



Weekly Newsletter: 26th September 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

This week saw some more firsts of the year – all on Thursday! Yesterday, our newly elected House Captains carried out the first weekly count of the House Points earned by their teams across the school – see below for the totals for this term so far – and our new Faith Council led their first assembly of the year. The children were brilliant as they told the story of ‘Naaman is healed’.

After school saw the return of interschool sport too. Both our U11 Boys and Girls football teams headed to Great Waldingfield to play matches against St. Gregory’s Primary. The boys were the first to kick-off their first match of their Sudbury Prestige Boys’ Football League. It was a fantastic match with both ‘keepers making fantastic saves and both teams hitting the woodwork. There really was nothing between the two teams as half time arrived. The second half kicked off with a tremendous amount of pressure from the Acton Blues, keeping the St. Greg’s players pinned back in their own half. With full time approaching, I had already agreed with Mr. Woodrow (St. Greg’s Headteacher) that a draw was a fair result. However, I had spoken to the boys earlier in the week about not giving up (using my beloved Liverpool’s approach to recent matches) and keeping going to final whistle. This must have had an impact, as deep into stoppage time, Freddie picked up the ball on the edge of the box and rifled a stunning shot across goal into the far corner beating the ‘keeper. There was just enough time for St. Greg’s to kick-off, before the referee blew his whistle to end the match – Acton 1 v 0 St. Gregory.



Next up was the Girls’ turn to take on the same opposition. For many of the girls, on both teams, this was their first competitive match of football. After a few initial nerves, the girls settled in to the match and started passing the ball with confidence. Acton created some really great chances and were unlucky not to score before St. Greg’s took the lead in the first half. After a quick team talk at half-time, the girls headed back out onto the pitch. Just like the boys, the girls started the second half well and applied great pressure on the

opposition. Unfortunately, the attacking pressure meant that the Acton defence was left a little exposed, as St. Greg's broke away to double their lead.

What really impressed me about what happened next is that the girls did not let their heads



drop – in fact they became more determined! This led to them scoring a goal back. After a goalmouth scramble, Lottie-Beau forced the ball over the line to make the score 2 - 1. Despite every effort from the girls, the equaliser did not come and the match finished in a close loss.

Both teams represented the school brilliantly, played fantastic football and should be as proud of themselves as I am of them.

Next Thursday (2nd October) is our School Census day – this is an important day for the school as it dictates our budget for next year. It is also important for our school dinners too. On Census day, Sarah and Jo (in the kitchen) will be opening a Pizzeria and the children can choose from a ham and pineapple, pepperoni or margherita pizza (Sarah also hinted that there may be a little bit of Chocolate Crunch going too!). The more meals that are served will increase the amount of funding which is designated to the school. So please, if possible, encourage your children to have a school meal on Thursday – remember Reception and Year 1 and 2 are entitled to a Universal Free School Meal, so there will be no charge to the parents.



As always, I hope that you have a fantastic weekend.

Kind regards

Jonathan Gray
Headteacher

House Captains

Willow	Cedar	Oak	Lime
81	68	56	63

Christmas Performances

The C-word might seem like a long way off but it will be here before we know it! Below are the dates and approximate times of the Christmas performances, further details regarding tickets will be released nearer the time.

- Wednesday 10th December, 2pm– Reception Nativity Performance
- Wednesday 10th December, 9:30am – KS1 Nativity Performance
- Thursday 11th December, 2pm – KS1 Nativity Performance



Autumn Term Dates

- Harvest Festival at All Saints Church: Wednesday 15th October
- **Parents Evenings: Wednesday 22nd and Thursday 23rd October** (*corrected –sorry!)
- Half-term: Monday 27th October 2025 to Friday 31st October
- Children return: Monday 3rd November
- Individual Photos: Monday 17th November
- Reception Nativity: Wednesday 10th December, 2pm
- KS1 Nativity: Wednesday 10th December, 9:30am and Thursday 11th December, 2pm
- Christmas Holidays: Saturday 20th December to Sunday 4th January

All dates for the Spring and Summer Term can be found on the [calendar](#) on our school website.

Little Oaks Wraparound



Our wraparound care is provided by Lisa, from Little Oaks. The Breakfast club runs from 7:30 to 8:30am and Afterschool club from 3:15-5:45pm every day of the week.

For more information and to book a place, please visit <https://www.littleoakskids.com/acton>.



Stars of the Week!



Class	Strive	Support	Succeed
Caterpillars	Bohdhi	Kitty	Florence
Leopards	Ada	Isabella	Willow
Pandas	Lucy	Kole	Nina
Llamas	Bella	Libby	Marley
Orcas	Phoebe	Scarlett	Theo
Penguins	Jude	Rosie	Amelia
Wolves	Bethany Cu	Sophia (nominated by Freya)	Amelie

Class News

Caterpillars

This week in Caterpillar class, our story focus has been 'Supertato'. The children have enjoyed saving the vegetables from Evil Pea by designing their own traps. On the creative table, the children have been busy creating superhero shields and painting the characters from the story. In Phonics, we have learnt the sounds i, n, m and d, as well as revisiting last week's sounds. We have played lots of sound recognition games and practised blending VC and CVC words. We look forward to seeing everyone at our Phonics meeting on Tuesday afternoon at 2.45pm, where we will share more about our phonics scheme 'Little Wandle'. Our Maths focus for this week has been matching and sorting; we have sorted a variety of objects by size, colour, type and design. In our outside classroom, we have been busy chalking, playing in the sand, building obstacle courses and getting messy in the mud kitchen. Great work Caterpillars.

Leopards

This week, we created story maps and retold the story 'Five Minutes Peace'. We thought carefully about the order of events and used our story maps to help us with our writing. In Maths, we learnt to use practical resources and pictorial representations to count both forwards and backwards. In Science, we thought about the difference between an object and the material it is made from and, in History, we sorted toys into old and new. This week also saw us begin our Reading Group sessions led by lots of different adults from around the school. We all enjoyed meeting the adult leading our group and reading our first book together. Next week, we will begin our learning linked to a new story with a familiar setting. In Maths, we will learn to find both 1 more and 1 less, as well as use the key terms fewer, more and the same. In Art, we will investigate printing with paint. Our Phonics will focus on longer words.

Pandas

In Year 2, we started the week with a mystery! We walked into the classroom to find that a party had taken place over the weekend! There was a yellow tablecloth over the table and lots of empty biscuit wrappers, tea mugs, chocolate boxes... even a toaster! We came up with lots of ideas as to who the culprit could be (we were quite suspicious of Mr Gray and Mr Newcombe as they both weren't at school Monday... maybe they were too full up!) We wrote stories about who we thought the party belonged to and it reminded us of the book 'The Tiger Who Came to Tea'. We read the story over the week and enjoyed sequencing events and writing descriptively about the characters. Also this week, we flexibly partitioned numbers using part-whole models in Maths before using number lines to accurately mark and order numbers. In Science, we worked with our table to build a bridge out of paper-based materials. We twisted, scrunched and rolled paper to make it stronger, and then used weights to test its durability. In R.E., we talked about the importance of sounds and how the shofar begins the festival of Rosh Hashanah. We read 'David gets into trouble' and spotted all of the bad choices David made. Next week, we will think about how David could repent and choose good deeds instead. In P.E., we enjoyed a game of dodgeball on Monday, and worked with our partner on some circuit activities and training on

Wednesday. On Tuesday, we had PSHE and Music with Mrs Fisher and really loved learning our new song which we sang in table groups, even adding actions!

Llamas

In Llama Class this week, we have been thinking about our senses in English to help us with structuring a setting description. We've also been putting our expanded noun phrases and descriptive adjectives into full sentences and small paragraphs to describe a Stone Age setting. In Maths, we used dienes to help us with adding 10s and 100s to a range of numbers. We've also been looking at counting on from given numbers. In History, we learnt about Skara Brae and what we can learn about the Stone Age from it. We were very excited to have Mr Gray teaching our PE lesson on Tuesday - we were working on our passing and catching skills with lots of different activities. In PSHE, we discussed our friendships, gave reasons as to why we are friends with others and what we can do if we ever fall out with our friends. Well done for a great week of learning Llamas!

Orcas

We have had another lovely week in Orca Class. In Science, we researched various animals and learnt whether they are a carnivore, omnivore or herbivore. Following on from this, we created food chains, learning about what producers, consumers, predators and prey are - lots of key vocab this week! We also considered disruptions to food chains, such as overfishing, and what this can lead to. In English, we have been learning how to apply inverted commas and fronted adverbials to our writing - two of the most important areas of English in Year 4. In Maths, we spent most of the week learning how to round numbers (which we did very well), then rounded it off by learning about Roman Numerals. There's a great song on YouTube to help with remembering these, although it is likely to get stuck in your head! In PSHE this week, we ranked which feelings are the strongest and which are the weakest. This linked to our mindfulness PE lesson, where we mimed various emotions in pairs as part of a performance. In French, we learnt how to ask someone how old they are and how to reply. We also moved onto the 4 x tables during our TTRS sessions. A table vs table battle will be commencing soon - watch this space! Well done for working hard, Year 4, as always.

Penguins

Fabulous focus from all the Penguins this week. In History, we started our Vikings topic by collecting our previous knowledge, designing our own Viking shields, writing in runes, creating our own Viking timelines and we really enjoyed "Raiding and Trading" on the laptops this week! In English, we planned carefully for our Hot Write next week inspired by "Losing Things" by Michael Rosen: we collected our own lists of lost things, drew our own settings for the different scenes in the poem and put together our own drafts in his style. In Maths, we moved on from rounding to working with negative numbers and also started to solve problems involving roman numerals. In PE with Coach Caragh, we applied our space-finding skills to small-sided games of netball and - in Hockey - we included passing drills in our session for the first time. In Music with Mrs Fisher, we analysed "Smoke on the Water" by Deep Purple and then, in PSHE, we defined and described negotiation and compromise. In RE with Mrs Fisher, we found out even more about Tawhid and after that - in French - we performed a song linked to our Pets topic.

Wolves

We began the week with Mrs Fielder. In Maths, we continued working on our addition and subtraction skills and in Dance, our Samba group dances are coming along nicely. In Music, we used the laptops to carry on with our compositions by adding the bass to our hip-hop tracks and, in French, we learnt the vocabulary for different school subjects. In English, we wrote our first piece of descriptive writing about water using all that we have learnt so far: fronted adverbials to vary our sentence starters; the senses to show what we can hear, see, taste etc; and personification to add extra detail. It was a good challenge for us all and the results were incredible! Mrs Clow was also hugely impressed with the level of homework produced for our Geography posters this weekend - well done Wolves and keep it up! We finished our topic on Brazil by creating a fact file about an indigenous tribe that live in the Amazon Rainforest and also completed a task in which we compared life in Brazil with life in the UK, before completing our

hot task to show case all our learning. Finally, with Mrs Fisher, we used paint to write in calligraphy the names of Allah and Muhammed and in PSHE, we created posters all about assertiveness skills.



Community Events/News



**HADLEIGH SUDBURY
HSSC
SWIMMING CLUB**

READY TO LEVEL UP YOUR SWIMMING?

JOIN HSSC FOR 3 FREE TASTER SESSIONS & SEE WHAT COMPETITIVE CLUB SWIMMING IS ALL ABOUT.

IF YOU'RE SWIMMING AT STAGE 7 OR ABOVE, THIS IS YOUR CHANCE TO:

- ✓ IMPROVE YOUR TECHNIQUE & STAMINA
- ✓ TRAIN WITH EXPERIENCED, SUPPORTIVE COACHES
- ✓ PUSH YOURSELF IN A FUN, TEAM-FOCUSED ENVIRONMENT
- ✓ MEET LIKE-MINDED PEOPLE AND MAKE NEW FRIENDS
- † EVENING & WEEKEND SESSIONS IN HADLEIGH & SUDBURY
- ▣ FLEXIBLE TASTER DATES
- ‡ ALL WELCOME — NO OBLIGATION TO JOIN

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Ground, Bridge Street, Suffolk, CO10 9SH



Support and Advice

School's Early Help Webpage

A range of websites and sources of advice on Emotional Wellbeing, Health, Sleep and Parenting Support can be found [here](#).

Free, Virtual NHS Parent/Carer Workshops

Norfolk and Suffolk Foundation NHS Trust are running free virtual workshops (Zoom) designed to provide up to date advice and guidance on how parents and carers can support the young people in their life. The workshops are 60-75 minutes long.

Visit <http://www.nsft.uk/workshops> for more details



Child and Adolescent Mental Health Parent Workshops

Norfolk and Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust

Free virtual workshops:

- Anxiety
- Big Feelings
- Self-harm
- Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD)
- Tourette's symptoms (TICS)

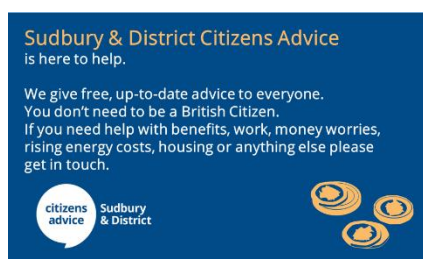
Access here: <https://www.nsft.nhs.uk/parent-workshops>

The poster features a blue background with a circular inset image of three young people walking outdoors. The NHS logo is in the top right corner.



To book onto a workshop visit [nsft.uk/workshops](https://www.nsft.uk/workshops) or scan the QR code

There are also a number of NHS podcasts and webinars available on YouTube, these can be accessed anytime via <https://www.youtube.com/@NSFT>



Sudbury & District Citizens Advice
is here to help.

We give free, up-to-date advice to everyone.
You don't need to be a British Citizen.
If you need help with benefits, work, money worries,
rising energy costs, housing or anything else please
get in touch.

citizens advice Sudbury & District

The poster has a blue background with a white circle containing the text 'citizens advice' and 'Sudbury & District'. There are also three gold coins at the bottom right.

Click the image or visit <https://www.sudburycab.org.uk/>