

Stanway Primary School

Weekly Bulletin



ISSUE 1

MONDAY, 8TH SEPTEMBER 2025

Diary Dates

Mon

8.9.25

Tues

9.9.25

Rocksteady (9:00am)

Diary Dates

Wed

10.9.25

Thurs

11.9.25

Fri

12.9.25

Rocksteady (8:30am)

Looking Ahead

Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 16th September

Meet the Teacher

(15:30 - 17:00)

PTA Annual General Meeting

(17:00)

Thursday 18th September

3 Wilson Forest School

Thursday 25th September

3 Wilson Forest School

Letters Home

Stanway Secondary Open Evening - Year 6 Parents via Email 5.9.25

Mobile Phones - Year 5 & 6 Parents via Email 5.9.25

School Meals - All Parents via Email 4.9.25

Welcome Back - All Parents via Email 2.9.25

Wake Up Wednesday Guide - All Parents via Arbor In App 1.9.25

Messages



Follow us on [Facebook](#)

We will be holding our annual **Meet the Teacher sessions** on Tuesday, 16th September from 3.30-5pm. The sessions are run in the classrooms and give an overview of the curriculum, timetable, home learning and behavioural expectations for the year. There are three twenty minute sessions which are repeated, giving you a chance to visit different classrooms, if you have more than one child. The sessions will run 3.30-3.50pm, 4-4.20pm and 4.30-4.50pm. This will also allow some time for any questions! Please enter by the Office Entrance at 3.30pm for this event.

Mrs. Mallows is also leading a **Phonics Workshop** for Early Years Parents on this day which will run from 2.30-3pm in Hendra class. Please enter the school by the Office Entrance and then children can be collected as usual at the end of the day from the EYFS entrance.


The **PTA Annual General Meeting** will be held at 5pm in the KS2 Nurture Room after the Meet the Teacher Sessions. Please come along and support our lovely PTA who are very keen to welcome new members and have planned some exciting events for the Autumn term! This will be a short meeting to elect new officials and make people aware of how the PTA operates.

Attendance

Well done to 2 Dahl who had the best attendance last week at 100 %!

The winners of the Attendance Bears are 2 Dahl, 4 Zephaniah and 5 Shakespeare.

<u>Class</u>	<u>Attendance % Present</u>
R Hendra	95.2%
R Rosen	98.3%
1 Blake	98.8%
1 Donaldson	95.5%
2 Bond	96.6%
2 Dahl	100.0%
3 Morpurgo	93.6%
3 Wilson	94.4%
4 Jackson	90.3%
4 Zephaniah	95.6%
5 Rauf	90.6%
5 Shakespeare	95.9%
6 Rowling	90.3%
6 Tolkien	95.3%



STANWAY PRIMARY SCHOOL PTA AGM

16 September 2025

5pm—5.15pm

The PTA

The Parent Teacher Association is an integral part of the school community. It raises thousands of pounds which is spent on your children's learning and development during their time at Stanway Primary School.

YOUR PTA Committee

Our Annual General Meeting (AGM) is being held on 16 September 2025 at 5pm. This meeting provides an opportunity for all parents to come along and hear more about the work of the PTA, the events we run, the funds we have raised and how the money has been spent.

Whilst the PTA is responsible for the organisation of events, we couldn't do anything without the support of parents who volunteer some time to helping the committee.

THE AGM

Every year the trustees have to be elected in or re-elected at the AGM. The PTA currently have four trustees, Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer and Secretary.

Should you wish to become a trustee on the committee, find out more or would just like to support the PTA do come along to the AGM alternatively if you would like some more information you can email pta@stanway-pri.essex.sch.uk or drop by on 16th we will be around from 4.30.

This year I will be stepping down in my role of chair due to increasing work commitments so a new chair will need to be voted in. I would personally like to thank all trustees past and present for all their support and hard work, the teachers, the parents and external volunteers that I have had the pleasure of meeting and working with during my years as Chair.

All parents of children at the school are members of the association.



Chair

What's the main purpose of the role?

To direct the committee's meetings, make sure everyone is involved and their views are heard. The Chair should ensure all committee members are familiar with the constitution and their roles and responsibilities. The PTA Chair also holds the casting vote if the outcome is tied.

And the responsibilities?

- Preparing and setting the agenda for meetings
- Setting the ground rules for - as well as chairing - meetings
- Delegating tasks to other committee members and volunteers, checking they're completed and offering support where needed
- Liaising with the school
- Ensuring the committee is governed in line with their constitution
- Ensuring any decisions are made correctly and fit the objectives of the association as set out in the constitution
- Writing the Chair's report for the AGM

The Chair may also be a signatory on the PTA bank account

What qualities does a good Chair usually have?

- Confidence - with the ability to inspire and guide others
- Assertiveness - able to manage meetings
- The ability to remain impartial and be inclusive
- A calm, friendly and approachable manner
- Organisational skills - able to manage multiple projects
- The ability to delegate - so the workload is shared - and tasks are completed



The Treasurer

What's the main purpose of the role?

To ensure accurate financial records are kept and that best practice procedures are followed when counting money, making payments and banking. The Treasurer should keep your committee updated with regular reports and ensure end-of-year reports are completed for the association's AGM. If your PTA is a registered charity, they will also be required to coordinate the Charity Commission's annual return.

And the responsibilities?

- These vary from committee to committee but generally they include:
- Keeping accurate and up-to-date financial records
- Presenting financial updates at each committee meeting
- Managing the PTA bank account and holding the association cheque book/debit card
- Monitoring and managing online payment platforms
- Preparing floats
- Ensuring best practice procedures are followed for counting and banking money, making payments and claiming expenses by all committee members
- Making any approved payments on the committee's behalf
- Preparing the annual Treasurer's report for the AGM and arranging an independent examination of the association's accounts
- Completing the relevant Charity Commission's annual return if your PTA is registered as a charity

What qualities does a good Treasurer usually have?

- Knowledge of finances
- Organised
- Attentive to detail
- Able to meet deadlines
- A good understanding of spreadsheets or accountancy software



The Secretary

What's the main purpose of the role?

Supporting the PTA committee to build effective communication links between the school and the association. They also maintain accurate records.

And the responsibilities?

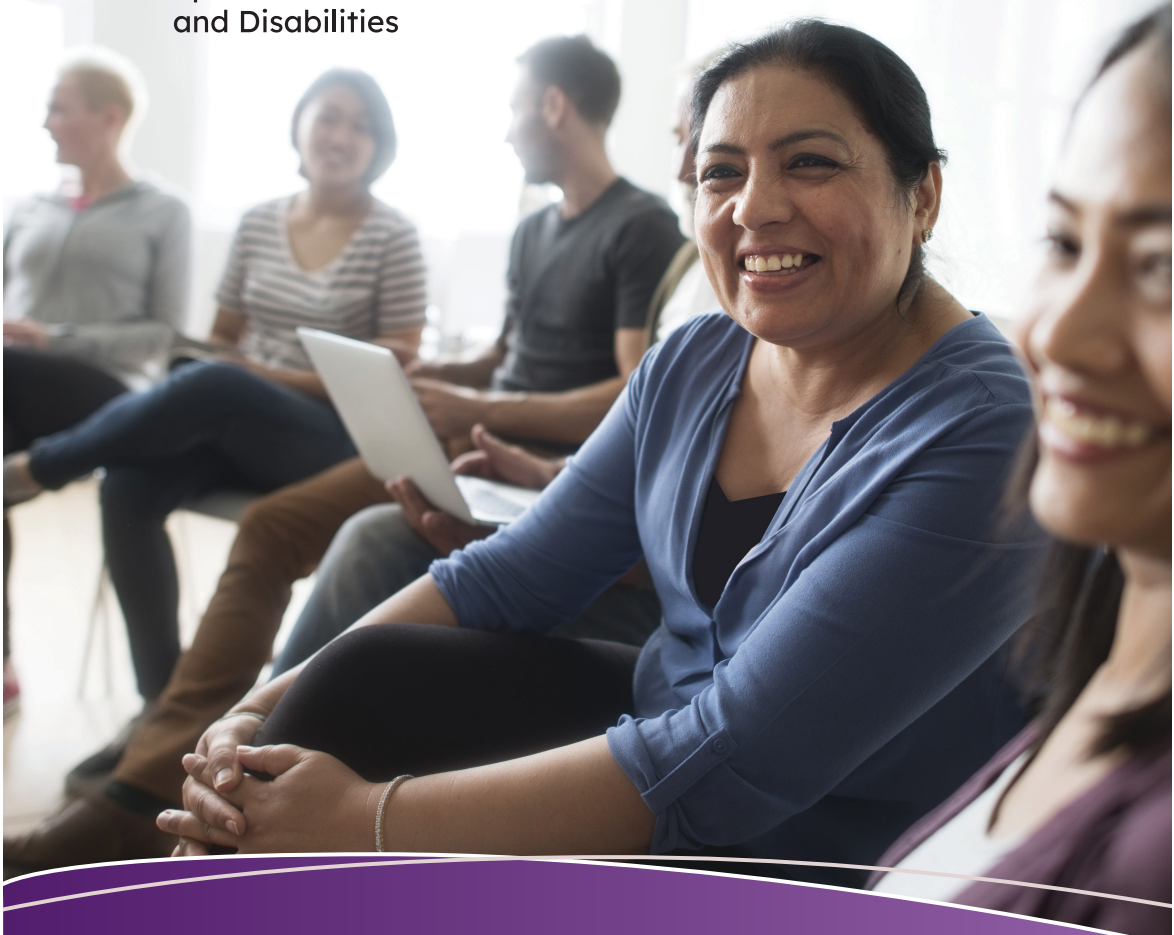
- Preparing for meetings (with the PTA Chair)
- Taking minutes at meetings, recording attendance, action points, decisions and proposals
- Circulating approved minutes, along with a reminder of any actions agreed
- Maintaining association records
- Making sure the association is GDPR-compliant
- Updating trustee details with relevant charity commission (as appropriate)
- May be a signatory on the PTA bank account (along with at least one other committee member)
- Handling the association's correspondence

What qualities does a good Secretary have?

- Organised and efficient - keeps accurate records in a format that can easily be handed over to a successor
- Good listener - able to identify key discussion points, actions, and agreements at meetings to accurately record in minutes
- Calm, friendly, and approachable - able to communicate confidently with the school and the committee members



Essex County Council
Special Educational Needs
and Disabilities



Good Beginnings

Course

A course for parents and carers of autistic children, or those with social communication needs, in reception and younger.



Essex County Council
Special Educational Needs
and Disabilities

The course covers:

- understanding autism
- communication
- play
- sensory processing
- supporting distress and emotional regulation
- eating, sleeping and toileting
- managing anxiety

This course is an opportunity for parents and carers to come together to share experiences and tips in a supportive environment.



Scan the QR code to book a place



Has your child had all their childhood vaccinations?

By the time children start school they should have had their MMR and 4-in-1 pre-school booster vaccinations. If your child missed having these vaccinations, it's not too late!

Childhood vaccines help to protect your child from many serious and potentially deadly diseases, and help stop diseases spreading to people who cannot have vaccines, such as babies too young to be vaccinated and those who are too ill to be vaccinated.



The MMR vaccine protects against measles, mumps and rubella. The 4-in-1 pre-school booster protects against diphtheria, polio, tetanus and whooping cough.

The MMR vaccine can be given at any age, including to adults, and the 4-in-1 pre-school booster vaccine can be given to anyone up to the age of ten.

Speak to your GP practice to book any missed vaccinations.

From January 2026 children who were born on or after 1 July 2024 will be offered their 2nd MMR dose when they attend for the new 18 month appointment.

SOMEWHERE 2 SING[®]

NEW AWARD-WINNING CHOIR
IN COLCHESTER

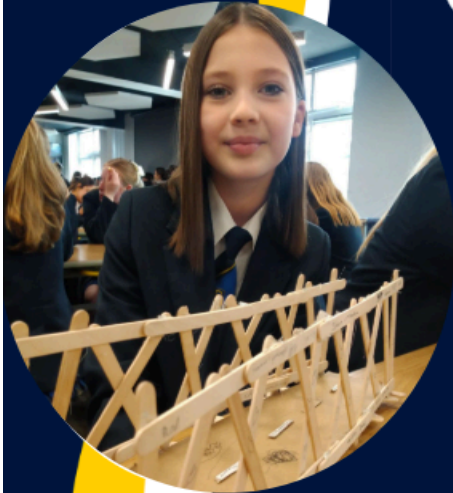


*"It's informal, it's fun
and anyone can do it!"*

STANWAY PRIMARY SCHOOL
WEDNESDAYS AT 7.30PM

REGISTER YOUR INTEREST NOW!

www.somewhere2sing.co.uk



Open Evening



2025

Thursday 25th September

5.00 - 8.00 pm



Open Week

29th Sept - 3rd Oct



Please use the QR code to the right or follow the link below to book a tour of the school.

Tours start at 9.15 am every day.

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/the-stanway-school-colchester/e-gpkmla>



**VISION
ZERO**
NO ROAD DEATHS



**What is an
e-scooter?**

The rules

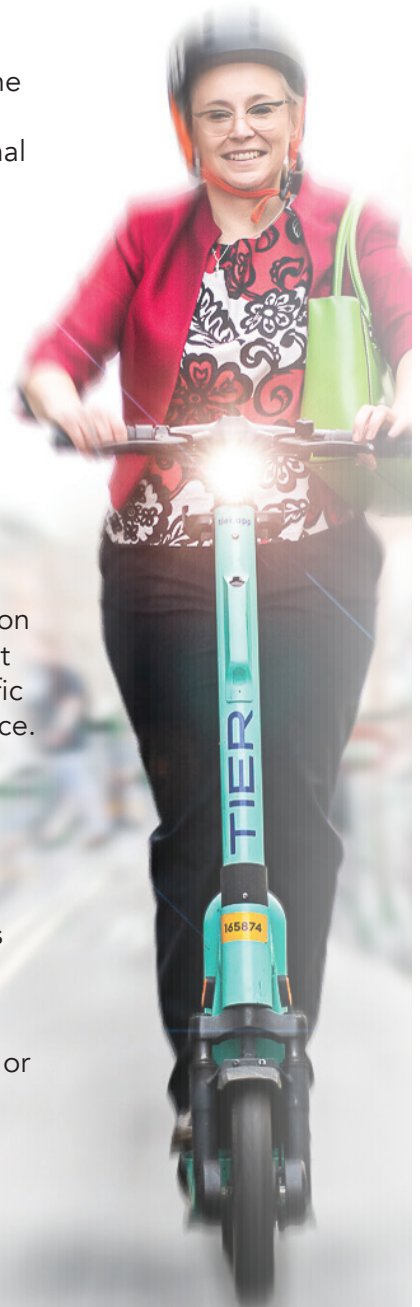
Electrically powered scooters are classed as a mechanically propelled vehicle, which means the same rules apply to e-scooters as other motor vehicles. These rules also apply to other personal electric transporters, with the exception of mobility scooters. Electric scooters are treated the same as any other motorised vehicle, this means they must have MOT, Vehicle Excise Duty ("tax") and insurance.

In order to obtain an MOT and insurance to be used legally in public, an e-scooter must be approved by the Vehicle Certification Agency for its construction and use for transport on the public highway.

No such approval exists for privately owned e-scooters. If you are using a private e-scooter on public roads, or footways, the police can seize it and you could be liable for prosecution for traffic offences, and even receive points on your licence.

Risks include:

- Lack of maintenance affecting braking and tyre performance.
- Charging of devices in the home introduces fire risk, especially if batteries have become damaged or wet.
- Scooters can easily over balance on bumps or holes due to their small wheels.
- Handling can be unpredictable, especially when reacting to hazards.
- There can be a temptation to ride while intoxicated or distracted.



Renting

A number of rental schemes have been set up in towns and cities in the UK, including Basildon, Chelmsford, Braintree and Colchester in Essex. These schemes allow people to use rented e-scooters legally.

To use these schemes, you must:

- Be aged 18 or over.
- Hold a UK driving licence.
- Only ride on roads and cycle-paths within the hire scheme areas, pavement riding is not permitted.
- Not carry passengers or allow others to use a scooter you have hired. Wearing a helmet is highly recommended, and riders have the same responsibility to obey traffic laws as anyone driving a car.



E-scooters are motor vehicles, so must not be used by children.










VISION ZERO

NO ROAD DEATHS

Visit our website to see the latest information, stories and press releases.

saferessexroads.org/visionzero

Please get involved

-  Learn more about safe road use on our website saferessexroads.org
-  Like/follow/share on our social media channels **@saferessexroads**
-  Talk to family, friends and people in your community about Vision Zero
-  Share ideas about how to make improvements where you live with your local elected representatives
-  Subscribe to updates from us at: saferessexroads.org/news/
-  Submit footage of road traffic offences to our Extra Eyes campaign: saferessexroads.org/extra-eyes/
-  To share any ideas you have about how you might be able to help achieve Vision Zero in your community, please contact us at: SaferEssexRoads@essexhighways.org

Sign the Vision Zero pledge at saferessexroads.org/visionzero/pledge/

The Gilberd School

Part of the Alpha Trust



JMI/lsc
September 2025

Dear Parents/Carers

Re: New Year 7 Intake 2026 and 2027- Open Evening

I am delighted to invite you and your child to our Open Evening. Please take a few moments to read the key information below.

When is it and who can attend?

The Open Evening is on Wednesday 17th September 2025 from 6.30pm - 9.00pm. The evening is for parents/carers of students in Years 5 and 6. Year 5 and 6 students are of course most welcome. All children must be accompanied by a parent or carer.

Will there be a presentation from the Headteacher?

Yes, there will be a short presentation repeated 3 times throughout the evening by the Headteacher. Booking is required and a link to do this is included in the enclosed advert.

What time do the presentations begin?

The presentations begin at 6.45pm, 7.30pm and 8.15pm in the Performing Arts Centre. Parents/Carers will have an opportunity to visit areas of the school either before or after attending the presentation of their choice. Experience tells us that the earlier presentations are popular and due to fire regulations, our numbers are restricted so the doors to the presentation will be closed when we reach capacity.

Will there be an opportunity to meet staff and students?

Yes, tours will be conducted by prefects providing an opportunity for parents/carers to speak with students and staff in faculty areas who will answer any questions you may wish to ask. Governors will be represented and will be pleased to talk with you.

Is parking available on site?

There is limited onsite parking for this event so we would ask that you seek alternative means of transport to the school if possible.

I don't live anywhere near The Gilberd School and so I don't think I will be allocated a place. Is there any point in attending?

There are 32 places available for the 2026 and 2027 intake allocated by musical aptitude test. This is open to all applicants resident in the Colchester Borough area at the time of application. Application forms are available on the website or can be completed and submitted during the Open Evening.

Headteacher: Mr J Mitchell
Brinkley Lane, Colchester, Essex CO4 9PU
Tel: 01206 842211 Email: admin@gilberd.com Website: www.gilberd.com

Alpha Trust

Registered in England and Wales Company No 07755713

Registered office: Norman Way, Colchester, Essex CO3 3US



The Gilbert School

Part of the Alpha Trust



Can I see the school on a normal school day?

Yes, we will be offering open morning tours on Friday 19th September and Tuesday 23rd September 2025.

Please note that this invitation to attend the Open Evening does not constitute a formal offer of a place in September 2026/27.

Should you have any queries not addressed by this letter, please contact our admissions officer, Mrs Jodee Tinman.

I look forward to welcoming you to the school.

Yours faithfully

Mr J Mitchell
Headteacher

Headteacher: Mr J Mitchell

Brinkley Lane, Colchester, Essex CO4 9PU

Tel: 01206 842211 Email: admin@gilberd.com Website: www.gilberd.com

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Supplementary Information Form (SIF) for those parents in the Colchester and Tendring Borough Areas (see maps on Admissions Policy 2026-2027) applying for a place on behalf of their child under Priority C (music aptitude) of the Admissions Policy 2026-2027.

This Supplementary Information Form is to be completed by parents/carers who wish their child to be considered for a place at the school based on an aptitude test in music. This form should be returned to The Gilberd School Admissions Officer, e-mail to admissions@gilberd.com by Thursday 25th September 2025. You must also complete a Common Application Form online at www.essex.gov.uk/admissions

You will be contacted after we receive this form to inform you of the time and date of the aptitude test. We will inform you of the results before the 31st October 2025 application deadline to allow you to prioritise your school choices.

Forename(s) of student:	
Surname of student:	
Date of Birth of student:	
Address:	

I confirm that I have applied on behalf of my child for a place in Year 7 in September 2026 at The Gilberd School through the co-ordinated Secondary Admission Scheme arranged by School Admissions, Essex County Council Learning Services, PO Box 4621, Chelmsford, CM1 1GS. Please note: the last date by which Essex County Council must receive your application is 31st October 2025.

I wish to apply for a place at The Gilberd School under Priority C – music aptitude and understand that the Admissions Officer of The Gilberd School will contact me to invite my child to the school to assess their aptitude in music.

I understand that I will be responsible for all travelling arrangements and any expenses incurred as a result of my child attending the aptitude test.

Signed: _____ (Parent/Carer) Date: _____

Title: Mr/Mrs/Ms/Miss/Other: _____

Please print your name: _____

Home Contact Number: _____ Mobile Number: _____

Email address: _____

Musical aptitude involves:

A flair for music as demonstrated by an aural test which students will sit as a group. Applicants may have had no formal training but would like to pursue the subject and have clear potential for doing so. The assessment will test musical pitch, rhythm, melody and expressive intent and cannot be prepared for.

Candidates will be rank ordered by aggregate scores of the aural test and workshop.

NB. Supplementary evidence cannot be considered as a part of the aptitude selection so please do not send us this.

All tests and aptitude workshops will be held at the school in October 2025 and students will be ranked according to their aggregated score in the criteria above. Applicants successful in gaining a place would be expected to pursue the subject through the curriculum and/or pursue instrumental and/or vocal lessons through the school in addition to participation in ensembles and other performances.