

School News

A MESSAGE FROM THE SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been another creative and exciting week in school, with the children working hard together in their learning!

Parent/teacher consultations

Thank you to all the families that attended their teacher consultations this week. It was good for the teachers to be able to celebrate the successes of your children. If you were unable to attend parents' evening, please do contact the class teacher and they will be able to give you feedback on your child's first term of the school year. Thank you also to those who visited the book fair. As a school we will receive a proportion of the money raised and this will go straight towards purchasing high-quality reading material for children in their classrooms.

Parent Survey - Spring Term 2025



Parent Survey

Over the course of this week, we have been asking parents, during their teacher consultation, to complete a short survey about their child's experiences of the school. There is still time to complete this survey if you haven't already done so, using the QR code to go straight to the survey (it should only take 1-3 minutes to complete). Thank you in advance for sharing your feelings about the school with us. As leaders this helps to pinpoint actions for the future and get a sense of how our parent community feel about the school.

We hope that you have a relaxing weekend,

School 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) from last academic year, 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

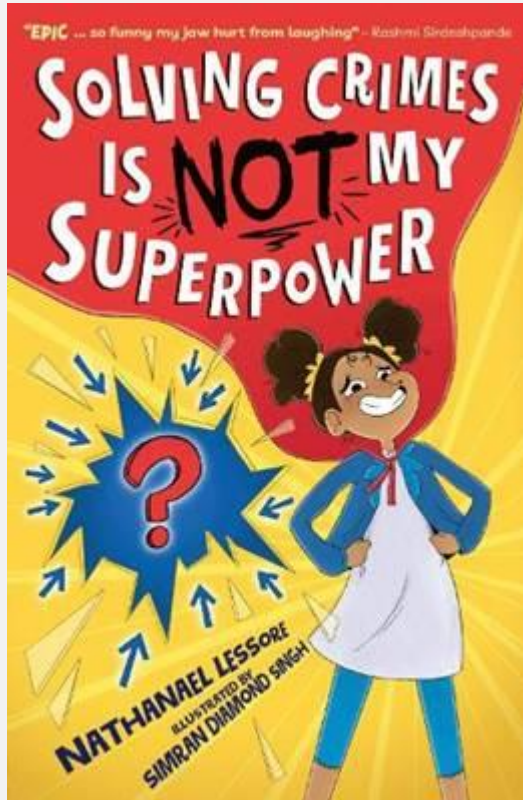
We are continually updating our OPAL resources and would gladly accept donations of:

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



Recommended Reads

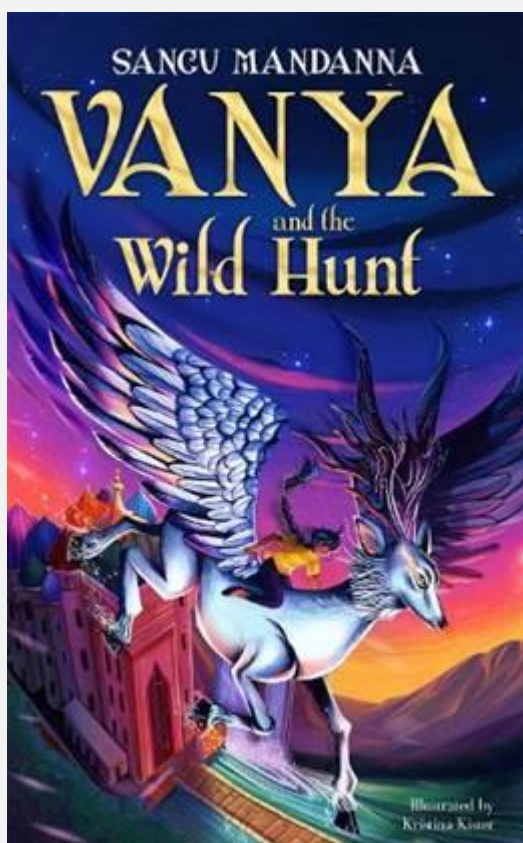
Each week we will be recommending great books that you can share with your children.



Solving Crimes is NOT My Superpower

Author: Nathanael Lessore

Everyone in Sara's town has a superpower, except for her. Some people can make cows fall over. Some can levitate squirrels. Her parents are superstrong and can control the wind. But Sara doesn't yet have a power (could it be cracking hilarious jokes?). So when the school's football trophy is stolen, Sara has to catch the thief using only her powers of deduction. She and her two friends Javier and Georgie investigate – and uncover some town secrets on the way. (And watch a mayor farting colours...) But will Sara ever discover her hidden superpower?



Vanya and the Wild Hunt

Author: Sangu

Vanya never feels that she quite fits in. School is challenging because of her ADHD, and her best friends are the books she speaks to in her parents' bookshop – books which answer her back!

But when a monstrous creature known as an Old One attacks her family, Vanya is let in to her parents' secret world – a world filled with magic, arch witches, and archivists, centred around the mysterious library and school of Auramere, where she is sent to hone her powers and discover her true destiny.

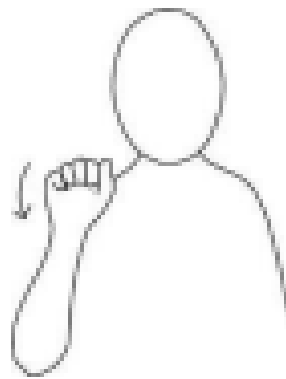


SEND in Focus

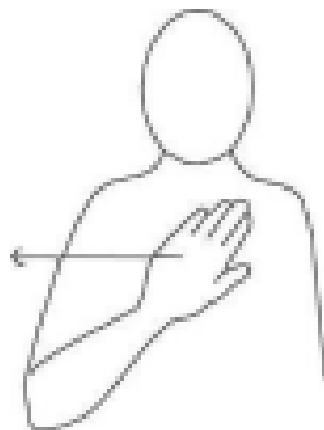
Makaton Signs of the week:

Why not speak with your child and see what signs they can remember from what they've already been taught?

Yes



No



[Makaton for 'yes and no' - YouTube](#)



SEND in Focus



LET'S TALK ABOUT

AUTISM



SUPPORTING BLACK FAMILIES NAVIGATING AUTISM IN THURROCK

We invite Black African, Black Caribbean, and Dual-Heritage parents, families, young people, and adults with autism to join us for an open discussion.

This meeting aims to:

- **Share Experiences:** Provide a safe space to talk about the unique challenges faced within our communities.
- **Offer Support:** Connect with others who understand.
- **Learn Together:** Discover resources to navigate autism effectively.

Your voice is important. Let's come together to support one another.

SATURDAY 29TH MARCH

3.30PM TO 5.30PM

**THAMESIDE THEATRE,
ORSETT ROAD, GRAYS, RM17 5DX**

FOR MORE INFO: GINA@THURROCKCOALITION.CO.UK

NO BOOKING REQUIRED



Diary Dates

Tuesday 1st April 2025	Spring Production for Year 3,4 and 5 Cast A, approx. 9.15 – 10.15 Cast B approx. 1.45 – 2.45
Wednesday 2nd April 2025	Spring Production for Year 3,4 and 5 Cast B, approx. 9.15 – 10.15 Cast A approx. 1.45 – 2.45
Thursday 3rd April 2024	Last day of Term (Non-Uniform day)
Friday 4th April 2025	Non-Pupil Day
7th April 2025 – 18th April 2025	Easter Holidays
Monday 21st April 2025	Bank Holiday – no school for pupils
Tuesday 22nd April 2025	Pupils back to school (NO clubs this week)
Monday 5th May 2025	Bank Holiday – no school for pupils
Monday 12th May 2025- Thursday 15th May 2025	Year 6 SATS week
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)
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)

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





Other News

Thank you for all your support with Red Nose Day. We raised £315.29p for Comic Relief.



Class News

Reception

This week in Reception we have been reading 'Sharing a Shell' by Julia Donaldson and Lydia Monks. We have discussed the friends sharing a shell and what they needed to do when the shell got too small for them to live in. Should they throw their friends out of the shell, or should they find somewhere bigger to live together? The children decided they should still live together because living on their own would be lonely and they would have no one to play with.

In maths we have been looking at shapes and their properties. We started off the week discussing 2D shapes and then moved on to 3D shapes. We also looked at making patterns with the shapes and finding real objects around the classroom which were examples of our 3D shapes. We found a glue stick which is a cylinder and a tissue box which is a cuboid.

We have also looked at things which float and sink so we know what materials to use if we wanted to design a boat. Wood was good for floating, and magnets were not as they sank to the bottom. Paper was also good for floating, but it got very soggy when we left it in the water.

The phonics sounds we have been learning this week are igh, oa, oo (long) and oo (short).



Year One

This week in Maths we have been looking at finding half of a quantity, shape or object. We used cubes to help us share quantities equally before using bread to explore half of a shape. We considered whether the parts were equal or unequal and how we could check this.

In English we have continued with our independent write focussing on the features of instructions. We have worked really hard to apply sentence rules and our known phonics sounds.

In PSHE we looked at jobs which make the world a better place including nurses, engineers, teachers and firefighters. We discussed what qualifications or training you need for each role, why they are good jobs and how they help others.

In Geography we used a map of our playground to identify key features using symbols to help us. We then discussed where each feature was in relation to other features using directional language.

Class News

Year Two

In year 2 this week, we have started creating our own books about Venus Flytraps! We are so excited to share our completed booklets over the next couple of weeks. So far, we have been explaining how the plant collects its nutrients, as well as thinking carefully about our vocabulary choices for the glossary. Some children have even drawn their own diagrams for their booklets and labelled them appropriately. In PSHE this week our learning was focused on 'aspirations month'. We discussed what it means to aspire to be something, and how this can help us to think about the skills needed for jobs later in life. We were shocked to find out that the NHS have a range of jobs and that it isn't just doctors and nurses that work for the NHS. We identified the vital roles of housekeepers within a hospital setting, as well as cleaners and transport workers.

Year Three

This week in year 3 we have had an amazing week! We have continued our writing based on the True Story of the Three Little Pigs by Jon Scieszka. The children have been using similes and expanded noun phrases to make their writing more interesting and including conjunctions to extend their sentences. In Maths, we have been comparing fractions and have used the terms greater than, less than and equal. We also have learned about equivalent fractions. In Science, we are continuing with our term topic of light, specifically focusing on various ways we can protect ourselves from the sun and looked at UV rays. We ended the lesson creating shadows using torches – looking at how the closeness of the light affects the size of the shadow.

Class News

Year Four

Everyone has been working hard in Year Four over the past week.

In Maths, we have been exploring decimals—learning how to order and compare them with confidence. The children have been working hard to understand place value and how decimals relate to fractions.

In Science, we've been hands-on with electricity, creating complete circuits using a buzzer or a bulb. The children investigated different materials to determine whether they were conductors or insulators, and they thoroughly enjoyed testing their predictions!

As part of our PSHE and Aspirations Month, we have been learning about the many different roles within the NHS. The children were fascinated to discover the range of jobs available, from doctors and nurses to paramedics, radiographers, and beyond.

In English, we have been working on our independent write, focusing on the story of *The Iron Man*. The children have impressed us with their creativity and storytelling skills, using fantastic vocabulary and imaginative descriptions.

Year Five

In Year Five this week, we have begun rewriting the poem 'The River' by Valerie Bloom as part of our sentence stacking lessons, with a focus on figurative language.

Everyone has been working hard in rehearsals for our Spring Production, and everything seems to be coming together nicely.

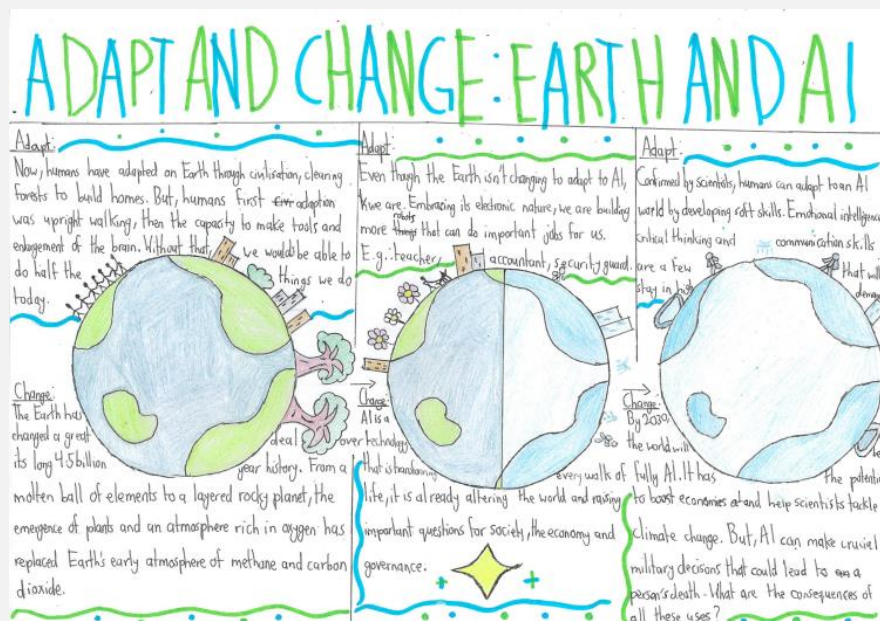
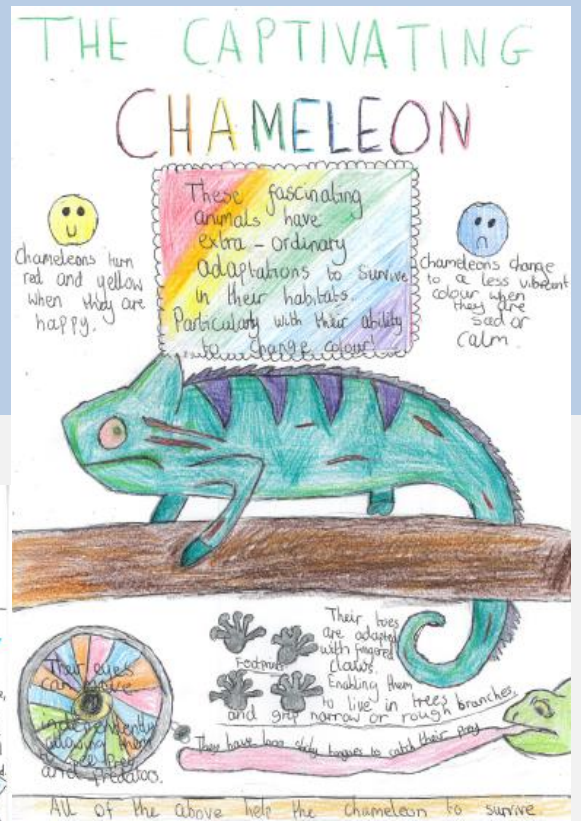
In geography, we have continued looking at oceans, and this week's focus was on trading routes and the vital part they play globally.

Class News

Year Six

Our Week in Year 6:

This week, we have had mock SATs in Year Six – last year’s paper. This has meant working hard across the week, which fortunately, is not anything new, albeit a slightly different style to last week’s Science Week. In addition, we are currently writing a newspaper report about the devious actions of the renowned trespasser and porridge thief, Goldilocks, condemning her hurtful, heinous actions and how they left the bear family feeling bear-trayed. As we are only one week removed from science week, and given the winner’s were chosen after last week’s publication, here a few entries from year 6 have been attached:





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	Amelia	For her positive attitude to all her learning.
RES	Jenson	For working hard on his sentence writing.
RFK	Noah	For consistently using new sounds learnt within his independent writing.
1BA	Lukas	For his amazing effort in his independent writing.
1EC	Louisa	For her positive attitude towards her learning and being a good role model.
1LD	Frankie	For his excellent independent writing.
2RM	Louie H	For working so hard on his Venus Flytrap book.
2CH	Ivy	For showing increased independence with her writing.
2MF	Eden	For showing resilience in her maths works this week and for being incredibly supportive and helpful to her friends.
2BG	Leonardo	For settling into his new school.
3ML	Isabelle	For her effort during our singing practice.
3RS	Elizabeth	For amazing effort in all lessons this week.
3SG	Grace T	For having a positive attitude to learning in all lessons.
3VP	Ruth	For working hard to improve her learning behaviours.
4CP	Jasmine A	For always being a kind and helpful member of 4CP.
4KC	Ella-Rose H	For always working hard in every lesson.
4MR	Davey M	For trying his absolute best to improve his writing and using lots of figurative language.
5NM	Lucas	For good sportsmanship and supporting peers in challenging situations
5SA	Reice F	For trying his best in all lessons and showing solidarity.
5TH	Janet	For showing commitment across all subject areas
6AB	All of 6AB	For their positive attitude and having a growth mindset during their practise SATs.
6LC	All of 6LC	For their positive attitude and having a growth mindset during their practise SATs.
6NB	All of 6NB	For their positive attitude and having a growth mindset during their practise SATs.



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.

17th March - 21 March 2025



1LD 16

1BA 5

1FK 0

1EC 0

17th March - 21 March 2025



2MF 29

2CH 4

2SBG 0

17th March - 21 March 2025



3RS 196

3SG 85

3VP 45

3ML 3

17th March - 21 March 2025



4KC 141

4CP 47

4MR 5

17th March - 21 March 2025



5NM 1173

5TH 609

5SA 44

17th March - 21 March 2025



6LC 1774

6NB 1404

6AB 48

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

INSTAGRAM

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

follow

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Instagram is a highly popular social media platform with over 2 billion active monthly users. The app is continuously updating and adding new features to meet the wishes of its audience, allowing them to upload images and videos to their Instagram feed, create interactive 'stories', go live, exchange private messages or explore and follow other accounts that catch their eye.

ADDICTION

Many social media platforms, Instagram included, are designed to keep us engaged on them for as long as possible. They encourage scrolling often and scrolling more in case we miss something important – in essence, a fear of missing out. On Instagram, young people can lose track of time when aimlessly scrolling and watching videos posted by friends, acquaintances, influencers and possibly strangers.

UNREALISTIC IDEALS

Children sometimes compare themselves to what they see online: how they look, how they dress, and the way their life is going in comparison to others on social media. However, most people only share the positives about their lives online and many use filters when sharing pictures of themselves. A constant comparison with unrealistic ideals can lead to insecurity over one's own appearance and lifestyle.

GOING LIVE

Livestreaming on Instagram allows users to connect with friends and followers in real time. Risks increase if the account is public, because that means anyone can watch the broadcast, which could result in further contact from strangers. Additional dangers of going live include an impulse to act inappropriately to draw more viewers, as well as being exposed to harmful content or offensive language.

INFLUENCER CULTURE

Social media influencers are sometimes paid thousands of pounds to promote products, services, apps and more. When celebrities or influencers post such content, it often says 'paid partnership' above the post. In April 2024, Ofcom found that over a quarter of children (27%) believed in influencer marketing, accepting their endorsement of products wholeheartedly. So it's perfectly possible for young people to be taken in by this kind of content.

PRODUCT TAGGING

Product tags allow users to tag a product or business in their post. This tag will take viewers directly to the product detail page on the shop where the item can be purchased. Children may also be encouraged by influencers to purchase products that they advertise.

EXCLUSION & OSTRACISM

Youngsters are highly sensitive to feeling excluded, which comes in many forms: not receiving as many 'likes' as expected; not being tagged in a friend's photo; being unfriended; not receiving a comment on their post or a reply to a message they sent. Being excluded online hurts just as much as offline. Young people have reported lower moods and self-esteem when excluded in this way, feeling as if they don't belong and aren't valued.

Advice for Parents & Educators

AVOID GOING PUBLIC

If a young user wants to share their clothing style, make up or similar and use product tagging to show off the items in their post, they may be tempted to change their settings to public. This leaves their profile visible to everyone, which carries the risk of strangers getting in touch with them. Set a child's account to private and explain the importance of keeping it this way.

HAVE AN OPEN DIALOGUE

Talk to children about the positives and negatives of social media, including the risks involved and how they can view or create content safely with family and friends. Explain how safety settings will ensure only followers can view them, and why this is so important. Also, if you find a child continuously uses filters on their photos, ask them why and impress on them that they don't need it.

MANAGE LIKE COUNTS

Due to the potential impact on mental wellbeing, Instagram allows users to hide the total likes on their posts, to prevent people from obsessing over that number in the corner. Users can hide like counts on all the posts in their feed as well as on their own posts. This means others can't see how many likes a person gets. This can be done by going into Settings > Notifications > Posts > Likes > Off.

USE MODERATORS

Instagram Live has implemented a mechanic called 'Moderators', meaning that creators can assign a moderator and give them the power to report comments, remove viewers and remove the ability for certain viewers to comment at all. Consider this if a child in your care wants to go live on the platform. It's also recommended to keep devices in communal spaces so you're aware if a child does go live or watch a livestream.

FOLLOW INFLUENCERS

Following influencers will allow you to monitor what they're sharing as well as being able to discuss anything which you deem inappropriate. Talk to children about who they follow and help them to develop critical thinking skills about what the influencer is trying to do. For example, encourage the child to ask themselves if an influencer is trying to sell them a product when they make a video endorsing it.

BALANCE YOUR TIME

Instagram has a built-in activity dashboard that lets you control how much time is spent on the app. Make sure children sign in to the platform with the correct age, as Instagram's 'Teen Accounts' afford much more control for parents and carers over how long they can use the app each day. Talk with young users about how much time they spend on Instagram and work together to set a healthy time limit.

Meet Our Expert

Dr. Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant at BCyberAware. She has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety workshops and policies for schools in Australia and the UK. Claire has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviours of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



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

Keep in Touch



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

Tel: 01375 846181

Email: 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 · NSPCC 0808 800 5000 www.nspcc.org.uk; 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