



Theydon Bois Primary School
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25th May 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have reached the final leg of our academic year. At the end of the first half of the summer term I am sure everyone is looking forward to a well-deserved rest over half term. Whether you stay at home or go away... Enjoy, rest and keep safe.

SATS

Well done to all our year 2 and 6 children who completed their final assessments for the academic year 2017/18. Everything went smoothly and according to plan. Our children were well prepared and showed great focus and commitment on the days they took their tests. Thank you to all parents who supported their children so well throughout the whole process.

Mill Rythe

How lucky is Year 6? First they will enjoy half term with the rest of us just to come back and be waved of on their week long, Mill Rythe residential trip packed with fun and adventure. Have a great time and come back well 'rested'. There is still a very busy half term ahead.

Enterprise

We are excited to tell you that we are running the "Stepping into Business: Enterprise Essentials" course after half term. It is a fun enterprise and life skills programme being run for our Year 5 children. As part of the initiative "Business Angels" are required! We are looking for parents to come into school as inspirational speakers or sit on a panel and listen to children on pitch day in order to give constructive feedback on their ideas and business plans. If you are able to help and would like further information (dates etc.) please speak to the school office or to Purlieu class teacher, Miss Rogers.

Gardening

Mrs Green will continue to run the gardening sessions every Friday until the end of the academic year. For the second part of the summer term Coppice, Purlieu and Woburn will have the opportunity to develop their gardening skills and enjoy the great outdoors!

Swimming

Swimming lessons are going really well for our Reception to Year 3 children. Weekly sessions are as follows:

Tuesday: Year 3 and Year 4

Wednesday: Forest

Thursday: Blackacre

Friday: Baldocks, Pakes, Year 5/6 and Orchard

We will notify you in advance of any changes to the rota.

A big thank you to Mr Bristow for preparing the pool every morning, ready for the daily swimming sessions.

Uniform

Further to previous information on this subject, it has now been decided that skorts are **not** suitable to be worn for P.E. as they are dangerous when using the equipment. Thank you for your co-operation.

Head Lice

We have had reports of cases of head lice in school. I would like to make it clear that it is not the remit of schools to send an "alert" letter to parents in the event of an outbreak but I am informing you in the hope that the current outbreak does not escalate. Please take the opportunity over the half-term break to check each child and all your family's hair (including adults). If you do find evidence of head lice please treat accordingly. If you are unsure of the correct course of action please speak to a pharmacist for further advice. As many of you will already be aware, plastic head lice detector combs are available from the school office at a cost of 50p.

Attendance

The school attendance so far is:

Last Half Term	96.8%
This half term	96.5%
Year so far	96%

Congratulations to Purlieu class for winning the attendance trophy for this half term's attendance with a winning percentage of 97.8%. Superbly well done Purlieu! An afternoon of swimming pool fun awaits you! Date to follow.

There is, however, a slight drop in our attendance since last half term. If this continues it can have quite a negative impact on our attendance target. If the attendance percentage is 96% or above we are fairly secure. Can we please ask parents to carefully consider term time holidays as it negatively impacts on the whole school and quite possibly on the attainment and progress of your child/ren.

PTA

*Well, I never knew so much cake could be eaten in 1 hour as at our 'Royal Wedding Tea Party'!
We made £800 including the non uniform fee!*

Feedback was that we all enjoyed Friday afternoon; the boys trying to get a goal past Frankie and the girls dancing with Abby and Maddie. Mums and Dads ate sooo much cake! The little ones made crowns. A really enjoyable afternoon. Thank you all for your support and to Mrs Salmon for the lovely flower arrangements. Our lovely PTA Mums in their union flag pinnies and Mark, our PTA Dad, (on raffle) - they went from serving cakes to teas to ice-creams in and out of the sun non-stop for an hour! There were so many really beautiful wedding cakes decorated by the children that the kitchen refused to only give 3 prizes and the PTA offered up 10 prizes in total. Well done to everyone - such talent!

Forthcoming events are a 'Father's Day stall on Friday, 15th June and, for more school fun, this will be followed by our 'Summer Fair Colour Run' from 3:15 on Friday 29th June.

Please let us know if you'd like to join the PTA to plan events and fundraise, we will always welcome you! Further dates for volunteers are: Friday 15th June Father's Day Stall, Friday 29th June Summer Fair and Sunday 8th July we have a game stall at the 'Scout's Donkey Derby' on our village green. pta@theydonbois.essex.sch.uk for more info.

The PTA wish you all a sunny half-term and we look forward on our return to seeing our Year 6 group off on their 5-day residential trip to Mill Rythe. We wish them lots of fun, adventure and growing in the sunshine!

Thank you
Joanne and PTA Committee

Reminders

The school will reopen on Monday 4th June at 8.55. Gates open at 8.45.

Yours sincerely

Mr A Rall
Headteacher