



Headteacher's Comment

Good afternoon

It is with the utmost sadness I write to you in this week's News and Views as we join the nation in mourning the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, our longest reigning monarch. We know that this news may affect many of our staff and students so we will all approach the coming days and weeks with sensitivity and consideration.

Celebrating the Platinum Jubilee this summer shone a light on just how well she was thought of across the globe and what an impact she has had on so many lives over so many years. From her first broadcast to the nation as a school girl in 1940 to her last official business this week, asking Liz Truss to be the next prime minister, she was the one constant in almost all our lives. As one member of the public put it yesterday 'she was always there to inspire.'

It seems fitting after the last few years we have all been through that I finish with a quote from Her Majesty:

"When life seems hard, the courageous do not lie down and accept defeat; instead, they are all the more determined to struggle for a better future."

Our thoughts are with the Royal family at this very sad time.

The official period of mourning is 10 days so during this time further guidance will follow from the Department for Education regarding any action that might need to be taken in school. We will write to you again when this is issued.

Essex County Council has issued a [formal statement](#) alongside a history of the Queen in Essex, which is a touching tribute you may want to share with your families.

I hope you all have a peaceful weekend.

