Little Thurrock Primary School Newsletter

Self-help Solidarity Democracy Equality Equity Self-responsibility

Friday 18th March 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for taking time to complete the parent survey. Here is the link again. https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScjcecg6jm854qSz3XzS71O3FyamH-jtjneVAd5LG77EOTMhw/viewform?usp=sf_link Please complete the survey by **Wednesday 23rd March**. Ideally, I would like you to complete a separate survey per child.

As you are aware, I met with the Parent Ambassadors earlier in the week. We discussed numerous topics including homework, parent's evenings, Junior Governors, communication, phonics, PE, transitions with new teachers, staffing, school dinners, the LTSA (which is our school PTA), gender neutral toilets and the mixing of classes for September 2022. Most topics are brought to the meetings by your representatives. At this stage we have no plans to introduce gender neutral toilets to years 1-6. This will be something we next discuss with the pupils. As a result of the meeting, we will be moving to sharing homework on a Friday and the deadline to complete the work will be a following Friday. I am in the process of developing a homework policy as well as a communication's policy, which will be shared with you once approved by the Governing Body.

I had the pleasure of meeting with our new Wellbeing Ambassadors this week. They had lots of fantastic ideas with regards to how they would like to develop their role. The Wellbeing Ambassadors will be introducing themselves to the children during assembly on Monday.

Just a little reminder, if you wish to attend the virtual parents' coffee drop in, to email the admin email by no later than Wednesday 23rd. The drop-in takes place on Thursday 24th at 9.15am.

The three designs and quotes have arrived for the EYFS area. We will share with you our chosen design over the coming weeks.

This weekend sees the final of the 6 Nations, which means we will be pulling the draw next week. We look forward to finding out who wins our fantastic prize package.

Have a lovely weekend.
Mrs McHugh.

Contact details
Telephone: 01375 373586
Email: a.mail.ltp@osborne.coop
Website: littlethurrock.thurrock.sch.uk

Friday Celebration Assembly

We celebrate a number of achievements in school, which you will find via Class Dojo. Here you will find out more about the learning that has taken place in the classroom this week. Also, look out for the Shining Moment for each child.

Here are our Golden Achievers in each class. Well done to everyone this week.

RED	Deividas
RJO	Charlie
RMS	Owen
1AS	Ellie N
1SM	Caleb
1JW	Ivy
2PK	Ava-Rose
2RAK	Teddy
2LP	Paula
3LB	Lexi
3CW	Jack E
3SW	Penelope
4HM	Ralph
4KF	Hooria
4DA	Reece
5FN	Hareem
5KK	Poppy
5AP	Isra
6SH	Carla
6EP	Jade
6AL	Ella J

Upcoming events and dates.
(Please note the dates are subject to change)

Tuesday 22nd March	Year 1 Phonics Screening Test workshop to parents
Thursday 24th March	Virtual Parents coffee drop -in
Friday 25th March	LTSA Mother's Day Secret Room
Friday 25th March	Wear a Hat Day in aid of Brain Tumour Research
Thursday 21st April	Year 3 Road Safety Walks
Friday 22nd April	Year 5 Road Safety Walks
Monday 23rd May	The Two Johns workshops for pupils and parents
Thursday 26th May	LTSA Jubilee Celebration – LTSA Inflatables Event – details to follow
Monday June 6th/7th/8th	Year 6 Stubbers trip
Friday 17th June	LTSA Father's Day Secret Room – details to follow
W/C 20th June	Multi-Cultural Week Sports Week – details to follow

Attendance award - Extra Playtime

Well done to the following classes who have won the **extra playtime** this week for the highest attendance.

EYFS - RMS - 92.2%

KS1 - 2RAK - 94.1%

Lower KS2 - 4KF - 95.8%

Upper KS2 - 6EP - 95.8%

Wear a Hat Day

We will supporting the very worthwhile charity for Brain Tumour Research on

Friday 25th March

We ask all children to **wear a hat of their choice with their school uniform**. Donations will be collected on the gate. Thank you in advance.

Football and Trading cards in school

We ask that children do NOT bring in any form of Football or trading cards.

Thank you.

Parking

We have received communication from the local residents who have been unable to access their own driveways and preventing them to access their homes.

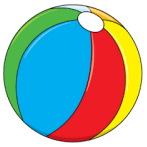
Please can we ask you all to be considerate when parking.

Thank you.

Ball Games on School Grounds

Please can you remind all children **not** play ball games **before or after school** on the school site.

Thank you.



Junior Governor Update

This week, the Junior Governors met to discuss the impact of traffic on our world as a whole, but particularly on the streets outside our school. The children were asked to conduct a survey within their class to gather information on how the children usually come to school and, if they had the choice, how they would prefer to come to school. I will also be sending out a questionnaire to you, the parents, asking for any ideas you may have to ease congestion outside our school.

National Online Safety

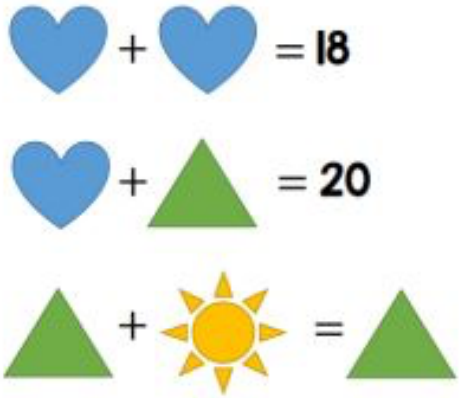
We have previously shared with you information about the National Online Safety website. They have a free app available to download. We would recommend you do so as it will help keep you up to date with how to keep your children safe online.

Please find a link to more information.

https://info.nationalonlinesafety.com/mobile-app

KS1 Problem of the Week

1 Work out the value of each symbol.



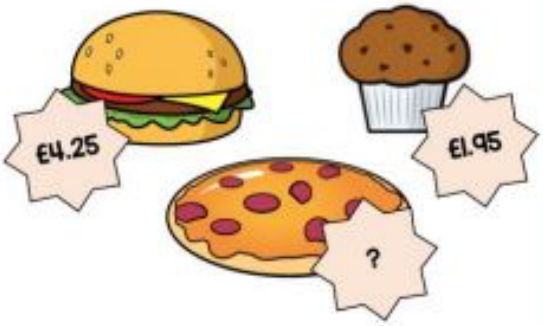
2 This money

is shared between 4 children.

How much does each child get?

KS2 Problem of the Week

1 Leo has €25
He buys the following items.



He has €12.50 left.

How much does the pizza cost?

2 Alysha and Beth go on a bike ride.

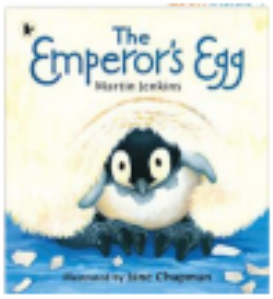
- In the morning Alysha cycles 3 times as many km as Beth.
- In the afternoon Alysha cycles 14 km and Beth cycles 48 km.
- They have now cycled the same distance.

How many km did Alysha cycle in the morning?

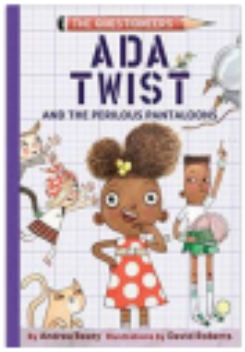
Recommended Reads

Our recommended reads this week have a science theme as we have been celebrating 'National Science Week', in school. I very much hope that you manage to read one of these informative and delightful. books.

Mrs McDonagh.



Nursery and Reception: An award-winning picture book about the Emperor penguin's parenting.
The Emperor penguin is the only large animal to remain on the Antarctic mainland throughout its bitterly inhospitable winter. Once the female has laid her egg, she heads back to the sea, leaving the male to incubate it. He then spends two months standing on the freezing cold ice with the egg on his feet! This is his story



Years 1 and 2: Science in a narrative – fabulous characters, an excellent focus within an amusing story. Ada Twist is full of questions. A scientist to her very core, Ada asks why again and again. One question always leads to another until she's off on a journey of discovery! When Rosie Revere's Uncle Ned gets a little carried away wearing his famous helium pantaloons, it's up to Ada and friends to chase him down.

Years 3 and 4:
A stylishly illustrated non-fiction book about the search for life on Mars, told from the unique perspective of NASA's Mars Rover, Curiosity. Discover the incredible story of the search for life on Mars, told from the unique perspective of Curiosity, the Mars Rover sent to explore the red planet. Markus Motum's stylish illustrations and diagrams reveal how a robot travelled 350,000,000 miles to explore a planet where no human has ever been.

Years 5 and 6: It's one giant leap for all boy-kind in Frank Cottrell Boyce's out-of-this-world story: *Cosmic*.
Liam is too big for his boots. And his football strip. And his school blazer. But being super-sized height-wise has its advantages: he's the only eleven-year-old to ever ride the G-force-defying Cosmic rollercoaster – or to be offered the chance to drive a Porsche. Long-legged Liam makes a giant leap for boy-kind by competing with a group of adults for the chance to go into space. Is Liam the best boy for the job? Sometimes being big isn't all about being a grown-up.

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SUPPORTING CHILDREN TO DEAL WITH UPSETTING CONTENT

A Guide for Parents and Carers

Raising children in the digital age seems to be getting tougher, with the world currently experiencing so many uncertainties. From the continuing impact of COVID-19 to the war in Ukraine, right now children across the globe can scarcely go online without being exposed to unsettling stories, images and ideas. Reassuring a concerned child can be difficult, especially when bad news feels omnipresent. We've put together some advice to help you in discussing upsetting events with young ones.

1 FIND OUT WHAT YOUR CHILD KNOWS

There are many ways that children are exposed to upsetting content in the media, both online and offline. Before swamping your child with information, find out what they know already. Show them you're interested in what they have to say, practice active listening and try to gauge how much your child has been impacted by what they have seen.

2 RIGHT TIME, RIGHT PLACE

Starting a conversation about upsetting content probably isn't the best idea when your child is studying for an exam or about to go to bed. Choose a time when they're relaxed and open to talking, to make sure you have their full attention. Remember, these conversations can become emotional, so choose somewhere your child feels safe and comfortable.

3 KEEP IT AGE APPROPRIATE

With younger children, try and keep the conversation more general and avoid leading questions and complex detail. You can go slightly deeper into the specifics with young teenagers but keep monitoring their emotional response. With older teens, you can be more open about the realities and consequences of what is happening – but again, do stay aware of their emotional state.

4 EMPHASISE HOPE

Upsetting content can make us feel angry, scared, Upsetting content can make anyone feel angry, scared, sad or overwhelmed. Try to find stories of hope, generosity and strength related to the content you're discussing. Children often feel reassured when they know they can do something to help, so encourage your child's sense of control through activities which make them feel they're positively impacting the events they're concerned about.

5 MONITOR REACTIONS

All children react differently, of course, and young people might not directly say that they're scared, angry, anxious, confused or uncomfortable. Emotional reactions are natural when discussing upsetting topics, so take note of your child's body language and reactions. Allow them to express their feelings in a non-judgmental space and try to stay mindful of how they might be feeling.

6 CONSIDER YOUR EMOTIONS

It's not only young people who find upsetting news difficult to process: adults also have to deal with strong emotions in moments of stress. Children develop coping strategies by mirroring those around them, so staying ontop of how you appear to be regulating your emotion on the outside is important for supporting your child through worrying times.

7 SET LIMITS

Managing screentime and content can be difficult at the best of times, but especially in unusual or stressful periods (at the start of the pandemic, for example). It's virtually impossible to keep children away from upsetting content completely, but it's important to try and at least limit exposure by using parental controls, talking about the dangers of harmful content and enforcing screentime limits.

8 TAKE THINGS SLOWLY

Try not to overwhelm your child with information all at once: instead, take the discussion one step at a time. You could make the first conversation a simple introduction to a potentially upsetting subject and then wait until your child is ready to talk again. Opening the door to the conversation and demonstrating that your child can talk to you about this type of issue is a vital first step.

9 ENCOURAGE QUESTIONS

Online, troubling images, posts, videos and stories are shared across multiple platforms, many of which your child might access. Even if the content is actually inappropriate, encourage your child to discuss what they saw instead of being angry at them for seeing it. Children are still learning that not everything online is accurate – you want to be their ultimate source of information, not their device.

10 FIND A BALANCE

There's often a tremendous compulsion to stay right up to date with events. Our phones frequently send us push notifications urging us to read the latest article or view the most recent video on social media. It's essential to remind your child that it's healthy to take regular breaks, and to focus on positive events instead of 'doomscrolling' and risking becoming overwhelmed by bad news.

11 BUILD RESILIENCE

News has never been more accessible. While our instinct may be to shield children from upsetting stories, it's important that they're equipped with the tools to manage this content when they are exposed to it. Talk about upsetting content more generally with your child and emphasise that they can always tell you or a trusted adult if something they see makes them feel uneasy.

12 IDENTIFY HELP

It's hugely important that children know where to find support if they encounter upsetting content online. Encourage them to open up to an adult that they trust, and make sure they're aware of who their trusted adults are. It is essential that children understand that they're not alone, and that help is available if and when they need it.

Little Thurrock Primary School

Forest School update

This week in Forest Schools at Grangewaters, the children discovered how to use a saw horse and saw. They used the tools to make medallion necklaces from pieces of log. Next, they whittled some sticks to add to the forest decorations and to use for toasting marshmallows. Before returning to school, the children thoroughly enjoyed playing a range of games including, Tin Can Tommy, Predator and Tug of War, which became very competitive between the boys and girls. We look forward to a third session at Forest School after Easter.

We completed the challenge of 12 children in a tree".

"We made smores".

"I liked it when we sat around the fire together".

"We learnt to be brave".

Little Thurrock School Association
www.littlethurrock.thurrock.sch.uk

Mother's Day Secret's Room
Friday 25th March

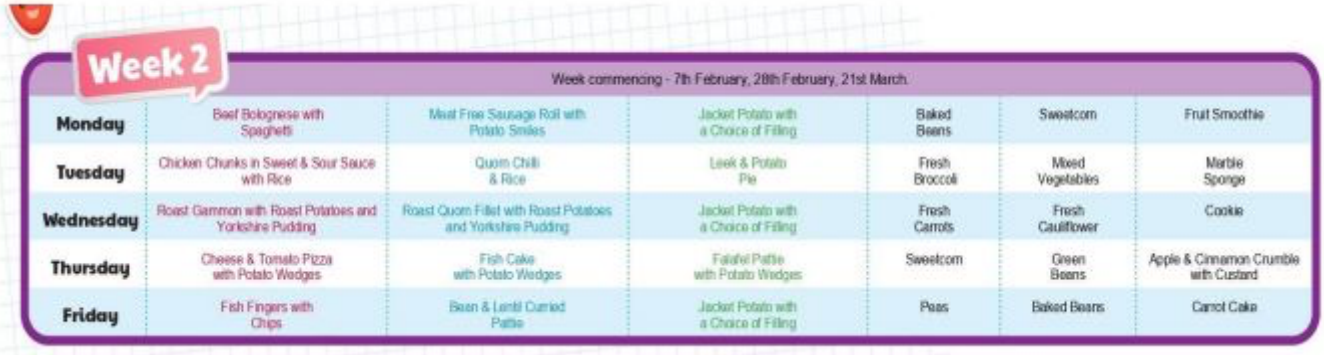
The LTSA are pleased to confirm that our Mother's Day Secret Room will return this year on Friday 25th March.

Children will have the opportunity to buy a present for that special Lady in their lives, whether it be Mum, Grandma, Nan, Auntie or anyone else that deserves to receive a special gift to say how much they are thought of.

- All gifts will cost £3.50
- All gifts must be purchased **in advance online**
- Online sales start on **Friday 25th February**
- Online sales will close on **Monday 21st March**
- **Gifts cannot be bought after 21st March and no cash will be accepted on the day**
- Children whose parents have paid online in advance will be taken to the hall to choose their gift during school hours on Friday 25th March

To buy gifts please go to:
www.pta-events.co.uk/ltsa
and click on Mother's Day Secret Room

WB 21st March 2022 School Dinner Menu



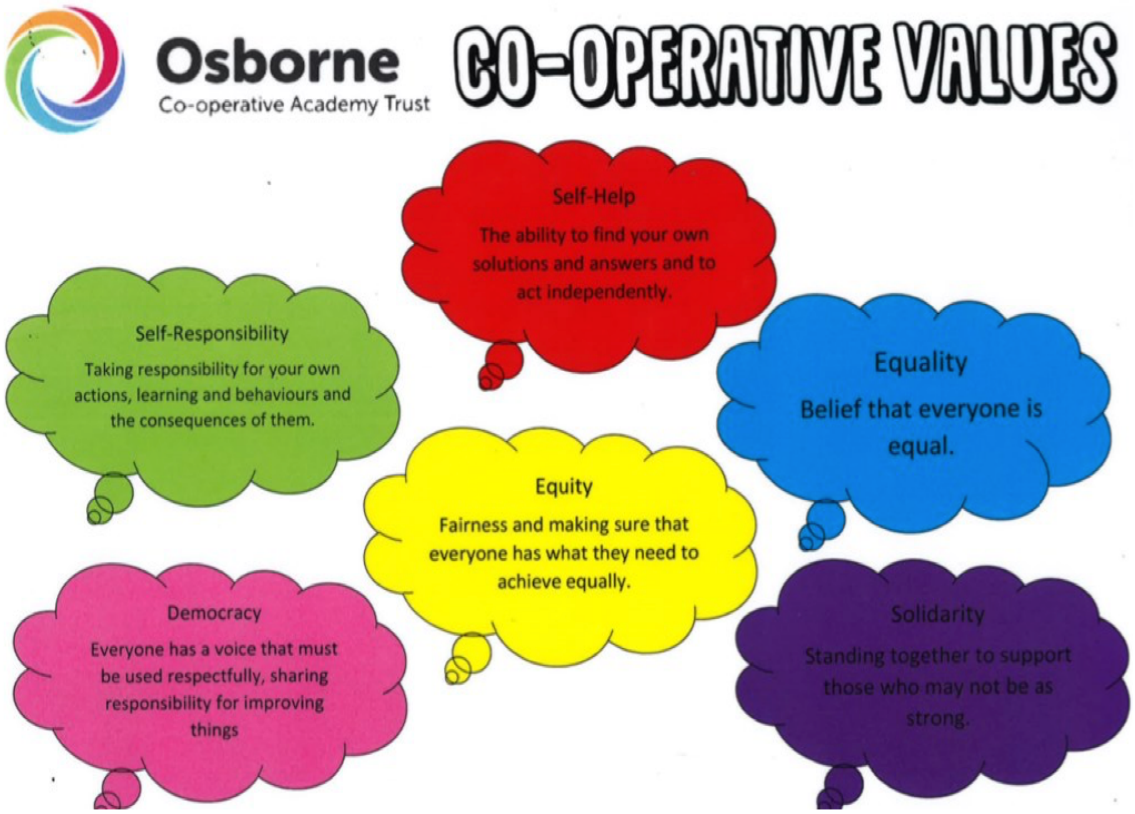
Week 2

Week commencing - 7th February, 28th February, 21st March

Monday	Beef Bolognese with Spaghetti	Meat Free Sausage Roll with Potato Smiles	Jacket Potato with a Choice of Filling	Baked Beans	Sweetcorn	Fruit Smoothie
Tuesday	Chicken Chunks in Sweet & Sour Sauce with Rice	Quorn Chilli & Rice	Leek & Potato Pie	Fresh Broccoli	Mixed Vegetables	Marble Sponge
Wednesday	Roast Gammon with Roast Potatoes and Yorkshire Pudding	Roast Quorn Fillet with Roast Potatoes and Yorkshire Pudding	Jacket Potato with a Choice of Filling	Fresh Carrots	Fresh Cauliflower	Cookie
Thursday	Cheese & Tomato Pizza with Potato Wedges	Fish Cake with Potato Wedges	Falafel Pattie with Potato Wedges	Sweetcorn	Green Beans	Apple & Cinnamon Crumble with Custard
Friday	Fish Fingers with Chips	Bean & Lentil Curried Pattie	Jacket Potato with a Choice of Filling	Peas	Baked Beans	Carrot Cake

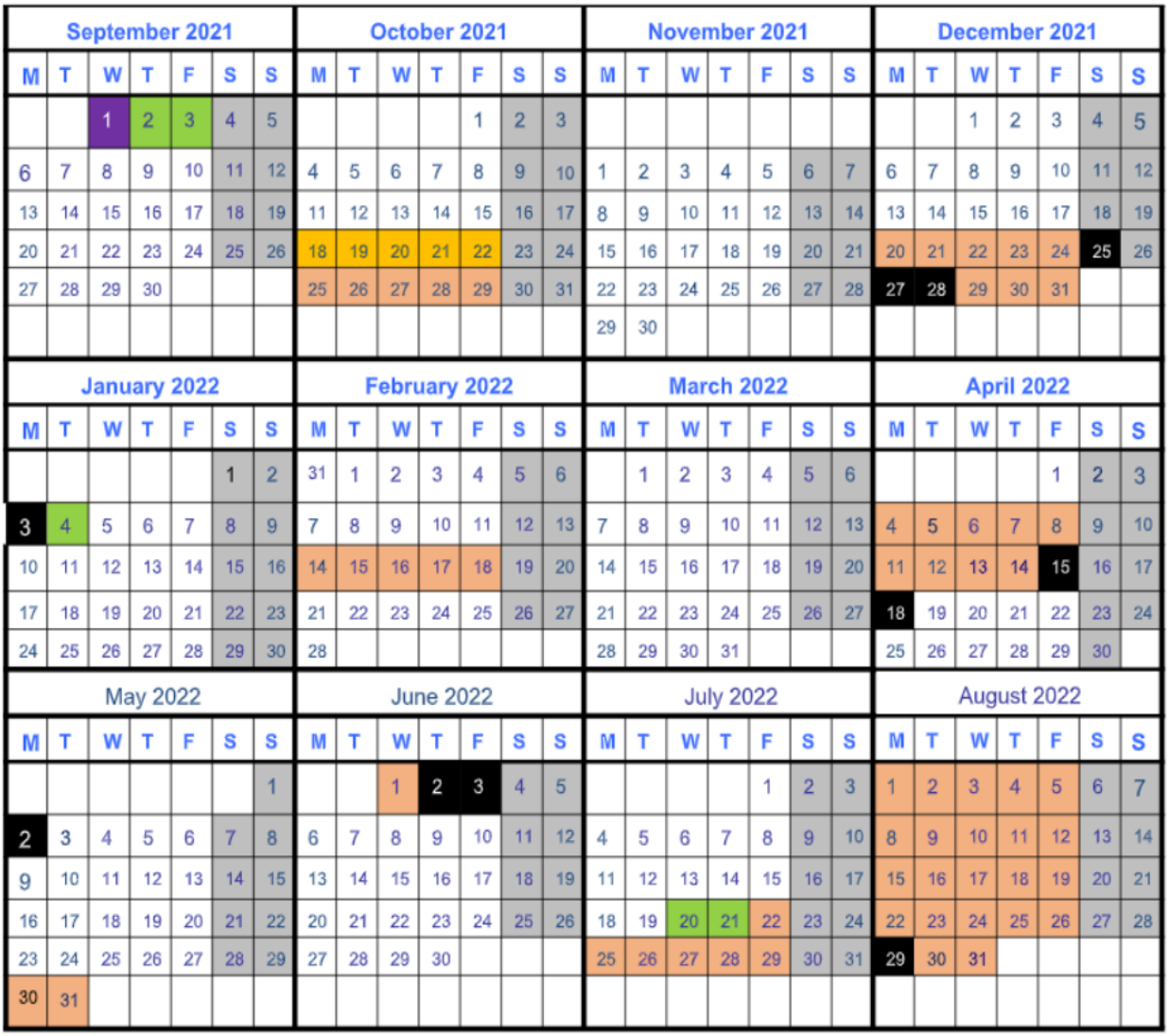
Osborne Co-Operative Values

Children learn about how the past has impacted the present and will successfully shape their future



	School Holiday
	Bank Holiday
	Additional week, autumn half term (Thurrock schools only)
	Inset days, schools closed to students
	Trust conference, schools closed to students

Revised 2021-2022 SCHOOL TERM DATES
(with changes due to the Queen's Platinum Jubilee)



Academic Year Dates for 2022/2023

	School Holiday
	Bank Holiday
	Additional Autumn Half Term (currently Thurrock schools only)
	Inset days, schools closed to students (20th/21st July payback for Twilight sessions)
	Proposed Trust Conference, schools closed to students

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July 2023						
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August 2023						
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