



STEM WEEK

We are planning to have a **STEM** week (science, technology, engineering & maths) within school the week beginning **29th January 2024**. This is an opportunity for children to explore the fascinating role that science, technology, engineering & maths play in the world around us. The children will enjoy a range of STEM themed lessons with their teachers.

During our STEM week we would also like to showcase a number of STEM careers. If you work in any of these career areas (science, technology, engineering & maths) and would be happy to share your career journey with groups of students then please get in contact with Mrs A. Sampson; the science coordinator, or Mrs C. Crompton; Headteacher, through the school office.

Hopefully you could inspire some children to follow in your footsteps into a STEM career.

Numbers Day

As part of the Essex Year of Maths we have signed up to take part in the NSPCC Number Day, on Friday **2nd February 2024**. This exciting opportunity not only means the children will enjoy lots of fun maths learning and activities on the day but also raise money for the NSPCC. We would like to invite the children to come to school,



‘Dressed up for Digits’

and to make a donation that will go to the NSPCC to help fund all the hardwork they do in helping children.

The children simply wear an item of clothing with a number on it. This can be a favourite sports top or cap, or even a onesie. Or why not get more creative and design a unique t-shirt, hat or even become a human-sized calculator or dice! It's up to you.

Please could children bring in their donation to the class where it will be collected and used to help children learn about money and how to count money accurately.

UPCOMING DATES:

Week beg: 29th January—STEM week

Tuesday 6th February—Safer Internet Day

12th February—Epilepsy Awareness

Friday 16th February—INSET day school closed

Half term 19th-23rd February

Headteachers Coffee

Morning

Tuesday 23rd January 2.30pm

Reading & Phonics with Mrs Quinn & Ms Billings

Tues 6th Feb 2.30pm —Safer internet

Tues 26th March 9am —Maths with Mrs Taylor

PTA Dates

Friday 26th January DISCO!!!!

15.20 - 16.15 - Donaldson, Rosen & Dahl

16.30 - 17.30 - Blyton, Rowling & Morpurgo

17.45 - 18.45 - Carroll, Lewis & Shakespeare

Thursday 29th February—Parent Quiz night

CLUBS

We are very happy that our Spring clubs have started with 18 clubs;

Monday—Keyboard, Film Yr5/6,

Tuesday -Drawing, Computing, Quiz, Film Yr3/4, Hockey, Film KS1

Wednesday—Mindfulness, Lego Construction, Drama, Boys Football

Thursday—Board Games, Netball, Lego Wedu, Gardening

Friday - STEM, Girls Football.

Over 300 children are registered on the clubs, if your child wants to join a club, let the office know and they can add your child to the waiting list or offer them a place.

Thaxted's Got talent

Our end of Autumn term Talent show was a grand success, we are incredibly proud of all the children who were brave enough to share their talents to the whole school.

The overall winner was Tyler Motteram, with his Morris Dancing!



Donation corner

Board Games Club would love any old complete games that would be suitable for children to play. We especially would like chess sets to start a club after Easter.



Gardening club would love any packets of seeds or bulbs, the children want to grow vegetables.

Please leave any donation at the office.

New Governors

We recently asked if any parents are interested in being a Governor. A few parents found out more information by talking to some Governors at the Carol service and Nativity. If you are interested please contact Mrs Crompton as soon as possible, so Governors can hold parent Governor elections or invite anyone interested to the upcoming meeting as an observer.

PTA Corner

We are delighted that our Christmas Fayre and raffle raised £2225 - we are so grateful for everyone who donated prizes, gave their time, made donations and came and supported our event. We hope the children enjoyed themselves. The Christmas card designs raised over £400 for the school and this, along with the Christmas Fayre/raffle monies will go towards the new storage cupboards and resources in the Early Years outdoor area. The movie night in November raised about £800 too! We are looking forward to our next events - our January Disco on Friday 26th and our Leap Year quiz for parents on February 29th.

If you'd like to join the PTA or have any ideas for other events we could run, please contact us via friendsofthaxted@gmail.com.

As part of the Essex Year of maths we have managed to secure some free parent maths training aimed at increasing confidence and knowledge to support your children in their maths learning.

Marvellous and Meaningful Maths



Free Multiply maths courses for parents/carers of children aged 0 to 11

Multiply courses are free and fully funded by Essex County Council as part of the Government Multiply Maths programme.

All courses are delivered by experienced teachers; face to face in school over three 2 hour sessions (9am to 11am)

There are **3 courses available in school for up to 10 parents**. All courses will focus on number and place value. The dates are:

EYFS (Donaldson & Reception Rosen only) - 15th, 22nd and 29th April

Key Stage 1 (Dahl, Blyton, Rosen Yr1) - 31st January, 7th and 14th February

Key Stage 2 (Rowling, Morpurgo, Carroll, Lewis, Shakespeare) - 16th, 23rd and 30th April

Parents who miss a session are sent a recording of the live online webinar to watch and catch up.

On completion, parents receive a certificate of attendance, handout packs and supporting resources to use with their children at home.

If you are interested in this exciting training opportunity please complete the google form via this link

<https://forms.gle/VZqurZcqRX1XusGC6>

Mrs Taylor

Maths subject lead.

**TiEGr is an NCFE/CACHE approved training provider specialising in education qualifications in the early years, primary and adult education sectors. TiEGr has delivered Multiply Maths courses to parents in schools, nurseries, toddler and community groups in Essex since January 2023 training over 300 parents and carers to date.*

Community Cook Club – What It Is

Uttlesford Foodbank Community Cook Club offers a range of programmes which focus on different options for simple, everyday cooking. Topics covered can include Slow Cooker Recipes; One Pot Meals; Cost Effective Meals For One or Two; Speedy Suppers, and more.

Each club runs over a 4-6 week period and the members of the group meet for one hour once a week. During the session we share and discuss the planned recipe. Group members are provided with a recipe card and the ingredients to take away and use at home.

For most clubs, we provide select new cooking equipment, which participants in the programme may choose to keep.

February 2024 – Pam's Place, Thaxted – Slow Cooker Cook Club

In February 2024 we will begin a six week programme focused on slow cooker family meals. If they don't already have one, participants will be gifted a large slow cooker in Week 1, which they may keep. Over six sessions, we will share the recipes and ingredients for six different family meals. Each meal will offer 5-6 adult-sized portions, and the recipe card will include top tips for making the most of leftovers.

Participants are invited to join us each week for free refreshments and to meet with other club members. Partners and children are very welcome to come along too.

The Slow Cooker Recipes will include Beef Ragu Shells, Chicken Fajitas, Chicken Pasta Bake and more.

Our Club will run at Pam's Place, Vicarage Mead, Thaxted, CM6 2RL.

Dates/times:

- Thursday 8 February – 10.00am-11.00am
- Thursday 15 February - 10.00am-11.00am
- Thursday 22 February – HALF TERM BREAK – no Cook Club
- Thursday 29 February - 10.00am-11.00am
- Thursday 7 March - 10.00am-11.00am
- Thursday 14 March - 10.00am-11.00am
- Thursday 21 March - 10.00am-11.00am

To find out more and book your free place, please contact:

Des Ashton desashton@uttlesford.foodbank.org.uk