



January	
Friday 23rd	Young Voices at the O2
Thursday 26th	Reception Road Safety Talk
February	
Monday 9th	Year 1 trip to Roman Circus Visitor Centre
Monday 16th— Friday 20th	Half Term
Tuesday 24th	Junior Skipping Workshop
Tuesday 24th	Reception and Year 2 Chinese New Year Dance Workshop
March	
Monday 2nd	Infant Skipping Workshop
Monday 2nd— Friday 6th	Year 6 Residential Trip



Ambition ♦ Respect ♦ Kindness

Dear families

The spring term is well under way. This week, Mrs Khan and one of our Parent Governors, Mrs Kudyk, accompanied a group of Year 2 children to a cricket event in Colchester. We were very proud of the children's team spirit and sportsmanship. A fun time was had by all.



Next Friday, Mrs Harvey and the choir will be travelling to the O2 to take part in Young Voices.

Year 3 Layer Marney Trip

Last week, Year 3 embarked on a school trip to visit Layer Marney Tower. Throughout the day, the children had the opportunity to create clay pots, become archaeologists and explore artefacts. As well as this, the children were able to create their own Iron Age shields and explored food that would have been consumed during the Ages. The children thoroughly enjoyed the trip and they represented the school fantastically. A fun day was had by all. A big thank you to the parent helpers that have made carrying out this trip possible.



School Meals

Week commencing 19th January we will be eating meals from menu 3. You can view the menu on our website. [Lunch Menus | Prettygate Schools](#)



Calling All Budding Artists!

Do you have a young artist ready to share their imagination and skill with the world? We are inviting pupils to submit artwork for this year's **Royal Academy Young Artists' Summer Show**. This exciting national exhibition celebrates creativity in children and young people and is a fantastic opportunity for students to showcase their work to a wider audience. If your child loves to draw, paint, sculpt, photograph, or create, we'd love to see their entry!

Now in its eighth year, the Young Artists' Summer Show is a free, open submission exhibition for students aged 4–18 studying in the UK. Artworks are judged by a panel of artists and arts professionals, with selected artworks displayed online and on-site at the Royal Academy of Arts.

Please submit entries in person, or a photograph via email to the school office for the attention of Miss Isgrove.

You will need to include:

Your child's full name,

Age,

Year group,

Title of their artwork and a brief description,

Dimensions of their artwork (e.g. A4 or more specific if using an irregular size/shape).

<https://youngartists.royalacademy.org.uk/>

Term Ahead Letters and Curriculum Maps

Our term ahead letters for the spring term and curriculum maps for the learning taking place throughout the year can be viewed under the class pages on our website

<https://www.prettygateschools.co.uk/class-pages/>

Pine Cones

If anyone has a pine tree in their garden or if you are out for a winter walk over the weekend, we would be grateful for any pine cones you may find. The RSPB bird watch week is coming soon and we would like to make some bird feeders using pine cones. You can take any that you find to the infant or junior office.



NEST

N.E.S.T (North Essex Support Team) is a small registered charity taking direct action to help struggling families and individuals in our community. They are currently collecting items for their Winter Warmer campaign. If you think you can help, here are the items they are collecting.

Coats, jumpers, fleeces, trousers, hats, gloves, scarves, shoes, boots, dressing gowns, pyjamas, onsies, oodles, duvets, sheets, duvet covers, blankets. Items must be in good, clean condition.

The drop off point nearest to our school is in the yellow wheelie bin at the Colchester Food Bank, CO3 8RG. This is open Mon – Sat 10am to 2pm. Please do not bring any items to school.

The Winter Warmers event will take place next Friday, 23rd January from 09.30am until 2.30pm at Elim Church, Clematis Way, Greenstead, CO4 3PY. Racks of clothing and shoes will be available for people just turn up and help themselves to what they need, completely free of charge.



Friday ARK Assemblies

Each Friday, we hold an assembly to celebrate our school values of ambition, respect and kindness. Class teachers choose one child from their class who has demonstrated all three values consistently. A certificate is presented in the assembly and their parents are invited to come along. See the photos of this week's winners below!

Class	Name of Child
RB	Mia M
RLI	Alfie D
1T	Oscar P
1S	Sam M
2MB	Claudia C
2N	Kate L
3FJ	James G
3G	Sam A
4K	Ella G
4M	Emilie S
5D	Fern F
5RG	Aseel A
6L	Archie N
6MH	Sresha M



House Points:

Pluto – 152 1st
Venus – 150 2nd
Mars – 124 3rd
Jupiter – 98 4th