



St Ursula's Catholic Primary School

HEADTEACHER'S NEWSLETTER

#16

19.5.23

Dear Parents & Carers,

At St Ursula's we recognise the importance of wider experiences such as educational visits and visitors to the school. As part of our long-term curriculum planning, our pupils have been attending school trips and welcoming visitors to run workshops over the past few weeks. These experiences are all linked to topics currently being taught in the classroom and our pupils have absolutely loved taking part in them!

Reception – Gruffalo trail at Thorndon Park

Our Reception children went into the deep dark woods at Thorndon Park on Friday in search of the Gruffalo! Whilst searching for the Gruffalo they practised 'Squirrel' hand stands.



Year 1 - Eastbrook Country Park

Our Year 1 children had a wonderful time exploring Eastbrookend Country Park. They were developing their knowledge of plants and wildflowers and the lifecycle of a plant as part of their Science curriculum. They took part in lots of fun activities including hunting for wildflowers, making smelly cocktails and a mini-beast hunt.

Year 5 - Globe Theatre

Our Year 5 have been studying Macbeth this half term and have thoroughly enjoyed the text. To further immerse them into the work of Shakespeare they visited the Globe Theatre in London. Whilst there, they were given a tour of the Globe and took part in a practical and interactive Macbeth workshop. This workshop included a range of activities and games designed to draw out elements of the Macbeth's characters and themes.



Year 2 – Eastbury Manor

On Monday our Year 2 visited Eastbury Manor to discover more about the Kings and Queens of the past. Eastbury Manor was built during the reign of Elizabeth I, so the children learned all about what life was like at the time and how it compares to life now. The children had a great day learning about this piece of local history.



Year 3 – History off the page – Ancient Greece

Our Year 3 have been exploring the world of Ancient Greece as part of their Creative Learning Curriculum. History Off the Page were invited into our school to provide an immersive and practical History workshop which gave our children a feeling of what it was like to be a Greek in ancient times. Our pupils experienced life as it would have been during the 5th Century BC in Athens.

Year 3 & 4 Road Safety Workshop

Our Year 3 & Year 4 welcomed the Road Safety Education Theatre presentation of 'Captain Callie and the Adventures of Bola'. This engaging theatre presentation used puppetry to deliver pedestrian safety messages and enabled our pupils to learn how to stay safe around busy roads.

There are plenty more trips and workshops planned for Summer Term 2, including Year 3's trip to the Verulamium Museum, Year 5's trip to Metro Bank, Year 2's Trip to Colchester Zoo and Year 6's residential trip to Danbury. We will also be welcoming the local Fire Service in to speak with our Reception children and Police Constable Edwards will be visiting our Year 6 to discuss online safety. Why are we planning so many trip and visits? These trips enrich the curriculum we are teaching at St Ursula's and these experiences are proven to help develop students' self-esteem, self-confidence, and self-belief.

Attendance

TOP FIVE

1	St Catherine's & St Matthew's	99.58%
2	St Edmund's	99.16%
3	St Martin's	98.75%
4	St John's	98.33%
5	St Teresa's	97.84%

SUMMER TERM 1 DATES

- 24th May – Year 2 Library visit
- 24th May—Year 4 Brazil Day
- 25th May—Class Photos
- 25th May—Nearly New clothes shop

SCHOOL TRIP VOLUNTEERS—SIGN UP!

We are looking for parent/carer volunteers to accompany our staff and children on school trips that will take place across the academic year.

If you decide to volunteer, you would likely be responsible for a small group of children but will be supported by school staff.

Please only sign up to volunteer if you are regularly available during the day. If you are interested in volunteering, or want to know more, please contact Mrs Homes in the School Office.

SCHOOL FETE & PTA MEETING

Thank you to all our parents and carers who attended the Coffee Morning today.

We are extremely excited about our Summer Fete and appreciate the support you are providing.

5 WEEKS TO GO!

Mr Ashburn

GET EXPLORING IN THE MAY HALF TERM

Having seen the fun our children have had out in the wild, we want to encourage parents and carers to continue this outside of school. Across Havering there are walking trails based on the children's books written by Julia Donaldson. Please see more information below:

STICK MAN TRAIL @ SOUTH WEALD



Children can explore the trail and help Stick Man find his way back to the family tree. While following the trail route, children can take part in activities based on the book and learn about the importance of the natural environment. In the story, Stick Man has many adventures in his journey to return home to his family tree. This trail provides families with challenging yet imaginative play.

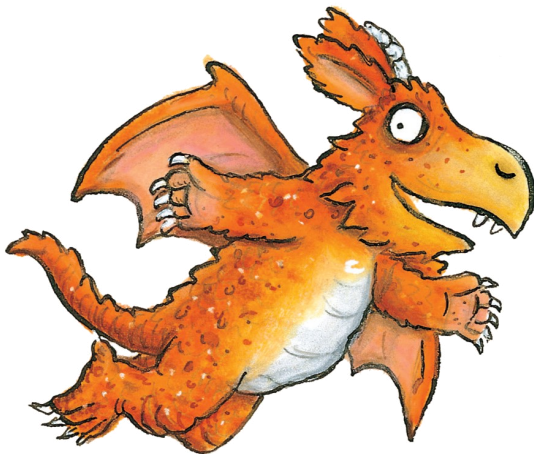
The trail is approximately 2km in length and consists of a number of climbing frames, slides, swings, Stick Man's family tree and a giant swan's nest. **Weald Road, South Weald, Essex, CM14 5QS**

The Gruffalo Trail @ Thorndon Park

Children can discover the magic of the deep dark wood with this self-led trail searching for the amazing hand crafted carvings of the Gruffalo characters. Based around the popular Gruffalo story, this fun family trail will make memories that will last a lifetime. The trail helps children understand our native woodland and see it as a welcoming place. The Gruffalo Trail takes about 45 minutes. Get a map at the Countryside Centre in Thorndon North for a small charge. **The Avenue, BRENTWOOD, Essex, CM13 3RE**



Zog Trail @ Thames Chase



Connecting with nature is essential for children's wellbeing and the new interactive family trail and app invites children to play in the nation's forests. Whilst playing, children will find out more about forests and have the chance to interact with Zog and some of his fellow dragon students!

Grab a Zog trail activity pack from the Thames Chase Forest Visitor Centre for only £4 before starting the trail for lots of fun things to do on your forest adventure. Children can channel their inner Zog by donning a pair of wings and completing fun challenges to collect golden stars. They can also pop on the magic glasses to look for hidden letters along the way to solve a word puzzle.

When reaching the end of the trail, they complete a crayon rubbing to get their certificate and take a selfie with Zog! To complement the trail and to take your dragon training to the next level, there is also a brand new augmented

reality app, 'Zog: A Forest Adventure', that is free to download. The app has lots of bonus activities to complete including a roar-ometer, a dance challenge and the chance to become Zog. **Broadfields Farm, Pike Ln, Upminster RM14 3NS**



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SUMMER FETE

**Saturday 24th June
2023
11.00am – 3.30pm**



FREE ENTRY

Inflatables | Arts and Crafts Stalls | Refreshments & Hot Food | DJ & Karaoke | Games and Fun | Raffles | Face Painting | Dance & Music performances | Much much more!



**St Ursula's Catholic Primary School
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