



September	
Thursday 17th	Reception Parents Information Evening
Friday 18th	Jeans for Genes Day
Thursday 24th	Reception 2027 Information Evening
Friday 25th	Macmillan Coffee Morning
October	
Thursday 1st	Year 3 Stone Age Workshop
Friday 2nd	Whole School Photograph
Thursday 8th	Van Cols Individual Photos
Friday 16th	Wear Red— Show Racism the red card
26th—30th	Half Term



Dear families,

Well done to everyone for completing their first full week in school. Our new Reception children have had a wonderful start to school life at Prettygate and are now staying for full days – they have been amazing!

Jeans for Genes

Next Friday 18th September we will be supporting Jeans for Genes day. Children can come to school in their jeans (non uniform) in exchange for a small donation for this very worthwhile charity.



Macmillan Coffee Morning

Lia Pulsford, our Welfare Lead, will be hosting a Macmillan Coffee Morning on Friday 25th September. Everyone is welcome! More details to follow soon.

The 2 Johns

Thank you to those of you who came along to our 2 Johns e-safety event. We were hoping to see more parents attending as this is such an important subject and the event will not be running again this academic year. However, there is lots of helpful information on [The 2 Johns website](#) so do use this as a useful resource.

Disabled Parking

We have one disabled parking space outside the school. This is for people who have a blue badge and need to park close to the school entrance. Please ensure you do not park in this space unless you are a blue badge holder.

OPAL Appeal

As you are aware, we are an OPAL school. All the details can be found on our [website](#)

Each week we will be asking for donations for our different OPAL areas around the schools. Please see the box below for this week's appeal. Donations can be left in the boxes next to the pedestrian gate. Thank you.

This Week's Appeal



- ♦ Toy Cars





**Prettygate
Schools**

Opening the gate to success

11th September 2026

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Year 6 to 7 secondary admission round for September 2027

As you may be aware, the new secondary school admission round opens on Saturday 12th September 2026 for parents of current Year 6 children to apply for a secondary school (Year 7) place for September 2027. The statutory national closing date for applications is **31 October 2026**. Applications can be made online via www.essex.gov.uk/admissions.

Secondary Schools Open Evenings –Year 6

Please see below the Open Evening details for the secondary schools in this area. More details can be found on the websites of these schools.

Philip Morant School— Thursday 17th September—4.00pm to 7.00pm

Thomas Lord Audley School —Thursday 24th September —4.00pm—7.00pm

The Stanway School— Thursday 24th September—5.00pm— 8.00pm

St Benedicts Catholic College— Thursday 24th September — 5.00pm

Paxman Academy — Thursday 1st October—5.00pm—7.00pm

Colchester High School—Saturday 3rd October— morning.

Information Evening for New Starters 2027

On Thursday 24th September we are holding an Information Evening for parents with children starting school in September 2027. If you know someone with a child starting school next year, please let them know about this event. More information can be found on our website.

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

Playground Reminders

To ensure the safety of all children, please be reminded that bikes and scooters **must** be dismantled once you are on the school site. Dogs are not permitted, and children must not use the play equipment around the school grounds. Please support us in ensuring your children follow these rules.

Naming Belongings

Please ensure all of your children's school clothing, P.E. kit, bags, coats, wellies and lunch boxes are clearly named. This helps us to return any missing items to their owners.

Term Ahead Letters

Letters with details of the term ahead are now on our website. Please go to the 'Parents' page, click on 'Class Pages' and select your child's year group from there. Curriculum Maps for this academic year are also on the website. <https://www.prettygateschools.co.uk/class-pages>

School Meals

Next week we will be eating meals from menu 3. <https://www.prettygateschools.co.uk/lunch-menus>





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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
1S	Alfie D
1M	Chloie W
2MB	Ned L
2N	Aaliyah C
3H	Drishya A
3PJ	Laila E
4G	Henry C
4K	Henry D
5D	Khaled A K
5RG	Gianna R
6L	Lewis M
6MH	Mia R



House Points

Mars - 301	1st
Venus - 295	2nd
Jupiter - 270	3rd
Pluto - 214	4th