



Newsletter – 18th September 2026



CELEBRATING GOOD SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Overall whole school attendance this week: 96.3%

Well done to class 2E for achieving the highest attendance this week.

Open Classrooms

It was lovely to see so many children excited to show someone from their family around their new classroom and share their work. I hope you enjoyed having another opportunity to see your child's teacher and that they were able to answer any questions you may have had.



Swimming

Pupils in Years 4, 5 and 6 have thoroughly enjoyed their swimming lessons the last couple of weeks. Today, those who are now on to safe self rescue have gone with pyjamas to ensure they are as equipped as possible with vital life saving skills. Following the tragic events on Mersea, during the summer, it highlights the importance of ensuring our children are able to swim and know how to keep safe. On a separate note, if you are considering enrolling your child with the local sailing club next summer, I am told their safety policy stipulates all children must be able to confidently swim a minimum of 25m.

Uniform

We have had some queries in respect of socks. To clarify children should be wearing grey socks with grey shorts. Chequered shorts and skirts are not part of our uniform.

Thank you for your support in following our policy.

Ship Captains and First Lieutenants

On Monday, the Ship Captains and First Lieutenants are delivering a short assembly to their Ships. The children wanted an opportunity to talk more on the subject of 'Getting to know your Ship Captains and First Lieutenants', as they wanted a little more time to share with their Ships. It is up to them how they present to their Ships. They will be sharing with their shipmates what's important to them, what it is that they would like their Ship to achieve this year and will be endeavouring to inspire, motivate and cultivate team spirit.

Rapid Refills Shop

The Rapid Refill Shop is open every Wednesday from 8.30 – 8.45am and 3.15 – 3.30pm in the Reef beach hut, by the pedestrian gate opposite St Helena's.

Come and have a look to see all the eco-friendly products which are on offer, including healthy snacks. Remember to bring your containers and if you have any spares, the children who run the shop would be most appreciative of them. At the moment, it operates on a cash only basis.

The children look forward to seeing you!



Stationery Shop

We have a stationery shop in school which is open every Tuesday and Thursday playtimes. It is run by pupils in Year 6 and stocks a range of items. Children are allowed to bring in money to purchase items but please can you check your child does not bring in notes!

Most items are under £1, including the novelty rubbers which are 40p.

It is located in the middle beach hut!



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Helping Your Child Learn Their Multiplication Tables – We need your help!

We need your help! Multiplication tables are a fundamental part of mathematics and underpin so much of the maths children do in school. We teach, practise and rehearse tables regularly in school, but children make the best progress when this is reinforced at home through little and often practice. **We ask that as part of the children's homework (Years 2 – 6) they spend just 10 minutes, four times a week practising their tables at home.** We have access to Times Tables Rock Stars (TTRS), which provides a fun and engaging way to practise, but if your child prefers a break from the screen, there are lots of simple games you can play together using cards, dice or even quick-fire questions (please see the attached).

Ten minutes of regular practice makes a massive difference!

Nursery	To count in steps of 1 to 10 and beyond
Reception	To count in steps of 1 to 20 and beyond To count in steps of 10 to 100 To count in steps of 5 to 50 To count in steps of 2 to 20
Year 1	To count in steps of 10 forwards and backwards to 120 To count in steps of 5 forwards and backwards to 60 To count in steps of 2 forwards and backwards 24
Year 2	To recall the 10 multiplication table fluently and associated division facts. To recall the 5 multiplication table fluently and associated division facts. To recall the 2 multiplication table fluently and associated division facts. To count in steps of 3, forwards and backwards to 36. To recall the 3 multiplication table fluently and associated division facts.
Year 3	To count in steps of 4, forwards and backwards to 48 To recall the 4 multiplication table fluently and associated division facts. To count in steps of 8, forwards and backwards to 96 To recall the 8 multiplication table fluently and associated division facts. To count in steps of 11, forwards and backwards to 121 To recall the 11 multiplication table fluently and associated division facts.
Year 4	To count in steps of 6, forwards and backwards to 72 To recall the 6 multiplication table fluently and associated division facts. To count in steps of 7, forwards and backwards to 84 To recall the 7 multiplication table fluently and associated division facts. To count in steps of 9, forwards and backwards to 108 To recall the 9 multiplication table fluently and associated division facts. To count in steps of 12, forwards and backwards to 136 To recall the 12 multiplication table fluently and associated division facts.
Year 5 & Year 6	To be able to recall all multiplication tables facts and related divisions through regular consolidation of all and use these in other mathematical procedures.



$$7 \times 6 = 42$$

$$12 \times 11$$

$$6 \times 12$$

$$2 \times 10 = 20$$





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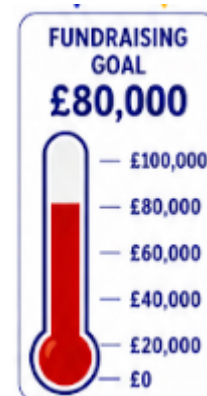


TOGETHER, WE CAN MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE!

Fundraising Campaign for 2026-2027 – All help will be greatly appreciated

If you have a little time to spare to help the FOMISA team or know of anyone who might be able to help us with our fundraising efforts, please do get in touch!

A huge thank you to Jack from Sparks Electrical for coming and looking at the car park gate for us, your kindness is very much appreciated.



Thank you to FOMISA for donating 10 wheelbarrows. Some very happy Reception children were excited to collect!



Essex Concert Band – Free concert!

iRock – Does your child love music?



A Family Friendly Concert

Come and meet the Band

*Saturday
26th September 2026*

4 - 6 pm.

*Rowhedge Village Hall
CO5 7HX*

*Free Entry
Raffle*

*Refreshments
Retiring Collection*



Dear Parents and Carers,

Exciting news! Your child has the opportunity to join their very own band through fun weekly music lessons here at our school.

Through weekly band lessons, children can learn drums, electric guitar, keyboard or vocals, play songs they know and love, build confidence and enjoy making music with their bandmates. **All instruments are provided and no previous experience is needed.**

If your child would like to join, you can enrol them here:

[Click Here to Enrol Your Child](#)

(If you're not sure whether iRock is right for your child, all new starters are covered by a **first lesson money-back guarantee.**)

To find out more, iRock has created a short year-group guide showing what children can learn and achieve through the **iRock curriculum** at each stage of primary school:

[Learn more about iRock by year](#)

If you have any questions, the iRock team will be happy to help. Please contact them on 0330 174 2655 or info@irockschool.com.



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Stars of the Week



Nursery	Our super kind, chatty, song singing, picture painting star this week is Finley. Finley has returned to nursery eager to join in and have a go at lots of activities. We are very proud of Finley - well done!
Rec 1	Reception 1 are celebrating Norah K. This week Norah has amazed us with her maths knowledge. Well done Norah, what a great start to the year.
Rec 2	This week we are celebrating Stanley. He has had a great week at school and I am very proud of him for smiling each day. Keep up the great work.
1B	1B Star of the Week is Oakley R for his excellent attitude to learning. It has been fab to see Oakley keen to take on challenges during independent learning time to further his skills and knowledge, particularly in maths this week. Well done Oakley.
1E	What a brilliant week for Finnley W! He has worked so hard, been joining in with all our class discussions and been excellent at explaining his answers using 'I know it because ...'. He has also shown what a kind and thoughtful boy he is; offering to help both children and adults in class. Very well done Finnley!
2D	I would like to celebrate Arlo A-H for being a positive role model in our class. He listens to instructions and follows them really well. He comes into class in the morning and settles down to his work quickly. He always tries hard with his work and has such a positive attitude. A good start to the year!
2E	Hudson M for his huge effort in all his work and especially in his presentation and letter sizing. Great work Huddy, keep it up.
3S	Esme R, for growing in confidence and contributing more in class, shown by volunteering first to hot seat as the character in our book and answer questions from the other children. She displayed a great knowledge of the book and how the character might think and feel.
3T	Eleanor H has consistently shown great focus in class, has completed work above and beyond expectations with beautiful, well thought out presentation and has been a really kind friend. Well done Eleanor!
4R	Pupil of the week for 4R is Sienna. She has shown real enthusiasm to come in to school and learn. She is making excellent connections in her maths work and engages brilliantly across the curriculum.
4W	Ava B for great contributions in class especially in French - her French accent is excellent!
5 & 6E	Frank L is star of the week for being focused on his work and for being so inquisitive in English, I couldn't answer his questions quick enough. Well done Frank.
5 & 6H	This week I would like to celebrate Emilia S for being an absolute superstar in English, maths and her number stacks work with Mrs Stenning! A great start to the year. Keep up the good work, Emilia!
5 & 6Y	Peaches H this week for fantastic contributions in class, great determination and resilience, and some super art work.

Just a reminder...

- Flu vaccinations – Wednesday 23rd September (Rec – Yr6)
- Coffee and Croissant morning for parents of pupils in Years 3 – 6, Friday 25th September
 - Book Fair arrives on Friday – library from 3.15pm
- Face to face chats for Reception parents – you will have booked these with your child's teacher.