



November	
Thursday 27th	Whole School Pantomime Trip
December	
Monday 8th	Year 1 & Year 2 Christmas Performance
Tuesday 9th	Year 1 & Year 2 Christmas Performance
Wednesday 10th	Year 3 & Year 4 Christmas Show
Thursday 11th	Year 6 & Year 6 Christmas Show
Monday 15th	Reception (RB) Nativity
Tuesday 16th	Reception (RLI) Nativity
Wednesday 17th	Christmas Dinner
Wednesday 17th	Christmas Jumper Day
Friday 19th	Last Day of Term



**mercury
theatre
colchester**

Ambition ♦ Respect ♦ Kindness

Dear families,

It's the time of year that makes working in a school a really special place to be. The children are practising hard for their Christmas performances and throughout the day Christmas songs are echoing around the schools. The performance times are listed below. If you have not yet ordered your tickets, please do so as soon as possible.

Christmas Performances 2025

We are pleased that we can now share with you the dates of our Christmas performances. Entry to all performances will be by ticket. Letters have been sent home this week regarding ordering your tickets.

Reception Class RB —Monday 15th December at 10.00am

Reception Class RLI—Tuesday 16th December at 10.00am

Year 1 and Year 2—Monday 8th December at 2.00pm

Year 1 and Year 2—Tuesday 9th December at 10.00am

Year 3 and Year 4— Wednesday 10th at 2.00pm and at 6.00pm

Year 5 and Year 6—Thursday 11th December at 2.00pm and at 6.00pm .

Pantomime Trip

We are looking forward to our whole school trip to the pantomime next Thursday 27th November. If you have not yet paid for your child to come along, please could we ask that you do

this before Monday morning. If your child will not be going on the trip, please speak to the office staff.

Letters regarding the trip are on the 'letters' page of our website and paper copies are available from the school offices.

School Meals

Week commencing 24th November we will be eating meals from Menu 1. Please can we ask that we have all dinner orders for the last week of term including our Christmas dinner before Wednesday 3rd December. The cost of the Christmas meal at the junior school is £3.50, at the infant school we are asking for a donation of £1.00 cash, towards the cost.





New Starters—September 2026

We have an Information Evening on Wednesday 26th November for parents new to the school and who have a child starting school in September 2026. If you know anyone who would like to come along, please let them know. More information is available on our website.

<https://www.prettygateschools.co.uk/starting-school/>

Facebook

Prettygate Infant and Junior Schools are now live on Facebook. Please click the link below to find the school's page and give us a follow:

<https://www.facebook.com/share/1GXMUF47TC/?mibextid=wwXlfr>

We will be uploading photos of the pupils to show the exciting things they are learning in school. If you have withdrawn photo permission for your child, they will not be included on the Facebook page and you do not need to do anything further. If we have photo permission for your child but you do not want their photo to be used on our social media pages, please let the office staff know as soon as possible.

Making Payments

In order to provide as efficient a service as possible, we are moving towards being a cashless school. Therefore, from January 2026 we will only accept payment by card or online. If you haven't already downloaded the School Gateway App, then please ensure that you do so in readiness for January. If you have any problems using the App, you can speak to the school office staff, who will be able to help you.

Parking Outside School

Please do not park on the zig-zag lines outside the school during morning drop off or pick up times. There are signs outside the school to let you know when you can park on the lines. Please ensure you follow these rules to keep the children safe. We have also seen people parking across the dropped kerb, where children cross the road. Please park safely when dropping off or picking up from school.

Children in Need

Thank you to everyone who supported Children in Need last Friday. We raised an amazing £398.80.



Unwanted Visitors

We have had a few cases of headlice reported to us this week. Over the weekend, please check your child's hair and treat if necessary.

Online Safety Parent Workshop Thursday 11th December

The 2 Johns will be back on Thursday 11 December, at 8.00pm with one of their popular online sessions. This is your chance to hear the latest insights, tips, and must-know updates to help keep children safe online — just in time for the holiday season. Save the date and register now by scanning the QR code via [this link](#).



Anti-Bullying Week

Last week, Prettygate Schools celebrated Anti-Bullying Week, focusing on this year's theme "*Power for Good.*" This theme encourages children to use their power to stop bullying, whether that's speaking out, offering support or helping to create inclusive communities. To highlight how everyone is different and unique, we all wore odd socks as part of the national "Odd Socks Day" initiative. In class, children took part in a range of activities to mark the week including how we can all work together to build a kinder school environment. Well done to everyone for supporting this important cause.



Year 6—Macbeth

On Tuesday this week, Year 6 had a fabulous experience as we welcomed the Young Shakespeare Company to our school, with four wonderful actors who performed William Shakespeare's *Macbeth*. It was a fantastic performance, which gripped the children and also gave them the opportunity to be actively involved in the storytelling of the play, helping them to have a great understanding of the main themes and plot. The children participated so well and all thoroughly enjoyed their first taste of a Shakespeare play.





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	Caleb D
RLI	Bobby P
1T	Stanley A
1S	Cody D
2MB	Mabel S
2N	Breya C
3FJ	James C
3G	Srevarsha M
4K	Roman D
4M	Harry P
5D	Sofia E
5RG	Isabel T
6L	Tyler S
6MH	Iris H



House Points:

Pluto – 575	1st
Mars – 500	2nd
Jupiter – 411	3rd
Venus – 370	4th

Golden Broom Award

Every other week, one infant class and one junior class are awarded the Golden Broom in recognition of their efforts to tidy up at the end of lunchtime. This week's winner is class 1S. Well done!

