

# School News

## A MESSAGE FROM THE SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have made it to the end of another busy week in school! As always there have been many exciting experiences and events taking place at school which you will be able to see from our Facebook page and newsletter.



On Thursday, our yr5 children took part in a local walk hosted by our Arts and Culture Young Ambassadors. The children spent time at Coalhouse Fort and the surrounding countryside to explore the theme of 'our commitment to protecting the coastal areas of the UK'. As a school, we have partnered with Kinetika for over 10 years now and it was a privilege to once again be part of the organisations summer festival - we were the launch event! Our year 5 Young Ambassadors have been working with Kinetika over the whole year to plan for this event day and prepare some wonderful art pieces to encourage families to 'walk – talk – explore' together (you will receive this today). A big well done to all involved – it was a great day of leadership, learning and exploration. Over the month of May we are encouraging you to take part in the festival by completing a walk with your family – to find out more please visit the webpage below:

<https://t100festival.co.uk/coastal-futures-walking-routes/>

Once completed you can log your walk and share your feelings about the environment that you explored.



### Bikes and Scooters on site

A reminder to please ensure that your children come off their bikes or scooters as they enter school grounds – this is to ensure safety for all in more crowded spaces. Please also remember to leave the school site swiftly once you have collected your child.

### Summer weather

We have enjoyed some lovely weather over the last week! Please remember to apply suncream on your child in the morning and for them to have a sun hat. Although comfy footwear in hot weather is important, please do remember that your child needs a pair of trainers for PE – sandals and crocs are not appropriate when completing sporting activity. Thank you for your ongoing support with this.

We wish you a relaxing weekend ahead,

The Leadership Team

# *Important Information*

If your child has an injury and has been given medical advice that we need to follow as a school, please bring them to the school office for 8.15am on their first day back at school following the injury so that we can complete a risk assessment.

Thank you for your cooperation.

## **Absence**

If your child is too ill to attend school, this must be reported to us by no later than **9.00am**. Please telephone the school, press one and leave a message on the voicemail box stating your child's full name, class, the reason for absence and when we can expect them to return to school (if known).

Home Visits will be carried out for any child that is absent for 3 or more school days without reason.

# We need you...



Please label all children's school uniform. This helps us return lost property to the correct child and prevents parents from having to replace missing uniform as often. This is particularly important as the weather is colder and children are wearing jumpers/cardigans to school.

We are missing a significant number of reading books. If you have any left at home (whatever condition) please return them.

Thank you

**Please be reminded that pupils should not be wearing jewellery to school. Children with pierced ears may wear small stud earrings but hoops are not permitted.**

**Thank you for your support**

Please ensure your child has a PE kit in school each day. If you are struggling with this, please contact Mrs Jarvis or Mrs Allen.

Thank You

We are continually updating our OPAL resources and would gladly accept donations of:

- Tennis balls
- Footballs
- Bats
- Dressing up clothes
- Colouring books
- Crayons
- Big cars
- Lego



# Thank You

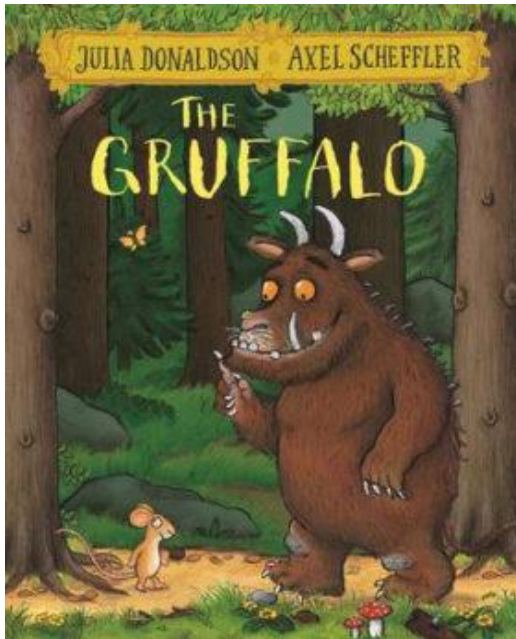


This week, Year 5 have participated in a collective project to help make the school look more beautiful by restoring plants around the school. Following on from our science lessons, where the pupils recalled the reproductive parts of a flower, they were able to dissect a primrose and reuse the soil to plant lamb ear cuttings. We then de-weeded the plant pots around the school and proceeded to plant Gladioli bulbs, Nasturtiums, Pansies and Geraniums. Next, it was time to plant some vegetables and water the plants. Finally, the pupils went out into the outdoor learning area to apply their observational skills learnt in art this week to their science work. They were able to draw various plants, discuss their physical features and label their sketches. A huge thank you to [EAST TILBURY SCHOOLS PFA](#) for donating the plants.



# Recommended Reads

Each week we will be recommending great books that you can share with your children.



## The Gruffalo

**Author:** Julia Donaldson

**Illustrator:** Axel Scheffler

In this much-loved picture book, a little mouse walks through the woods and encounters a fox, an owl and a snake. To fend them off, he tells each about the scary Gruffalo - but when the mouse actually encounters the Gruffalo himself, he cleverly invents another tale and manages to escape from danger yet again.

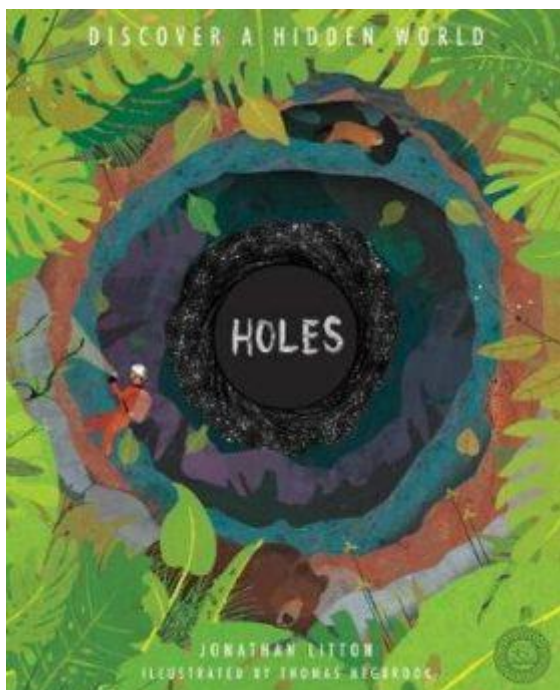
Blending a suspenseful story with a rhyming text and wonderful illustrations, this is the perfect interactive picture book - and a deserving family favourite.

## Holes

**Author:** Jonathan Litton

**Illustrator:** Thomas Hegbrook

Burrows and boreholes, subways and sinkholes; fractures and caves, tunnels and mines: the sheer variety of underground expanses that could in any way be described as a "hole" are explored and excavated in this lovely and fascinating hardback from Jonathan Litton and Thomas Hegbrook. Even the philosophical concept of a hole is considered, from Sartre to Lao Zi – as well as surprising revelations, such as the knowledge that some buildings in Hong Kong have been constructed with huge holes in them to allow the free passage of dragons.





# SEND in Focus

 [thurrock.gov.uk](http://thurrock.gov.uk)

TWILIGHT SESSIONS HAVE BEEN ADDED



Your Aspirations, Our Priority

## ALL THINGS THURROCK SEND: MONTHLY PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT

WITH ASSISTANT DIRECTOR FOR EDUCATION AND CHILDREN'S COMMISSIONING  
AND PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES & EDUCATION

We invite you to join us and share your thoughts on the following topics:

- Your experiences with the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) service.
- Your insights on inclusion and offer of timely support within the school or educational setting your child / young person attends.
- Your experiences during phase transitions.
- Your experiences related to accessing the local community with your child / young person.



19 MAR, 2025 - 6PM  
28 MAR, 2025 - 10AM  
23 APR, 2025 - 6PM  
25 APR, 2025 - 10AM  
21 MAY, 2025 - 6PM  
22 MAY, 2025 - 11AM  
27 JUN, 2025 - 10AM  
04 JUL, 2025 - 10AM  
16 JUL, 2025, 6PM



 **RESERVE YOUR SPOT TODAY!**

 [QASEND@thurrock.gov.uk](mailto:QASEND@thurrock.gov.uk)  
 Thurrock SEND Local Offer



SCAN ME



# SEND in Focus

## All things Thurrock SEND

Parents are invited to engage with the Assistant Director for Education and Children's Commissioning and the Portfolio Holder for Children's Services & Education. They can share their experiences on topics such as the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) service, inclusion, phase transitions, and community access. Sessions are scheduled on various dates from March to July 2025. Parents are encouraged to participate and share their insights.

The sessions are scheduled for the following dates:

- 19 March, 2025, at 6pm
- 28 March, 2025, at 10am
- 23 April, 2025, at 6pm
- 25 April, 2025, at 10am
- 21 May, 2025, at 6pm
- 22 May, 2025, at 11am
- 27 June, 2025, at 10am
- 4 July, 2025, at 10am
- 16 July, 2025, at 6pm

Places can be booked [here](#) [SEND Engagement Opportunities](#)

# Diary Dates

Monday 5th May 2025	Bank Holiday – no school for pupils
Wednesday 7th May 2025	9:15 and 6:30 Phonics workshop for Reception and Year 1 parents (please call the office to book a space)
Monday 12th May 2025- Thursday 15th May 2025	Year 6 SATS week
w/b 19th May 2025	Year 6 swimming each Tuesday
Monday 19th May 2025	Scholars trip to King's College London
Monday 19th May 2025	MHST emotional regulation parent workshop 9am
Friday 23rd May 2025	Last day of Term (Non-Uniform Day)
Monday 26th May 2025-Friday 30th May 2025	Half Term
Monday 2nd June 2025	Pupils back to school (Clubs are ON this week)
Monday 2nd June 2025	Environment workshop yr4- lower Thames crossing
Monday 2nd June – Friday 13th June 2025	Year 4 Multiplication Check Tests
Tuesday 3rd and Wednesday 4th June 2025	New Reception Parent Meetings
Thursday 5th June 2025	Class photos
w/b 9th June 2025	Year 1 phonics screening tests
30th June 2025, 1st July 2025, 2nd July 2025	Year 6 transition days at St. Cleres
9th July 2025	Open Evening
Friday 18th July 2025	Last day of the academic year for pupils (Non-Uniform day)
Monday 21st and Tuesday 22nd July 2025	INSET Days (no school for pupils)

**Diagraph**

**Phoneme**

**Split -  
diagraph**

# **LET'S LEARN ABOUT THE YEAR 1 PHONICS CHECK!**

Join us for a parent  
workshop on Phonics.

**Is your child in Reception or  
Year1? Would you like to find out  
more about the Year 1 Phonics  
check and how to support your  
child?**

**BAT**



**CAT**



**RAT**



**This workshop is also suitable for parents of  
year 2 children who did not pass the year 1  
phonics check last academic year.**

**Wednesday 7th May 2025 9:15am and 6:30pm  
Please call the school office to book your space.**

# Do you need support?

## East Tilbury Primary Schools Online Pastoral Support.

We are very excited to launch our new Pastoral service to our school community. From today you can access support by completing a simple and quick online form.

We have been working hard over the last few months to set up extra support for our families which is very much needed at this challenging time. If you require support, then please do not hesitate to reach out. We are hoping this service will be a fantastic addition to the support we can provide for our school community. Please reach out if you need anything, we are always here to offer you support.

To make the process simple we have created a QR Code (at the top of the poster) which you can just scan, and this will take you directly to the form.

## WE CAN HELP WITH

- Food
- School Uniform
- Hygiene Products
- Wellbeing

## FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT:

[www.easttilburyprimary.thurrock.sch.uk](http://www.easttilburyprimary.thurrock.sch.uk)



# Class News

## Reception

This week in Reception we have been reading Goldilocks and the Three Bears. We have had a go at writing our own Newspaper reports where we had to explain what happened, describe Goldilocks and explain how everyone felt. We even had the chance to interview Mummy Bear herself! We have been working hard on applying our digraphs and trigraphs in our writing and we are seeing big improvements in all our handwriting!

In Maths we have looked at doubling and halving given amounts using counters, part-whole models and number tracks. In our curriculum lesson we have looked at painting to music and thinking about how the music makes us feel.

Our Phonics sounds this week were 'ur', 'ow' and 'oi'.

Here are some pictures from our week:



## Year One

In Year One this week, we have been making the best use of the lovely weather by exploring our outdoor area for our learning. In English this term, we have started to discuss a recount based on a trip to the woods. For our experience day this week, we visited our outdoor classroom where we had a minibeast hunt searching under logs for any minibeasts we could find. We spotted some minibeasts such as woodlice, millipedes, worms and ants. Then we enjoyed building bug hotels for them. In Geography, we learnt to identify the four seasons and to help us investigate what season we are in, we decided to create a journey stick. We each had a stick and went on a walk through our school grounds, collecting natural items along the way and tying them to our sticks. On our return to the classroom, we shared and discussed our findings and confirmed that we are in Spring.

# Class News



## Year Two

This week in year 2 we have continued our learning about the Great Fire of London, looking carefully at how London has changed since 1666. Children completed a comparison to show how houses, clothing and transport are all so different. In Art, our focus this week was on moulding techniques. The children worked well to pinch the clay to shape it and discussed ways to join and decorate using their clay pieces.

## Year Three

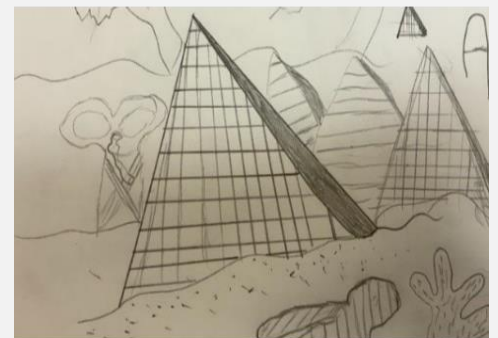
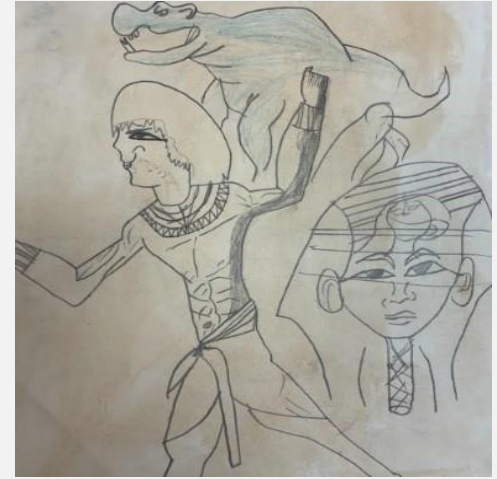
For English this week, we have been learning about instructions. We have learned about the features found in instructions and followed instructions to make a bird feeder and a bug hotel. During Maths this week, we have continued our learning about time. We have been learning about digital clocks. We have developed our understanding of digital clocks and their features and made connections between digital times and analogue times, matching them correctly. During our Geography lesson we began looking at biomes and how the biomes are different depending on their climate. We learnt about the 7 continents and have been singing a song to remember this. We located the UK and Amazon Rainforest on a world map as well as mapping out the biomes around the world.



# Class News

## Year Four

This week Year Four have been working very hard across a variety of subjects. In English we have been writing our independent playscript with the theme being based on the plague – or some children even chose to create script based around lockdown procedures during 2020. Children have ensured that they have included the appropriate features including scene settings, stage directions and making sure no pesky inverted commas pop up anywhere! In Maths, we have been exploring area and perimeter; children have been working on how to solve problems involving them both, representing them visually and even exploring using manipulatives and various measurements in the playground. Art has been very interesting this week. We have been looking at various pieces of evidence that show us how the Ancient Egyptians recorded their lives on papyrus paper, as well as on the walls of tombs. We have then chosen various parts of different pictures to create our own Ancient Egypt-themed images which will be put onto scrolls.



# Class News

## Year Five

What a busy week it has been! I can hardly believe we managed to fit it all in, especially with the amazing sunshine brightening our days. Our walks to Coalhouse Fort with the T100 team were a lovely change of scenery. In computing, we explored vector drawings, showcasing our creativity, while our history lesson focused on the Vikings' reign over the UK, where students created informative timelines. In maths, we converted metric units of length, which proved valuable in our learning journey. In English, we tackled the short clip 'The Present', and I am eager to see the students write their own endings soon. Lastly, we explored asexual reproduction in plants during science, making good use of our fantastic outdoor grounds. It has been a joyful week filled with learning!



## Pet's Day

Pets at desks while we take tests,  
Sitting at the back with my bluetack,  
Mustn't cause a scene,  
Hid him in my rucksack,

Thinker beside me, the board I can see,  
In my class having a blast,  
Do not rap; do not rhyme,  
Have fun and play on the grass.

Now he is fidgeting: is he gonna sing?  
He runs to the front and does a big grunt,  
No Thinker, no! You know you shouldn't do it!  
I must catch him; I must do a stunt.

## Year Six

This week in Year Six, we have been finalising poems inspired by Eloise Greenfield. This has enabled a range of creative ideas to be written under the context of a 'Pet's Day' within the class. An exemplar poem shows one example of a rhythmic beat chosen by a pupil; unfortunately it does not capture the amazing beat the piece was read with in class.



# Reach for the Stars



Our 'Stars of the Week' are the children that have gone over and above in their efforts. We are very proud of them for their achievements and thought they deserved an extra-special mention!

RBG	Susie-Lee	For using her sounds to write an independent sentence.
RES	Scarlett	For using her sounds to write a beautiful sentence.
RFK	Isabella	For her amazing effort and positive attitude towards her learning.
1BA	Zirwa	For her increase in confidence during class discussions.
1EC	Frankie	For his effort in his learning this week.
1LD	Arlie	For working hard in phonics.
2RM	Roxy	For her amazing effort with reading this week.
2CH	Vijay	For settling well into his new class.
2MF	Sam	For settling so well at your new school and consistently making good choices.
2BG	Eva V	For her amazing effort in all her subjects this week.
3ML	George	For demonstrating self-responsibility and having a positive attitude towards his learning.
3RS	Reggie	For demonstrating excellent throwing skills during PE.
3SG	Seren G	For her amazing effort and positive attitude in reading skills.
3VP	Caiya	For her amazing efforts in writing and using her pencil grip correctly.
4CP	Alice C	For consistently demonstrating the school values and being a role model to all pupils.
4KC	Jesse J	For his amazing contributions in all lessons.
4MR	Ellie P	For always being a hard-working, positive and respectful role model to her peers.
5NM	Haylee	For her positive learning attitude and confidently contributing to lesson discussions.
5SA	Juliana - Meagan L	For working hard in her writing to create interesting sentences.
5TH	Eliza	For showing increased confidence in maths.
6AB	Marnie-Rose L	For her effort when writing her poem this week.
6LC	Klay T	For a great 'Thinker's Rap' poem.
6NB	Keanu M	His solidarity and support with peers across the week



# Maths Marvels



All pupils at East Tilbury Primary have logins for Times Tables Rockstars and are able to log on at home to practice their times tables.

28th April - 2 May 2025



28th April - 2 May 2025



28th April - 2 May 2025



28th April - 2 May 2025



28th April - 2 May 2025



28th April - 2 May 2025



# 10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

## SAFETY ON THE ROAD

Traffic-related incidents are a significant risk for young pedestrians and cyclists, so understanding road safety is crucial for children's wellbeing. While all road users share responsibility for keeping one another safe, this guide offers strategies for empowering young people to navigate the roads confidently and responsibly.

### 1 TAKE PRACTICE JOURNEYS

Making 'practice' journeys with children is a great way to help them stay safe, thereby modelling responsible behaviours and having road safety conversations as they prepare to travel independently. Add hazard perception activities like spotting electric vehicles – which may have a green number plate – and point out how quiet they are. Children learn by watching others; remind them that their peers might not always be the best role models.

### 2 BE BRIGHT, BE SEEN

Visibility is lower during darker winter days, and drivers need to take extra care to look out for pedestrians. Wearing bright and reflective clothing can help make children more visible to drivers near roads. In poor daylight conditions, encourage children to wear light, bright or fluorescent clothing. When it's dark, wear reflective clothing or materials such as a reflective armband or jacket.

### 3 EYES UP

Encourage children to look up and keep their eyes on the road. Teach them to constantly watch for traffic and practise double-checking the road before crossing – looking right, left and then right again.

### 4 LIMIT DISTRACTIONS

Where possible, devices like phones should be kept away from children while out and about near roads. If they're carrying devices, these should be put away until they've reached their destination. Children must also avoid playing with toys or being distracted by friends. If a friend wants to show them something funny on their phone, there'll be time for that once they've safely arrived.

### 5 SLOW DOWN

Discuss the importance of waiting instead of crossing immediately. It can be tricky to judge the speed of traffic and spot obstacles that could cause a trip or a fall. For safety, children must stop and think before they get to the kerb and should always walk – not run – when crossing the road. They should avoid crossing until they're certain they have plenty of time. Even if traffic seems a long way off, it could still be approaching very quickly.

### 6 STOP BEFORE THE KERB

Teach children to stop before reaching the kerb – not right at the edge of it. Halting before they get to the kerb allows them to see if anything's coming, whereas getting too close to traffic is dangerous. If there's no pavement, children should stand back from the road's edge but ensure they can still see approaching traffic.

### 7 CROSS SAFELY

Children should always find a safe spot to cross the road, prioritising zebra crossings or pelican crossings, footbridges and subways. Find a place where they can see traffic coming from both directions. Avoid crossing near junctions, bends in the road, or obstacles that block their view, instead moving to somewhere they can see and be seen. Remind them to use their eyes and ears together when checking the road, as sometimes they can hear traffic before they can see it. Looking and listening while crossing helps them quickly spot traffic, including cyclists and motorcyclists driving between other vehicles.

### 8 PARKED VEHICLES

Crossing between parked vehicles is very dangerous. Teach children to use extra caution if crossing in this way, and, ideally, avoid it altogether. They should use the outside edge of a vehicle as if it were the kerb, waiting and checking for traffic before moving. They should ensure vehicles aren't about to move, by looking for drivers in the vehicles and listening for engines running – but remember that electric vehicles may move off silently. They should always make sure there is a gap between any parked vehicles on the other side, so they can reach the pavement.

### 9 REVERSING VEHICLES

Children must never cross behind a reversing vehicle – it's extremely dangerous. Remind them to look for white reversing lights and listen out for warning sounds. Can they hear the engine sound or a radio playing inside the vehicle?

### 10 WAIT FOR THE BUS TO LEAVE

When getting off a bus, children must wait for it to leave before crossing so they can have a clear view of the road in both directions. This also allows them to see and be seen by other road users. Crossing near large vehicles is particularly dangerous and should be avoided.

## Meet Our Expert

THINK! is a year-round national campaign that aims to encourage safe road behaviours – whether we're driving, cycling, horse riding or walking – with the aim of reducing the number of people killed and injured on the UK's roads each year. Find out more at: <https://www.think.gov.uk/education-resources/>



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College



Thurrock  
Teacher Training

# Get into Teaching

## St Clare's School

Lead ITT provider in partnership with Tes institute are pleased to announce that trainee places are available for the academic year 2025/2026.

*'Our trainees success rate  
Securing QTS = 100%  
Employed = 100%'*



Our partner schools for  
2025/2026 include:

## Primary

Chadwell St. Mary, Deneholm, East Tilbury, Thameside, Stifford Clays, Horndon-on-the-hill, Stanford-le-Hope, Doddinghurst, Little Thurrock, Arthur Bugler, Warren Primary, Bonnygate Primary, Woodside Academy

## Secondary

Grays Convent, Marshalls Park, Ormiston Park Academy, St. Clare's School, William Edwards The Gateway Academy, Brentwood County High, Hathaway Academy, Orsett Heath Academy

"The Tes Institute course was brilliant, and I would recommend it to others who are thinking of entering a career in teaching"  
- 2024 Trainee

For all enquiries please contact:  
[thurrockteachertraining@osborne.coop](mailto:thurrockteachertraining@osborne.coop)

## Keep in Touch



Our school office is open to receive calls between 8:30am and 3pm.

Tel: 01375 846181

Email: [office.etp@osborne.coop](mailto:office.etp@osborne.coop)

East Tilbury Primary School

Princess Margaret Road  
East Tilbury, Essex, RM18 8SB



We are also regularly updating our Facebook page and Twitter feed. Log on and have a look!



Twitter:  
[@EastTPrimary](https://twitter.com/EastTPrimary)



At East Tilbury Primary School our Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSL) are:

- Mrs Dawson

Due to the size of the school, we have the following designated staff who can deputise in the Headteacher's absence:

- Mr Gowland
- Mrs Jarvis
- Mrs Mylam
- Mrs Allen
- Mrs Sheridan

Pupils can contact any of our Safeguarding Team during the school day.

Worried about a child? You can phone or write to MASH about your concerns. Phone immediately if you believe it is urgent.

**Thurrock MASH (Multi Agency Safeguarding hub), Civic Offices, New Road, Grays, Essex, RM17 6SL, Tel: 01375 652802. Emergency Duty Team (for out of hours) 01375 372468. · Police Child Abuse Investigation Team 01277 266822 or call 999 if you are concerned a child needs immediate protection. · Childline 0800 11 11 [www.childline.org.uk](http://www.childline.org.uk) · NSPCC 0808 800 5000 [www.nspcc.org.uk](http://www.nspcc.org.uk); [www.facebook.com/nspcc](https://www.facebook.com/nspcc)**



**Tues 14:00-16:00:** St. Mary's Church hall, St. Mary's Church, Dock Rd, Grays, RM17 6EX.

**Tues 11:00-13:00:** St. John the Baptist Church, Tilbury, Dock Road, Tilbury, RM18 7PP

**Weds 11:00-13:00:** Gateway People's Centre, High Street, Stanford Le Hope, Essex, SS17 0EY

**Weds 13:00 -14:30:** Sockets Heath Baptist Church, Premier Avenue, Grays, RM16 2SB

**Thurs 11:00-13:00:** St. Francis Centre, Somerset Rd, Linford, SS17 0QA

**Thurs 11:00-13:00:** All Saints Church of England, Foyle Drive, Sth Ockendon, RM15 5HF

**Fri 10:12:00:** St. Stephen's Church of England, London Rd, Purfleet, RM19 1QD

**Sat 09:30-11:30:** Emmanuel Church of England, Sleepers Farm Rd, Chadwell St. Mary, RM16 4TP

**Sat 10:00-12:00:** All Saints Church of England, Foyle Drive, Sth Ockendon, RM15 5HF

**Sat 10:00-12:00:** Christian Gates of Praise International Christian Centre, 79-83 London Rd, RM175YF

September 2024							October 2024							November 2024							December 2024						
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	School Holiday
	Additional autumn half term (some Thurrock schools only)
	Inset days, schools closed to students
	Trust conference, schools closed to students
	Bank Holidays