



Important Dates:

Mon 18th May

FS Minibeast Experience

Tues 19th May

Y2 Call of the Wild Trip;
Y3/4 Rapid Fire Cricket
Festival (selected pupils);
Boys Football Match;
Girls Football Cancelled

Wed 20th May

Class Photographs;
Y5/6 Rounders Match

Thurs 21st May

Census Day Special Lunch

Fri 22nd May

RAINBOW Friday—wear
INDIGO non-uniform day

Mon 25th—Fri 29th

Half Term

Please click [here](#) for other
dates.



Please remember that phones
& photography are not
permitted at school events.

Rainbow Friday Fundraising

Last month we managed to raise £162 for the Alzheimer's Society and £162 for Pupil Council.



**Alzheimer's
Society**

This month we are raising money for Cancer Research UK. Children are invited to **wear indigo** and make a suggested donation of £1 or £2. Half the money raised will be donated to this deserving charity and the other half will be spent by our Pupil Councillors.

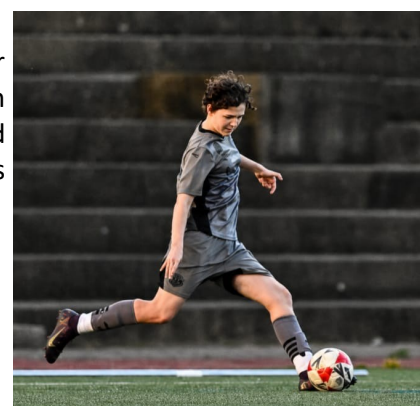
If you have a story about how Cancer Research UK has helped your family, we'd love to hear about it so that children can share it in Rainbow Friday assembly.



**CANCER
RESEARCH
UK**

Southend United Ladies Match

Many of you have received FREE tickets for the first ever ladies match to be held at Roots Hall, Southend on Saturday (12.30pm kick off). One of our ex-pupils, and sister to Bailey Harris in 5JA, will be playing in Saturday's line-up. Well done Evie, we are very proud of you!



Appointments

Please remember that routine check-up appointments for your child should be arranged outside of school hours. For essential school-time appointments, please let school know as soon as possible to avoid last minute emails. Thank you

BINGO

Unfortunately, the PTA have had to postpone BINGO this evening. It has been rearranged for later in the year so please keep an eye on the WhatsApp Noticeboard and PTA Facebook page to book your ticket.

SAVE THE DATE

You are invited to our sports days, followed by a picnic, on the following dates:

Tuesday 9th June Y5 & Y6

Wednesday 10th June Y2, Y3 & Y4

Thursday 11th June FS & Y1

Time: All sports days start at **10.30am** and finish around midday. Children will go to their classrooms after the last race then join you on the field for the picnic. Lunch finishes at 1pm but you can leave at any time as there will be staff on the gate.

Weather: If it rains, sports day and picnic lunch will be postponed to 16th June Y2,3,4; 17th June Y5,6 & 18th June FS, Y1

Let's Celebrate!



Billy-Blue King, 5JA scored 1 goal and the winning penalty to get his football team into the semi finals and the penalty to win the finals.

Annabelle Burdiss, 1RJ completed a 1.5km Nuclear Race this weekend with her Nonno (Grandad).

Isabelle Randall, 5JA and Elliott Randall, 3EC showed community spirit by helping Wickford in Bloom make Wickford look pretty by planting flowers around the town.

Olive Sargent, 2JB and her dance school came first in the British Arts awards finals for large group modern dance. She performed in the polish theatre.

Theodore Sargent, Ladybirds was player of the week at football.

Hunter Barker, 2EL got Player of training at football and moved up to green hat at swimming.

Nellie Fox, 1RJ competed in a trampolining competition last weekend.

Well done to this week's winners:

FS: Johnny Newell, Maya Wasfy

Year 1: Sofia Northfield, Saint Filolli

Year 2: Hayden-Lee Stratford, Leo Norton

Year 3: Beau Adams, Lyra Langley

Year 4: Betheli Adegbuyi, Mabel Davies, Maisy Blackburn

Year 5: Ivy Poulton, Olga Stretchi, Hugo Rippingale-Peters

Year 6: Rory Fenn, Zoe Jackson, Bertie Graham, Matilda Brown



Golden Token Winners

This week's lucky winners are:

FS: Musa Miah

Year 1: Jovan Bains

Year 2: Elissa Budu



Year 3: Joli Elleston

Year 4: Amy Stokes

Year 5: Sienna Barfoot

Year 6: Shayleigh King

Let's Celebrate!

DOJO Rewards

6LG and 5AB celebrated achieving their DOJO targets last week. Thanks to some lovely weather, they both chose to enjoy some extra time on our lovely field.



Congratulations to Y6

We are so proud of the way year 6 have handled their SATS this week: they showed great focus and determination. Children have enjoyed a day of African Drumming and Dance today and are looking forward to parents & carers joining in later!

We are very grateful to all the staff & volunteers who have come in to support the tests this week, especially the staff who came in early to set up breakfast club. A special thank you also to the Y6 teachers and Mrs Green who have worked overtime for the past few months to deliver booster sessions to help prepare children for the tests. We wish you all a well-deserved, restful weekend.



School Dinners

The dinner menu next week will be:

Monday & Thursday's menus
changed for this week only

MONDAY

Salt & Pepper Chicken
Quorn Mexican Burrito
Baguette Filled with
either Ham or Cheese
Vegetable Noodles
Ice Lolly

Week 3

Week Commencing
27/4, 18/5, 15/6, 6/7

TUESDAY

Pepperoni Pizza
Cheese & Tomato Pizza
Tuna Mayo Roll
Tortilla Chips
Cucumber & Carrot Sticks
Chocolate Muffin

WEDNESDAY

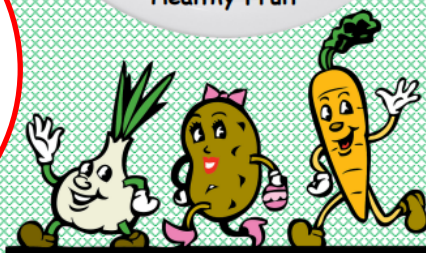
Roast Turkey &
Yorkshire Pudding
Roasted Garlic & Herb
Quorn Fillet
Hot Turkey Roll
Roast Potatoes
Brussel Sprouts
Carrots
Healthy Fruit

FRIDAY

Fish Fillet
Cheesy Frittata
Jacket Potato with Cheese
Chips
Peas & Corn
Brownie

THURSDAY

Census Day Special Lunch
Chicken Nuggets
Veggie Nuggets
Wedges
Baked Beans
Iced Ring Donut



Whole School Attendance

94%

Weekly Winning Classes

3EC 98%

w/e 08/05/26

Census Day Special Lunch

Thursday 21st May

Chicken Nuggets
Veggie Nuggets
Wedges & Baked Beans

Dessert: Iced Ring Donut

The school receives funding based upon pupil numbers. The number of lower school pupils eating a school dinner will be counted so please encourage your child to choose a school dinner this day.



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about ONLINE GROOMING

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

STRANGERS USING FAKE IDENTITIES

Groomers often pose as children or teenagers online to build trust. They may create convincing fake profiles, share photos stolen from real people, or mimic the interests of the child. By pretending to be someone their age, they make conversations feel safe and relatable. Over time, they may ask for personal details, photos, or suggest meeting in person, exposing children to significant emotional and physical harm.

EXPLOITATION THROUGH GIFTS AND FLATTERY

To gain trust quickly, groomers often send gifts, gaming credits, or money. Alongside material offerings, they use excessive compliments, affection, and attention to create emotional dependency. These tactics make children feel valued and special, lowering their defences. Once trust is secured, groomers may escalate their requests, often asking for photos or private conversations, making the child feel pressured or indebted to continue.

GROUP CHATS AS HIDDEN PATHWAYS

Unmonitored group chats on platforms like WhatsApp or Discord provide a cover for groomers. They can watch how children interact, identify those who seem vulnerable, and then move conversations into private messaging. This transition makes detection difficult for trusted adults. The seemingly harmless group setting often masks the presence of predators, giving children a false sense of security.

THE RISE OF SEXTORTION

Sextortion involves pressuring children into sharing explicit content, then blackmailing them for more. Offenders may claim to have hacked a child's device, threaten to share images with friends or family, or demand money. Many victims remain silent out of fear and shame. This growing crime is particularly dangerous because children often feel trapped, believing there's no safe way to escape the situation.

GAMING PLATFORMS AS GROOMING GATEWAYS

Games like Roblox, Fortnite, or Call of Duty, which include live chat features, are frequent targets for groomers. Conversations often begin casually during gameplay and can become manipulative over time. Groomers may offer in-game gifts, credits, or exclusive add-ons to build rapport. Children using headsets or private chat features are especially at risk, as conversations are harder for adults to monitor.

CRIMINAL & RADICALISATION RISKS

Grooming is not always sexual. Some offenders manipulate children into criminal activities such as drug running or online fraud. Others attempt to radicalise young people with extreme ideologies. Groomers often use fear, money, shame, or promises of belonging to control their victims. These forms of exploitation can be just as harmful as sexual grooming, and often leave lasting psychological and social consequences.

Advice for Parents & Educators

KEEP CONVERSATIONS REGULAR

Rather than having one "big talk" about online safety, weave conversations into everyday life. Ask questions about children's online friendships and interests. Share real-life examples to make discussions relatable and encourage honesty instead of secrecy. When children feel comfortable discussing their digital lives, they are far more likely to share concerns or admit when something feels wrong, reducing the chance of risky interactions going unnoticed.

UNDERSTAND THE PLATFORMS CHILDREN USE

Take time to learn about the apps, games, and social platforms children are on. Familiarise yourself with privacy settings, parental controls, and group chat features. Use resources like The National College guides or conduct quick searches to stay updated. By understanding how these platforms operate, you'll be better equipped to set boundaries, guide safe use, and notice any unusual or concerning online behaviour early.

CREATE A "TELL ME" CULTURE

Children often keep silent because they fear being punished or losing access to their devices. Reassure them that coming forward with concerns won't get them into trouble. Emphasise that you are there to help, not judge. Creating a safe, open environment encourages children to speak up if something feels wrong, and helps to ensure they don't suffer in silence when facing potential grooming risks.

STAY ALERT TO WARNING SIGNS

Be attentive to both behavioural and digital red flags. Sudden secrecy, mood swings, or new online contacts may signal a problem. Watch for unexplained gifts, new social media profiles, or changes in sleep patterns. Increased anxiety or reluctance to attend school can also be indicators. Regularly checking in and showing interest in those whom they communicate with online help prevent small issues from escalating into serious risks.

Meet Our Expert

Staffordshire Police is dedicated to keeping people safe and tackling crime across both the physical and digital world. The force continues to strengthen its digital investigation and safeguarding capabilities to protect children and vulnerable people online, working in partnership with local, regional and national organisations, schools, and the wider community.

