



May	
Monday 4th	Bank Holiday
Friday 8th	Class Photos
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

Welcome to the summer term. We hope you all had an enjoyable Easter break. It is lovely to see all the children back in school.

Fun in the Forest

Thank you to everyone who attended our Forest School fundraising event on Thursday. We are delighted to inform you that we raised over £260. This money will be split between the infant and junior Forest Schools. It will go towards resources for children to use at sessions and during the Forest School after-school clubs. So many of you gave such positive comments, which we really appreciate. Thank you again. The Forest School Team.



Art Exhibition

This week, we have been celebrating the art of Yayoi Kusama, with a special focus on her vibrant painting *Mushrooms*. Each class has created their own unique artwork inspired by this piece.

We are delighted to invite you to our Art Exhibition on **Friday 24th April**, where the creativity and artistic talents of our students will be proudly displayed. The exhibition will take place from **3:15 to 4:30 pm**, and we would love for you to join us in celebrating their wonderful work.

Entrance is free, but there will be a basket for voluntary donations, which will be used to support and enhance our school's art resources.



Friends of Prettygate

The Friends of Prettygate are holding a quiz night on Friday 24th April. Doors open from 6pm quiz starts at 6.30pm. Why not get a team together and come along for a fun night out? Tickets can be purchased online by following the link below:

<https://www.pta-events.co.uk/friendsofprettygateschools>

School Meals

Week commencing 20th April we will be eating meals from menu 2 of our new summer menus. Please ensure you have ordered school meals for the term ahead.

Scarecrow Design Competition

We are having a Scarecrow Design Competition. We are going to make and take the winning design to the Food and Farming Day in June. This scarecrow will then be included in a scarecrow competition that lots of schools in Essex will participate in.

We need some ideas for our winning scarecrow.

Please draw and label your design in the box provided (check your email for the form you need) and return the form with your name and class. The Eco-Warriors will then choose the winning design. The scarecrow will be made by members of the Gardening Gang.



BIG Walk and Wheel

As part of the school's effort to be more sustainable and to fulfill objectives on our Climate Action Plan, we took part in a national scheme just before the Easter Holidays, called the BIG Walk and Wheel.

Many thanks to all families who either continued to travel on foot, cycle or scoot to school, or changed the way they travelled to school, for the last two weeks of the spring term.

The results are now in and we are pleased to announce that RB won the infant prize. They recorded a total of 200 journeys of children walking, cycling or scooting to school. The winners at the junior school was 5RG with a total of 250 journeys. However, 6L came a very close second with 249 journeys.

Therefore, all three classes will get an extra 10 minutes of play this week and a little gift for being so fantastic!

Thank you to everyone who took part and a special thank you to the teachers who recorded the data every day!

OPAL Toys and Play Equipment

Please can we ask that at morning drop off and afternoon pick up times that you keep your children and their younger siblings with you and do not allow them to remove toys from our OPAL play areas. These are for use during the school day. Please can we also ask that children do not use any of the play equipment at these times. Thank you for your support.

After School Sports Clubs

We still have spaces available at our sports after school clubs. Please see the website for details of how to book. <https://www.prettygateschools.co.uk/school-events>



**Prettygate
Schools**
Opening the gate to success



Dear Parent/Carer,

I'm delighted to inform you about a new online learning platform called **NUMBOTS** that is now available to support our **Reception, Year 1, 2 and 3** children's understanding of number bonds and to help with their addition and subtraction skills. This platform will compliment the work covered at school, through our programme "**Mastering Number**".

This develops the essential building blocks for higher-level maths concepts, so we are very excited by the additional impact that **NUMBOTS** will have on our children's mathematics skills.

This platform is a compliment to our very successful **TTRS**.

The children who will have access, have been given an information letter and a login. Those of you who have children currently using **TTRS (Year 2 and Year 3)** will be pleased to know that their login for **TTRS** is the same login they will need for **NUMBOTS**. Just like **TTRS**, **NUMBOTS** can be played on a browser (play.numbots.com) or via the app which is free to download. Your child may need help entering the details, but once they're in they will be able to play the game on their own.

Please be aware that this platform will be monitored to see how your child is progressing so it is essential that it is used solely by them. There is a sound function, where children can have the question instructions read to them, but you may wish to help with this.

Please take a look at this video link to find out more about **NUMBOTS**.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=24sqqVgwBOg>

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Mrs King

Mathematics Lead



Friday ARK Assemblies

Each Friday we hold an assembly to celebrate our school values of ambition, respect and kindness. Each week, 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	Jude AM
RLI	Tully W
1T	Tommy M
1S	Ailia L
2MB	Lilliana P
2N	Evie N
3FJ	Joshua C
3G	Freya T
4K	Betty H-D
4M	Daria S
5D	Eva L
5RG	Iris R-W
6L	Kourtney B-C
6MH	Amelia R



House Points

Mars – 346	1st
Venus – 342	2nd
Pluto – 321	3rd
Jupiter – 277	4th