



October	
Monday 5th	Infant OPAL Parent Play Session
Wednesday 7th	Junior OPAL Parent Play Session
Thursday 8th	Van Cols Individual Photos
Tuesday 13th	Parent Consultation Meetings
Thursday 15th	Gemma's Farm Visit—Reception Classes
Thursday 15th	Parent Consultation Meetings
Friday 16th	Wear Red—Show Racism the red card
26th—30th	Half Term
November	
Sunday 1st	FOP Firework Event
Friday 27th	Non Pupil Day



Dear families,

On Friday this week we welcomed Van Cols Photographers to school to take a photo of the whole school together. In next week's newsletter we will be able to share the details of where you can view and purchase the photo if you would like to.

First Class Photos

On Tuesday 6th October the photos of our Reception children will be in the Colchester Gazette, First Class feature. Don't forget to buy a copy of the paper on Tuesday.

School Meals

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

Year 5—Road Safety

On Monday, Year 5 pupils took part in road safety sessions delivered by the Safer Essex Roads Partnership.

They participated in a session designed to build confidence and promote safe, independent travel. They explored:

- The Green Cross Code: Stop, Look, Listen, Think!
 - The dangers of distractions like phones, headphones, and friends.
 - How to identify safer places to cross.
- With guidance from a trained road safety officer, they practiced real life road crossing skills.

How You Can Help at Home:

You can support these lessons by:

- Modelling safe habits when walking near roads
- Holding hands with younger children
- Talking about road safety in everyday situations

Together, we can help keep our children safe on the roads. For more information and free resources, visit:

www.saferessexroads.org

This Week's Appeal



♦ Scooters





**Prettygate
Schools**

Opening the gate to success

2nd October 2026

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Year 3 Stone Age Workshop

Mrs Jowers and Mr Harbord would like to sincerely thank all the volunteers who helped out at the Stone Age Workshop on Thursday this week. The day would not have run so smoothly without you. Photos and a full report will follow next week.

A Date for your Diary

On Friday 16th October we will be taking part in Wear Red Day—Show Racism the Red Card. We will invite children and staff to dress in as much red as possible in exchange for a small donation to this great charity. The money raised will go towards funding anti-racism education across the UK.

Unwanted Visitors

We have had a few cases of headlice reported to us this week. Please can we ask that you check your child's head over the weekend and treat if necessary.

Colchester Foodbank—Fill the Van Plan

We now have boxes outside both the infant and junior school to collect items for our Harvest celebrations. We are collecting items for Colchester Food Bank which will be collected on Wednesday 14th October.

Please see the list of items needed below:

Rice, pasta, tinned meats/fish, tinned fruits, soup, tea bags, sugar, sauces, tinned fish, tinned tomatoes, tinned vegetables, jam, coffee, long-life milk, shampoo, soap, shower gel, razors, nappies, baby wipes, washing up liquid, tooth brushes, tooth paste, sanitary products, toilet rolls and deodorant.

Thank you for your support.

Friends of Prettygate Fireworks Night—Sunday 1st November

The Friends of Prettygate have organised our annual community fireworks event for Sunday 1st November. To make this evening a great success, we need your help.

If you can help to deliver leaflets in the local area, please follow this link. [Leaflet delivery.](#)

If you can offer some help on the day of the event, please sign up here. [Event help](#)

Tickets can be purchased by following this link [friends of prettygate event tickets from TicketSource.](#)

Parent Consultation Meetings

Our Parent Consultation Meetings will take place on Tuesday 13th October and Thursday 15th October. The booking is now open. The last day for booking your appointment will be Friday 9th October. There is a link to the booking system on our website under 'useful links' at the bottom right of the home page. If you need any help booking your appointment, please speak to the office staff.

Half Term Clubs

Please take a look at our [News and Events](#) page on the website. There are details of local clubs taking place over the half term holiday.

Essex Professional Coaching, the sports company we work with, have a discount code for children at Prettygate. Use the code **PRETTYGATEPRI_10** for 10% discount.

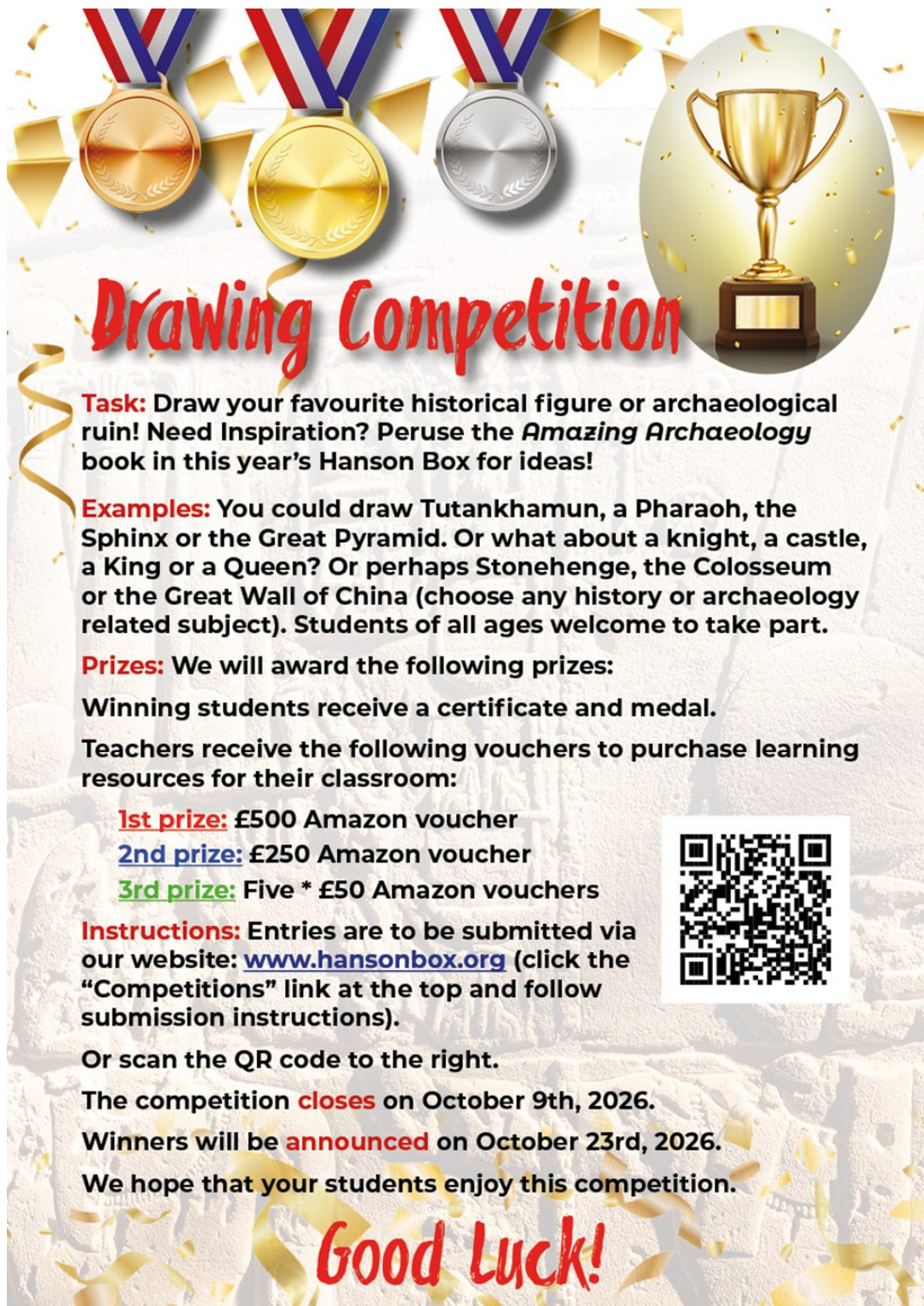
Hanson Box Art Competition

We have recently received some lovely books from this trust, which will be shared with teachers to use with their classes this week.

We would like to offer all our children the opportunity to enter their Art Competition, please see the flyer below for more details. You are able to submit the artwork yourself through their website, but if anyone is unable to do this, please send your entry into school and Mrs Jowers will submit the entry.

The criteria is for children to draw their favourite historical figure or archaeological ruin. They could choose something related to the topic they are currently learning about, have previously learnt about or perhaps somewhere they have visited during the holidays.

This is a fantastic opportunity to combine history and art together and we look forward to seeing lots of entries. The deadline is 9th October 2026.



Drawing Competition

Task: Draw your favourite historical figure or archaeological ruin! Need Inspiration? Peruse the *Amazing Archaeology* book in this year's Hanson Box for ideas!

Examples: You could draw Tutankhamun, a Pharaoh, the Sphinx or the Great Pyramid. Or what about a knight, a castle, a King or a Queen? Or perhaps Stonehenge, the Colosseum or the Great Wall of China (choose any history or archaeology related subject). Students of all ages welcome to take part.

Prizes: We will award the following prizes:

Winning students receive a certificate and medal.

Teachers receive the following vouchers to purchase learning resources for their classroom:

1st prize: £500 Amazon voucher
2nd prize: £250 Amazon voucher
3rd prize: Five * £50 Amazon vouchers

Instructions: Entries are to be submitted via our website: www.hansonbox.org (click the "Competitions" link at the top and follow submission instructions).

Or scan the QR code to the right.

The competition **closes** on October 9th, 2026.

Winners will be **announced** on October 23rd, 2026.

We hope that your students enjoy this competition.

Good Luck!



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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
RB	Freddie M
RL	Noah H
1M	Evan S
1S	Olivia H
2MB	Casper D
2N	Jai H
3H	Thea-Rose C
3PJ	Bodhi H-D (rolled over) Mabel S
4G	Sahaysa K
4K	Lily D
5D	Kayla I
5RG	Lula S
6L	Neave J
6MH	Jamie F



House Points

Venus – 614	1st
Jupiter – 577	2nd
Mars – 562	Joint 3rd
Pluto – 562	Joint 3rd