



The Drake News

19TH APRIL 2026

Where a World of Opportunity Awaits

Radio Drake



Everyday a pupil from Year 1 broadcasts a weather report on Radio Drake (tune-in on the hour between 10 and 5 to listen live). Charlie did an exceptional job announcing, and new producers Eloise, Petra, Francesca and Olive expertly took care of the recording, editing and broadcasting.

Follow the link to listen -

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1CoGcofIjIA7ptzVr5kD13iP6jsjze0Le/view?usp=sharing>

Every Day Matters



It is a statutory requirement for children to attend school every day.

This week's winners are...

Malala with 98.3%

Hadid Class Explore Roman Britain at Colchester Castle

It was really fun and the best bit was holding the Roman shield - Archie

I liked it when we looked into the well, deep under the castle - Berwin

I liked the bit where we got to see all the Roman armour and weapons, like the sword and the spear - Eleanor

I liked going underneath the castle into the vaults - Lyla and Molly



It was so fun seeing all the caves underground and I really enjoyed it! - Eilidh

Hadid Class had a fantastic Roman-themed day during their visit to Colchester Castle, the site of Boudica's Rebellion. They enjoyed learning how Colchester changed from an Iron Age settlement into a prosperous Roman town. The children worked brilliantly together to build their own model Roman villa and loved exploring the museum galleries to discover what life was like in Roman Britain. One of the highlights of the day was travelling back 2,000 years as they ventured down into the Roman vaults beneath the castle for an exciting story tour!

Reception Writers on the Case: Who Left the Clues?

I think it's a Triceratops!

I think it is a Gruffalo!



I think it is a rhino!

I think it is a unicorn!

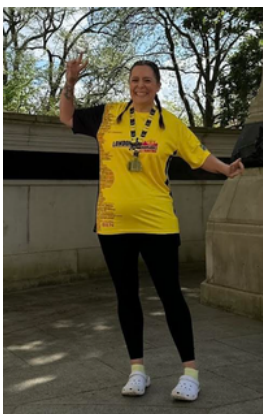
We have had an exciting start to the term in Reception! After some wonderfully focused learning, the children headed out for a walk to stretch their legs - and what an adventure it turned into...

Along the way, they discovered: purple prickles, orange eyes, white tusks... and even some green warts! Something mysterious had definitely been wandering around our school!

The children became brilliant detectives, recording their predictions in their books. We heard all sorts of imaginative theories!

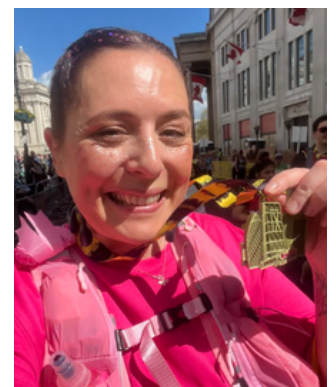


The excitement didn't stop there - today we discovered a letter in the classroom, revealing who left the clues - it really was the Gruffalo - and he wanted us to learn his story!



A huge well done to Miss Driver who ran the London Landmarks half marathon in the Easter holiday. She raised over £850 for the Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital NHS Trust and Anaphylaxis UK!

Miss Driver would like to pass on her huge thanks!



Bringing the Creation Story to Life: Year 2's Active RE



This week Year 2 enjoyed their first Active RE session. We had a great time learning about the creation story from Genesis in the Bible, bringing the story to life with lots of high-energy games.

We can't wait for next week!



Congratulations to Mrs Atterbury!



A huge congratulations to Miss Render, who got married over the Easter break and is now Mrs Atterbury. We wish her every happiness for the future.

Thunberg Class Celebrate Our New Value: Courage

This week, we introduced our new school value: Courage. Thunberg Class explored what courage really means and how we can show bravery in our everyday lives.



The children began by using word mats to create their own acrostic poems about courage, thinking carefully about the qualities that make someone brave. They then reflected on moments when they have needed to be courageous, whether trying something new, speaking up, or facing a challenge. They recorded these ideas in their very own courage jars.

Parent Workshops

English through Story Sacks
(Reception) Tuesdays 1.15-3.15pm
21.4, 28.4, 5.5, 12.5

ESOL Support – Life in the UK (all year groups)
Tuesdays 9-11am 9.6, 16.6,
23.6, 30.6

'I wasn't taught like that' Maths (Year 1 & 2)
Tuesdays 1.15-3.15pm 9.6, 16.6,
23.6, 30.6

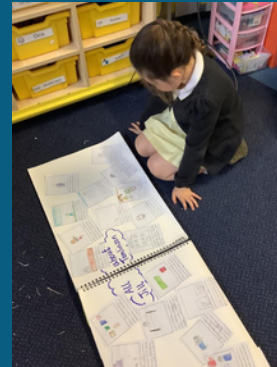
Children join you for the last 30 minutes. Please email the office if you would like a place.

Dates for Diary



- 15.4 – Year 3 Hadid Class Colchester Castle trip
- 22.4 – Year 3 Kamkwamba Class Colchester Castle trip
- 5.5 – Year 1 Banham Zoo trip
- 11–14.5 – Year 6 SATs (breakfast available 8:10–8:35)
- 13.5 – Year 5 London Science Museum trip
- 20.5 – Class photos
- 22.5 – Sports Day (KS2 AM, KS1 & Reception PM)
- 12.6 – Reception South Angle Farm trip
- 29.6–3.7 – Year 6 France trip

Year 2 Celebrate Reading for Pleasure at Drake



This week, Year 2 have been truly embracing the joy of reading. Mrs Frazer captured some wonderful moments of the children completely absorbed in books in lots of different ways. Some enjoyed sharing stories with friends, others found a cosy spot on the floor, and some preferred reading quietly on their own.



At Drake, we have been focusing on reading for pleasure – helping children discover that reading isn't just something we do, it's something we can love.



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