



March	
Thursday 19th	Year 1 trip to Jimmy's Farm
Thursday 19th	Year 4 Choir at Charter Hall
Friday 20th	Red Nose Day
Friday 27th	Last Day of Term
30th March— 10th April	Easter Holiday
April	
Monday 13th	Children return to school
Thursday 16th	Forest School Fundraiser
May	
Monday 4th	Bank Holiday
Monday 18th	Year 2 trip to Colchester Zoo
Wednesday 20th	Reception trip to Highwoods Country Park
Friday 22nd	Year 4 trip to Daws Hall
25th—29th	Half Term



Ambition ♦ Respect ♦ Kindness

Dear families

It was good to see so many of you at our Parents' Consultation Evenings this week. We hope that you found your appointment helpful and informative.

This week we have sent out a letter with our parent survey. We are always grateful for your feedback.

Infant survey: <https://forms.office.com/e/syzA5tikTH>

Junior Survey: <https://forms.office.com/e/JNFVbLmGAH>

Comic Relief - Red Nose Day

Next Friday 20th March, we will be supporting Comic Relief with Red Nose Day. Children can come to school wearing something red in exchange for a small donation. This is a non-uniform day.

Friends of Prettygate - Sponsored Skip

Our sponsored skip is well under way. All the details can be found on our website and paper copies of the sponsor form can be collected from the school offices. All sponsor money should be handed in by Friday 20th March. Keep on skipping!

Beat the Street

This week children have taken home a Beat the Street game pack. Beat the Street is running in Colchester now until 22nd April. Beat the Street is a free, fun initiative that turns the streets of Colchester into a giant game. Please see the website for all the information. <https://beatthestreet.me/colchester/> Take part to win prizes for yourself and our schools.



Great British Spring Clean

This March, Colchester City Council is inviting you to take part in the Great British Spring Clean. It's a chance to help protect the places you care about, from your street to your favourite park. Running from 13-29 March, the national campaign led by Keep Britain Tidy brings people together to make a difference in their neighbourhoods. Whether you pick up one bag of litter or organise a group effort, your actions will help keep Colchester cleaner, greener, and a place we're all proud to call home.



Roots to Food

This week, pupils in Years 1, 2, 4 and 6 enjoyed a fantastic nutritional cooking workshop as part of their Design and Technology learning, led by Darren from Roots to Food. The children had a wonderful time preparing and cooking their very own Pad Thai, using fresh ingredients including fragrant basil. It was a joy to see the excitement and pride on their faces as they chopped, stirred and tasted their creations. The hall was filled with wonderful aromas, big smiles and plenty of enthusiasm for trying something new. A fantastic experience for our young chefs!

The recipe can be found on our website if you would like to have a go at making it home. Just follow the link:

[Prettygate Schools - School Events](#)





Essex Free School Uniform Project

Essex Free School Uniform Project provides preloved uniform to families in Colchester and the surrounding areas free of charge.

They have 'Prettygate' uniform in stock and you can order online.

Please visit www.freeschooluniform.org.uk

Raring to Go Magazine

Please see the link below for the Spring edition of the Raring to Go magazine for families.

[Raring2go! Colchester](#)

School Meals

Week commencing 16th March we will be eating meals from menu 1. You can view the menu on our website. [Lunch Menus | Prettygate Schools](#) Our new summer menus will be coming soon.

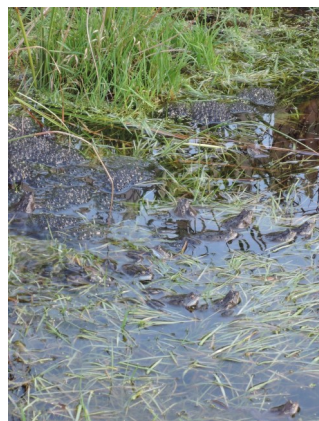
Tree Council - Trees and Hedging

In our continued journey to develop our school site for the children, the Tree Council donated 5 fruit trees which have been planted in our orchard and 100 hedge whips. We have started to plant these with the children and will continue to do so at forest school and eco-warrior meetings over the next few weeks. Thanks to volunteers and staff who have helped with this project.



Spring has Sprung!

This week, we are delighted to share with our families that Spring has finally sprung in Prettygate's pond! There was great excitement as the frogs decided to come out to play in our pond. They were extremely vocal and it was wonderful to see so many frogs jumping around and deciding that our pond was the very place they wanted to lay their spawn ready for their tadpoles to hatch. We look forward to the tadpoles emerging and growing into froglets. We intend to share this wonderful lifecycle with our children during science lessons.



Big Walk and Wheel

We are taking part in Big Walk and Wheel, the UK's largest inter-school cycling, walking, wheeling and scooting challenge. **The challenge runs from 16 – 27 March 2026.** It's free to take part and we would love everyone to be involved.

Please encourage your child(ren) to walk, use a wheelchair, scoot or cycle to school on as many days as possible during the event. All the details can be seen in the letter on our [website](#).



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 photo of this week's winners below!

Class	Name of Child
RB	Sienna-Grace M
RLI	Rita S
1T	Connie G
1S	Jack A
2MB	Polly M
2N	Frankie S
3FJ	Amare A
3G	Oliver H
4K	Alice V
4M	Aref M
5RG	Stanley B
6L	Samaya M
6MH	Jack W



House Points:

Venus – 352 1st
Jupiter – 266 2nd
Mars – 241 3rd
Pluto – 210 4th