

HEADTEACHER

On Monday we are launching a new whole school project led by our School Council.

We are going to be working hard to try a number of different ways to encourage better hydration in school.

All children are expected to bring their water bottle to school and we will always refill this if your child drinks the bottle.

To begin the project, the Essex Healthy Schools team has sent us a survey which they are inviting parents to complete. Please follow the link to do so. Thank you in advance.

[Hydration survey for Parents – Fill in form](#)

IMPORTANT NOTICES

A few requests for 2026....

Please try to ensure that children arrive on time in the morning. Late arrivals cause extra work in the office and also disrupt the morning routines in the classroom.

Please name all uniform and coats so lost property can be returned promptly.

Please ensure that long hair is tied back so we can try to avoid visits from uninvited head lice.

Thank you!

SPORT

We have an extremely busy Spring term coming up, here is a taste of some of the events to look forward to:

- KS2 Swimming Gala
- Year 1 Active Maths Festival
- KS1 Panathlon Event
- Year 3/4 Football Tournament
- Year 3/4 Tag Rugby
- Year 5/6 Sports Hall Athletics
- KS2 Cross Country
- Year 5/6 Girls Football
- KS2 Archery
- KS2 Netball
- KS2 Hockey

AFSS

Welcome back to school from the AFSS! We are slowly waking up from our slumber and continue planning amazing events for the rest of the academic school year. The next highly anticipated Quiz night is held on Friday 30th which sadly will be the last ever with our host master Ben. We hope you managed to secure a place for this night that is guaranteed to make you giggle and laugh with friends.

For children, please mark Thursday 12th February for another school disco!! More details to follow as we are still in the process of finalising our plans. But once again, rest assured that it's going to be great fun! We will require a few volunteers to help on the night as well but the sign up for this will be closer to the event.



HEADTEACHER AWARDS

	Friday 9th January	Friday 16th January
Wrens	Phoebe & Frankie	Fred & Ellis
Robins	Ollie & Gracie L	Arlo & Isaac
Kingfishers	Alex & Gunnar	Charlie and Freddie
Woodpeckers	Evelyn & Cooper	Dolly & Henley
Kestrels	Thea & Samuel	Christopher & Jenna
Ospreys	Vinnie & Bella	Jacob & James
Owls	Rose & Freddie	Lina & Nathaniel

HOT CHOCOLATE WITH THE HEADTEACHER

	Friday 9th January	Friday 16th January
Wrens	Sammy	Lucy
Robins	Ocean	Hattie
Kingfishers	Dolcie	Saffron
Woodpeckers	Rhys	Archie
Kestrels	Teddy	Savannah
Ospreys	Mia	Genevieve
Owls	Elias	Mia & Isla

READING CHAMPIONS & PRESENTATION AWARDS

	Friday 9th January	Friday 16th January
Wrens	Lucy	
Robins	Oakley	Stebbing Reading Champion: Indie
Kingfishers	Charlie	
Woodpeckers		Ira
Kestrels	Stebbing Reading Champion: Avalon	Jasmina
Ospreys		Evie
Owls		Alex

DATE	YEAR 6 AWARD	ATTENDANCE AWARD	LUNCHTIME AWARD	KEEP IT CLEAN AWARD
09.01.26	Bonnie	Woodpeckers	Ocean & Axel	Woodpeckers & Kestrels
16.01.26		Robins	Ira	-

Date	MathShed			Spelling Shed		
	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Gold	Silver	Gold
09.01.26	Owls			Ospreys	Owls	Woodpeckers
16.01.26	Owls	Woodpeckers	Kestrels	Owls	Ospreys	Woodpeckers

EVENTS CALENDAR & GUEST SPOT

DATE	EVENT
19.01.26	SEND family forum
19.01.26	Young Voices Concert at the O2
20.01.26	SEND family consultations
30.01.26	Multiskills festival (Year 3 & 4)
30.01.26	AFSS quiz night
10.02.26	Safer Internet Day

GUEST SPOT- MATHS

In this edition of our Spotlight, we're focusing on **Mathematics** . While we often think of maths as a series of calculations on a page, at Stebbing Primary, we view it as a universal language—a way of thinking, exploring, and solving the mysteries of the world around us.

Our Philosophy: Depth Over Speed

We believe that every child can be a confident mathematician. Our approach focuses on **mathematical fluency** and **resilience** . Instead of rushing to get the "right answer," we encourage our students to:

- **Explain their thinking:** Being able to say "*I know this because...*" is just as important as the result.
- **Use manipulatives:** From Reception to Year 6, we use physical tools (like counters and base-ten blocks) to make abstract concepts concrete.
- **Embrace mistakes:** We treat errors as "learning leaps"—they show us exactly where the brain is growing!

Maths in the Real World

Mathematics is the hidden engine behind so much of what we enjoy. Whether it's the **geometry** of a spiderweb, the **statistics** in a football match, or the **fractions** used in a weekend baking session, we aim to show our pupils that maths is alive and well outside the classroom gates.

How You Can Help at Home

You don't need to be a calculus expert to support your child's journey. The best thing you can do is foster **mathematical curiosity** :

- **Play games:** Card games, dominoes, and board games like Monopoly are fantastic for building number sense.
- **Talk about time and money:** These are two of the most practical applications of maths. Let them help count change or work out how long until dinner.
- **Stay positive:** Research shows that a "can-do" attitude toward maths is one of the biggest predictors of success.