



May	
Monday 11th to Thursday 14th	Year 6 SATs
Friday 15th	Year 6 Bowling
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
June	
Monday 1st	Non-Pupil Day
Tuesday 2nd	Children return to school
Wednesday 3rd	Year 4 WonderDome
Thursday 4th	Children's Entertainer/ Disco
Tuesday 9th	KS2 Sports Day
Wednesday 10th	Year 1 trip to Colchester Castle
Wednesday 17th	Year 6 Imperial War Museum
Monday 22nd	Year 1 and Year 2—Sports Day



Dear families

We hope you enjoyed the bank holiday weekend with your families and managed to spend some time in the sunshine!

Year 6 SATs

Next week, Year 6 children will be taking their statutory end of key stage tests. It is vital that Year 6 children arrive on time each day, and that they have a settled week and weekend before. A good night's sleep and breakfast are very important too!

Children's Survey

We have been asked by the Children's Commissioner, Dame Rachel de Souza, to tell you about a National Children's Survey called The Big Future. For more information or for your child to take part, please follow the link

[Homepage | Children's Commissioner for England](#)

Class Photos

On Friday, Van Cols Photographers were in school to take class photos. Your child will have a card in their school bag with details of how to order a copy of their class photo.

Netball News

This week has been a busy week for our netballers! On Wednesday, we played our final league match at home against Heathlands Primary School. It was our toughest game by far and despite a brilliant effort by the whole team we unfortunately lost the game. The final score was 6 - 13. Throughout the year, our netball team have approached all of their matches with determination, resilience and a desire to do well and we are very proud of them. Our netball team are: Sam, Harry, Reuben, Phoebe, Anna, Iris and Amelia.

In addition to this league match, we were also fortunate to play a friendly match against a second Heathlands team. For this match our team consisted of: Tyler, Jack, Gabby, Ella-Mae, Annabel, Oka and Siobhan. These children were amazing and for some this was their first match. We won this match 4 -1 and the children demonstrated our school values throughout the match brilliantly.

Finally, a big thank you to all the parents and grandparents who have transported children to and from matches throughout the year and have positively supported the team from the sidelines. These matches wouldn't be possible without your support.





Take One Picture

On Friday 24th April, we held our annual Take One Picture art exhibition. This year, we took inspiration from the colourful painting *Mushrooms* by Japanese artist Yayoi Kusama. Once again, our art exhibition was a huge success and a wonderful celebration of the many talents of our students. It was fantastic to see how each year group was inspired in different ways, with artwork ranging from printing and painting to hanging decorations and even huge mushroom sculptures! Thank you to everyone who came along to support the event — the hall was buzzing with excitement throughout the exhibition.



Phonics Practice Videos - Year 1

As we head toward the Phonics Screening Check this June, we want to ensure all children feel confident and well-prepared. To support their learning at home, we have uploaded a series of helpful Phonics Practice QR Codes to the school website.

Scanning these codes will take your child directly to targeted practice videos, helping them master the sounds and blending skills they need.

Head over to the website to find the following documents with the QR codes within:

- QR Codes PSC Practice Set 2
- QR Codes PSC Practice Set 3
- QR Codes Layout Set 3 and Additional

Simply open the camera app on your smartphone or tablet, point it at the screen and click the link that appears. Spending just a few minutes a day watching these videos can make a huge difference in your child's reading fluency and confidence.

Local Events and News

Take a look at the Local Events and News page on our website. It has details of events happening in our local area soon. [Prettygate Schools - Local Events and News](#)

School Meals

Week commencing 11th May we will be eating meals from menu 2. Please ensure you have ordered your child's meals for the term ahead.

Colchester's Garden Design Competition- Summer 2026

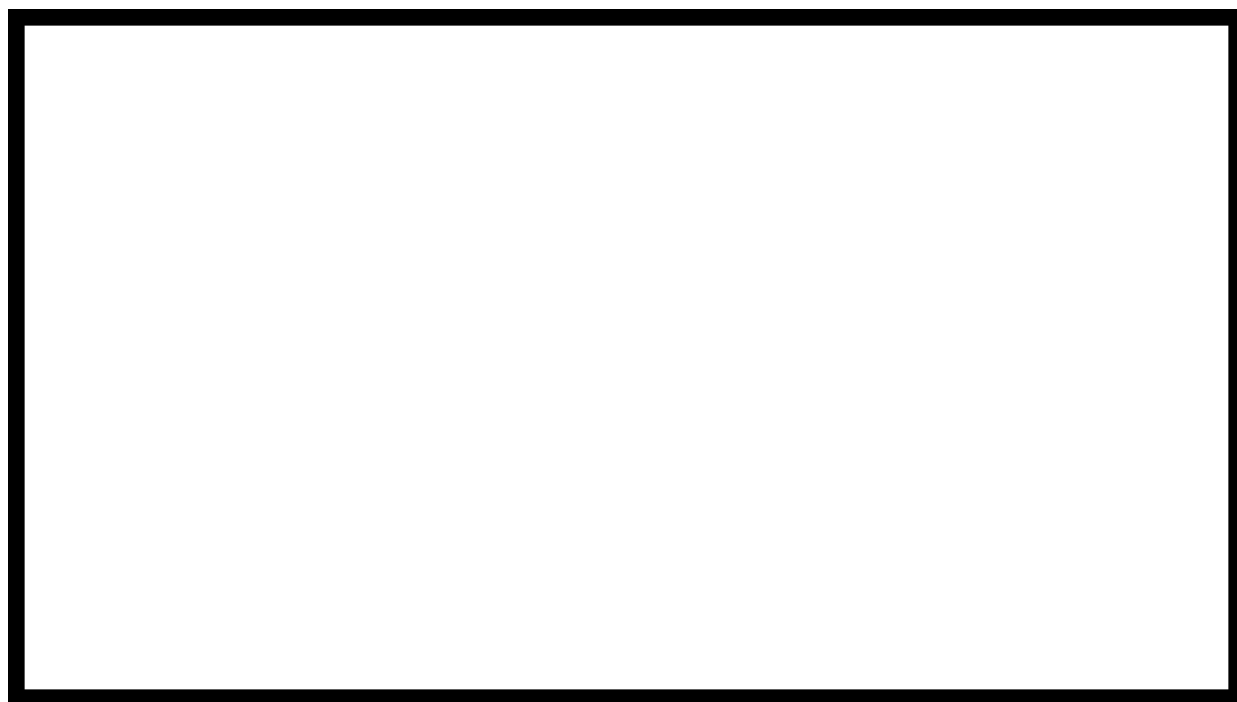
Once again, Prettygate Schools have entered the Garden Design Competition which will be at Culver Square during the summer holidays.

The theme this year is to **design the garden based on a country of the world**. Again, we need to think about **plants that help pollinators** and **that can survive with little water**, as Essex is one of the driest counties in the UK. We'd also like to hear what **water saving ideas** you may have, that we could use in our design.

The garden will be planted in a small 'Veg Trug'. The dimensions are: 183cm x 100cm. The depth is 76cm and height is 80cm.

Draw your garden design here:

183cm



100cm

All entries to be returned by: Friday 12th June 2026.



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	Ophelia C
RLI	Oliver Y
1T	Eliza O
1S	Ariella B
2MB	Sophie M
2N	Indigo P
3FJ	Jack B
3G	Violette J
4K	Mila A
4M	Tilly S
5D	Eva L
5RG	Lilly-May W
6L	Gabby R
6MH	Chase S



House Points

Pluto – 165 1st
 Mars – 136 2nd
 Jupiter – 85 3rd
 Venus—70 4th