



Theydon Bois Primary School
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Dear Parents and Carers,

Two weeks ago I wrote that we were two weeks in and were ploughing full steam ahead towards Easter. Now we only have two weeks to go before Easter. Time waits for no man or woman.

Harewood and Pakes Class Assembly

Well done Harewood and Pakes! We all enjoyed your well prepared and entertaining class assemblies. Thank you for sharing your work with such a great deal of pride and joy!

I would also like to thank Mr Bristow and the office staff who set up the hall and prepared the coffee, tea and biscuits.

We are looking forward to our next class assembly - **Wednesday, 19th March Orchard Class.**

Gardening

Gardening kicked off for KS 1 on Friday last week. The 'green finger' activities organised by Mrs Green were thoroughly enjoyed by our KS1 children. Out in the fresh air getting our hands dirty potting and planting – that's the 'Good Life'.

Parent Evenings

Thank you to all parents who signed up for parents evening this week. Overall it proved to work well in the hall for everyone. My bell-ringing arm definitely got some exercise. I would also like to take this opportunity to reassure you that you do not have to wait for parents evenings to discuss concerns or the progress of your children. You are always welcome to call or email the school to make an appointment to discuss any concerns you may have. Thank you to all parents who took the time to complete the 'How are we doing?' questionnaire. The outcomes will be published on the school website as well as resulting actions.

Walk to School – Eco Race

As part of our commitment to being a 'Healthy School' Theydon Bois Primary will be participating in the Sustrans Eco-Race. Schools across Essex will be encouraging their pupils to come to school either on foot, by bicycle or on a scooter to promote both sustainable forms of travel and a more active, healthy lifestyle. We are entering the third and final week of our Eco Race. Can we please ask you to support your children in walking or cycling to school.

PTA

I would like to thank everyone who bought raffle tickets for our Easter Raffle during parent evenings. As a PTA and school we really appreciate all the support we receive from all our parents. The prizes will be drawn at the end of term and the winners announced in Assembly on Thursday, 29th March 2018. Tickets are on sale in the playground or alternatively you can send in a marked envelope with your ticket request and payment. The raffle tickets sell for £1 per ticket.

Attendance

Last week's winners of our attendance trophy was Orchard and Buxton with an amazing attendance of 100%! Super Congratulations to you both! Looks like our classes are setting a very high standard in attendance this half term! I am very pleased to report that our whole school attendance for this half term so far is 97.5%. That is an amazing improvement of 2% compared to Spring Term 1. Well done everyone!

Epping Forest College

Children in Year 4 had the opportunity last Thursday to take part in sporting activities organised and facilitated by PE students from Epping Forest College. Our children thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Thank you to Mr Phil Heseltine and the students of Epping Forest College.

School Clubs and Activities

Information about the various clubs and other activities run at the school have been sent out either by the school office or directly by the providers themselves. We endeavour as far as possible to keep you informed of start dates and times, however, it would be helpful if you could retain this information yourselves for each activity your child might attend. Please be aware that there may be occasions when a club does not run either due to a scheduled break (e.g. Consultation Evenings) or illness. We will, of course, endeavour to give you as much notice as possible if this is the case.

We Are Writers

Thank you for ordering our 'We are Writers' book of fantastic inventions. The final order has now gone in and the books will hopefully arrive either just before or just after the Easter break. We would be grateful if you can make any outstanding payments (for £5.99 per copy ordered) by Friday, 23rd March to ensure that we can release your copies to you at the earliest opportunity. We very much hope you and your children enjoy reading all about the many superb inventions featured in the book.

Head lice

We have had reports of cases of head lice in school this week. It is not the remit of schools to send an "alert" letter to parents in the event of an outbreak but I am informing you in the hope that the current outbreak does not escalate. Please take the opportunity this weekend to check each child and all your family's hair (including adults). If you do find evidence of head lice please treat accordingly. If you are unsure of the correct course of action please speak to a pharmacist for further advice. As many of you will already be aware, plastic head lice detector combs are available from the school office at a cost of 50p.

Multi-Academy Trust

I would like to remind all parents that presentations and minutes of our meetings so far are published on the website.

Parent Governor Election

Thank you to all parents who voted in our Parent Governor election. I would like to congratulate and welcome Mr Matthew Dawkes as a new parent governor on the Theydon Bois Governing Body.

Yours sincerely

Mr A Rall
Headteacher