

# School News

## A MESSAGE FROM THE SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been another successful week at school. Please make sure to check out our Facebook page and the rest of the newsletter for further information about the events of the week.

### Reading

Reading is such an important aspect of your child's learning journey. Children having opportunities to read at home as well as in school is so important. At school we celebrate 5 times a week reader – this is for children that have read at least 5 times a week at home. Educational research shows that the more children can read or be read to at home the better their outcomes in all areas of the curriculum will be. If you would like any support with this, please speak to the class teachers and school leaders who can give you top tips – we will also be running workshops for parents in this area. Information on this will follow in due course. We have lots of information about our reading in school on our website:

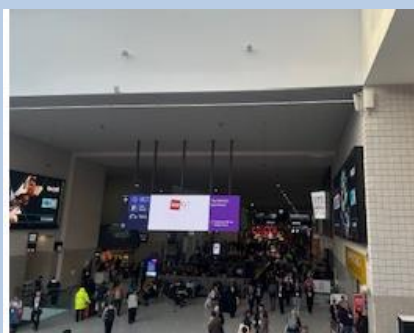


<https://east-tilbury.osborne.coop/reading.html>

<https://east-tilbury.osborne.coop/reading-digital-bookshelf.html>

### BETT Show 2025

Last Friday our STEM Club had the exciting opportunity to attend the 2025 BETT show in the Excel centre – London. The exhibition was all about technological innovation in education and to inspire young people in the world of Engineering, Science and Maths. The children had an inspirational day with many saying it was the best trip ever! The children were able to experience VR headset learning and interactive digital resources to make learning as fun as possible. Some of the group also became newsreaders, using green screen technology to become sky newsreaders.



We wish you and your family a relaxing weekend,

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 getting colder and children are beginning to wear 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**

Year 1 are running low on junk modelling materials. If you have any cardboard, toilet roll tubes, egg boxes etc. We will happily make good use of them.  
Thank You

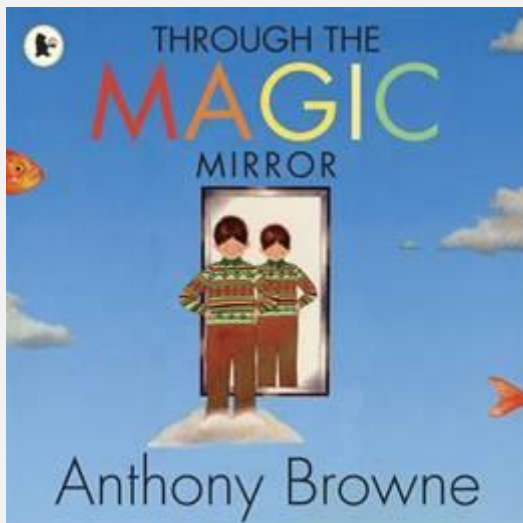
We are continually updating our OPAL resources and would gladly accept donations of:

- 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.

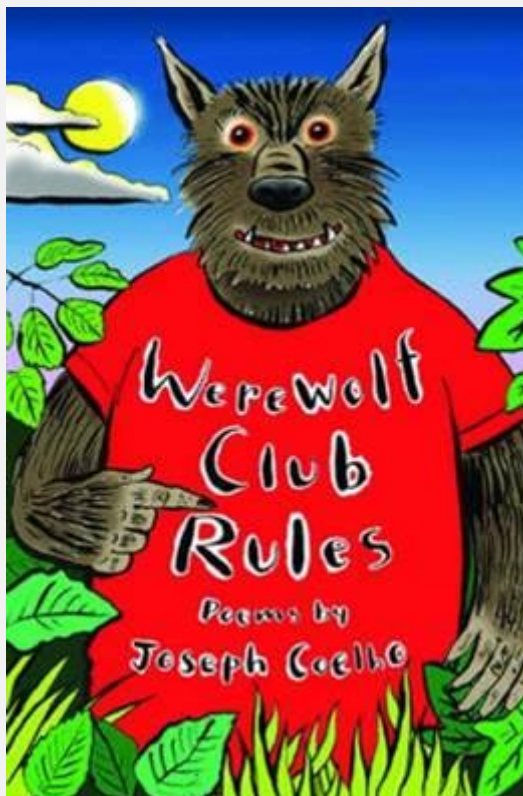


## Through the Magic Mirror

**Author:** Anthony Browne

Toby is fed up and doesn't feel like doing anything. So imagine his amazement when a whole new world opens right in front of his eyes...

Step through the magic mirror with Toby into a surreal and topsy-turvy world where the laws of nature seem to be turned on their head. Mice chase the cats, and dogs walk the men – the same old street certainly doesn't seem boring anymore!



## Werewolf Club Rules

**Author:** Joseph Coelho

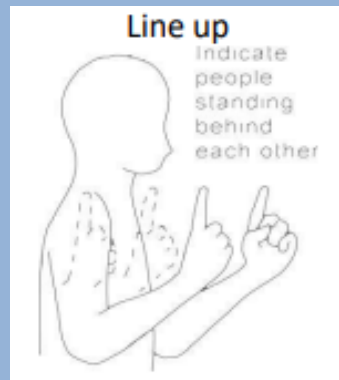
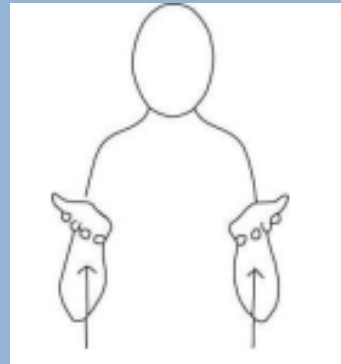
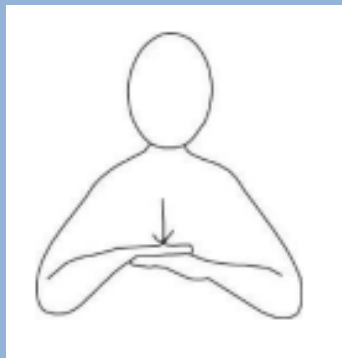
Why are there so few poetry books for primary-age readers? As Joseph Coelho's first collection shows, poetry is often far more accessible than novels, yet most publishers seem not to recognise its brief, pithy, sound-bite attraction. Coelho follows in a noble tradition headed by Agard, Ahlberg, McGough and Rosen, who turn everyday life into memorable poetic miniatures.



# 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?



Video covers all three:

[RST Makaton Stand up, Sit down & Line up - YouTube](#)



# SEND in Focus

## THURROCK SEND FAMILY FORUM

### 2025 SCHEDULE



[Hello@thurrocksendfamilyforum.org](mailto:Hello@thurrocksendfamilyforum.org)

JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
Visually impaired Parental mental health	Epilepsy Eating Disorder	Neurodivergent & Downsyndrome event
APRIL	MAY	JUNE
Thurrock strategy launch Mutism & Stutters Health & Safety at work National pet month	Share your story Maternal mental health Deaf awareness Pathological Demand Avoidance (PDA)	Volunteers Carers week Rare chromosome & Gene disorder
JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER
	Youth day Never give up day Summer event	Suicide Prevention Youth Mental Health
OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
Black History Month ADHD Awareness Dyslexia	Men's Mental Health	Christmas event

# Diary Dates

Tuesday 11th February 2025	Y6 height & weight checks
Friday 14th February 2025	Last day of Term (Non-Uniform day)
Monday 17th February 2025- Friday 21st February 2025	Half Term
Monday 24th February 2025	Pupils back to school (NO clubs this week)
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](http://www.easttilburyprimary.thurrock.sch.uk)



# Other News

## STEM Club Attend the BETT Show.

Last Friday, 12 Year 6 pupils attended the world renowned BETT Show at the ExCeL in London. The show, which was celebrating its 40th anniversary went down a storm with the pupils and staff that were supporting. The EdTech show included over 35,000 global education community visitors, over the three days – and our pupils were fortunate to be amongst them! The event was exploring innovations in technology around education, and gave just a taste of what the future may have in store for our pupils and school.

Amongst some of our highlights, our pupils enjoyed using interactive floor mats for various subjects, using VR headsets in the jungle to explore the impact climate change is having on our world, playing noughts and crosses against a coded-robotic arm and the TSS stand where they had various physical computing kit! Some pupils even created their very own book using AI technology to use their ideas to create a novel. Speaking of novels and literacy, the pupils got to meet renowned author and storyteller Michael Rosen - who was kind enough to take pictures with pupils and even shared his autograph.

To say the trip was a budding success would be an understatement; the pupils who attended are working on editing a vlog about their day, so keep a lookout across our social media channels for this in the coming weeks.



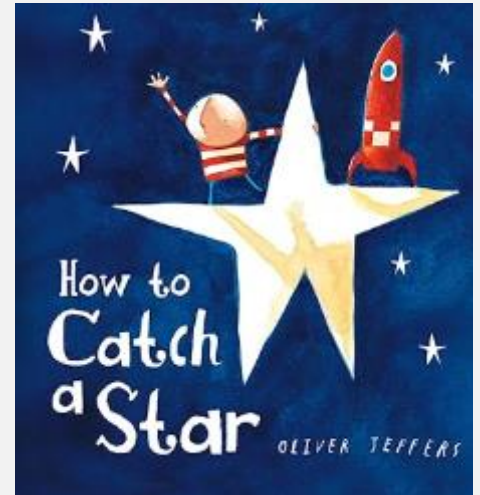
# Class News

## Reception

In reception this week we have been reading 'How to catch a star' by Oliver Jeffers. We have been trying to use our imaginations to find a way to catch a star. Some of our suggestions were using a ladder, an aeroplane, a helicopter, a hot air balloon, climbing a tree or riding on a giraffe. We looked at some of the constellations and the shapes they are supposed to represent. We liked the Pegasus the best.

In maths we have been looking at adding numbers less than 5 and subtracting numbers from 9. We have worked really hard using number lines and 10 frames to help us.

In topic we have been designing a bookmark which we are going to try and make next week.



## Year One

In art this week, we learnt about Chinese New Year and the significance of cherry blossom. We developed our fine motor skills and creativity by folding and cutting paper to create cherry blossom decorations for Chinese New Year. We learnt to fold paper carefully whilst following instructions and to use scissors safely to cut out simple petal shapes.

In science, we sang the song Heads, Shoulders, Knees and Toes. We then discussed the different names for different parts of our body. In groups, we drew around a child and then all helped to label the different body parts. We discussed these as a class.

We have continued learning about time in Maths, using clocks to make o'clock and half past as well as adding on an hour. We played games and made our own watches which was really fun!

In history, we learnt 10 fun facts about King Charles, our current monarch and in English we have been writing our own version of The Queen's Hat, called 'The King's Hat'.

# Class News

## Year Two

This week year 2 learnt about the Chinese New Year. We looked carefully at the different animals and their yearly allocations, as well as learning lots about how the Chinese New Year is celebrated. Did you know that the colour red is a really important colour throughout the celebrations? We learnt that this for many is a symbol of luck, prosperity, and good fortune. To complete our learning, we created our own paper snakes thinking carefully about our cutting and selection of colours.

In maths, we have been finding fractions of given amounts using a part-whole model strategy. Our learning then progressed across the week as we applied our understanding to a range of worded problems.

In English, we completed our independent write about Stardust. The Year 2 team are so pleased with how hard all the children have worked to showcase their skills.



## Year Three

This week in art maths we have been continuing to use arrays to help us master multiplication and division, while looking at equivalent and inverse equations.

In English we have been wrapping up our Magical Paintbrush sentence stacking lessons in preparation for our independent write next week.

This week in computing we have been using the chrome books to develop our understanding of programming using Scratch. We have been looking at sequences and practicing using motion and event blocks to programme our chosen sprites.

In French we have been recapping our key vocabulary from Petit Chaperon rouge (Little Red Riding Hood) and have now started to learn how to read the story using the vocabulary we have learnt over this half term.

# Class News

## Year Four

Year 4 has had a fantastic week filled with hands-on learning and new discoveries. In Maths, we focused on converting mixed numbers into improper fractions, using manipulatives to help us visualize and better understand the process. We really enjoyed using multilink to help us represent our fractions.

In English, we completed our independent writing on a biography about the incredible life of Nikola Tesla – which we have been planning for the past few weeks. It was exciting to put our ideas into our own independent work, and we've been so excited to share our work with teachers.

In Geography, Year 4 explored the positives and negatives of living near volcanoes. As part of the lesson, we had a fun and thought-provoking debate, where we voted on whether we would choose to stay in East Tilbury if there was a volcano nearby or leave for safer ground!



## Year Five

This week in Year Five, we have carried on with our artwork based on space, where we used painting and textile techniques to recreate different visuals. This linked perfectly into our science work, as we explored spherical objects and looked at why planets have this shape. In computing we combined our Crumble devices with motors to create a disco, dancing using different coding techniques.



# Class News

## Year Six

This week in Year 6, we completed our practise SATS. Our pupils showed excellent resilience and determination; our teachers are looking proud of the progress pupils are making (if not *slightly* tired from all the joyous marking). With continued hard work and resilience, come May, they will only continue to do themselves and their school proud.

Elsewhere, pupils have completed their romance adventure narrative 'Paperman' and are moving onto an instructional text which will be based on 'How to annoy your teacher'. Any examples of instructions, or an excuse to bake following a recipe, would be highly beneficial for some weekend fun!

Below are some of the chiaroscuro (our pupils will read this word to you!) pieces produced this week:





# 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!

<b>RBG</b>	Tanvi	For always listening and participating whilst on the carpet.
<b>RES</b>	Fiona	For having some great ideas in literacy.
<b>RFK</b>	Harrison	For always offering a helping hand around the classroom, especially during tidy up time.
<b>1BA</b>	Zayan	For settling amazingly well into Year 1.
<b>1EC</b>	Rensemee	For her independent work this week.
<b>1LD</b>	Isabella Copp	For working hard in phonics and applying it in her writing.
<b>2RM</b>	William	For his hard work learning about astronauts in History this week.
<b>2CH</b>	Kaiso	For his brilliant effort in English this week.
<b>2MF</b>	Albert	For settling well in our school and demonstrating great work in Maths and English.
<b>2BG</b>	Zephaniah	For his creative sentences in English this week.
<b>3ML</b>	Zidane	For his creative sentences and effort in English lessons.
<b>3RS</b>	Feya	For her great effort towards learning, especially in maths this week.
<b>3SG</b>	Eniola O	For her effort and creativity in computing.
<b>3VP</b>	Zahara	For her effort and enthusiasm in all lessons.
<b>4CP</b>	Emalee-JO	For taking self-responsibility to improve her concentration this week!
<b>4KC</b>	Albie R	For trying hard to improve his handwriting for his independent write.
<b>4MR</b>	Sajon T	For showing independent skill and knowledge in his maths work this week.
<b>5NM</b>	Tola	For a beautifully composed setting description of the Amazon Rainforest.
<b>5SA</b>	Alexander – Richard M	For showing resilience in Art this week.
<b>5TH</b>	Emily	For showing huge improvements in maths.
<b>6AB</b>	6AB	For their collective effort during practise SATs week.
<b>6LC</b>	6LC	For their collective effort during practise SATs week.
<b>6NB</b>	6NB	For their collective effort during practise SATs 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.

27th January - 31 January 2025



1LD

49

1BA

2

1FK

0

1EC

0

27th January - 31 January 2025



2MF

52

2SBG

8

2CH

1

27th January - 31 January 2025



3SG

391

3RS

277

3VP

34

3ML

7

27th January - 31 January 2025



4KC

229

4CP

73

4MR

13

27th January - 31 January 2025



5NM

405

5SA

15

5TH

0

27th January - 31 January 2025



6LC

1375

6NB

1274

6AB

580

# 10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

## SUPPORTING CHILDREN TO DEVELOP EMOTIONAL LITERACY

Emotional literacy refers to the ability to recognise, understand and express our feelings effectively. It plays a crucial role in strengthening a child's wellbeing by enhancing their relationships and resilience. However, emotional literacy is not necessarily an innate talent, and its development may present challenges. This guide gives parents and educators practical tips on supporting children to cultivate this essential skill.

### 1 NAME THE EMOTION

Encourage children to identify and name their emotions. This helps them understand what they're feeling and why. Use simple language and relatable examples to make it easier for them to share their emotions. This builds a foundation for emotional understanding and open communication.



### 2 MODEL EMOTIONAL EXPRESSION

Demonstrate healthy emotional expression by sharing your feelings visibly. When children see adults properly displaying how they're doing and what they're thinking, they learn to do the same. Discuss how you handle emotions in different circumstances, providing a real-life framework for young ones to follow.



### 3 MINDFULNESS ACTIVITIES

Teach children mindfulness practices to help them stay present and manage their emotions during more challenging moments. Activities like deep breathing, meditation or yoga can reduce stress and enhance emotional regulation. Regular practice can improve focus and emotional stability, which can significantly help children both as they're growing up and throughout their adult life.



### 4 USE STORYTELLING

Incorporate storytelling to help children understand emotions. Stories can offer relevant scenarios illustrating how the characters experience and manage their feelings. Discuss the emotions depicted in stories and ask children how they might feel in similar situations.



### 5 PRACTISE EMPATHY

Teach children to consider others' views and emotions – and to explore why they might think or feel this way. Role-playing and discussing various scenarios can enhance their ability to empathise. Understanding others' emotions helps children to develop compassion and improves their social interactions.



### 6 ENCOURAGE JOURNALING

Suggest keeping a journal to make note of thoughts and emotions, as writing can provide an outlet for self-reflection and emotional processing. Encourage children to write about their daily experiences and feelings, helping them gain insight into their emotional world. Do this alongside them, so they can see and experience how to do it effectively.



### 7 TEACH PROBLEM-SOLVING

Do what you can to help children develop problem-solving skills to assist in managing emotional challenges. Discuss potential solutions to emotional conflicts and encourage them to think critically about what they (and others) can do to process their feelings in a healthy way. This empowers children to handle emotions positively and build resilience.



### 8 CREATE A SAFE SPACE

Establish an environment where children feel safe to display their emotions without judgement. Encourage open exchanges and reassure them that all feelings are valid. This supportive atmosphere promotes trust and encourages children to express themselves with confidence.



### 9 USE VISUAL AIDS

Take advantage of visual aids like emotion charts or mood meters to help children identify and express their feelings. Use these tools regularly in your interactions. They provide a visual representation of emotions, making it easier for children to communicate their emotional state.



### 10 CELEBRATE EMOTIONAL GROWTH

Acknowledge and celebrate progress in emotional literacy, and praise children for expressing their emotions and handling them effectively. Positive reinforcement is a useful tool that will encourage continued growth and reinforces the importance of emotional literacy – encouraging young people to maintain the good habits and healthy behaviours that you've taught them.



## Meet Our Expert

Adam Gillett is Associate Vice-Principal for Personal Development at Penistone Grammar School and works on secondment one day a week for Minds Ahead, an organisation that supports schools in improving their mental health provision.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

# BE BRIGHT & BE SEEN

*this winter*



Now that the clocks have gone back and it's getting darker earlier on, it's more important than ever to make sure you can be seen when you're out and about near roads.

There are loads of ways to be seen and stay safer  
- so check over the page for some top tips!

# 5 top tips on how to **BE BRIGHT & BE SEEN**

- 1** Brightly coloured or fluorescent clothing shows up well in daylight and at dusk when you're heading to and from school.
- 2** If you're out and about when it's dark, wear reflective gear to make sure you can be seen in car headlights. Reflective vests, sashes or wristbands work well. Remember, fluorescent clothing doesn't work after dark!
- 3** Don't forget to accessorise! Even small items such as clip-on reflectors, armbands and stickers on your outfit or school bag are a great way to improve your visibility.
- 4** If you like to cycle, remember that it's the law to have clean and working lights at night (white at the front, red at the back), as well as a rear reflector. It's good to fit spoke reflectors too.
- 5** Of course, 'Being Bright' isn't the only way to stay safer. If you're out at night, choose routes and crossing places that are well lit and remember to always use the Green Cross Code.

For more road safety tips, games and videos, visit the Tales of the Road website at [www.direct.gov.uk/talesoftheroad](http://www.direct.gov.uk/talesoftheroad)

**Be Bright,  
Be Seen**

**THINK**

## 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