



Meadgate Mail

Unlocking Learning Together

Dear Families,

It was lovely to welcome the children back this week. Lots of them said they were pleased to see their friends and staff and we are looking forward to another activity and learning packed term.

Feel Good Friday

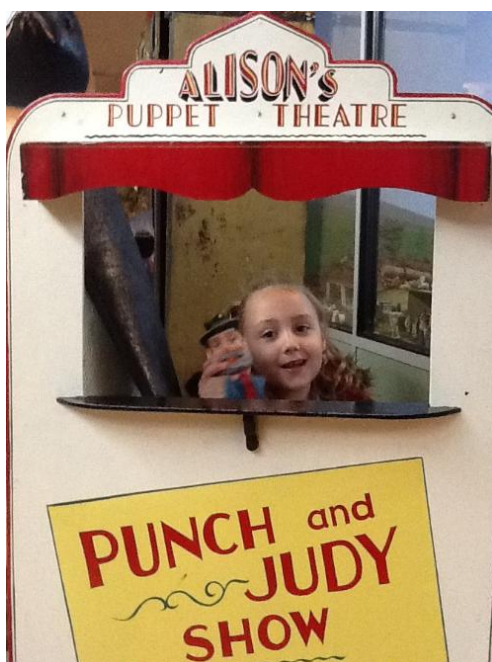


Today was all about synth-pop! Synth-pop is a genre of music that began in the late 1970s and became hugely popular in the 1980s, built around electronic instruments called synthesizers. Inspired by artists like Kraftwerk, it mixes catchy pop melodies with a sleek, futuristic sound. Bands such as Depeche Mode and The Human League helped define the style, often combining emotional lyrics with electronic beats. Early synth-pop artists were sometimes criticised for relying too much on machines, but their sound ended up shaping modern pop, EDM, and even hip-hop. Even today, artists such as Lady Gaga, La Roux and

The Weekend embrace the synth-pop vibe in their work. Our music on the gate today was Cars by Gary Numan.

Year 1's Trip to Mountfitchet Castle

Year 1 had great fun on their adventure to Mountfitchet Castle on Wednesday. The children enjoyed seeing lots of animals including deer, peacocks and guinea fowl. We had the chance to feel chainmail, try on helmets and see all the different parts of a castle that we've been learning about; including battlements, arrow slits and a moat. The children explored the toy museum and we saw lots of old toys including old teddy bears, dolls and puppets like Sooty!





Coats

This week we have returned to school to a mixed bag of weather. We have had everything from lovely sunny moments to torrential hail. It has also been quite chilly in the mornings, including during morning break, on some days.

We have had several children who have come to school without a coat and have needed to raid PE bags or borrow from friends as they have been cold. Please make sure your child has a jacket, even a lightweight one, while the weather is changeable, as we will still be going outside, including in light drizzle.

Swimming

Get in The Swim are offering a swimming session tomorrow. Please contact them directly if you are interested and your child meets the criteria below. info@getintheswim.co.uk

Saturday 18th April

For swimmers of 10m plus

Covering stroke technique, diving, water safety and personal survival

Sessions at 1:30pm, 2:40pm & 3:50pm

60 minutes sessions

(2 x 30 minute lessons)

Cost £5.00 per session, per child

Clubs

Letters for summer term clubs went home this week, so please have a look, with your child/ren to see if there are any that interest them. Clubs provide a great opportunity to have a try at something you might not have experienced before. Clubs start, week beginning 27th April

and please make a note that there are no teacher-led clubs week beginning 8th June due to One Planning meetings which teachers are involved in.

Please return your slips to the post box outside the school by Tuesday 21st as after that date we will start preparing the registers.

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.

Swimming

Swimming starts next week, so if you have paid for lessons please remember to bring your kit and a suitable swimming hat.

Parking

We would like to remind parents that use of our car park is limited to staff during the school day and should not be used by parents for dropping off or picking up from school, unless you have prior permission from senior staff. Thank you.

Water Bottle



Please ensure that your child has a refillable water bottle with them each day in school especially as the weather warms up. Classrooms all have access to mains water to refill them, so please avoid enormous bottles as they take up a lot of space on the desks. In the hot weather a smaller bottle means that you can refill with cool water, rather than drinking from a large bottle, which might be warming up. We only have a limited number of cups in school, which we use for dinners and are seeing an increasing number of children being sent to the office as they have forgotten their bottles. We want to avoid mid-service washing up if possible as it can be tricky sometimes when lots of the cups are in classrooms.

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 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

Wednesday 15 th April 2026	KS2	Reading Books Information
Wednesday 15 th April 2026	Y1 – Y6	Clubs Letter

Dates for your Diary

Monday 20 th April 2026	Swimming Starts
Monday 27 th April 2026	Y1-Y6 Clubs Start
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 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
Friday 17 th July 2026	Break up for the Summer Holiday