

School Newsletter Summer 2017 No.13

17th July 2017

Coming up this week:

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| 18.07.17 | Year 6 Leavers Assembly |
| 20.07.17 | Final Reading Challenge assembly |
| 21.07.17 | Last day of term |
| 05.09.17 | First day of Autumn Term |

Sports day

Thank you to everyone who came and supported the children on their Sports Day and who stayed for the family picnic. We were proud of the effort all of the children made. The winning house on Thursday morning was **Kenilworth**—congratulations to them!

A request from Essex County Council

We have been asked by the Local Authority to remind parents that children cannot take part in any PE activities whilst wearing earrings/studs. Earrings cannot be taped over and must be removed completely. Please bear this in mind if your child is having their ears pierced over the summer. The suggestion is that you have the piercings done early in the holiday so that the earrings can be removed by the start of next term.

We will let you know the days of PE lessons, and therefore the days on which earrings need to be removed, at the start of term in September.

Book Amnesty

We are running short of books in our school library—we think children have taken them home to read and have forgotten to bring them back. Please search your child's room and, if you find any books belonging to Roach Vale, return them immediately—no fines, no questions; we just need our books back!

Thank you.

Happy Birthday to:

**Roxi Griffin, Harrison Cundy,
Lyla-Honey Whitten, Cameron**



**Smith, Noah McShane, Dulcie Cotterill and
Olivia de Rozarieux**

who each celebrated their birthday last week.

And Happy Birthday to:

**Keris Archer, Thomas Oxford, T-Jay Winkworth,
Alfie Bryant, Ruby Cripps, Emily Eve, Skye
Churchman, Jude Phillips, Harriet Hope, George
Enever, Thomas Adams, Harry Brown, Lyblabue
Hinson, Ravel Khoshnaw, Gracie Topolewski, Oscar
Taylor, Evie Tuttlebee, Bayley Woodhouse, Freya
Beeson, Lorrena Malseed, Harry Sherborne,
Graydon Rudd, Lennon O'Hara, Danielle Lister,
Harley Thorne, Jasmine Clarke, Gbemi Akinboh,
Tia Richardson and Noah Phillips**

who will each celebrate their birthday before the start of the new term.

Summer Lunch Canteen

We have been informed that a summer lunch canteen will be operating at Firstsite art gallery in the town centre each Monday and Wednesday from 24th July to 30th August.

Hot meals will be provided at a reasonable price for those families who can afford it, and free for those families who qualify for free school meals during term time.

Further information will be sent out before the end of term in the book bags.



Here are our Green Rosette for Growth Mindset winners from last week.

Each has shown a growth mindset, displaying perseverance, engagement and effort when faced with challenges in school.

We are very proud of each one of them.



A Last Word from Mrs Williams

I always like to add my 'thank yous' to the final newsletter of the year, but this newsletter is a little different as it is the last one I will ever write as Head Teacher of Roach Vale. In September Roach Vale will be led by Mrs Clare Sampson who was appointed to the post of Head Teacher in February and who has been working alongside me for the past few months; I will be enjoying my retirement!

After 37 years as a teacher, 24 of which I have spent as Head at Roach Vale, it is time to reflect and take stock.

I can honestly say that it has been a real privilege to work with so many amazing children through the years—approximately 1500 when I last counted! Their creativity, humour and resilience never fail to leave me speechless. To see the world through the eyes of a child is both humbling and shocking. Children have taught me so much.

I have been so fortunate throughout my career to have met and worked with some of the most inspirational and dedicated people on the planet—teachers! Contrary to popular belief, their day doesn't start at 9am and finish at 3.15pm, nor do they take long holidays. At Roach Vale, most teachers are in school by 7.30am, stay until at least 5.30pm, taking work home to do in the evening, and giving up their weekends and most of the school holidays to planning, preparing and researching so that their teaching is as good as it can be. I have always believed that teaching isn't a job, it's a way of life!

And, at Roach Vale, the teachers are extremely well supported by the Teaching Assistants, Learning Support Assistants, Office Staff, Catering Staff, Lunchtime Staff and Cleaning Staff all of whom do the very best they can to ensure your children get an outstanding education during their time here.

It has also been a privilege to work with so many dedicated governors during my time as Head. Each gives their time voluntarily, and each does their extremely valuable work for the benefit of **all** the children in the school. Working with people who show such commitment has made my job so much easier.

As a parent myself I know the role of parenthood is not an easy one. There is no preparation for it—it is a rollercoaster ride that loops from sheer elation to frustration, exhilaration to desperation, but it is an awesome ride, and to all parents I would say enjoy it and value each day you spend with your child. You are their greatest role model and you do an incredible job.

So, thank you for all the memories with which I leave Roach Vale and leave my career. I have so much to look back on and be grateful for. I wish you and your children every happiness and success. Always dream big, aim high. "You Can, We Can...achieve."

Serena J. Williams