

School News

A MESSAGE FROM THE SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been another exciting half term at school with lots of hard work and commitment shown by the children and staff!

Cultural Awareness Day

On Wednesday we held a cultural day in school to celebrate the rich variety of cultures represented within our school community. We also welcomed an Indian drummer into school who led a range of musical workshops and provided music on the gate as we entered the school. Children, teachers and parents also gave short presentations in their year groups to talk about their customs and traditions. It truly was a wonderful day – we all felt a strong sense of togetherness and celebration.



KS1 Bike shed

Please ensure that when children put their bikes and scooters in the bikeshed that they use the stands available so that the space is tidy and children can get their vehicles out quickly and safely.



Our year 5 Young Ambassadors have been working with Kinetika over the whole year to encourage families to 'walk – talk – explore' together. 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.

We hope that you enjoy the weekend ahead and have a great half term holiday. See you all again on Monday 2nd June.

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.

Next half term, some of our Year 2 and Year 6 pupils will be getting stuck into an exciting STEM project—and we need your help! We're on the lookout for cardboard shoe boxes to use as part of the activity. If you've got any spare at home, please consider sending them in. If you have any please hand them to the year 2 or 6 teachers or alternatively drop them into the school office.

Thanks so much 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

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

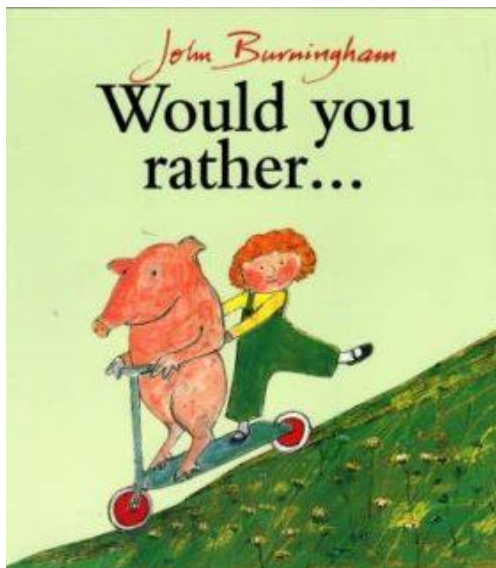
We are continually updating our OPAL resources and would gladly accept donations of:

- 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.



Would You Rather...

by John Burningham

Would you rather that your house was surrounded by water, snow or jungle? Would you rather be covered in jam, soaked with water or pulled through the mud by a dog? How about being made to eat spider stew, slug dumplings, mashed worms – or drink snail squash? None of these? Perhaps, all things considered, you'd just like to go to sleep in your own bed.

A classic for children, *Would You Rather...* presents an alternative to a traditional story by imagining a mixture of fantastical and real-life choices.

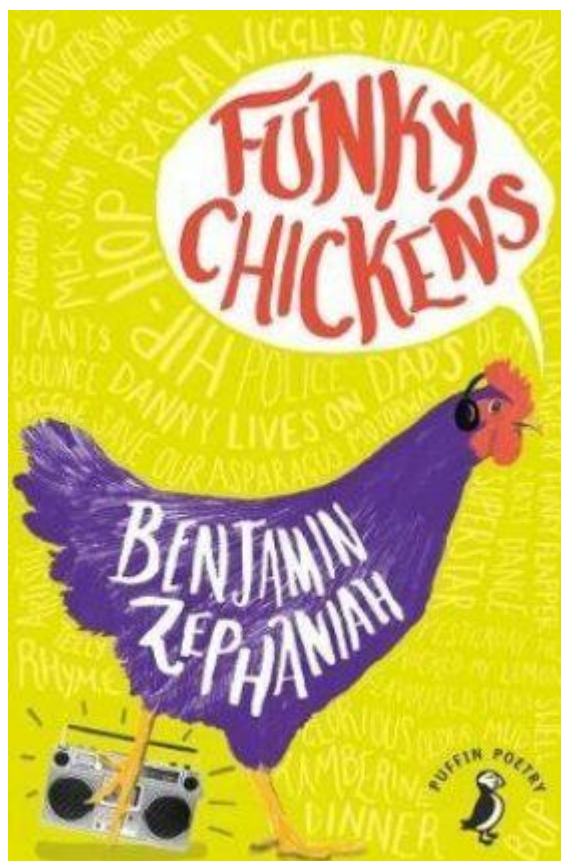
Funky Chickens

by Benjamin Zephaniah

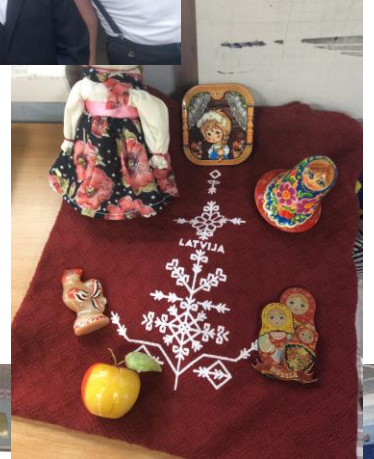
Rap poet, musician and writer Benjamin Zephaniah's second poetry collection for older children, *Funky Chickens*, was first published in 1996.

Rooted in the real world, these funny, touching, thought-provoking poems cover a diverse range of topics. In "Serious Love", a schoolboy falls desperately in love with the girl who sits beside him. But the next day, he wants to marry her friend! "All You Sea" campaigns to clear up the sewage in the oceans, while "Good Hope" suggests there is enough good in the world for everyone to live without prejudice, starvation and war.

Zephaniah tackles difficult subjects such as animal cruelty in "Danny the Cat" and racism in "Walking Black Home", where no taxi stops for him because of his colour.



Cultural Awareness Day





SEND in Focus

 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

 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](#)



SEND in Focus

SEND Coffee and Catch Up

Thursday 12th June 2025

9am—10.30am



Please feel free to come along for a chat about your child's SEND needs.

The Thurrock SEND Family Forum will be attending to tell you all about their service and what they can offer (see link below)

[Thurrock SEND Family forum](#)



Please come in through the year 1 gate opposite Little Angels.

**We look
forward to seeing you.**

Diary Dates

Monday 26th May -Friday 30th May	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
Wednesday 18th June 2025	Sports Day – EYFS (9:30-10:30)
Wednesday 18th June 2025	Sports Day – Year 3 and 4 (1:30-3:00)
Friday 20th June 2025	Sports Day- Year 1 and 2 (9:30-11:00)
Friday 20th June 2025	Sports Day – Year 5 and 6 (1:30-3:00)
30th June 2025, 1st July 2025, 2nd July 2025	Year 6 transition days at St. Cleres
Wednesday 2nd July 2025	Transition Day
Friday 4th July 2025	PFA Summer Bounce
Wednesday 9th July 2025	Open Evening
Friday 18th July 2025	Year 6 Leavers Assembly 10:00-11:30
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



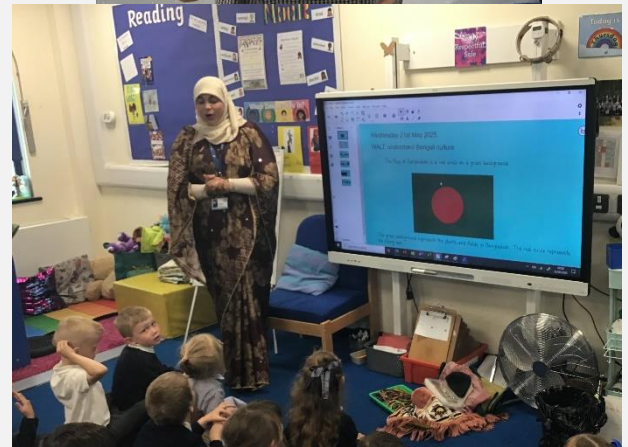
Class News

Reception

This week in Reception we have been reading the traditional tale, 'The Three Billy Goats Gruff'. The Children have been using their known sounds to retell the story in simple sentences. We have used the story and inspiration for lots of creative activities including paper plate masks of the characters.

In Maths we have been looking at numbers beyond 20, using vocabulary such as more and fewer as well as making estimations and creating equal groups.

On Wednesday we enjoyed learning about Mrs Khanom's culture and listening to Indian drumming as part of cultural awareness day which we thoroughly enjoyed.



Year One

In Geography this week, we learnt about different types of weather. We explored different instruments used to measure the weather and had fun creating wind streamers so that we could check the direction of the wind in our playground. Throughout the week, we completed a weather diary. In Science, we discussed what garden and wild plants are. Then, we named and described them. After, we enjoyed going on a plant hunt around our school to find out which types of plants grow here. In Maths, we learnt to identify addition and subtraction fact families. Additionally, Year 1 have had an exciting week celebrating cultural awareness week learning about Italian, Greek and Nigerian cultures.



Class News



Year Two

Year 2 had so much fun during Cultural Diversity Day this week. They have learnt a lot about different cultures around the world and what makes us all unique and special. The aim for this day is to bring people together and keep peace throughout the world.

The United Nations established the World Day for Cultural Diversity in 2002 to encourage us to embrace our differences. To do this, many children across the school dressed up in their cultural clothes and brought in some delicious treats from their countries for their classes to try.

Year Three

We have had an exciting week celebrating cultural awareness week. We have enjoyed learning about the different cultures in our community, we had 3 visitors to talk to us about the French, African and Indian culture. In our assembly this week, it was led by the children who spoke about their cultures. During our science lesson this week, we were able to research lots of facts about plants. We made a double page spread to display all the information we had gathered.

We have continued to learn about angles and shapes this week in maths. We have been able to identify acute, obtuse and right angles. We have learnt about perpendicular and sets of parallel lines.

For English, we have been watching some film clips to get us ready to write a character description. We have been gathering a bank of adjectives.

We hope you have a lovely half-term and well rested break!

From the year 3 Teachers!



Class News

Year Four

Year 4 have had a very exciting week this week! We have been celebrating Cultural Awareness week, as well as continuing to work hard in a variety of lessons. On Wednesday, pupils had two visitors in to share elements of their culture with us. We had a visitor who brought along Indian drums, which the children had an absolute blast playing and one who shared their experiences about their Italian heritage. Pupils took part in an assembly where it was led by children sharing information about their various cultures.



Class News

Year Five

This week in Year 5 has been a blast with Culture Awareness Week! We kicked off with an assembly where pupils from all Key Stages shared presentations. Cultural Awareness Day was a highlight, featuring Indian drumming and tasty Nigerian puff puffs. Some children presented PowerPoints about Nigeria and Ghana, showing off our multicultural pride. Many wore traditional clothing, and we learned about Moldova, Romania, and Pakistan through engaging talks. It was a fantastic celebration of our diverse cultures!



Year Six

This week we have enjoyed many of the cultural activities on offer. On Monday, we had an assembly led by pupils, filled with cultural experiences, costumes and instruments. This led into Cultural Day on Wednesday, where we tried various foods and got to experience playing the Dhol. Elsewhere, we went swimming on Tuesday! And pictured is some of the clay sculptures which we painted this week, after creating them last Friday.



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!

RES	Hadassah	For her beautiful sentence writing.
RBG	Noah	For being a kind and caring friend
RFK	Arnold	For using his phonics to write a sentence.
1EC	Ella	For her enthusiasm during Cultural Diversity Day.
1LD	Arbid	For settling in so well to our class
1BA	Zayan	For always having a positive attitude towards his learning.
2RM	Youseff	For his hard work in Math's this week.
2BG	Eva	For her hard work during English this week.
2CH	Eva	For her wonderful contributions during Cultural Diversity Day.
2MF	Ema	For her beautiful joint handwriting in English.
3VP	Teddy D	For his hard work in English and Math's this week.
3RS	Eshaal	For her great contribution during the Cultural Awareness Day assembly.
3SG	James	For his effort and encouraging his peers during athletics.
3ML	Freya	For her great contribution during the Cultural Awareness Day assembly.
4MR	Hannah VZ	For improving her assessment and reading skills and showing resilience.
4KC	Niharika C	For an amazing first half term and being a great new addition to 4KC.
4CP	Ivie L	For her resilience within the classroom to complete her work.
5SA	Raissa P	For showing resilience in her writing and demonstrating self-responsibility
5NM	Jay-Royce	For his improved efforts and learning attitude
5TH	Chris	For his aspirational solidarity
6AB	Reuben W	For his creative memory inspired clay work.
6NB	Louis H	For his inspiring auditions for our Year Six production
6LC	Ashley A	For her great audition for the Year Six production.



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.

19th May - 23 May 2025

**5NM****547****5SA****10****5TH****9**

19th May - 23 May 2025

**1LD****5****1FK****0****1EC****0****1BA****0**

19th May - 23 May 2025

**2MF****16****2CH****1****2SBG****1****2RS****0****2RM****0**

19th May - 23 May 2025

**3SG****227****3ML****181****3RS****164****3VP****13**

19th May - 23 May 2025

**4MR****47****4KC****7****4CP****0**

19th May - 23 May 2025

**6NB****282****6AB****195****6LC****109**

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about VIOLENT CONTENT ONLINE

Around 70% of teenagers say they've seen real-life violence on social media in the past year – often from as young as primary school age. Just 6% actively seek it out; most encounter it through group chats or social media algorithms. From fights and pranks to hate speech and graphic media, exposure to violent content online is more widespread – and more harmful – than many adults realise.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

MENTAL HEALTH AND TRAUMA

Children and young people report feelings of anxiety, guilt, shame or fear after seeing violent content. For some, these effects may be short term, but for those with existing vulnerabilities or past trauma, the impact can be more severe. Many also feel pressured to 'laugh off' violent content to fit in with friends, even when they find it distressing.

BEHAVIOUR CHANGES

Exposure to online violence can lead to fear and avoidance behaviours – such as skipping school or staying indoors. When children see weapons used in videos, it can heighten their perception that the world is unsafe and, in rare cases, increase the likelihood they'll consider carrying a weapon themselves, such as a knife for protection.

ESCALATION AND PARTICIPATION

Violent videos often go viral quickly. What begins as an online argument can spill into real-world fights – which are sometimes filmed and shared to gain views or status. Some children even admit to sharing or creating violent content themselves to gain attention or boost their reputation.

DESENSITISATION

Older teens may become numb to violent content after years of exposure, admitting they're unlikely to report it. Younger children also tend not to report it – usually because they don't believe anything will be done or because they're afraid of being labelled a 'snitch' by their peers.

HARMFUL IDEOLOGIES

Violent content online may overlap with racist, misogynistic or otherwise extremist ideas. These messages can dehumanise others or glorify violence as a way to gain power, popularity or notoriety. Over time, this can normalise dangerous behaviours and attitudes among impressionable viewers.

DISPROPORTIONATE IMPACT

Not all children are affected equally. Those who are excluded from school, marginalised, disabled or neurodivergent are often more vulnerable to the effects of online violence. It's essential to consider wider context – including home life and access to safe spaces – when thinking about potential harm.

Advice for Parents & Educators

CREATE SUPPORTIVE SPACES

Many children feel adults are too busy or won't understand their experiences online. Take time to build trust through non-judgemental conversations about what they're seeing. If they don't want to speak to you directly, gently signpost towards trusted services they can turn to for support.

KNOW WHAT'S ILLEGAL

Some violent content is simply upsetting, while other examples may be criminal or a safeguarding matter that needs reporting. Help children understand the difference by staying informed about online laws and social media reporting procedures. A useful resource is reportharmfulcontent.com.

AVOID HARSH RESTRICTIONS

Fear of punishment is a major reason young people stay silent about violent content. Try not to overreact or threaten to take away devices. Instead, reassure children that they can speak openly and that asking for help won't get them into trouble.

UNDERSTAND TECH AND TRAUMA

Older children may already know how to block accounts or avoid triggering content. Help younger or more vulnerable children learn these tools and encourage habits that reduce exposure. Just as importantly, teach techniques that help them process distress – building resilience and emotional literacy for both online and offline life.

Meet Our Expert

Dr. Holly Powell-Jones is the founder of Online Media Law UK and a leading UK expert in digital safety, media law, and young people. Her PhD investigates children's understandings of risk online. She works with schools, businesses, and universities to provide award-winning education on the criminal, legal, and ethical considerations for the digital age. Visit onlinemedialawuk.com for more.



#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

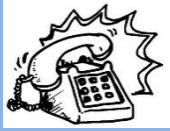
Secondary

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

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