



## Head Talk

This week we had the Year 4 class assembly. This was a lovely opportunity for the children to showcase the learning that they had undertaken this year. When you look at it as a single body of learning, I am in awe of what the children have experienced and how well the Year 4 team have planned for the children this year.

Last week saw children in Year 1 taking part in their Phonics Test, and we also had Year 4 children taking part in the Multiplication Tables Check too. My congratulations go to all the children and staff involved.

The next few weeks are going to be very busy, so please keep an eye out for dates via the MCAS App and the newsletter. Year 6 children will be spending time on Thursday in their new school, Year 1 will be visiting Jimmy's Farm, there is a non-uniform day on Friday in aid of the 'Bottle Stall' for the summer fair and Year 6 are running their 'Enterprise Day' on Tuesday next week; so an exciting week to come.

Don't forget that we have a celebration evening coming up on **Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> July between 6pm and 8pm**. We will have a tasting menu of school dinners in the infant hall, and there will be an opportunity to talk with staff and see your child's work. **Parking will not be available due to the building works taking place.**

The PSA summer fair will also be taking place on **Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> July**. Please contact the PSA to volunteer. If we don't have enough people, the event can't go ahead.

And if you missed it this week, there was a Parents' Forum online on Tuesday which talked about key dates and information coming up at school. If you would like to watch the video or look at the slide deck, please visit the school website:

<https://www.hamiltonprimary.com/office/parents-forum>

Mr Greatorex and I are available on the infant playground most days if you would like to pop over and have a chat with us. We would love to see you.

## New Parent Governor!

I am very pleased to announce that a new Parent Governor has been elected today. We are very pleased that Mrs Emma Parbury will be joining us at our next meeting in July.

## E-Safety Nugget

You may wish to look at the Children's Commissioner website link on '[What I wish my parents or carers knew](#)'. This is a great guide on supporting your child in the digital world.

## Allergy Awareness

We are a 'no nuts/nut aware' school. This means that we do not allow any food on site that contains or may contain nuts. We have a number of children who have life threatening allergies to nuts and we ask that you check the ingredients of any food or snacks that you send your child to school with. We have seen an increase in chocolate spreads coming into school. These often contain nuts and we are unable to monitor every child's snacks and lunch items. Please also tell your child not to share their food with other children. We have some coeliacs in school and if they have products containing wheat, they become very unwell too. If you would like further information, please have a look at our Allergy Policy on the school website:

<https://www.hamiltonprimary.com/office/policies>

## Parking

There are concerns about parents/carers parking up very early and idling their engines and there are concerns about parents/carers parking illegally



and dangerously too. I have witnessed all of these taking place. We need to come together as a community to help each other out. Our main priority is the safety of the children. With illegal and dangerous parking, using our loading bay or parking on the zig zags, children are being put at risk. There is a simple solution to this. Please park and stride. If most parents/carers chose to park in the surrounding area, and walk in for 2-5mins, we would save a lot of worry. We have a map on the school website that details where you can park. [It is under our Travel Plan section.](#)

## The Big Future Survey

[The Big Future survey - have your say!](#) Please use this link with your child to take part in the latest survey from the Children's Commissioner. The commissioner wants to hear from children and young people aged 0–18 from every background, in every part of the country. The survey asks about the things they enjoy, the challenges they face, the changes they would like to see in their communities, and what they believe a good childhood should look like today.

Participation in The Big Future also provides schools with an opportunity to demonstrate their commitment to civic engagement. The findings will help inform national conversations and decision-making about children's lives and futures at the highest levels.

## Attendance

At this time of year we are noticing a number of families extending their holidays either side of a school closure period. Every day your child loses in school, puts them a little further behind. Please help us by not taking holidays during term time. Our records up to this point in the year show that 119 children have had an absence before or after a school holiday. This is over 25% of the school. I appreciate that holidays are expensive in the school breaks, but it is very hard for us to help your child if they are not in class.

Our Attendance Policy can be found on the school website:

<https://www.hamiltonprimary.com/office/policies>

**Our current attendance is 97%.** This is good, but we could do even better. If your child has below 90% attendance, they will be classed as being persistently absent. This is not good. It means your child is missing too much education. Please ensure your child attends school. If we have concerns about your child's attendance, we will be writing to you and offering you a meeting to discuss any support that you may need. Our attendance should be 97% or above. Please help us to help your child. Our leading attending year groups are Year 5 with 97.% attendance. Keep up the excellent work.

## Enterprise Day

On the morning of Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June Year 6 will be running their Enterprise Project which will consist of a number of stalls and activities. The stalls will cost 20p. We are asking that you provide your child with some change (ideally mostly 20p's) so that they can enjoy the games.

## School Dinners

From September the cost of the school dinners will be increasing to £2.66 per meal.

## Reception Gates

Please do not enter the school grounds in the morning until one of the Reception Team has opened the door for the children to enter.

## Hub

If your child is not attending the Hub, please make the Hub Team or Office aware. This includes if you collect your child after watching a Year Group Assembly or Play.

## Spotlight on Send – Sharing Good Practice

Over the past two weeks, there has been a focus on sharing good practice between local primary schools and nurseries. I visited a school SENCo to observe their environment and strategies for supporting sensory and regulation needs and we hosted a SENCo here to discuss 'One Planning' strategies. These meetings have been incredibly useful for sharing our own expertise. It's been an inspiring couple of weeks and I've started to think about some ideas that might work here!



## Multicultural Day

On Thursday we hosted a wonderful celebration of diversity at our Multicultural morning. So many children came to school dressed in their traditional dress and we had some fantastic volunteers hosting stalls to teach everyone about their cultures. A special thanks goes to all the parents who volunteered and the prefects from Philip Morant who did a wonderful job of educating our children about their different cultures. A final big shout out to Adhira, Hey, Georgia, Theo, Namusale and Alex L from Year 4 who also hosted stalls of their own, we are so proud of you, you did a great job!



## KS1 – Sports Morning

Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 would like to invite their parents/carers to their Sports Morning on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> July. It will take place on the Junior playground at 9:30am.

## KS2 – Sports Day

Sports Day for Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 will take place on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> July in the afternoon at Colchester Royal Grammar School Playing Field.

## Toys

Please DO NOT bring toys to school.

## Cricket Tournament

On a sweltering Wednesday at Colchester Cricket ground, Hamilton sent a team to take part in 'Dynamos Cricket', where they competed against four other schools in a round robin tournament.

It started very well with a convincing win against St Andrews school, which included a pair of wickets in an over from Zubair, another from Aaron and some great catching from Gabe. That was followed by a very close match against Lawford, where the team lost by a single run, despite heroics with the bat from Asher (who scored 14 runs in 3 balls) and wickets from Hey, Celine and Heili. Another convincing win against Boxted

included wickets for Milo, Abhinav and Vinny to set up a winner-takes-all final game against Great Totham. A tense game full of very accurate bowling ended in a narrow 52-44 defeat and the team walked away in bronze medal position.

The tournament was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone involved, who had a memorable day in the sunshine with lots of runs, wickets and catches to celebrate from the whole team.



## Pupil News

Congratulations to Isabelle Edwards (3AW) who gained first place prize in a trampoline competition last weekend.



## Year 6 Play

Year 6 would like to invite their parents/carers to their school play on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> July at 1.30pm in the afternoon and Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> July at 6pm in the evening.

## 11+ Selective Test

Please find attached information regarding the 11+ Selective Test which is on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> September.

Registration opens from 9am on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2026 until 5pm on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2026.

## CRGS Open Evening

Colchester Royal Grammar School are holding their annual 11+ Open Evening on 23<sup>rd</sup> June. Please see the attached a flyer.



## Calendar Dates

Summer Term 2026	
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> June 2026	Year 6 Enterprise morning for the whole school
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> June 2026	Year 1 to visit Jimmy's Farm
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> June 2026	<b>YEAR 3 only</b> - Non-Uniform day for PSA Summer Fair
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> June 2026	Non-Uniform Day for PSA Summer Fair <b>except for Year 3</b>
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> June 2026	Year 3 to visit Colchester Library
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> June, 3 <sup>rd</sup> & 10 <sup>th</sup> July 2026	Year 6 – Selling Ice Creams
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> July 2026	Whole School History Day
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July 2026	Year 6 – School Trip
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July 2026	Celebration Evening
Saturday 4 <sup>th</sup> July 2026	Summer Fayre
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> July 2026	KS1 (Reception, Year 1 & 2) Sports Morning on the KS2 playground at 9.30am
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> July 2026	KS2 (Years 3,4,5 & 6) Sports Day at Colchester Royal Grammar School Playing Field in the afternoon
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> July 2026	Year 6 Play to Parents in the afternoon
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> July 2026	Year 6 Play to Parents in the evening
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> July 2026	Non-Pupil Day
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> July to Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> August 2026	Summer Holidays

Autumn Term 2026	
Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> September 2026	Non-Pupil Day
Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September 2026	First Day of Term

### Email Information

If contacting the school via email, please use:

[parents@hamilton.essex.sch.uk](mailto:parents@hamilton.essex.sch.uk)