



# Norton CEVC Primary School

School Close, Norton, Bury St Edmunds,  
Suffolk, IP31 3LZ

## Newsletter

# Spring 1 2026



THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND  
Diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich

**Welcome Back** I do hope you all had a lovely Christmas break and were able to see family and friends over the Christmas period. The children have returned eager and ready to learn which is lovely to see. The Spring Term is always a little shorter than the other two terms but just as busy and interesting.

**Staff News:** We sadly said goodbye to Mrs Winter-Valentine at the end of the Autumn Term. Mrs Winter-Valentine has recently moved to Felixstowe and has found a teaching position nearer to her home. Mrs Flintoft will now be teaching Year 5 from Tuesday to Friday with Mrs Sparkes taking the class on Monday.

**Parking** Following the email I sent to parents regarding parking on School Close and in the residents' parking bays, I have noticed a significant improvement during morning duty and have received no further complaints from residents in Norton. Thank you for your support in this.



**Governor News -** My name is Philippa Barton and I have lived in Pakenham, Suffolk, with my husband and two boys since 1997. I was appointed Foundation (Church of England) Governor in the autumn term and I am on the Finance, Premises, Personnel and Communications committee. As a child I would draw things in order to avoid having to write. So it was perhaps inevitable that I would become an art teacher, and then a head of art, working in various secondary schools in Leeds, Selby and Bury St Edmunds for over 30 years. Now I am delighted to bring my experience in education to a play a different part - by supporting and helping the development of the distinctive ethos of Norton primary school. I also take a particular interest in finances and am pleased to be working with fellow governors to support the school's leadership team in providing the best possible education within the tight resources available. I have already attended several meetings and had a brilliant half day in school looking at the great work pupils and staff were doing. We focused on children talking to each other and to their teachers, and then on their writing. We had interesting and uplifting interviews with the pupils about their thoughts and the support they received with oracy and writing. The year was suitably rounded off with a visit to the Christmas Nativity play. I'm afraid the donkey stole the show.

**A Big Thank You** The month of December, as you can imagine, was a very busy month with performances, Christmas Carol Services and parties to name but a few events. One of our Christian Values is community and it was displayed in abundance during Autumn 2. During these events there was an opportunity to donate to East Anglian Children's Hospice (EACH); I am pleased to say that we raised £376 from the carol services, performances and jumper day. In the same term we celebrated Children in Need, raising £238 and an amazing £341.10 for the Royal British Legion through purchasing poppies and other merchandise. Thank you so much for your kindness and generosity.



**Values for Life** Attached is a sheet linked to the Values for Life scheme that we use in assembly. This half-term's theme is 'Courage' As a family have a go at discussing and completing Home School Challenge linked to Children of Courage. Is there someone you can think of who has shown courage?

**Oracy Challenge** Well done for everyone who completed the Christmas Oracy Challenge. I hope many discussions were had around the table and on the way to school. We will be completing another challenge this term linked to 'This is my Place', the focus identified during Children's Mental Health Week. Further details will follow.

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### Special points of interest:

- ☉ Governor News P1
- ☉ Children's Mental Health Week P2
- ☉ Committees and Teams P3
- ☉ Diary Dates P6
- ☉ All newsletters, important events and updated school policies are published on our website. See the regular gallery of children's work and photos of latest events too.

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Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid, do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go. Joshua 1:9

## Children's Mental Health Week

This year Children's Mental Health Week is the 9th-15th February. It is a time to learn about taking care of your mind and body and helps us understand our feelings and how to stay happy and healthy. This year the theme is This is My Place.

This is My Place is all about belonging and exploring the need to be a valued part of groups or places that are important to us. Belonging can mean:

At home - with supportive family members/carers, who know you well, including all your quirks.

At School – in the classroom among friends where ideas are shared, with teachers who believe in you.

In Activities and Special Interests – that you enjoy and are passionate about.

In Communities – religious groups and neighbourhood communities.

With Friends – those special people who truly understand you, make you laugh and stand by you.

With Yourself – feeling comfortable to be you and accepting yourself as you are.

With the support of the ELSA Team, our assembly this half term will be led by the Behaviour Ambassadors and Junior Journalists on Wednesday 4th February, and will focus on the importance of feeling that you belong, helping other people to feel the same way through acts of kindness, being supportive and thinking about how we treat others in our school community. At Norton we want everyone to feel that they belong, are cared for and feel comfortable to be you.

During the assembly, the Ambassadors will introduce their display board in the hall that will have a This is My Place theme. In class the children will be asked to draw a map, it could be an outline of a real country or island or completely imaginary. The map will represent the children and their sense of belonging. Rather than drawing trees, roads and mountains, the children will be asked to think about places or activities that make them feel comfortable and where they feel they belong. This may include family members, their house, pets, the school hall where you feel proud and confident, maybe their bed or a favourite book they like to relax and read. When completed we will ask the children to reflect on their maps, 'Where would you most like to be today on your map?' or 'If someone is feeling left out, where is the first place you'd like to bring them to on your map to help them feel better?'

When the maps are all finished they will all be displayed in the hall for everyone to enjoy. Remember, you belong wherever you feel loved and accepted for who you are. Just like at school we hope. The ELSA Team and staff are all here to help if you don't feel this way.



## Extra-Curricular Activities to develop Personal Development

At Norton, the children are very fortunate to have the opportunity to experience a wealth of enrichment activities, some of which happen during the school day and others after school. Staff at Norton have been keen to lead some clubs where they have a personal interest and passion. Clubs which happen at lunch time are open to all the children but after school clubs need to be booked via the office.

### Mondays

12.15—1.00pm Ukulele Club

12.00-12.30 Times Table Rockstars Year 3 and 4 (Mrs. Woodward)

3.15—4.00pm Choir Year 2-6 with Mr. Cole

3.15—4.00 Basketball Years 3-6 with Mrs. Ashton

### Tuesdays

12.00 -12.30 Year 5 Book Club (Mrs. Woodward)

3.15—4.15 Running Club (Yr. 3-6)

3.15-4.15 Boxercise (Yr. 1-6)

### Wednesday

12.00 –12.30 Year 4 Book Club (Mrs. Woodward)

12.00 –12.30 Year 6 Book Club (Mrs. Kirk)

12.00 –12.30 Table Rockstars Year 5 and 6 (Ms Fenn)

3.15 - 4.15 Premier Sports Football (Years 1-4)

### Thursdays

12.00—12.30 Maths Club

12.00 –1.00 Premier Sports—Active Club

3.15—4.30pm Lighthouse Club Years 1-6

### Fridays

8.00 –8.45 Premier Sports Gymnastics Club Years EYFS - 4

12.00 –12.30 Year 6 Book Club (Mrs Kirk)

3.15 -4.15 Fun and Fitness (Year 2-4)

3.15-4.15 War Hammer Club



Sports Ambassadors have planned a timetable of weekly events for all the children to enjoy. These will be shared with children during assembly. Behaviour Ambassadors are also running activities and clubs for the younger children.

**Spotlight on Attendance and Punctuality:** At the end of the Autumn term our school attendance percent was 96.4% compared to 95.2% locally. This is a good position to be in as we enter the Spring. We have also seen an improvement in punctuality. We are aware that at times things do not go to plan and due to unforeseen circumstances you may be late. In these cases and if you are able, please phone the office so that we can inform class teachers.

Please also let the school know if you are having difficulties getting your child to school on time, so we can work together to find a solution with our trained ELSA staff.

**Lower Key Stage 2 Performance:** We are also very excited to announce that Year 3 and Year 4 will be working together on a Spring production this term. We have chosen Spring Chicken The Musical as our play. We will be choosing roles over the next week but we are already looking forward to rehearsing and performing. Further information on tickets will be provided in due course.

**Reading Volunteers** At Norton we recognise that reading is so important for both pleasure and knowledge. Hearing children read individually is a priority and so, if you are a parent/carer who would be willing to volunteer to come for an afternoon or morning once a week to hear children read, then please speak to the office. We would love for you to be part of our children's learning journey.



**FAPONS News** Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a lovely Christmas break. FAPONS was busy last term and we raised just over £1600 in funds from: the Christmas disco; the Christmas shop; selling refreshments at the Saltmine production; uniform and Christmas clothes sales; and the rainbow raffle. Thank you very much for your support at these fundraisers and to everyone who helped make them happen, both parents and staff! In addition, FAPONS finally completed the gift aid claims on all past BOPP transactions, totally £1200. Going forward we would like to apply for gift aid on applicable PayPal, card and cash payments. Last term FAPONS was able to contribute towards the panto that the children enjoyed in school and also provide Christmas crackers for their Christmas lunch. This term we are hoping to run a movie night as well as the Great Norton Bake Off and chocolate Bingo to celebrate Easter.



**Committees and Teams** At Norton we believe it is important that our pupils are involved in making our school the best school it can possibly be, their voice and actions do count and matter and we are so pleased that the children are keen and willing to be actively involved in school life. Here is what the committees and teams have been doing and plan to do in the new year.

**Worship Team** The Worship Team had a highly successful first term in their roles. They confidently planned and led both class and whole-school assemblies and organised a creative Advent Treasure Hunt, where children searched the playground each day to find hidden Nativity characters. They also decided to replace the school's birthday hat with a new birthday bear, giving children a special moment to enjoy a hug during our Learn, Believe, Achieve assemblies. This term, the team will continue to plan and lead assemblies and are looking forward to introducing new challenges to further engage and inspire the school community.

**The School Council** During the school council meetings, we have discussed what it is like to be a pupil at Norton and what could be done to make the school even better. The children have talked positively about their classes but felt there was a need to remind children about how we should take more care in the cloakrooms, making sure paper towels are placed in the bin and that children wash their hands sensibly. To address this issue, the children have created posters to be placed in these areas. This term we will carry out a Pupil Voice survey, with the School Council looking at the results and responding to feedback.

**JRSOs:** Congratulations to the Norton JRSOs, who won the Suffolk Road Safety poster competition last half term- watch this space for lamp post bollards soon. This half term they are going to be focusing on vehicle safety in winter.

**Junior Journalists** This half term they will be linking up with the behaviour ambassadors to do an assembly during Children's Mental Health week.

**Eco News** Last term the Eco Committee were involved in introducing the new food waste bins on the playground and in the hall at lunch times. They delivered an assembly sharing how the aim of this is to reduce the amount of waste that is going in landfill. They have also been litter picking on the playground and sweeping leaves. This term, we will focus on how to conserve energy at school by checking that doors are closed and lights are switched off when classrooms are not in use.

**The Behaviour Ambassadors** Last term we welcomed new Ambassadors from Years 5 & 6 to the team. After half term, following some training, we started clubs for KS1 children including art clubs, book clubs, an outside games club and a friendship club. Some of these will continue and we hope to organise more this term. Representatives from Yrs 5&6 visit the KS1 classes to advertise their activities. So encourage your child to listen out for these. As part of Mental Health week 2026 we will be leading an assembly on this year's theme 'This is my place'.

**Sports Ambassadors** The Sports Ambassadors had a very busy term ensuring that each year group had the opportunity to be involved in one sporting activity each week during lunch time. On Monday, the Ambassadors meet with Mrs Sparkes and Mrs Ashton to plan out the week's activities and to reflect on the previous week's activities. The Ambassadors have organised challenges, team games and task using a variety of equipment. This term we will continue to play games, encouraging more children to be active.



## Stars

Welcome back to Star Class children and parents! We hope you have had a fun-filled Christmas and wish you all a very Happy New Year.

Our topic this half term is 'Toys' This will include using our history skills to look at old and new toys and to ask questions and discuss our ideas. The children will then look at a range of toys and decide what materials have been used to make the toy. We shall then have fun planning and carrying out simple experiments as we see how far a toy car can travel. If you have any toys or experiences related to toys or games that you or perhaps an older family member would like to share with us, please let us know. We would love you to visit Star Class to talk to the children.

Afternoons will focus on **physical development, expressive arts and design or understanding the world**. We are going to be planning and making our favourite toys from recycled materials and inventing new toys too! If you have any boxes, pots or recyclable materials please send them in. A range of shapes and sizes really helps our models look great too!

Our **PE** days will be Tuesday and Wednesday with a focus on dance and gymnastics. Mr Cole will continue to inspire us with his **music** lessons on a Monday.

We are making great progress with our 'Read, Write, Inc' sessions, developing phonic skills and reading, as well as comprehension and fluency. We will also begin to look at writing for a purpose and how to construct a sen-

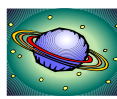


tence. We are starting to learn the set 2 sounds like 'ay', 'ee' and 'igh'. We have recently sent home our sound mat with the red words too. These can be displayed at home to help your child to recognise the sounds and words confidently.

In **RE** the children will be discussing how they can help others and how God and Christians help others too.

In **maths** we will be looking at addition, subtraction and sharing in practical, real-life ways. We are also counting on and back from different starting numbers and learning how to partition numbers to 10. Finally, please send children with a bottle of fresh water each day and PLEASE make sure that all items of uniform (& shoes) are labelled clearly. We really appreciate your support and encouragement for your child to love learning. Please do not hesitate to speak to us if you have any concerns or questions. Thank you Mrs Bouttell and Mrs Cole

# Galaxies



Welcome back, Our new **Geography** topic this half term will be the Arctic. Whilst exploring the Arctic Circle we will be learning about the climate, animals and landscape as well as immersing ourselves into the geography, culture and different ways of life. In **English** we will start the term with our new book 'Amara and the Bats' as a stimulus for factual information writing. We will continue to ensure we are always using the correct punctuation in sentences and develop our writing by using the conjunctions 'and' or 'because' alongside adding in some interesting adjectives. We will still be using 'Read Write Inc' to help us with our phonics in preparation for the phonics screening; don't forget to read the RWI

# Planets



Welcome back to a busy and exciting spring term in Planet Class!

Major highlights this term will be our Great Fire of London day in February, where we invite History off the Page into school for an immersive workshop, and also our trip to a farm, supporting our geography topic "**At the Farm**". Children will explore real-life features of a farm, compare town and country life, and use the visit as inspiration for diary and recount work. We will be continuing to place reading at the heart of everything we do, by focusing on hearing children read individually as much as possible, as well as in guided reading groups. Homework activities will also support the mastery of the key skills of spelling, handwriting, and maths (through Numbots). Please help your child to practise several times a week – the

# Comets



Happy New Year! This half term we will be beginning our new topic, 'Tomb Raiders'. This exciting topic will be explored across our History, English and Art lessons.

In **History**, we will be learning all about the Ancient Egyptians, exploring their daily lives, beliefs, gods and goddesses, and the role of the Pharaohs. We will also be thinking back to our learning about Prehistoric Britain and making comparisons between different time periods.

In **English**, we will be reading two Egyptian stories, Egyptian Cinderella and The Scarab's Secret. The children will be writing detailed character descriptions and creating their own versions of these stories.

In **Art**, we will be investigating printing techniques using Egyptian hieroglyphs and de-

signing and creating our own cartouches. Homework will be sent out soon and will be linked closely to our History topic on the Ancient Egyptians. The tasks will give the children opportunities to research, create and explore different aspects of Egyptian life, such as mummification, pyramids, gods and daily life. We will provide suggested activities, but children are very welcome to take their learning further in any way that interests them. We always love seeing the creative work completed at home, and you can share photos of any homework or related activities with us via Class Dojo throughout the term.

In **RE** this half term, we will be focusing on Hinduism, with a particular emphasis on karma and how this belief influences the way Hindus live their lives.

practice is really paying off! Across the term, children will develop **writing skills** through guided reading and the use of quality texts. We will have an author study of the work of writer and illustrator Jonny Duddle, turn our hands to diary writing inspired by Samuel Pepys and the Great Fire of London, and later study Fantastic Mr Fox to develop character and setting descriptions. Recount writing will be linked to our farm trip, with children also developing the editing of their own work for punctuation and sense.

In **Maths**, the children will deepen their understanding of money, counting in pence and pounds, comparing amounts and calculating change. Then, we will work on multiplication and division using arrays, grouping and sharing, alongside learning the 2, 5 and 10 times tables. .

Our history topic is **The Great Fire of London**, looking at how it started, how it

will be learning new ways to solve these calculations, using tens frames, part, part whole models and number line.

In **Science**, we will be looking at 'Animals' inc Humans', learning about different parts of the body and senses. We will also be learning about how to scientifically group and identify animals. Keep your eyes open for details coming soon of a trip linking to this topic.

In **PSHE** we will be thinking about our Dreams and Goals, setting ourselves targets and thinking about how to achieve them. We look forward to another exciting term working with your children. If you have any concerns or questions please do not hesitate to come and see us or send us a message via Dojo. Thank you, Mrs Harris & Mrs Rossiter

spread and how London then and now compare. In geography, we will study life on a farm, its features and importance, and contrast rural and town environments, supported by our farm visit.

Our **science unit** is Animals Including Humans. Children will learn about life cycles, how humans and animals change as they grow, and what living things need to survive and stay healthy.

We will explore two big questions in **RE** with Miss Fenn: how Muslims show that Allah is compassionate and merciful, and why Christians trust and follow Jesus, using stories from both faiths to support discussions.

In **Art**, children will develop skills in collage, 3D art and painting, inspired by artists Henri Matisse and Wassily Kandinsky across the term. Thank you, as always, for your continued support. Mr Mabbitt

In **Science**, we will finish our unit on Nutrition and Skeletons, learning more about the human skeleton and comparing it with the skeletons of other animals. We will then move on to a new unit on Light, exploring how we see, how light travels, and how shadows are formed.

Please note that **PE** sessions will now take place on Thursdays and Fridays. The children will need to bring in their PE kits on these days or have them kept at school. A full timetable has been posted on Class Dojo for your reference.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to catch me after school or contact me via Class Dojo. Thank you, Miss Potter



# Rockets



Happy New Year! We are continuing with our topic on **Ancient Greeks** when we will be learning about the impact the Greeks have had on our lives today including the Greek alphabet and we will research key historical figures. We are looking forward to our History Off the Page day on Tuesday 13 January. On this day, your child will – through role-play activities – experience life as it would have been living in the year 490BC at the time of the Battle of Marathon. They will use authentic tools and materials to learn skills as apprentices in a variety of workshops. After half term, we will start a new topic on **Fabulous France!** We will start by looking where France is positioned in Europe and the physical features of the country.

# Meteors

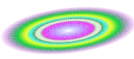


Happy New Year! I have been so excited to come back after Christmas and am so proud of how the children have come back in.

This half term, our principal focus is our study on **forest biomes**. As **Geographers**, we will study the world's forest biomes: their vital importance, the ecosystems they sustain, and the threats they face. We will learn about where forests are located in the world, different types of forest, and how forests are changing in the UK and globally.

We are reading 'The Explorer' by Katherine Rundell together in class, a modern take on the classic survival story! In our Guided Reading sessions, we will tackle texts which support our history learning as well as exploring the skills of retrieval,

# Supernovas



Welcome back and a Happy New Year. Here's an overview of what we'll be learning in Spring Term 2026.

**Maths:** In Maths, we will build on the children's existing knowledge through units covering fractions, decimals, percentages, ratio and algebra, alongside metric measurement and conversion, including some common metric to imperial links.

**English:** In English, we will develop a wide range of writing skills across fiction, non-fiction and poetry. Work will include persuasive tourism leaflets about the Galapagos Islands, non-chronological reports on orangutans and deforestation, as well as balanced arguments on the palm oil debate. Also, we make links with Science and history, writing about Charles Darwin's voyage and the Viking raids. Class readers include Darwin's Dragons by Lindsay Galvin and Nevermoor by Jessica Townsend.

We will move on to compare the UK to France, consider the land use and finish with learning about tourism in France. In **English** we will be reading Kensuke's Kingdom by Michael Morpurgo. We will use the text to write informal letters, animal fact files and character descriptions. We will look to include possessive apostrophes, similes and fronted adverbials in our writing. After half term, we will explore playscripts and James and The Giant Peach in English and then will look to create a persuasive tourism brochure about a French city.

In **Maths**, we will be learning how to use formal written methods for multiplication and division. We will revisit perimeters and develop our understanding of this by finding missing lengths in rectilinear shapes, and the perimeter of regular and irregular polygons. Following

inference, prediction and summary. In **English**, we will take inspiration from our class reader to write an exciting narrative set in the Amazon rainforest. We will be writing non-chronological reports on an Amazonian creature of our own choice, writing biographies and even looking at our own sequels for 'The Explorer'!

As **mathematicians**, we practise arithmetic and multiplication facts daily, as well as revisiting key skills as part of our 'flashbacks' to keep our learning fresh in our minds. Topics this term in lessons include 'Multiplication and Division', 'Fractions', and 'Decimals and Percentages'.

As **Scientists**, we will describe the differences in the life cycles of a mammal, an amphibian, an insect and a bird. We will also explore the life process of repro-

**Science:** Science learning focuses on evolution, inheritance and classification. We will explore how living things evolve over time, how variation and adaptation support survival, and how natural selection drives evolution. They will also learn how organisms are classified, based on observable characteristics, and study the system developed by Carl Linnaeus.

**Geography:** In Geography, we will examine globalisation and how the modern world is increasingly interconnected. Learning will focus on global trade and communication, particularly within the food and fashion industries.

**History:** History lessons will transport pupils to early medieval England, exploring the power struggles between Anglo-Saxons and Viking raiders, traders and settlers. Pupils will learn how England emerged from seven Anglo-Saxon kingdoms and study key historical fig-

this, we will revisit fractions when we will learn more about mixed numbers and how to compare and order them, as well as convert them to improper fractions and vice versa. Please continue to use Times Table Rockstars as much as you can at home. Pupils will be rewarded with 1 Dojo for every day that they have spent 10 minutes or more engaged in the activities. **PE** will be on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons. We will start by looking at Basketball and learning how to participate in a game, ready for the U9s Mini Basketball Competition on Thursday 12th February should they wish to join us. If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to send us a message on Class Dojo or catch us after school. Miss Miles & Mrs Gibbs .



duction in plants and animals, understanding the difference between sexual and asexual reproduction.

As **Artists**, we will be exploring the pointillist paintings of George Seurat, and experimenting with his trademark colours and techniques.

Mr Kershaw continues to work in **Music** lessons on our listening and appraisal skills, and our singing and performing, as our mastery of the clarinet improves each week!

In **RE** we will be exploring Hinduism, specifically the spiritual pathways to Moksha that are written about in Hindu scriptures. In **French**, we are learning to describe our homes in the topic 'Chez Moi'. Please note our PE days have changed this term to Monday and Fridays – both sessions, Dance and Gymnastics, will be indoors. Thank you Mrs Flintoft

ures such as King Alfred the Great, St Edmund, and Danish Viking kings.

**Music:** In Music, the children will learn to read and understand music notation, including how notes and chords are written on staves. They will apply this knowledge by composing their own music, .

**Computing:** This term we will be developing our ability to code, using Python coding language. Later on in the term, we will use and create spreadsheets, learning how they help organise data.

**PSHE:** In PSHE, pupils will focus on setting personal learning goals, identifying steps to success and understanding the importance of resilience and positive attitudes. We will also discuss how we can stay healthy with what we eat and drink and with the activities we take part in.

Our PE days are now Mondays and Thursdays. Kind regards Mr Kerry



## Diary Dates: Please see website for more information

**Tuesday 13 January** Year 4 History of the Page—Greek Day

**Wednesday 21 January** Year 5 Bawdsey Residential Information Session

**Thursday 5 February** Key Stage 1 Basketball Skills Ixworth 4.00 - 5.15pm

**Week beginning 9 February** Children's Mental Health Week

**Tuesday 10 February** Internet Safety Day

**Wednesday 11 February** Year 2 Class Assembly @9am

**Thursday 12 February**—Year 2 History Off The Page—Great Fire of London

**Thursday 12 February** U9 Basketball Competition @4.00pm

**Friday 13 February** Last Day of Half Term

**Monday 23 February** Return to school

**Tuesday 24 February** U11 Basketball @4.00pm

**Wednesday 4 March** Year 6 Assembly @9.00am

**Thursday 5 March** U11 Quicksticks Hockey @ 4.00pm

**Thursday 5 March** World Book Day—Details to follow

**Friday 6 March** PE Enrichment—Inclusive Sports

**Monday 9 March** British Science Week

**Tuesday 10 March** U9 Quickstick Hockey @ 4.00pm

**Wednesday 11 March** Year 5 Assembly @9.00am

**Wednesday 11 March** Mother's Day Tea— Details to follow

**Thursday 12 March** Mother's Day Tea – Details to follow

**Wednesday 18 March** Lower Key Stage 2 Afternoon Performance

**Thursday 19 March** Lower Key Stage 2 Evening Performance

**Tuesday 24 March** Year 1 and 2 Pipers Vale Gymnasium Trip

**Tuesday 24 March** Parents' Evening 5.15– 7.30

**Wednesday 25 March** Homework Exhibition

**Wednesday 25 March** U11 Swimming Gala

**Thursday 26 March** Parents' Evening 3.30 –5.45pm

**Thursday 26 March** Easter Service for Key Stage 1 and 2

**Friday 27 March** Last day of term

**Monday 30 March - Friday 10 April** Easter Holiday

**Monday 13 April** Children return to school

## Term Dates for the rest of the Academic Year

### Summer Term 2026

Begins Monday 13 April 2026 Ends Friday 17 July  
PD Day Monday 20 July 2026

### Summer Half Term

Monday 25 May - Friday 29 May 2026

## PINS Workshops

Partnership for Inclusion of Neurodiversity in Schools (PINS) focuses on raising the knowledge and understanding of everyone in school – teachers, support staff, and families alike. The programme brings together staff from specialist health, education, and parent carer teams to work within mainstream primary schools. By doing this, we can share knowledge, improve understanding, and strengthen support for all children and their families.

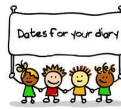
### PINS Parent/Carer Forum 5th February 2pm – 3.30pm

This informal get-together is a chance for parents and carers of children who are, or who may be suspected to be, neurodivergent to meet, share experiences, and hear more about how PINS is supporting our school community.

### PINS workshop 12th February at 3.30pm – 5pm

This workshop for parents, carers and school staff will explore why neurodivergent children and young people may develop difficulties with their emotions, including anxiety and low mood, and how schools and parents/carers can support neurodivergent children and young people with managing their big feelings.

**Nut Allergy** We have children and staff with nut allergies in school. Please do not send any nut products with your child—including peanut butter sandwiches, nuts or other products which include nuts for packed lunches or any other occasion. Many thanks.



## Children Achievements

Every term we like to celebrate the children's achievements for the activities they do outside of school. During the term, if your child passes an exam or is part of an event then please let the school office know and we will aim to include it in the next newsletter .



### Congratulations !

Isla McNamara for moving to Stage 5 in her swimming



### Congratulations

Annabelle Hadley-Brown for winning gold in the Level 2 Age 8 & under trampette competition at Bury Spectrum Gymnastics Club. .



### Congratulations!

Leo Monk for completing 6 Badges with Beavers including music, snow sports and faith badges.



### Congratulations!

Lexi-Ann Harris for passing her Level 1 Tumbling at the Academy of Movement Presentation.



### Congratulations!

Poppy Monk for achieving Distinction in her LAMDA exam, with special recognition for singing and acting.



### Congratulations!

Ellena Roe for achieving her Bronze and Silver Rainbow Award at Girl Guiding which she was awarded in the Autumn and on the 21st October Ellena did her Brownie Promise



### Congratulations!

Ayden Wilby for passing his Stage 4 swimming and moving onto Stage 5.



### Congratulations!

Esmé Chater-Grogan for being awarded Swim Star of the Year in her Stage Three Swimming Class



### Congratulations!

Niamh Widdicks for winning Thurston Community College Key Stage 2 Writing Competition.