

MONDAY 9TH<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2026

Milwards  
Primary School  
& Nursery

# MILWARDS PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY NEWSLETTER



Dear Parents & carers

It has been another positive and busy week across the school, with children continuing to engage well in their learning and approach their work with focus, curiosity, and growing independence. Classrooms have been calm, purposeful spaces, with pupils showing enthusiasm and pride in what they are achieving.

Today, we held a Safer Internet Day assembly, where children came together to think about how to stay safe online. The assembly focused on being kind and respectful when using technology, making sensible choices, and knowing when and how to ask for help if something does not feel right. We are looking forward to continuing this work in classes throughout the week, with further discussions and activities planned to reinforce these important messages in an age-appropriate way.

Families play a really important role in supporting children to stay safe online. Regular, informal conversations at home about what children enjoy doing online can make a big difference, helping children feel confident and supported. It is also helpful to remind children that they can always talk to a trusted adult if they are worried or unsure about anything they see or hear online. Where possible, keeping devices in shared family spaces and having clear, agreed boundaries around screen time can help children use technology in a safe and positive way.

We have also been pleased to host a series of 'Get Children Ready for Reception' sessions for our Nursery families, which have been taking place in the hall on Thursday mornings. These sessions, delivered by an external provider, have been very well attended and positively received, offering parents a range of practical ideas and reassurance to support children as they prepare for the transition into Reception. The final session will take place this Thursday, and we would like to thank all families who have taken part.

A Look at Learning Across the School

This week, I took part in a learning walk across the school. It was genuinely lovely to see the improvements in writing taking place in classrooms and the enthusiasm and engagement children showed when talking about their work. Writing is an area where we have seen significant progress, and it was encouraging to see how much more confident and motivated children are becoming. Many pupils now approach writing with greater enjoyment and pride, supported thoughtfully by staff as they continue to develop their skills.

I hope you all have a wonderful week.

Warm regards

Ms Sam Hurley - Deputy Head

# Stars of the Week

Little Acorns: Bejna

Big Acorns: William

Cherry: Penny

Maple: Theo

Birch: Kayden

Willow: Arda

Pine: Noah L

Oak: Henley

# Head Teachers Award

Axel

Peace

Hadley

A huge well done to these 3 children.



## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Not all Superheroes wear capes, sometimes they volunteer on the school PTA!

### WE NEED YOU!

Whether you can help raise much-needed funds, organise exciting events, or simply serve teas and coffees at gatherings, every bit makes a difference. Join us in creating memorable experiences for our children and strengthening our school spirit.

### BE A HERO

Contact us at [WELFARE@milwards.essex.sch.uk](mailto:WELFARE@milwards.essex.sch.uk) to join our PTA-Team!



At Milwards, we understand that family life isn't always easy, and that at different times of the year families can face added pressures, worries or challenges.



We are part of the **J9 Initiative**

Providing safe and confidential support for anyone affected by domestic abuse.

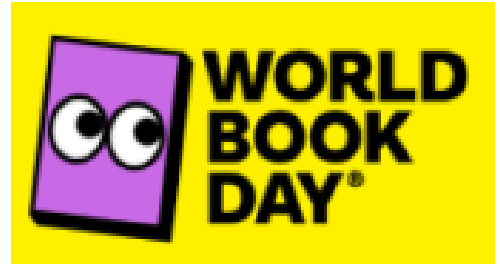
If you ever need advice, someone to talk to, or help accessing further support, please reach out to a member of our safeguarding team.

We are here for you and your family — always.



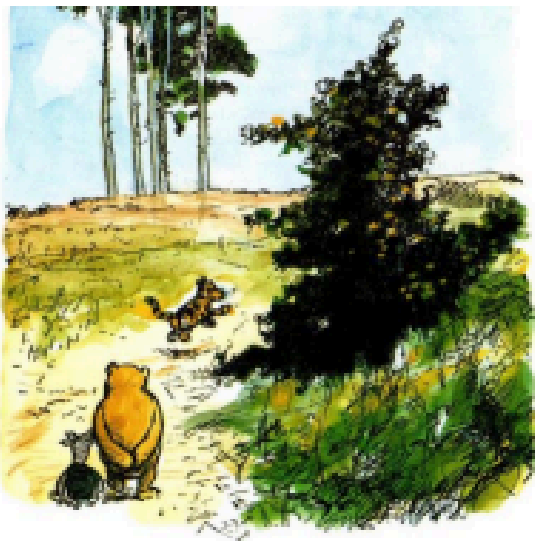
Dear Parents and Carers,

We are excited to let you know that we will be celebrating *World Book Day* on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> 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.

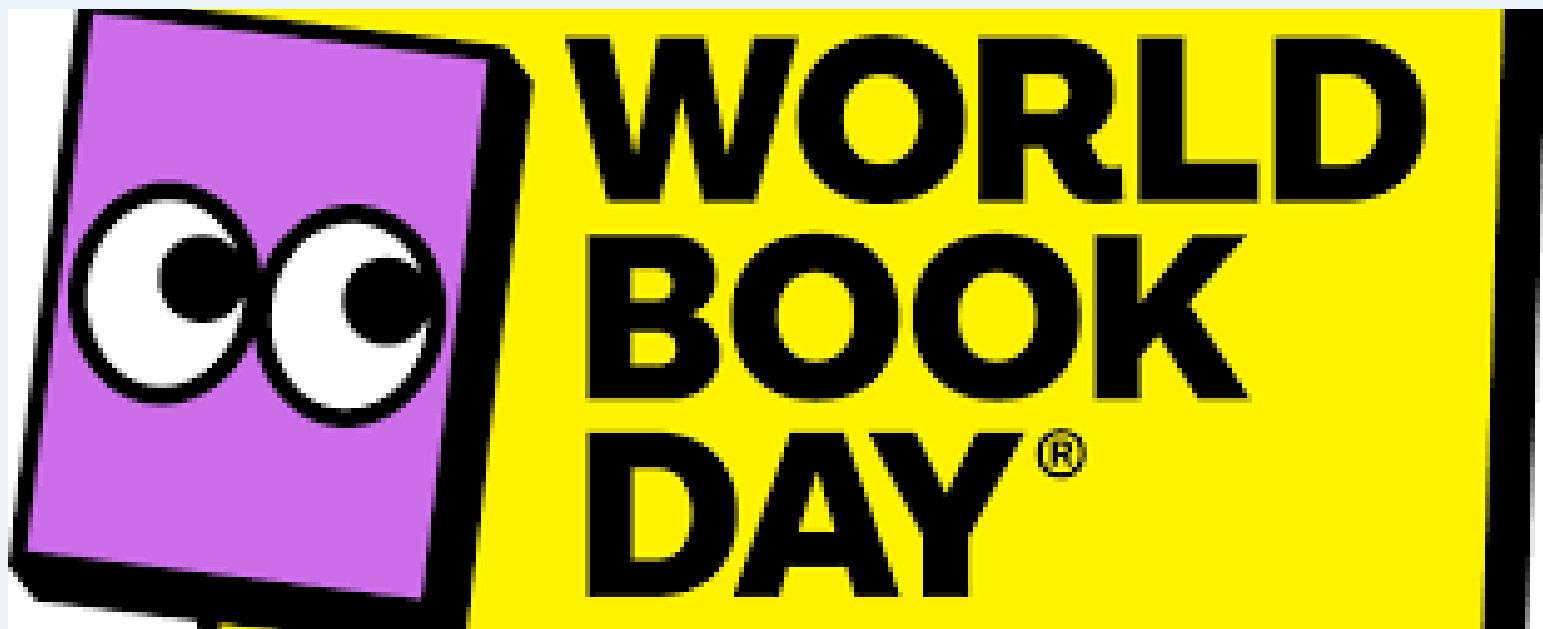
Please ensure that all costumes are suitable for a normal school day, including outdoor play, and that children are able to manage them independently where possible.



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





# FAKE OR REAL? KNOW THE DEAL

Deepfakes may be fake, but  
their effects are not.



Scan here to learn more

Helping families stay safe online

Safer  
Internet  
Day 2026

Tuesday  
10 February

Coordinated by the UK Safer Internet Centre

**Safer Internet Day 2026** — We are supporting this in school.  
Scan the QR code for simple parent guidance and online safety tips.



Scan for parent resources



# 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](mailto:mhstadmin@mindinwestessex.org.uk)



STAY CONNECTED WITH US! ✨  
JOIN OUR VIBRANT COMMUNITY ON  
INSTAGRAM AND FACEBOOK! 📸 ✨  
SHARE OUR POSTS AND SPREAD THE  
JOY ABOUT THE AMAZING LEARNING  
HAPPENING HERE. FOLLOW US TO  
STAY UPDATED ON ALL THE EXCITING  
EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES. LET'S GROW,  
LEARN, AND HAVE FUN TOGETHER  
UNDER THE BRIGHT SUN! 🎉



Harlow

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

**0808 189 6550**

[www.harlowcitizensadvice.org.uk](http://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.](http://www.milwards.essex.sch.uk/)

easyfundraising

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!

The banner features the easyfundraising logo and various shopping-related icons like a lightbulb, a smartphone, a shopping bag, a potted plant, and a popcorn bucket.

**How to sign up**

Scan the QR code

or visit:

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



Download the  
easyfundraising App





# FAMILY ECO HABITS

Small changes at home. Big impact for the future.



## Everyday Eco Choices

- ✓ Turn off lights when leaving a room
- ✓ Don't leave taps running
- ✓ Recycle together as a family
- ✓ Use reusable bottles and lunch containers
- ✓ Reduce food waste where possible
- ✓ Walk short journeys instead of driving



- ✓ Use reusable bottles and lunch containers
- ✓ Reduce food waste where possible



## Involve Your Children

- ✓ Let children help sort recycling
- ✓ Grow a plant or herbs together
- ✓ Reuse packaging for crafts
- ✓ Donate toys and clothes
- ✓ Talk about protecting nature



## Why It Matters

- ✓ Children copy what they see at home.
- ✓ Small eco habits teach responsibility, care and respect for the world around them.

**Every family makes a difference.**

Together we are raising a generation that protects the future.



# Spring Term



Date	Event	Additional information
10.02.26	Safer Internet Day 2026	Children will be learning about how to keep safe when online -
16.02.26-20.02.26	<b>Half term</b>	
24.02.26 & 25.02.26	Bikability	Year 5
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 & 11.03.26	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	
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	<b>End of the Spring term</b>	<b>School closes at 1.30pm</b> PM nursery children should attend the AM session this day.

# Summer Term



Date	Event	Additional information
16.02.26-20.02.26	<b>Half term</b>	
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	<b>End of the Summer term</b>	<b>School closes at 1.30pm</b> 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	<b>Half term</b>	
27/11/26	<b>INSET day</b>	
18.12.26	<b>End of the Autumn term</b>	<b>School closes at 1.30pm</b> PM nursery children should attend the AM session this day.