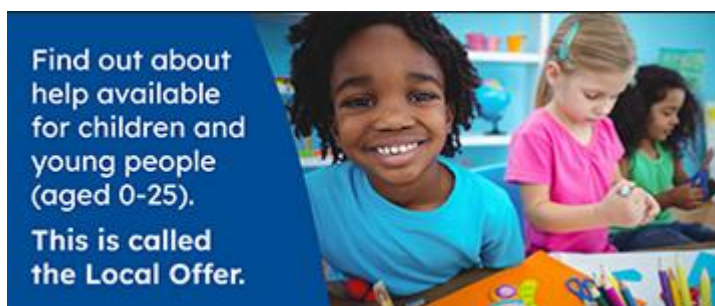
Time: Drop in anytime

- 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM (all ages)

Quieter times: Prefer a quieter visit? Pop in after 11:30 AM.

Location: Chelmsford Central Baptist Church, Victoria Road, Chelmsford, CM1 1LN

- **Cost:** FREE



What to Expect:

Have questions about your child's needs and the best support available? The SEND Roadshow brings together a variety of professionals under one roof, including local support groups, education professionals, health teams, and social care teams.

You can:

- access support and information
- understand the different services available
- discover local support, such as parent groups and inclusive activities
- attend free talks

For more information on the event - including who will be there- take a lookat: [Local Offer Roadshow, Mid Essex | Essex Local Offer](#)

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 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 love to meet you, and to get to know our families even better.



Forthcoming dates

Tuesday 5th May

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

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

Letters Sent Home

Monday 2 nd March 2026	Year 1	Phonics Screening Meeting
Wednesday 4 th March 2026	Reception	Library Visit Letter
Friday 6 th March 2026	All Year Groups	Swimming Letter

Dates for your Diary

Monday 9 th March 2026	Reception Library Visit
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
Tuesday 24 th March 2026	Year 1 Phonics Screening Meeting
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
Monday 20 th April 2026	Swimming Starts
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 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