



Meadgate Mail

Unlocking Learning Together

Dear Families,



Today we break up for the holidays and a well-earned rest. Staff and children have worked very hard this term and it's time to recharge our batteries a bit. Please don't stop your daily reading (which is a lovely thing to do anyway) and times tables, as it means that when we start the summer term we can move our learning on straight away. We look forward to welcoming the children back to school on **Monday 13th April at the usual time.**

Feel Good Friday

We finished another term, as we regularly do, with a reading assembly. A chance to celebrate all the wonderful books that have been read throughout the term and hopefully pass on a recommendation or two. Our KS2 children have been busy completing their book bingo charts and there are a lot of stars in the draw to win lovely new books to enjoy over the Easter break. Don't forget, everyone can get involved in book bingo, so if you haven't really engaged this term, make next term your time to add as many stars to the draw as you can, As well as the chance to win new books (which is always lovely) children enjoy it because it challenges them to read something they might have otherwise passed by, to discover a new author or genre that they hadn't tried before and as a result continue to develop and expand their vocabularies as they read books on a range of different topics. The book bingo has so many positives and staff can see how it impacts the children and how much they benefit.

Year 6 Isle of Wight Residential

A gentle reminder to please ensure full payment for the Isle of Wight trip is made by **24th April**, as we need to confirm final numbers with the Isle of Wight organisers. Unfortunately, if payment is not received by this date, we will be unable to offer your child a place on the trip and any deposit paid may be lost. Thank you very much for your support.

Spring Chicks



The chicks have been back in Reception class over the last two weeks. We had a very exciting delivery of eggs, in an incubator, and staff and children have excitedly watched for each egg to pip. A pipped egg is an egg that has been pecked out by a baby chick. When chicks break

through their membrane, and then the eggshell itself, they start pecking little shell pieces out. It's been an exciting couple of weeks for our 30 new chick parents as they waited for the chicks to emerge. A chick should be fully out of the egg within 24 hours of pipping. It's a lot of work for the tiny, little chick.

Over the last few days the children have loved watching them slowly fluff up, find their feet and start to engage with the world around them, it really is quite a magical process.

Year 2 Infant Music Festival

"We made headbands with birds, ladybirds, bees and flowers to wear at the music festival. I liked all the costumes and Mr Bull was grumpy and funny."

By Christian

Mrs Ash was so proud of the children who attended the Infant Music Festival last Friday. They have worked very hard to learn lines, songs and instruments to be part of the orchestra, choir or cast. They were well-behaved and performed brilliantly – we hope that all the parents and family members that attended enjoyed the performance.





Chatham Green

“We made dens in the woods with ropes and waterproof covers. We used logs and sticks for furniture and got to make a little fire. We got inside our dens then Liam chucked a bucket of water over the dens! Our den managed to stay dry inside. It was fun!”

By Chloe

The children had an amazing time, with beautiful weather. Our thanks to Mrs Hart, Mrs Stogrin and Mrs Ellingford who gave up their time to support us.



Essex Kids Camp



As usual Essex Kids Camp will be at Meadgate School throughout the Easter break (apart from the Easter long weekend). If you are interested in booking your child into sessions please do so as soon as possible. All the details can be found on Mr North's website. www.essexkidscamp.co.uk

A vibrant blue poster for an Easter Party. At the top, 'EASTER PARTY' is written in large, bold letters. The Essex Kids Camp logo is in the top right. Below, it lists locations: MEADGATE, ST NICHOLAS, ELMWOOD, with sub-locations CHELMSFORD, TILLINGHAM, and SOUTH WOODHAM. It specifies '1ST WEEK: MONDAY - THURSDAY' and '2ND WEEK: TUESDAY - FRIDAY' from 30.03.26 to 09.04.26. Two Easter eggs are shown: one purple with '£38 PER CHILD' and one pink with '9AM - 3PM'. Further down, it lists 'CHANCELLOR PARK TUES 31ST MARCH' and 'PURLEIGH THURS 2ND APRIL'. A 'BOOK NOW' button with a hand cursor is present, along with the website 'WWW.ESEXKIDSCAMP.CO.UK'. At the bottom, there are logos for 'Ofsted' and 'CHILDCARE VOUCHERS ACCEPTED'. A white rabbit is peeking over a grassy hill in the bottom right corner.

Puzzle Club



Next term we are running a puzzle club in school as lots of our children (and teachers) enjoy a good puzzle. If you have any at home that are gathering dust we'd love to put them to good use. The club will be for children in KS1 and KS2 so a range of puzzles differing in complexity and number of pieces would be great. If we have puzzles with the same number of pieces we may even get into some speed jigsaw puzzling which is a competitive sport!

If anyone has puzzle books, wordsearch books, rubik's cubes or similar that they are no longer using we'd love to get stuck into some of those too! Drop any donations into the school office after the holidays. Thanks in advance.

St George's Day Lunch

Mrs Hill and Mrs Carter will be providing a special lunch menu on St George's Day, which is Thursday 23rd April. The menu will include....



*Royal Roast Chicken and Yorkshire
Pudding
Or
Little Knight Veggie Fillet*



*Roast Potatoes
Knight's Crunchy Carrots
Dragon Green Peas
Gravy (Optional)*

Knight's Apple Crumble and Cream

Lunch can be booked and paid for in the usual way.

Year 1 Mystery Reader

This week, Baraka's Daddy returned to our classroom as our 'Mystery Reader'. He read the fairytale Snow White which many children really enjoyed. We took time to pause and think about how the characters were feeling at different parts of the story and discussed whether the servant (huntsman) was a kind person for not hurting Snow White as the Evil Queen had ordered. A couple of children did point out that the servant lied to the queen which made them think perhaps he was not a completely kind character. Interesting thoughts Year 1!

Thank you to all the parents and grandparents who have volunteered their time this term to be our Mystery Reader. It has been such a great opportunity for the children to hear different fairytales read by their special people from home.



Swimming

Letters have gone home 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.

Drop - In Mornings

Please see the next date 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 date:

Tuesday 5th May

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

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

Letters Sent Home

Friday 27 th March 2026	All Year Groups	PTA Letter
------------------------------------	-----------------	------------

Dates for your Diary

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
Tuesday 19 th May 2026	Reception NHS Dental Visit
Thursday 21 st May 2026	Year 4 Trip to Thorndon Country Park
Thursday 21 st May 2026	Non Uniform Day
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