

WEDNESDAY 4TH MARCH 2026



MILWARDS PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY NEWSLETTER



Dear Parents and Carers.

Dare I say, with the sun shining this week, it feels like spring may finally have sprung! The lighter mornings and brighter afternoons always seem to bring a renewed sense of energy across the school, and there is a lovely calm focus in classrooms at the moment.

Today, Wednesday 4th March, we look forward to opening our classroom doors at the end of the school day to welcome parents and carers into school. This is a wonderful opportunity to spend time with your child, look through their books and see the environment in which they learn each day. You may also notice the reading areas within classrooms, which we continue to develop to promote a genuine love of reading. Even ten minutes of shared reading at home each evening makes a profound difference over time, and we are grateful for the support you give in fostering those habits. The session will conclude promptly at 5:00pm. Please note that although teachers will be in the classroom, they will not be available for individual parent consultations during this time, as the focus is on sharing the children's work and celebrating their learning. Invitations to book parent consultation appointments have already been sent out; we kindly ask that you check the diary and sign up for a suitable slot if you have not already done so.

With the sense of a new season approaching, this can also be a helpful time for a gentle "reset" at home. Encouraging children to take increasing responsibility — packing their own bags, organising reading books, remembering PE kits — builds independence and confidence. These small daily routines make a significant difference to children's readiness to learn.

As the days become brighter, we are also making the most of opportunities for outdoor learning and fresh air. Time outside supports both wellbeing and concentration, and we are fortunate to have spaces that allow us to enrich learning beyond the classroom walls.

You may have seen recent media discussions around children's use of smartphones and social media. As always, we encourage families to monitor age restrictions carefully and to maintain regular, open conversations at home about online behaviour and safety. Working together in this area is particularly important as children grow in independence.

If you are looking for the battery recycling box that was previously located in our entrance area, please don't worry — we still have it. The box has simply been moved inside the school. If you have any used household batteries that you would like to recycle, please hand them in at the school office and we will ensure they are placed in the recycling box safely.

Kind regards,

Mr M Doughty - Head Teacher

Stars of the Week

Little Acorns:

Big Acorns:

Cherry: Gabe

Maple: Bailey

Birch: Hina

Willow: Harper

Pine: Billy-Mai

Oak: Aylin

Head Teachers Award

Elsie

Livvy

A huge well done to these children.



VOLUNTEER READERS

WANTED!

Come and Share the Joy of Reading!

 **Make a Difference in Our School**

Help children build confidence, fluency & a love of reading with 1-on-1 sessions. Just a short session can make a big impact!



Flexible Times Available

Visit when it works for you, whether it's once a week or more. We'll match you with a time that suits your schedule.



Full Support Provided

We'll guide you through the process with two references needed & a 1-hour safeguarding video to watch before starting.

Interested? Please pop into the school office for forms & info!





Meet the Governors

Hello, my name is Emily Murungi, and I would like to introduce myself as a Parent Governor at Milwards Primary School. I am also a proud parent of two children who attend the school.

I bring experience as a County Education Board member and currently serve as a Parent Governor in a UK-based secondary school. I also hold a master's degree in management, which supports my interest in strong leadership and effective governance. In addition, I have worked with children in primary schools for 15 years as a Child Protection Champion, and I am deeply committed to safeguarding and promoting the wellbeing of all pupils.

It is a privilege to be part of the Governing Body, supporting the school to grow and thrive, and helping to ensure the very best outcomes for every child. I look forward to working alongside staff, parents, and fellow governors to strengthen our school community.



FAKE OR REAL? DO YOU KNOW THE DEAL?

Deepfake technology is a type of artificial intelligence that can spread misinformation and disinformation. Stay informed to help protect children and young people online.

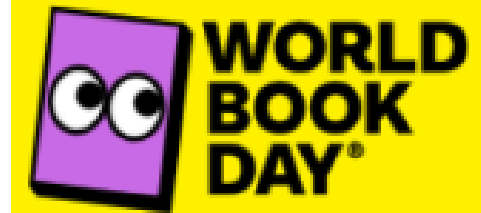
Visit your local EE store today to speak with our Guides about staying safe online.

Scan the QR code below to book a free 30-minute session with an EE Guide to learn how to protect yourself from deepfakes.



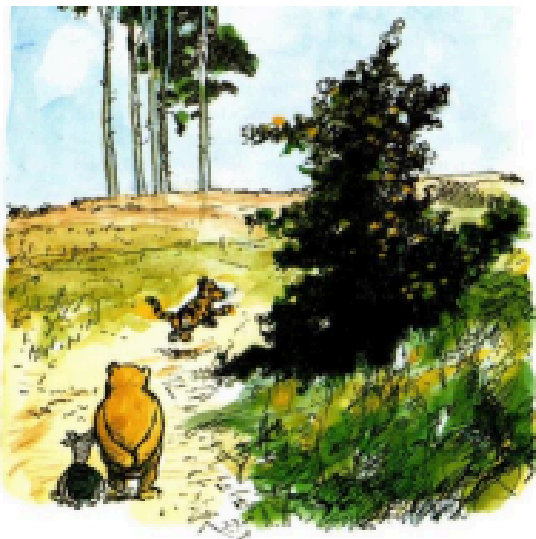
Dear Parents and Carers,

We are excited to let you know that we will be celebrating *World Book Day* on Thursday 5th March 2026.



On this day, children are invited to come to school dressed as a character from a book, or wear pyjamas, for a donation of £1. Costumes do not need to be elaborate or expensive—simple outfits, homemade costumes, or even bringing in a favourite book to share are all welcome.

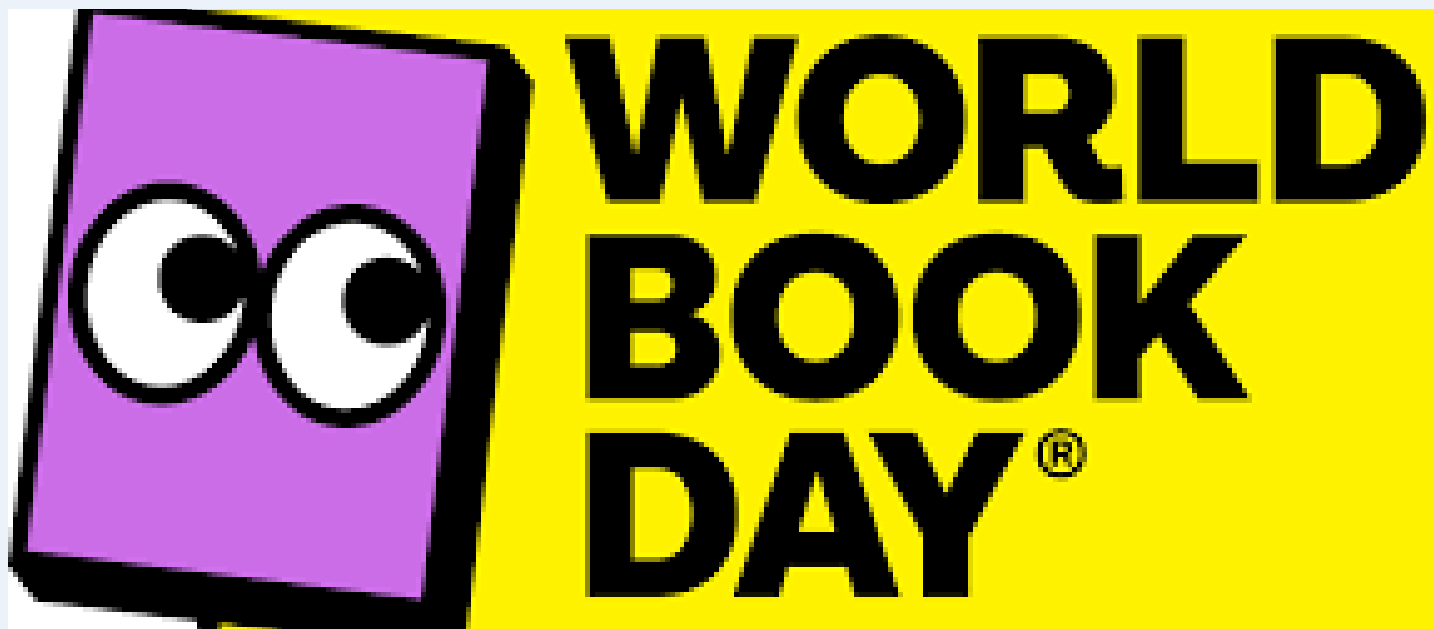
Please ensure that all costumes are suitable for a normal school day, including outdoor play, and that children are able to manage them independently where possible.



This year marks 100 years of Winnie the Pooh, and so alongside the usual fun, book-related activities, we will also be hosting a teddy bears' picnic during the day. We invite the children to bring in a bear from home to enjoy cake and squash with whilst sharing stories. Please ensure the school office is aware of any allergies prior to the day.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us encourage a lifelong love of reading. We are really looking forward to a fantastic day celebrating books together.

Kind regards,
Miss Alcock – English Coordinator



WARNING OFF-ROADERS BEWARE!

Section 34 of the Road Traffic Act prohibits all Mechanically Propelled Vehicles from driving on this land.



Bikes will be seized without further warning

To report motorcycle nuisance call 101 or visit our website:

www.essex.police.uk/doitonline

In an emergency always call 999.



**ESSEX
POLICE**

Protecting and serving Essex

CrimeStoppers.

0800 555 111

100% anonymous. Always.

**CALL
ESSEX
POLICE**

101

IN AN EMERGENCY
ALWAYS CALL 999

Mental Health Support Teams in Schools



Are you a parent/carer looking for effective ways to help your young person navigate anxiety and manage big emotions?

Look no further; The Mental Health Support Team
is here to support you!

Evidence-based
interventions,
based on
Cognitive
Behavioural
Therapy (CBT)

In **primary
schools** we
work directly
with
parents/carers

In **secondary
schools** and
colleges we help
young people
manage low mood,
anxiety and worry

Support in a
confidential space
in school over 4
to 8 weekly
sessions lasting
up to an hour

Practical
strategies to help
manage anxiety
and emotional
challenges

Helping young
people develop
coping strategies
and take charge of
their well-being

To take the first step and find out more, contact the mental
health lead in school or email mhstadmin@mindinwestessex.org.uk



Get ready to stay in the loop with all the excitement! ✨

Join our amazing community on Instagram and Facebook 📷🌟 and be the first to see the brilliant learning, proud moments, and joyful experiences happening every day. Like, share, and spread the magic as our school shines! Follow us so you don't miss a single celebration, success, or smile — let's grow, learn, and make memories together! 🎉



citizens advice Harlow

Call Citizens Advice Harlow, part of the Tackling Fuel Poverty Together Team

0808 189 6550

www.harlowcitizensadvice.org.uk

WEBSITE:

[HTTP://WWW.MILWARDS.ESSEX.SCH.UK/](http://www.milwards.essex.sch.uk/)

INSTAGRAM:

[HTTPS://WWW.INSTAGRAM.COM/MILWARDSPRIMARYSCHOOL/](https://www.instagram.com/milwardsprimaryschool/)

FACEBOOK:

[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/PROFILE.php?id=100091808599928](https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100091808599928)

Privacy Notice Please see the following link to a page on the HILT Academies website where you can view the Privacy Notice for Pupils and Parents.

<https://www.milwards.essex.sch.uk/general-data-protection-regulation-2018/>

Contact details

A reminder to please keep all of your contact details up to date.

This can be done by logging into your Arbor app or via the website: [Milwards Primary School and Nursery.](#)



Turn your online shopping into everyday magic for Milwards Primary School - Harlow with easyfundraising

You shop, brands donate to us. It won't cost you any extra!



How to sign up

Scan the QR code

or visit:

<http://efraising.org/9nb2MD0lca>



Download the easyfundraising App

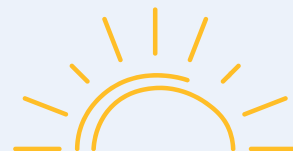


Spring Term



Date	Event	Additional information
24.02.26 & 25.02.26	Bikability	Year 5
04.03.26	Open classrooms	Classrooms will be open from the end of the school day for parents/carers to come in and look at their child's books and work. This will finish at 5.00pm.
05.03.26	World Book Day	Come dress as a book character or in your pyjamas for a donation of £1
06.03.26	Ranger Stu	Year 4
10.03.26 & 12.03.26	Parent Consultations	Parents/carers will be able to book appointments on our system.
19.03.26	Colchester Zoo	Year 1
24.03.26	Year 5 & 6 to Stewards	Years 5 & 6 will be watching the latest Stewards production
19.03.26 - 26.03.26	Book Fair	
26.03.26	Gibberd gallery trip	Year 2
20.03.26	Reading Cafe - revised date	9-9.45 - Early Years and 5, 10-10.45 - Years 1, 3 and 6, 11-11.45 - Years 2 and 4
27.03.26	End of the Spring term	School closes at 1.30pm PM nursery children should attend the AM session this day.

Summer Term



Date	Event	Additional information
16.02.26-20.02.26	Half term	
19.05.26	Class photos	Class and team photos
03.06.26	Reception to Pizza Express	Details to follow.
07.07.26	Key Stage 2 Production	2pm and 4pm
8.07.26	Key Stage 2 Production	9.30
09.07.26	KS1 summer showcase	3pm
26.06.26	Whole school Sports Day	Reserve date: 10.07.26
03.07.26	EYFS to Barley Lands Farm	Details to follow
15.07.26	Year 6 leavers BBQ	3.30
16.07.26	Acorns Graduation	2pm - For parents of children leaving Acorns
17.07.26	Year 6 leavers assembly	9.30
17.07.26	End of the Summer term	School closes at 1.30pm PM nursery children should attend the AM session this day.

Autumn Term



Date	Event	Additional information
03.09.26	Back to school	Year 1 - 6 EYFS dates will be confirmed asap.
26.10.26 - 30.10.26	Half term	
27/11/26	INSET day	
18.12.26	End of the Autumn term	School closes at 1.30pm PM nursery children should attend the AM session this day.