



Dear Parents,

Thank you for the donations for today's Harvest Festival, we were thrilled with the bumper collection of food items. These have been collected by Maldon Food Pantry and they were astounded by your generosity.

Parents evenings are fast approaching, a reminder that appointments with the relevant teacher(s) need to be booked in advance via the Parentmail app please.

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend.

Kind regards, Sarah Vass, Headteacher



School Photographs - Wednesday 12th October

A reminder that individual school photographs take place on Wednesday. Please ensure your child(ren) attends school in full uniform, ties are optional. Y1 and Y2 children should come to school wearing

their school uniform with their PE kits in their bags to get changed into later in the day.

Family photographs will be arranged (school siblings only).

Photographs will be available to view and purchase online in due course, further details to follow with access codes.



Week starting Monday 10th October 2022: Autumn Menu - Week 3

Diary Dates:

10th & 11th October - Y3 Visit to St Peters Church, Great Totham

12th October - Individual and Sibling School Photographs

14th October - KS2 Author Visit (Samantha Scott)

18th & 19th October - Parents Evenings

24th October to 28th October - Half Term Holidays

3rd November - Y2 Trip to Stow Maries Aerodrome

8th November - Y4 Outdoor Learning

18th November - Y1 Toy Museum

29th November - Flu Immunisations

w/c 28th November - Last week for clubs

1st December - Christmas Post Box Opens

5th & 6th December - Y1 & Y2 Christmas Production to Parents (5th afternoon / 6th morning)

8th December - YR Christmas Event (afternoon)

13th December - Y5 Christmas Production to Parents (evening)

14th December - Christmas Panto - 'The Elves & The Toymaker'

15th December - Y6 Christmas Disco (5-7pm)

16th December - Christmas Post Box Closes

16th December - KS1 Christmas Parties

19th December - Y3,4,5 Christmas Parties

20th December - Christmas Dinner

20th December - Christmas Singing Assembly / Last Day of Term

21st December to 4th January - Christmas School Holidays

5th January - First Day of Spring Term

(Additional diary dates to be added soon, please check the Newsletter each week for updates)

Love Your Library Day

Saturday 8 October

Wickham Bishops Library



Join us for a day of environment themed activities including:

- Story and Rhyme time at 10.30am
- Come and join the litter picking team at 11am
- Biodiversity Group to include activities 11am-1pm
- Visit from a local Beekeeper, see the Bees in an enclosed viewing Hive from 11.30am-1.30pm
- Children's crafts from 2pm
- Children's library trail



For further information visit
libraries.essex.gov.uk/events



Kingswood

Last week we—Year 6—went to Kingswood located in Kent (Ashford). Kingswood is an outdoor activity centre with many fun activities including: Leap of Faith, High Equilibrium, 3G Swing, Zipline and many more. As well as our year group, a few of our teachers came with us too, however our parents couldn't come because we went to learn independence, team work, trying new things and to gain confidence.

During Kingswood my favourite activity was the 3G Swing because I liked how you had to pull the rope yourself, also I liked how when you're on it, your legs hang down.

At Kingswood, I had the best time thanks to all my friends and all the teachers.

Amelia-Grace. 6B

Photographs from this year's residential trip are available to view on the school website:

<https://www.greattotham.essex.sch.uk/kingswood-2022>

Daws Hall

We were there! After an hour's coach ride we were there! Our year five class trekked excitedly off of the huge coach, and we journeyed to an outdoor classroom and put our bags down, outside, on the wooden benches. A woman came up and introduced herself, she announced proudly that she was Lesley and that she was very happy to have us here. She gave a brief lecture about how to stay safe while we were at the reserve and asked us to come into the outdoor classroom. We talked about rivers, staying sensible, we looked at maps of the river and then.

It was time to find the river itself!

Rambling along in our groups (I was in my mum's group!) We finally got to the river. I could barely hear Lesley's voice over a crashing waterfall, that, she proclaimed, was man made. Lesley said that we would be carrying out some experiments on the river, repeating them at the brook and then comparing the results. We all watched fixedly as Lesley carried out the experiments, then we tried all of the following tests: a PH test, temperature test, amount of dissolved solids, the turbidity, flow rate (Lesley did this for us), a test on nitrates and a visual inspection of the river bed.

We then ambled down to a miniature brook and carried out those same experiments. It was so super fun! Next, we compared the brook and river by using the answer to the experiments.

After that there was more enjoyment to come! It was time for kick sampling! Lesley showed us how to do it. It didn't look too hard, just putting your net in the water in front of you and wiping your feet as if you were on a mat. The miniscule invertebrates that we caught were amazing! That was my favourite part of our school trip!

After a quick packed lunch we started our orienteering. We had to find the number listed and register it on our sheet using a map and compass. I had such fun exploring Daws Hall! In the time given our group found 18/24 letters and I am very proud that we managed to find that many!

Daws Hall was a brilliant learning experience and I know so much about rivers now. It was such a wonderful change of scene. I loved my time at Daws Hall!

By Natasha 5B