



FRIDAY 13TH JUNE 2025

School Newsletter



www.greattotham.essex.sch.uk

Dear Parents,

Please save the date for our forthcoming Summer Fete on 11th July, 5-8pm. The PTFA and Y6 children are working hard to prepare their many stalls and attractions. Such large events really do rely on the whole school community to lend a hand so if you can spare even half an hour, please get in touch with Lucy Robinson (PTFA Co-chair) or the school office. Further information will follow early next week.

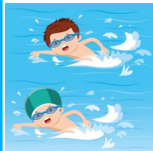
Wishing you all a lovely weekend. Enjoy the sunshine!

Kind regards, Sarah Vass, Headteacher



Week starting 16th June 2025:

Summer Menu - Week 2



Swimming

There are no changes to the swimming timetable this week.

	AM	PM
TUESDAY	4R 4D	1H
WEDNESDAY	6F 6S 3JC	RKC
THURSDAY	5H 5V 3CC	RLC
FRIDAY	2P 2G	1M

Diary Dates:

17th and 18th June - Y5 Road Safety

23rd June - Meet your new class teacher session for the children (1 of 3)

26th June - Y3 Trip to Colchester Castle

30th June - Meet your new class teacher session for the children (2 of 3)

2nd July - Y5 Outdoor Learning

3rd July - YR and Y3 Dental checks

7th July - Meet your new class teacher session for the children (3 of 3)

9th July - Y5 Thurstable School Taster Day

11th July - **PTFA Summer Fete - full details to follow!**



As the temperatures are hotting up over the next week, as well as applying sunscreen in the mornings, please consider providing your children with sunhats and sunglasses (both named!). We will continue to encourage children to wear these items and make full use of the shade so that they can enjoy time outside safely.



CSSE 11+ 2026 Entry for Current Y5 Children

A reminder that registration for the 11+ exam is from 13th May to 27th June 2025 inclusive.

CSSE schools are holding open days/evenings during June/July 2025. Closing date for registration is **27th June 2025**.

The tests will take place on **Saturday 20th September 2025**.

Summer Holiday Bikeability Courses

Y6 have just completed a 2 day cycle training programme with Bikeability gaining invaluable practical skills and understanding how to cycle on today's roads.

Bikeability also run courses in the Summer Holidays. All different levels are available as well as a beginner course called Learn to Ride. The courses are being held in Witham, Chelmsford and Colchester, please see the below link to book Summer holiday courses, these are very reasonably charged at £15.

<https://essex.cycleready.co.uk/publicbooking>



The Cycle Sustainability Team



Earrings

We continue to have a no jewellery policy at school. However with the summer holidays approaching you may be considering having your child's ears pierced. With this in mind we give an annual grace period to allow enough time for ears to heal before removing earrings for September. This year the period will run from Monday 7th July to Friday 5th September inclusive.

Please arrange to have the piercing done sooner rather than later within this period to allow plenty of time to heal. Only small stud type earrings should be used and in school hours they must be taped over (at home).

Please note plastic 'savers' are not acceptable.



Art Bytes Celebration Event

On 12th June we attended a celebration event in Cambridge.

First, we looked at the virtual gallery which showed the winning entries from each school. You can see this on the website. Then there was a presentation where we each got a certificate and the regional and national winners were announced.

Next we looked around an art exhibition by professional artists. It had different types of art; photographs, textiles, film and sculpture. It was really cool! Then we created our own picture of a warning for a gale coming which linked with the theme of the exhibition. We also made badges as souvenirs of the event.

We all had an amazing time! **Ethan, Anais and George, Y5**



Y4 Outdoor Learning

As our class got to the field we were buzzing with excitement for the day ahead. Then we were speechless at the sight of the jeep David brought us to see. The wheels were massive, bigger than an elephant! It was dark camo green and it blended in with the grass and the trees. We tried to get as many people on the jeep as possible. We got our whole class on, that's 31 people! We even got a group photo. Then David showed us some war helmets. One was an English helmet from WW1. The other one was an American one from WW2. Next we got shown the fuel tank, it held 9 gallons (each gallon is 4.5 litres). We tried to sketch the jeep, it was from the Scottish Highlands so every drawing had a Scottish flag on it. It had grooves on the wheels so it was easier to traverse the fields.

After lunch, we arrived at the outdoor classroom to know what we were doing. All of the brilliant activities sounded like we could do them all day. Once the class got started, we were so excited and were split into groups. The first activity was making bunting. We gathered flowers and started bashing them using a black mallet. Sarah said 4D's bunting was beautiful so we tried to beat them! The next activity was learning morse code. Morse code was a secret language in WW2 full of dots and dashes. We used torches to do the code and make sentences. After, we went to the den to make our own bomb shelters. Next, we did paper planes. Most of ours were good but Sebby's was the best. And the last activity was skipping and that was really fun but hard. The record was 27 in a row by Paige. In conclusion, it was a blast of a day!

by **Arlo and Sebastian, Y4**



'I had never climbed before. I was scared of heights. But I climbed and rang the bell all by myself and felt really proud of myself'

Poonam

Brownies
1st Wickham Bishops
6.30pm to 7.30pm on Tuesday evenings
Spaces available for immediate start for ages 7 to 10

At Brownies, we welcome all girls to explore their creative side, get out into the great outdoors and start to learn to look after themselves, others and the world we live in.

girlguiding
registered charity number: 54060 (England) / 2620 (Scotland)

Join a local Brownies group [girlguiding.org.uk/joinus](https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/joinus)

New for 2025 /26

MALDON RFC
YEARS 4, 5 & 6 GIRL'S SQUAD
From September 2025

PARENTS FEEL FREE TO JOIN THE WHATSAPP GROUP

For further information contact Becci: 07427193808

Maldon Rugby Club
Drapers Farm,
CM9 4QT

Maldon Rugby Club
est. 1947