



Dear Parents / Carers,

As I reflect on my first year as Headteacher at Mayespark I am very proud of what we have achieved together. From keeping the children as safe as possible through a continuing pandemic, to a successful consultation on our RHSE curriculum and policies. I really appreciate your support in making our school the best it can be and ensuring all children are inspired to achieve their best.

It is fantastic to see so much great work from children in all year groups and I am enjoying celebrating this on our school Facebook page. Please make sure you have a look so you can see the range of work the children are doing. Hopefully you have used our new website and are finding it easy to get to the information you need. If you have any feedback on this or anything else, please do get in touch. We love to hear your views, both the positive and the constructive!

We are very much looking forward to the Christmas nativity and being able to invite one parent per child to see the performance in person. Thank you for your understanding on this matter. We will keep a close eye on the cases and only have a live audience if we feel it is safe to do so.

We have had relatively low numbers of Covid cases this year so far compared to other schools and I am really hoping this continues. We have a thorough risk assessment which is regularly updated according to government guidance and is shared with school governors and all staff. Please continue testing if you or your child has any symptoms. Home testing twice a week with a lateral flow device is also very helpful as this is the only way to pick up on asymptomatic cases and ensure we are all as safe as possible. If you have not yet taken advantage of the vaccinations on offer please do consider this as it has been shown to reduce the severity of illness as well as the likelihood of spreading the virus to others.

Once again, thank you for your continued support, please note that all clubs will finish after 10th December (except coding and robotics) and I hope to see you soon.

Kind regards,

Ms E Davies



Congratulations Sana!



A huge congratulations to Sana who has recently participated in an Essex Badminton Tournament.

Sana won a gold medal in the Girls' Singles - Primary Years

It's so wonderful to hear about our children's achievements outside of school. If you have recently accomplished anything, please let us know!

WHAT'S INSIDE?

- What's new?
- Our award-winning garden
- Reading Records



WHAT'S NEW?

Over the past few months many people have been working hard constructing our new website and we are very pleased to announce that this has now been launched. There is a lot of useful information regarding how parents / carers can support children at home, including videos. You can find this section under the learning tab. There is also now a webpage for every subject!

If you have not had a chance yet, please do take a look and let us know what you think!

[Mayespark Primary School](http://www.mayesparkprimaryschool.co.uk)



Performance is so important in building children's confidence and oracy skills. We are therefore excited about our recent investment in a new pair of stage curtains for the upstairs hall! As we work hard to establish a strong culture of performance across our school, we look forward to these being used for many years to come!

We are now running regular coffee mornings for parents and carers of children in Nursery and Reception. Each coffee morning has a different focus such as developing fine motor skills or encouraging reading at home. There is even an area for toddlers to play! We encourage all EYFS parents to come - it's a wonderful opportunity to find out how to support your child at home and also to get to know other parents too!





BEST SCHOOL GARDEN

We are so proud to announce that we have been awarded the title of 'Best School Garden 2021' by The London Children's Flower Society.

This charitable organisation runs various competitions throughout the year for which they receive many entries from all over London. It was founded in 1945 and gives children the opportunity to learn about horticulture. A group of children, Mrs Prince and our site supervisor, Billy, attended the annual awards ceremony. They were presented a trophy by Alan Titchmarsh! For those of you who don't know, Billy takes great care of our garden and is always thinking of ways to develop it. Throughout the year, many children assist him by helping to plant seeds and bulbs, harvest fruit and vegetables and with the general upkeep of the garden. If you have never seen our wonderful garden, please feel free to ask him for a tour!





DIARY DATES



- 3rd Coffee Morning for Nursery Parents
- 6th Reindeer Run (throughout the week)
- 7th Height & Weight Checks Yr R & Yr 6
- 7th Christmas production for Harrison & Tagore - 2:15pm
- 8th Christmas production for Hughes & Kerr - 2:15pm
- 8th Jemison to visit local Mandir
- 9th Christmas production for Jeffers & Grey - 2:15pm
- 9th Sharman to visit local Mandir
- 10th Coffee Morning for Nursery Parents
- 15th Yr 5 visit to the theatre
- 16th Christmas dinner day
- 17th Christmas jumper day and parties
- 17th Children break up for Christmas



- 4th INSET day (school closed to children)
- 5th Children return to school
- 6th Yr 6 pizza making with ISS
- 6th Jeffers and Harrison to the panto
- 7th Hughes to the panto
- 14th Coffee Morning for Reception Parents
- 14th Individual / Sibling photos
- 19th Yr 5 Anglo-Saxon workshop
- 21st Yr 3 Stone Age Day
- 21st Coffee Morning for Nursery Parents
- 27th Holocaust Memorial Day



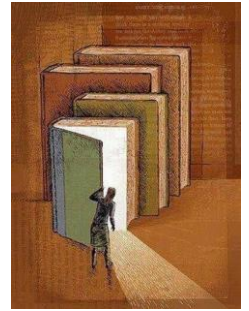
- 4th Coffee Morning for Reception Parents
- 8th Parents' Evening
- 10th Parents' Evening
- 25th Coffee Morning for Nursery parents

Please note that all dates are subject to change. You can keep up to date on all diary dates via the school website or MySchoolApp. If you need help downloading this, please see the school office for help.



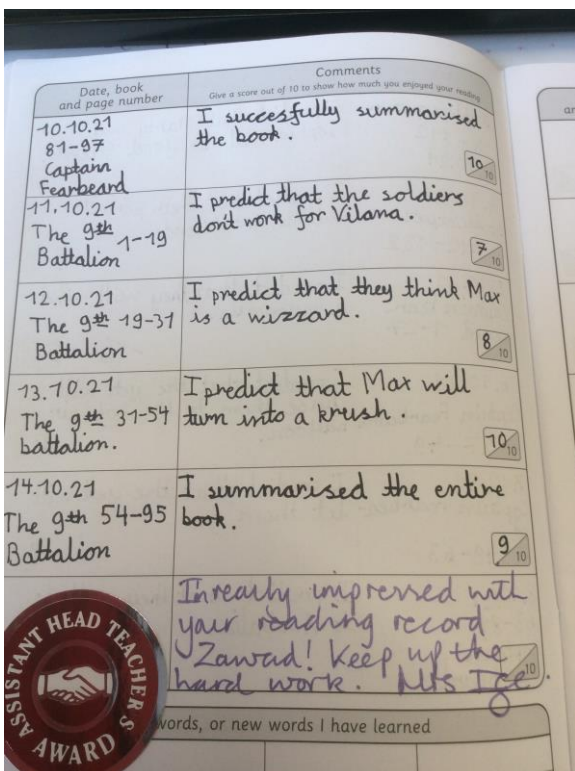
READING

“Making sure that children become engaged with reading is one of the most important ways to make a difference to their life chances.”
 Department for Education

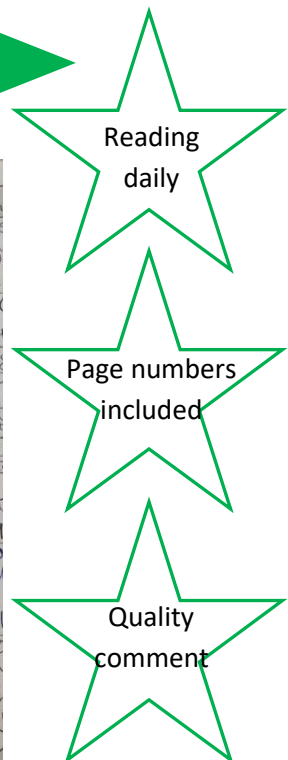
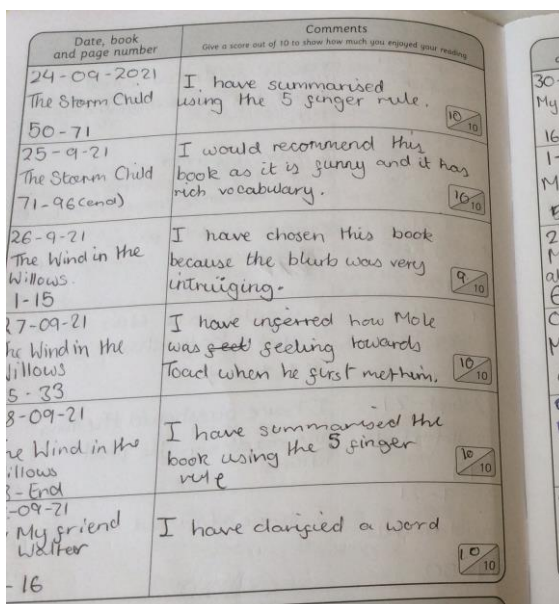


At Mayespark, we want every child to develop a love of reading and become life-long readers, this is a top priority for us. One way in which we encourage reading is by asking every child to read at home at least six times a week. Every child at Mayespark, from Nursery to Year 6, is given a reading record. These are closely monitored by class teachers and members of the senior leadership team. The following outlines how we ask parents and children to use reading records.

	EYFS, Year 1&2	Year 3&4	Year 5&6
Signing your child's reading record	Sign and date your child's reading record each day they read their school banded book , noting the pages numbers read.	Sign and date your child's reading record each day they read their school banded book , noting the page numbers read.	Children sign and date their reading record each day they read their school banded book , noting the page numbers read. Parents are asked to sign weekly.



Here are some examples of wonderful reading records.

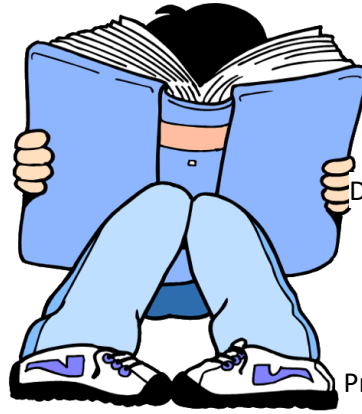




OTHER NEWS & REMINDERS



Please note that bar 'Coding and Robotics Club', all after school clubs will end on the week beginning 6th December.



Reading Competition

Don't forget to complete your book review sheets and post them in one of the post boxes around the school!

Prizes will be given out by Miss Carroll just before Christmas!

Mobile Phones

Year 5 and Year 6 children who walk home alone may bring in a mobile phone to school. Please note that this must be turned off and put away when on school grounds, otherwise it might be confiscated!



Thank you

Educational visit to France October 2022

We are now taking bookings for children currently in Year 5!

Secondhand Uniform Sale

14th & 15th December

3pm

If you require items before this time, please contact the school office



Reindeer Run

During the week beginning 6th December we are raising money for King George & Queen's Hospitals Charity by participating in their Reindeer Run!

The event will consist of children running around the playground wearing their reindeer ears and collecting sponsorship money. All proceeds will support the charity's campaign to provide Christmas presents to all the children in wards across both hospitals during the Christmas period.



Attendance

Please remember that any non-urgent medical appointments need to be taken outside of the school day.

