



Meadgate Mail

Unlocking Learning Together

Dear Families,

Harvest

We would like to invite families to our forthcoming harvest assemblies, so please join us after dropping the children off at school.

If KS1 parents could gather **outside the office** we can ensure that KS2 parents have left the premises before admitting you.



The timings for the assemblies are below and we know that some families will have children in both key stages, so please feel free to stay in the hall between times. Please bear with us if timings are not exact.

Thursday 1st October 2026

Key stage 2 (Year 3-6) 9:00 – 9:20

Key Stage 1 (Year R – 2) 9:30 – 9:45

As usual we will be supporting Chelmsford Food Bank who would be hugely grateful of any donations you can send in, if you are able.

Items that they are currently in most need of are as follows:

Small jars of instant coffee	Male and female toiletries	Breakfast Cereal
Tea bags 40 and 80s	Laundry pods/tabs (only)	Tins of meat meals
UHT Fruit Juice	Nappies sizes 5 to 7	Tinned hot dogs
UHT Milk	Washing up liquid	Tinned fish
Milk - non-dairy	Toilet rolls	Tinned potatoes
Fruit Squash	Ketchup and mayo	Tinned tomatoes
Cup soups	Tinned fruit	Tinned vegetables
Tinned soup	Sponge puddings	Instant Mash
Mug Shots	Tinned rice pudding	Rice
Jars of hot chocolate	Tinned custard	Cooking Oil
Jams and spreads	Pasta Sauces	Instant noodles
Packets of biscuits	Jelly and packet desserts	Sponge Puddings

They have plenty of pasta so do not need pasta donations thank you.



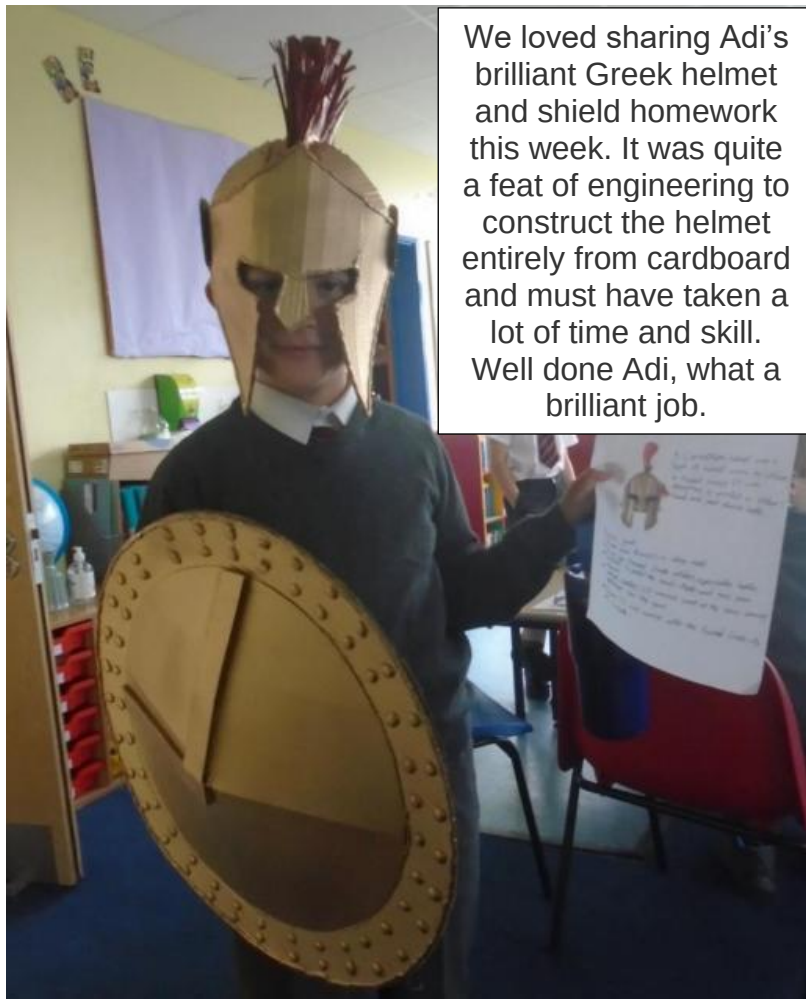
We know that these events are special milestones in children's school lives and that families will want to take photos and videos. **Please ensure that these are only for your own private memories and are not shared on social media.** It is likely that other children will be in them and their families may not want their children on line for a number of reasons, some of which may be for safeguarding purposes.

Year Group Trips and Activities

In order to support our families, we have created a list which details the main trips and activities for each class this year. (See attached) It may not be a definitive list, as sometimes we get a last minute opportunity we want to try and make happen for the children, but it gives families a starting point if they are budgeting. We have tried to estimate the voluntary contributions based on last year, so it is an approximation to the best of our knowledge, but could be slightly higher, or hopefully lower, when letters are sent out. Please note that, as usual if not enough voluntary contributions are received, trips may not go ahead.



I've Been Published In The Meadgate Mail!



This is called the Corinthian helmet, it was named after the ancient Greek city of Corinth.

I enjoyed making this homework and I was so proud of it, especially the patterns I did on the shield. I also spray painted the helmet gold and my mum sprayed it gold as well!

This was one of the best homeworks I made and I will be making more fantastic homeworks in the future :)

Adi Y4

Nut Awareness

At Meadgate we strive to provide a safe learning environment for all students. Due to some of our pupils suffering with serious nut allergies, we are a **NUT AWARE SCHOOL**. An allergic reaction (anaphylactic shock) can occur through ingestion of nut products, cross contamination and breathing nut dust in the air.



We are asking all members of the school community for their help in minimising the risk to these children by:

- Avoiding giving children nuts or nut products in their packed lunches.
- Avoiding giving nuts or nut products or snacks/bars containing nuts for break time snacks.

Please check the ingredients of products carefully before sending them into school, even if you use them regularly, sometimes the ingredients change. Cereal bars, Nutella type spreads and some marzipans are examples of some foods which can contain hidden nuts.

Please be vigilant and check before you send food in. Thank you for your support.

Speaking to Teachers

We know there are times that parents and carers need to speak to us with concerns varying in urgency. We would always rather deal with an issue early, so here's the best way to get in touch with us.

- If you have an emergency that needs our immediate attention, (safeguarding issue, or a problem from home overnight) please go to our school office and speak to staff there. They will be able to help you.
- For other concerns, please email our office admin@meadgate.essex.sch.uk giving us a brief summary of the concern. Staff can then determine the best person to support. If that is the class teacher, please be aware that due to their teaching commitments they may not be able to respond straight away. This does not mean that they have not already started looking into an issue, if it is appropriate to do so. We endeavour to respond to all emails within 48 hours

Head lice



We have had one or two reports to us of head lice in school. While lice are generally nothing more than a nuisance, they can spread so it is important to check heads regularly to ensure hair is lice-free. Any lice that are detected can then be dealt with quickly rather than allowed to spread.

If you do need to use a clinically proven treatment on your child, please read the instructions carefully and ensure you repeat the treatment, if required, to break the cycle of lice.

Parking

We would like to remind parents that the school car park is **not** accessible to parents for dropping off and picking up at the end of the school day, unless you have an arrangement with us due to an identified need. Our car park is very small and the exit around the gate is

very busy at the start and end of the day, especially during our building works. We also want to discourage cars from coming down to the end of Mascalls Way for obvious safety reasons.

Mr Figg and Ms Meager do stand out on the gate from time to time and will ask families to move cars that are parked in the car park without prior arrangement, or parked unsafely close to the school entrance. Thank you for your support.

Please note that in the interests of site security, from **5th October** the car park will be locked overnight, during the day and at weekends.

Secondary School Applications

The new secondary school admission round opened on **12th September 2026**, for parents of current Year 6 children to apply for a secondary school (Year 7) place for September 2027. **The statutory national closing date for applications is 31st October 2026.**

Applications can be made online via www.essex.gov.uk/admissions.

All the information required is available on the website above. Parents **must** apply for places as, even with an application, your choice of place is not guaranteed, so ensure you submit your application within the admission window.

Please visit individual school websites to see the dates of their forthcoming open evenings – it is well-worth visiting to ensure that the school is right for your child.



“The world is your oyster”

William Shakespeare – The Merry Wives of Windsor

We have now enjoyed two Mystery Careers Club assemblies and the children have been busy solving clues to uncover two exciting careers! We discovered what it takes to become an astronaut, learning about space missions, teamwork and the incredible training astronauts complete. We also explored the creative world of a LEGO designer, finding out how imagination, problem-solving and engineering skills help bring new LEGO sets to life. The children loved guessing the mystery career each week and finding out lots of cool facts about these fascinating jobs.

Bikeability Courses for Half Term

HOLIDAY COURSES

**Bikeability Level 1, Level 1 & 2, Learn to ride courses and a new course
Child Bike Workshop & Learn**

To book, please visit link
essex.cycleready.co.uk/publicbooking

Venues: Chelmsford, Colchester, Harlow & Witham

There is a £15 non-refundable booking fee

**SAFER
GREENER
HEALTHIER**



Essex County Council



Letters Sent Home

Friday 18 th September 2026	Year 1-6	Clubs Letter
Monday 21 st September 2026	Parents Only	PTA Quiz Night
Monday 21 st September 2026	All Year Groups	Pantomime Letter
Monday 21 st September 2026	Year 6	Duxford Letter
Tuesday 22 nd September 2026	Year 1	Autumn Walk Letter
Thursday 24 th September 2026	Year 5 + 6	Matilda The Musical Letter

Dates for your Diary

Monday 28 th September 2026	Year 1-6 Clubs Start
Thursday 1 st October 2026	Harvest Assemblies
Friday 9 th October 2026	PTA Quiz Night
Tuesday 13 th October 2026	YR + Y1 Phonics Meeting for Parents at 3:30pm
Tuesday 20 th October 2026	Flu Vaccinations (AM)
Tuesday 20 th October 2026	Year 1 – Autumn Walk at 2pm
Tuesday 3 rd November 2026	Parents Consultations 3:30pm – 6pm
Wednesday 4 th November 2026	Parents Consultations 3:30 – 6pm
Thursday 5 th November 2026	Parents Consultations 4pm – 6:30pm
Tuesday 10 th November 2026	Individual & Sibling Photos
Wednesday 25 th November 2026	Y6 Trip to Duxford
Thursday 26 th November 2026	Open Afternoon 1:15pm – 2:45pm
Friday 27 th November 2026	Open Afternoon 1:15pm – 2:45pm
Tuesday 1 st December 2026	Year 5 + Year 6 – Matilda The Musical
Friday 4 th December 2026	Open Afternoon 1:15pm – 2:45pm
Wednesday 9 th December 2026	Flu Vaccinations 2 nd Catch Up Session
Thursday 10 th December 2026	Christmas Jumper Day
Friday 11 th December 2026	YR Christmas Nativity
Friday 11 th December 2026	Christmas Choir Evening 5pm – 5:45pm
Thursday 17 th December 2026	All Year Groups - Pantomime
Friday 23 rd April 2027	Y1 Trip to Mountfitchet Castle
Monday 10 th May – Thursday 13 th May 2027	Y6 SATs Week
Tuesday 29 th June 2027	Y5 Taster Day at GBHS
Friday 16 th July – Monday 19 th July 2027	Y6 Isle of Wight Residential

2026/2027 – Term & Holiday Dates

Friday 2 nd October 2026	INSET Day
Monday 26 th October to Friday 30 th October 2026	October Half Term
Monday 21 st December to Friday 1 st January 2027	Christmas Holidays
Monday 4 th January 2027	INSET Day
Tuesday 5 th January 2027	First Day of Spring Term
Monday 15 th February to Friday 19 th February 2027	February Half Term
Friday 26 th March to Friday 9 th April 2027	Easter Holidays
Monday 12 th April 2027	First Day of Summer Term
Monday 3 rd May 2027	Bank Holiday
Friday 28 th May 2027	INSET Day
Monday 31 st May to Friday 4 th June 2027	Half Term
Wednesday 21 st July 2027	Last Day of Summer Term