

## Summer Term 9 – 4<sup>th</sup> July 2022

### Quote of the week:

Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.

[Nelson Mandela](#)

### Sports for Schools

Further to last weeks newsletter detailing how much our children had raised for the Sports for Schools charity (£2,314), we are delighted to announce the our top three fundraisers and also how much each class managed to raise. Once again, well done children!



#### Top three fundraisers

Coby (Willow)	£145.00
George (Willow)	£120.00
Tristain (Maple)	£105.00

#### Raised per class

Elm	£308	
Hazel	£270	
Maple	£398.50	
<b>Willow</b>	<b>£706.50</b>	<b>Top Fund raiser</b>
Ash	£266	
Cherry	£310	
Oak	£25	
Elder	£121	
<b>Total</b>	<b>2405</b>	

The children were given their wristbands or posters on Thursday.

### Friday 1<sup>st</sup> July – Dengie Sports Day



Well done to all the children from our school who took part in the Dengie Sports day at Ormiston Rivers Academy on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> July. There were some excellent individual performances and a great team spirit. The children, ably supported by their parents, cheered on every competitor throughout the day. We are delighted to be back involved in competing against other schools and our team really established a great platform from which to build on in the future as they came in third place overall out of 5 schools. Our thanks to Miss Flint,

Mrs Smith, Mrs Plummer, Mrs Cummings and Mr Foreman who all supported this event. We also take this opportunity of thanking Mr Clay and everyone associated with Ormiston Rivers Academy for hosting such a well-organised event. We are already looking forward to returning next year and improving our medal haul!



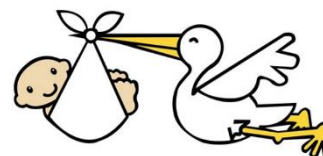


## School Sports Days 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> July

At this time of writing, we have now successfully completed both sports days here at Southminster. We were amazed by the terrific turn out from parents who provided wonderful support throughout both afternoons. Congratulations to everyone for their participation in both track and field events. Everyone contributed to the overall house championship with the red team of St Mark winning both events. Our thanks to everyone who made this happen with particular thanks to Miss Mills who organised these events.

## Congratulations

We are sure that you will join us in congratulating Mrs Cuthbert who will be expecting a new baby early in 2023!



## Mrs Griffiths

As the end of the academic year draws to a close, it is time to say goodbye to some members of staff. Firstly, we must announce Mrs Griffiths' decision to leave Southminster at the end of term. Mrs Griffiths first came to our school as a supply teacher, more than 4 years ago and has been a permanent member of our teaching team ever since. We would like to take this opportunity of thanking Mrs Griffiths for her dedicated service to our school. We wish her every success in the future and will always remember her for bringing her love of nature into the classroom with tadpoles and stick insects sharing the learning environment with her class! We will also remember Mrs Griffiths with affection as she inspired our running of the Mini London Marathon which we hope to keep as a school tradition.

## Mrs Tokgoz

It is also time to say farewell to Mrs Tokgoz who has recently accepted a new teaching opportunity much closer to home. We congratulate Mrs Tokgoz for her recent appointment and sincerely thank her for her work in supporting many of our children and their families throughout the school. Mrs Tokgoz was a supportive colleague who will be missed here at Southminster.

## New Academic Year

Whilst we have made several new appointments, we plan to make more appointments in the coming weeks. We welcome back Miss Flint from maternity leave together with our newly appointed members of staff including; Miss Mills (Reception), Mrs Hooper (Reception) and Mrs Mason (Year 5&6). Next year, due to growth, we will have 10 classes (please see below). Your children will meet their new classmates and teacher on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> to begin their transition. Please be reminded that our Year 6 children who will be attending Ormiston Rivers Academy, have their full day of transition also on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> July.

Class	Year Group	Building	Teacher
Elm	Reception	Orchard	Miss Mills
Hazel	Reception	Orchard	Mrs Hooper
Willow	Year 1&2	Orchard	Mrs Gentry
Maple	Year 1&2	Orchard	Miss Flint
Birch	Year 1&2	Orchard	Mrs Weller
Ash	Year 3&4	Meadows	TBC
Cherry	Year 3&4	Meadows	Miss Rogers
Elder	Year 5&6	Meadows	Mrs Cuthbert & Mrs Mason
Oak	Year 5&6	Meadows	Ms David
Cedar	Year 5&6	Meadows	Miss Mason

## Mixed-age classes

Last year, we wrote to you to explain that our PAN (published admission number) is 45 which leads to us grouping the children in mixed-age classes. As the school continues to fill up we will have 90 children in each phase in Key Stages 1&2. With 45 Year 1 children and 45 Year 2 children, we will have 90 children in Key Stage 1 for example. This equates to 3 classes of 30 children, meaning that we must have mixed-age classes. We could opt for 1 Year 1 class, 1 Year 2 class and one mixed-age class however this might send the wrong message to the children and their families in the mixed-age class, when comparing with the rest.

Therefore, we felt that it was better to have all 3 mixed-age classes enabling us to plan a 2 year curriculum cycle to ensure that our children always have new topics in each phase. There are pros and cons to both single and mixed-age classes however we have embraced the latter as we see the benefits, particularly as the children can experience being both the oldest and youngest class members as they move up through the school.

## Stars of the Week

Congratulations to everyone who has been chosen for shining so brightly in the past week. Mrs Cuthbert announced winners on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> June, as follows:



Attendance: Week ending 30.6.22	
Elm – Reception	88.71%
Hazel – Year 1 & Reception	94.40%
Willow – Year 1&2	96.12%
Maple – Year 1&2	95.26%
Ash – Year 3&4	86.69%
Cherry – Year 3&4	92.19%
Elder – Year 5&6	89.39%
Oak – Year 5&6	83.20%
<b>Whole School</b>	<b>90.75%</b>

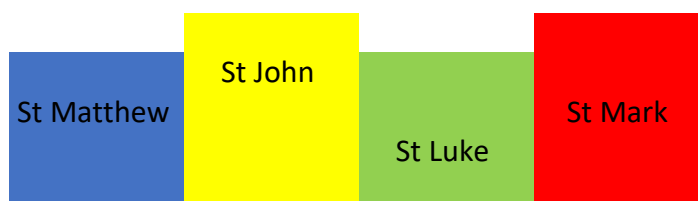
Class	Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> July	
Elm	Whole class	
Hazel	Ben	Storie
Willow	Scarlet	Alfie
Maple	Ivy	Luke
Ash	Charlie	Frankie
Cherry	Riley	Clarke
Elder	Abby	Eoin
Oak	Harley	Sonny

## Attendance

Whilst attendance continues to improve, we are still falling short of our expectations. We understand the difficulties that many of you have faced in recent months however the more that your child is in school, the better for them. Usually, we are aiming for a whole school attendance beyond 95%. Please be reminded that we will not be authorising any term-time holidays as it is an expectation that your children remain in school until the end of term on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> July.

## House Points this

term:



As last week  
we have decided to carry over the points to next week.

was a shorter week,

Week 06.6.22: **St Mark 112**, **St. Matthew 182**, **St. Luke 156**, **St. John 203**

Week 13.6.22: **St Mark 271**, **St. Matthew 266**, **St. Luke 239**, **St. John 279**

Week 20.6.22: **St Mark 241**, **St. Matthew 134**, **St. Luke 288**, **St. John 144**

Overall standings, from September 2021 to date:

**St. Mark 3,920**   **St. Matthew 4,199**   **St. Luke 4,324**   **St. John 3,960**

Dates for your diaries:

**Key dates for your diaries:**

- 6.07.22 – Yr. 6 Pentecostal service
- 7.07.22 – Yr. 6 Transition Day to Ormiston Academy
- 12.07.22 – ISINGPOP – for allocated KS2 children
- 21.07.22 – Dance festival (am), Jubilee Picnic (pm)
- 21.07.22 – Last day of term
- 22.07.22 – Start of summer holidays
- 05.09.22 – Start on new academic year

## Lunch menu for week commencing 4<sup>th</sup> July

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<b>OPTION 1</b>	Sausage (P)	Chinese Chicken	Roast Chicken	Chilli con Carne and Baked Tortilla Crisps or Jacket Potato with Chilli con Carne	Picnic Lunch day  Ham or Tuna Baguette
<b>OPTION 2 VEGETARIAN</b>	Sausage (V)	Chinese Meat-Free Strips (V)	Quorn Fillet (V)	Jacket Potato with cheese (V)	Cheese Baguette (V)
<b>On the Side</b>	Mashed Potato Peas and Sweetcorn	Noodles Green Beans	Roast Potato Carrots Broccoli Yorkshire Pudding Gravy	Wholegrain and White Rice Peas	Cucumber Sticks Carrot Sticks Crisp Fresh Fruit
<b>Lighter Bite</b>	Fish Finger Wrap  Mixed Salad	Tuna Salad Roll  Mixed Salad	Hot Roast Chicken in a Roll  Mixed Salad	Tuna Pasta Salad  Mixed Salad	
<b>Dessert</b>	Healthy Fruit Day	Victoria Sponge	Healthy Fruit Day	Jelly and Ice Cream	Fruit Ice Lolly

Key: (V) - Vegetarian (VE) - Vegan (P) - Processed (GF) - Gluten Free

## Lunch menu for week commencing 11<sup>th</sup> July

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<b>OPTION 1</b>	Cheese & Tomato Pizza (V)	Kickin' Chicken	All Day Breakfast (Chipolata, Bacon and Scrambled Egg) (P)	Pasta Bolognese	Fish Fillet
<b>OPTION 2 VEGETARIAN</b>	Jacket Potato with a choice of fillings	Meatballs in tomato sauce (V)	All Day Breakfast (Sausage (V) and Scrambled Egg)	Macaroni Cheese (V)	Quorn Dippers
<b>On the Side</b>	Coleslaw Sweetcorn	Couscous Green Beans	Hash Browns Baked Beans Mushrooms Tomatoes	Garlic Bread Broccoli	Chips Peas and Sweetcorn
<b>Lighter Bite</b>	Tuna Pasta Salad	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans	Hot Bacon Roll	Jacket Potato with Cheese and/or Bolognese	Egg Mayo Roll

	Mixed Salad	Mixed Salad	Mixed Salad	Mixed Salad	Mixed Salad
<b>Dessert</b>	Healthy Fruit Day	Chocolate Cake and Chocolate Custard	Healthy Fruit Day	Ice Cream	Scone, Jam and Cream

## Community News

### Online Safety

#### Online Safety Awareness - The 2 Johns

Parent session - 11 July 2022 7.30pm

[Zoom link to join.](#)

With the school summer holiday fast approaching, now is a good time to make sure that your child/ren are safe when using their computers, gaming or on their phones. We all like to think our children are sensible when using their devices, but hackers/perpetrators are very clever in their approach. I have noticed a big increase in our older children using TikTok and making TikTok videos and whilst they think these clips are harmless, there are people out there that would use this platform for negative purposes. Please take the time to read the content below and to click on the links provided. There is also an online safety awareness session that you can join on Zoom (see above for the link).

Thank you, Mrs Cummings

Online child exploitation is a growing issue, highlighted even more since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The internet and social media have become so important in our daily lives, as we socialise and work online. For children, the internet has become the new classroom and playground. Sadly, there are people out there that take advantage of this. The resources and information on this page aim to help you understand the way your children view the digital world. A world that, to them, is becoming more and more their reality.

The COVID-19 pandemic has changed the fight against exploitation. Did you know a child could be recruited to a gang from hundreds of miles away? More and more often young people are being groomed remotely to carry out 'jobs' in their community, for their exploiters who live on the other side of the country.

It is important to remember that the victim, the child, is NEVER to blame. Victims are always the victims. Online groomers can be very persuasive, and children should never be made to feel they did anything to encourage their exploitation. The best response an adult can provide a child who has been a victim of online exploitation is to comfort them, be supportive and help them address the issues they have encountered.

And of course, it's not just about when things go wrong. You can help your child to stay safe by creating an environment in which they feel able to speak openly about concerns they may have. You can do this by making good internet habits a part of your daily lives by limiting screen time, no devices at dinnertime/bedtime and by taking an active interest in the games they're playing. Take a listen to [this podcast by The 2 Johns](#) - a general overview of the internet, how we view it, and how our young people are growing up in a world of social media influences.

How have exploitation methods changed/become more hidden?

- Girls report finding it easier to travel around the county as they are challenged less than boys.
- Possible increased use of taxis/private hire vehicles by children being exploited.



- More happening at private addresses and unused business premises.
- Social media has replaced face to face interaction. Young people are craving to connect with others and unfortunately, this can lead to grooming.

With thanks to everyone involved in creating resources for this campaign.

## Parents of young children and pre-schoolers

You don't need to talk to your pre-schooler about online safety yet, right? Wrong. If you treat online safety just as you would treat road safety, then talking about safe internet use becomes the norm and not something that they feel needs to be hidden as they get older. So, if they are worried about something they have seen online they can feel confident in talking to an adult about their concerns.

## Parents of pre-teens

Did you Know... the number of children exploited online doubles between the ages of 11 and 12 years old? This means those at the end of primary school, about to enter secondary school are particularly at risk, especially as it's a time when some children begin to enter the world of social media. The brain development they're going through at this age makes it hard for them to make decisions or plan. They get an increased drive for risk taking and trying out new things. They're super sensitive to social status and so they start craving peer approval.

## Online Gaming

Did You Know...the security settings of off game chats are often not as good as those built into the game. Discord is a chat forum used by a lot of gamers and it's important to be aware that strangers can contact your child especially on public or large servers and send inappropriate, mean, or sexual content. [Find out more about Discord](#) and how to keep your child safe.

Perpetrators are increasingly targeting children and young people via online gaming sites, pretending to be someone who they are not. This can often lead to bullying, grooming and sexual exploitation. [The Breck Foundation](#) is a self-funding charity, raising awareness of playing safe whilst using the internet. CEOP's Thinkuknow has launched [Band Runner](#), an interactive game for 8–10-year-olds to help build their knowledge, confidence and skills to stay safe from risks they might encounter online. The game is hosted on the area for 8–10-year-olds on the Thinkuknow website. [Internet Matters - Online Gaming \(The Basics\)](#)

## Sending nudes

There is no 'usual' stereotype, any young person could send a nude pic. Even your child. Make sure they understand that it is illegal to send nudes, even of themselves. And if it happens, try to understand whether there is peer pressure or grooming involved. Taking, making, sharing, and possessing indecent images and pseudo-photographs (an image made by computer-graphics, which appears to be a photograph) of people under 18 is illegal. It doesn't matter how old they look, looking at indecent images of under 18s is illegal.

[This podcast by The 2 Johns](#) looks at why and how young people are drawn into taking and sharing inappropriate images. They discuss how both parents and young people may be feeling and how to have an empathetic conversation with your child, as well as practical advice on getting photos removed.

[Childline's Zipit app](#), uses humour to help teenagers deal with unwanted requests for sexual images of themselves. The free app offers young people a gallery of images and animations which they can send in response to requests for sexual pictures and to deal with difficult sexting situations.

[Sexting advice for parents](#) - how to have those important conversations with children

## Online Bullying

Did You Know... just under half of those being investigated for exploiting others online are children and most are the same age as the victim. If you're worried your child might have been a victim there's more information on how to get help on our [bullying page](#).

Our [online bullying podcast](#) looks at the pressure from social media and the impact this has on young people. The 2 Johns talk about how parents can create a relationship with their child that encourages them to tell them about these issues and the support available.

## All About Apps

With children spending more and more time online over the last few months, there has been an explosion in popularity of certain apps and games. TikTok has soared in popularity in recent months, with many celebrities getting involved with dances and challenges. If your child is using the app, make sure you know the risks involved and how to change privacy settings to private. [NSPCC's Net Aware](#) has lots of information on how to make your child's social media secure and a detailed description of the most popular apps, sites and games. [This printable guide](#) from The Children's Society also has a list of the most popular sites and apps.

## Conversation Starters

"What's your favourite game? Can I play?"

"Can you show me your favourite TikTok dance/YouTube video?"

"Have you got online friends? How do you know who they are?"

Showing an interest in your child's online life will help them feel they are able to come to you with any concerns they may have.

[NSPCC - Talking about online safety](#)

[Safer Internet - Talking about online safety](#)

## Parental controls and security settings

Parents and carers should be ensuring the settings of the apps and online games that their children use are set to private, with location settings turned off, to restrict the ways in which they could potentially be targeted by perpetrators. Many apps are public facing automatically and have to be manually set to 'private'. You can use parental controls to help you block or filter the content your child sees when searching online. Parental controls are also available to help you to:

- plan what time of day your child can go online and how long for
- stop them from downloading apps they're too young for
- manage the content different members of the family can see

It's important to bear in mind that children and young people can potentially have access to the internet anywhere, not just at home. There are wifi hotspots, internet cafes, friend's house and of course mobile data is available 24/7. So, whilst parental controls are useful, the most important thing you can do is have an open and inquisitive relationships with your child about their online interests.

## Bags of Taste



For any of our parents/carers who are in receipt of Free School Meals – please see the advert below. This is a scheme being funded by the Maldon Livewell Fund and they are looking for families on low incomes who would benefit from receiving a FREE bag of ingredients for three delicious low-cost meals. The aim of the scheme is to change peoples' mindset about cooking good wholesome meals for less than £1 a portion. If you would like me to put your names forward to join the scheme, please give me a call.

Here is a link to the website  
[www.bagssoftaste.org](http://www.bagssoftaste.org)

Mrs Cummings  
Wellbeing  
Mentor

## Need to save money on food bills? You can cook great food for 50p a portion!



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CHANNA MASALA



MIDDLE EASTERN PILAF

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Email: [maldon@bagssoftaste.org](mailto:maldon@bagssoftaste.org)

\*free course and ingredients for qualifying participants only

As featured in:

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delicious. magazine

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To book, please visit link  
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There is a £50 non-refundable booking fee



  
Essex County Council

**Think outside the car this summer**



**SAFER  
GREENER  
HEALTHIER**

Walk, cycle or scoot,  
especially for shorter journeys

## Southminster Summer Tennis Camps

# Summer Tennis Camps

### Camp 1

25, 26, 28, 29 July  
9.30-12.00 each day  
Age guide 5-10 yrs

### Camp 2

25, 26, 28, 29 July  
12.30-3pm each day  
Age guide 10-15 yrs

### Camp 3

8, 9, 11, 12 August  
9.30-12.00 each day  
Age guide 5-10 yrs

### Camp 4

8, 9, 11, 12 August  
12.30-3pm each day  
Age guide 10-15 yrs



**Cost: £60  
per camp**

**Contact:  
Mark Cain  
markacain@live.com  
07741 083192  
Southminster Tennis Club**