



Primary School

# Friday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2025

What an incredible week it has been here at school – a week filled with resilience, creativity, and a genuine sense of community. We are *extremely proud* of all our children for the way they have embraced change, taken on new challenges, and supported one another with kindness and encouragement.

One of the highlights this week was taking our Year 5 & 6 football team to their very first competition. It was an absolute *honour and privilege* to accompany such a passionate and determined group of young athletes. They represented our school with pride, played with heart, and showed amazing sportsmanship throughout. We couldn't be prouder of their effort, teamwork, and enthusiasm – it was a fantastic moment for everyone involved!

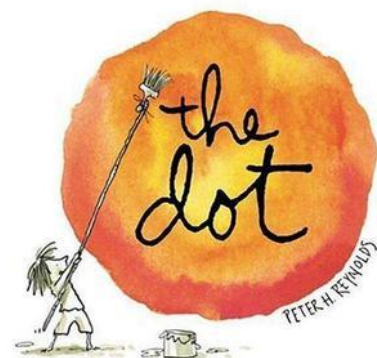
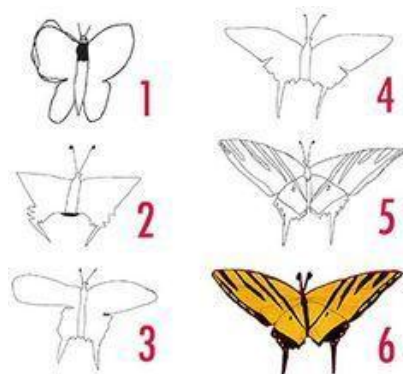
In assembly this week, we watched the powerful short film *Austin's Butterfly*. The children were captivated by how Austin, with the help of thoughtful, constructive feedback from his peers (his "critical friends"), was able to improve his butterfly drawing step-by-step. It sparked rich discussions about the importance of perseverance, embracing feedback, and understanding that improvement is always possible when we keep trying. The message was clear: mistakes are not failures – they are opportunities to grow.

We've also been diving into the beautiful book *The Dot* by Peter H. Reynolds. It tells the story of Vashti, a young girl who believes she can't draw – until her teacher encourages her to make just *one* dot and sign it. That simple dot takes her on a journey of creativity and self-discovery. This story has inspired our children to see that they all have creative potential. It's a reminder that everyone can "make a mark" in their own way, and that trying something new can open the door to surprising talents and confidence.

Let's keep celebrating progress, not perfection – and remember, even a single dot can become something truly special.

Have a great weekend!

Mrs Bower



## Gold Book and Good Citizen Awards

Each Friday we hold a celebration assembly for the whole school. Each teacher chooses two Gold Book awards and one Good Citizen award for children who have hit a key milestone, achieved a personal target, worked above and beyond expectations or who have shown our school values.

	Class 1	Class 2	Class 3	Class 4	Class 5
<b>Gold Book Awards</b>	Tommy Farrow	Isabel Drane	Tate Frogatt	Joshua Coe	Thomas Hull
	Isla Collins	Daisy-May Gill-Hart	Beau-Jaxx Rees	Peyton Gedye	Ava Andress
<b>Good Citizen Awards</b>	Matilda Lasslett	Amara Devadas	Asher Tunbridge	Ollie Law	Isaac Tunbridge

## SECONDARY SCHOOL OPENING EVENINGS

**Hedingham School Secondary-** Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 5.00-8.00pm

**The Ramsey Academy-** Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> September 5.30-7.30pm

The statutory national closing date for secondary school applications is 31 October 2025, and applications should be submitted online via

<http://www.essex.gov.uk/admissions>

## FOOTBALL

The Year 5/6 football team proudly represented our school at The Ramsey Academy in our first sporting fixture of the year. The team took part in various activities, including 5-a-side matches and skill-based drills, showcasing their growing confidence and teamwork. A highlight of the event was their first-ever 9-a-side match, where they faced Howbridge Juniors in a spirited and competitive game. Despite being their debut as a full team, the boys played exceptionally well, demonstrating determination and great sportsmanship. Their hard work paid off, as they successfully secured a place in the Essex Small Schools Final, which will take place in November.



We are currently looking to purchase a school sports kit to help our teams look professional and feel proud when representing the school. A smart, unified kit would reflect our school's vision and ethos, promoting teamwork, pride, and belonging. If any families are willing to sponsor this, or know of local companies who might be interested in supporting us, please contact the school office.

### PHOTOGRAPHS

The school photographer will be visiting on Tuesday, 30th September to take individual and sibling photographs. Please ensure your child comes to school in full uniform. This is a great opportunity to capture a special memory of the school year, so don't forget to remind your child to bring their best smile! Please note: Class 1 will not need to come into school in their PE kit on this day.

### UPCOMING DATES FOR THE DIARY

**Years 5 & 6 Girls Football Competition-** Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 10.00-1.00

**Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 Hockey Festival-** Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> October (more details to follow)

**Year 5 & 6 Rugby Competition-** Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> October (more details to follow)

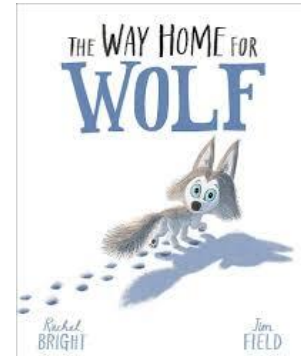
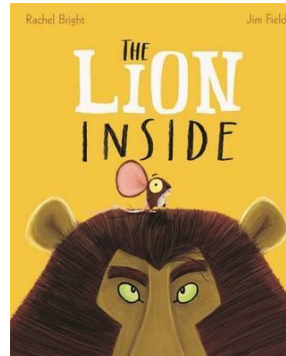
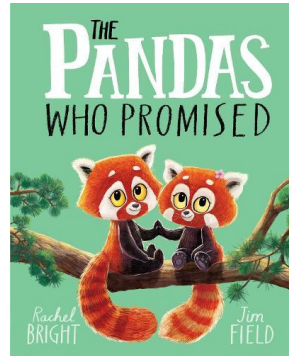
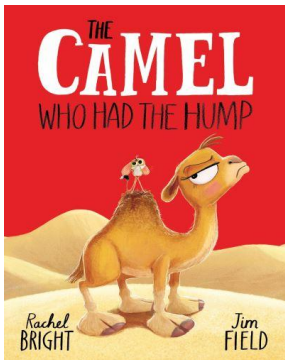
**PTFA Halloween Disco-** Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> October 3.15- 4.30

**Parents' Evening** Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> October and Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> October (timings and details for bookings to follow)

**Cross Country** at St. Peter's, Sible Hedingham- Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> November at 3.30pm (more details to follow)

## AUTHOR OF THE WEEK- RACHAEL BRIGHT

In this week's reading assembly, we explored the wonderful work of author Rachel Bright and illustrator Jim Field. Together, they create feel-good, rhyming animal tales that focus on themes of friendship, adventure, and kindness. The stories are not only fun and engaging to listen to, but they also carry important messages about empathy, teamwork, and understanding others. With vibrant illustrations and catchy, poetic storytelling, the books captured everyone's attention and left us all with a warm, positive feeling—perfect reminders of the power of kindness and connection.



## GOOD LUCK!

This week, we send our heartfelt good wishes to George, Molly and Olivia in Year 6 who are sitting their 11+ exams. These pupils have shown remarkable dedication, maturity, and perseverance in their preparation, and we are incredibly proud of all they have achieved so far. As they take this important step, we hope they feel confident, calm, and supported by the entire school community. We know they will do their very best, and we look forward to celebrating their efforts and successes in the weeks ahead. Good luck to each of them—you have our full support and admiration.

## SAD NEWS

It is with deep sadness that we share the passing of David Degnan, a long-standing governor, devoted volunteer, and much-loved friend of our school. David gave generously of his time, wisdom, and care over many years, always putting the children and staff at the heart of everything he did. His kindness, integrity, and unwavering support made a lasting impact on our school community, and he will be greatly missed by all who knew him. We will be sharing this sad news with the children on Monday in a gentle and age-appropriate way, and offering space for reflection and remembrance. As we come to terms with this loss, we are exploring meaningful ways to commemorate David's contribution to our school, ensuring his legacy continues to inspire future generations. Our thoughts and heartfelt condolences are with his family and loved ones at this time.

## CLUBS

School clubs will begin the week starting Monday 29th September. Booking will open on Arbor next week—please keep an eye out for further details.

We're excited to welcome FPG Coaching to our school this term. They will be running two paid after-school clubs: football and dodgeball. To introduce the clubs, FPG will be holding an assembly for the children next week. Booking details can be found at the end of this newsletter.

CHRISTMAS DATES- more details to follow

PTFA CHRISTMAS MOVIE NIGHT- Friday 5th December 3.10-5.45

CLASS 1 & 2 NATIVITY- Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December 9.15 & Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December 5.30

CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY and CHRISTMAS DINNER- Thursday 11th December

CLASS 3, 4 & 5 Christmas Concert- Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2.30 & Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December 5.30

CAROLS ON THE PLAYGROUND- Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2.30

## RECEPTION STARTERS FOR SEPTEMBER 2026

Is your child due to start school in September 2026? Gosfield Community Primary School are offering tours for potential new families to our school. We are a caring and inclusive community with a child-centred approach to learning. Come and see our learning environment for yourself and hear about our vision and curriculum journey in each class.

### Tours dates:

Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> October – 9.30am	Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> November 1.30pm
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> October – 9.30am	Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> November 9.30am
Monday 20 <sup>st</sup> October – 1.30pm	Wednesday 19th November 9.30am and 1.30pm
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> October – 9.30am	Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> November 1.30pm
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> November – 9.30am and 1.30pm	Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> November 9.30am

## TODDLER CLUB

Toddler Club will be running this term in the school hall from 8:45–10:00am, led by Annie Wilson, on the following Fridays: 17th October, 28th November, and 12th December. We look forward to welcoming our youngest visitors and their families!

## WELL DONE

A huge well done to Ava for being named Player of the Match! Her resilience, teamwork, and positive attitude on the pitch truly stood out. She gave her all and supported her teammates brilliantly—an excellent example of sportsmanship and determination. Well done, Ava!



## Parking Around School – A Reminder

We kindly ask all parents and carers to park considerately and safely in the roads surrounding the school. The safety of our children is our highest priority, and we ask everyone to avoid blocking driveways or creating hazards. Please note that the staff car park is for staff use only, unless prior arrangements have been agreed with the school. Thank you for your continued support in keeping our school community safe.

Dear Parent/Guardian,



We're excited to announce that two brand-new after school clubs are coming to Gosfield Community Primary School - **Football** and **Dodgeball**, both delivered by the experienced coaches at **FPG Coaching!**

🕒 **Football After School Club** 🕒

Get ready to lace up your boots and join the fun! Our Football Club is perfect for all abilities. Children will learn new skills, enjoy exciting games, and build teamwork - all while having a great time on the pitch. Whether your child dreams of being the next superstar striker or just loves being active with friends, this club is for them!

**Day:** Mondays (starting Monday 29th September 2025)

**Time:** 3:10pm - 4:10pm

**Ages:** Year 1 - Year 6

**Cost:** £5 per session (when block booking for the term)  
or £6.50 for individual sessions

🔥 **Dodge, Duck, Dip, Dive... Dodgeball After School Club!** 🔥

Our new Dodgeball Club is packed with fun, fast-paced action! Children will play energetic games, build confidence, and work as a team in a supportive and exciting environment. Whether they're new to dodgeball or already love it, this club offers something for everyone.

**Day:** Tuesdays (starting Tuesday 30th September 2025)

**Time:** 3:10pm - 4:10pm

**Ages:** Year 1 - Year 6

**Cost:** £5 per session (when block booking for the term)  
or £6.50 for individual sessions

**How to Book**

To book your child's place, please visit:

[www.fpgcoaching.co.uk/afterschool-sport-clubs](http://www.fpgcoaching.co.uk/afterschool-sport-clubs)

select **Gosfield Community Primary School** and follow the prompts to book your chosen club. Alternatively, you can scan one of the **QR codes** to go directly to our booking system.

Spaces are limited, so be sure to sign up soon to secure your child's place! We look forward to welcoming you to our After School Clubs!

Warm regards,  
**FPG Coaching**

Football  
QR Code



Dodgeball  
QR Code



## Gosfield Community Primary School Term Dates and Holiday Dates Academic Year 2025-2026

September 2025							October 2025							November 2025							December 2025						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
									1	2	3	4	5						1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	12	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31				
29	30																										

January 2026							February 2026							March 2026							April 2026						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
			1	2	3	4							1							1			1	2	3	4	5
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30			
														30	31												

May 2026							June 2026							July 2026							August 2026						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
				1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7			1	2	3	4	5						1	2
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30						27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30
																					31						

- = School days
- = School holidays
- = Bank holidays
- = Weekends
- = School Inset days

In addition, schools allocate five non-pupil days out of the school days indicated, or the equivalent in disaggregated twilight sessions.

<b>Autumn Term:</b>	Monday 1 September 2025 – Friday 19 December 2025 <i>Half Term 27 October – 31 October</i>	75 days
<b>Spring Term:</b>	Monday 5 January 2026 – Friday 27 March 2026 <i>Half Term 16 February - 20 February</i>	55 days
<b>Summer Term:</b>	Monday 13 April 2026 – Monday 20 July 2026 <i>Half Term 25 May – 29 May, and May Bank Holiday - 4 May</i>	65 days
		<u>195 days</u>

# Mid Essex **START WELL** **Roadshows**



**IF YOU'VE GOT A LITTLE ONE UNDER 5, THESE DROP-IN EVENTS ARE FOR YOU!**

Whether you're getting ready for preschool or just looking for a bit of support, the **Start Well Roadshows** are here to help.

You'll find **friendly faces**, **expert advice**, and **loads of useful info** on things like *toilet training*, *speech and language*, *SEND support*, *starting school* and much much more.

There'll be fun activities to keep little ones busy while you chat with professionals and peer supporters who really understand what it's like.

It's all free, drop-in, and relaxed – just turn up and see what's on offer!

## **Dates, times & locations of the roadshows**

### **Maldon Area**

- Wed 15th Oct  
1-3 PM  
Maldon Library
- Tues 28th Oct  
10 - 12 PM,  
Dengie Family Hub  
Delivery Site

### **Braintree Area**

- Wed 22nd Oct  
2-4 PM  
Carousel Family  
Hub
- Wed 29th Oct  
Time 11-1pm,  
Witham Library

### **Chelmsford Area**

- Sat 18th Oct  
10:30-12:30,  
Chelmsford  
Library

For more information:

Visit: [www.tlc-essex.info/resource/mid-essex-start-well-roadshows/](http://www.tlc-essex.info/resource/mid-essex-start-well-roadshows/)

Or scan  
the QR  
code



**MID ESSEX CHILDREN'S PARTNERSHIP**

If you have any questions please email: [C&FPartnershipLeads@essex.gov.uk](mailto:C&FPartnershipLeads@essex.gov.uk)