



Weekly Newsletter: 10th October 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

This week, the parent tours for our Reception '26 class have kept me busy. While I love the chance to show off our wonderful school, it also gives me the opportunity to see all of the amazing learning that is taking place in the school. This week, I also welcomed our new Local Authority advisor to Acton, who was not only really impressed with the calm and focussed manner with which the children were approaching their lessons but also the number of cheery “hellos” that greeted us as we toured the school – another proud headteacher moment!

Don't forget
Parents'
Evening!

In a couple of weeks, you will be able to come in to school for the first of our Parents/Carers Evenings. This year, we are hoping to join the 21st Century and move to an online booking system. We hope that this will make it easier for parents to book their appointments, rather than relying on a piece of paper sellotaped to a window. The office team are just ironing out the final gremlins in the booking system before sharing the details with you next week (keep an eye out on Parentmail).

As you have walked down the school path this week, you may have noticed the red and white tape surrounding a newly planted tree. Last Friday marked the first anniversary of the death of Mrs. Anderson (Mrs. A) so we planted a cherry blossom tree to remember her. We hope that, as the tree matures, it will stand as a reminder of the impact that Mrs A had on so many of the children (and staff) during the time that she worked at Acton.

On Wednesday, we will be walking down to All Saints church for our [Harvest Festival](#). As always, we would welcome any donations of tins or packets of food that will be distributed amongst members of the community, who always really appreciate them. If you are able to support with walking the children to the church and back, please speak to your child's class teacher (or email the office if your child walks home alone). We aim to leave school at 9:10am and are usually back at school by 11am.



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

Kind regards

Jonathan Gray
Headteacher

House Points

Willow	Cedar	Oak	Lime
149	128	118	132

Wraparound Care

As you will have seen from the Parentmail earlier in the week, Lisa will not be running Little Oaks after half-term. We are looking for two Wraparound Assistants to continue this much needed (and appreciated) offer. If you, or anyone else you know, are interested in finding out more about this role then further details can be found [here](#).

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/Carers Evenings: Wednesday 22nd and Thursday 23rd October](#)
- 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.



Stars of the Week!



Class	Strive	Support	Succeed
Caterpillars	Henry	Madison	Ada
Leopards	Kaiya	Nora	Ocean
Pandas	Jacob	Phoebe	Esmee
Llamas	Phoenix	Olivia	Stanley
Orcas	Lincoln	Aidan	Zara
Penguins	Emily	Freddie T	Poppy
Wolves	Hannah	Annabell	Bonnie

Class News

Caterpillars

This week in Caterpillar class, our learning has been based on the story of 'The Little Red Hen'. We started the week by sharing the story using puppets. The children also drew some fantastic pictures in Drawing Club. The children then made story maps, which supported them in sequencing key parts of story. In Phonics this week, we have again continued to teach new sounds from phase 2: ck, e, u, r. The children are really enjoying our phonics sessions and we hope they are sharing their learning with you at home. Our Maths learning this week has been about comparing length, using a variety of resources for measuring. The children enjoyed using multi-link cubes to measure their feet, counting how many cubes long their feet were. In Art, the children explored colour mixing and then painted some fantastic pictures. Outside the children have been busy in both the mud kitchen and sand pit and have enjoyed making ramps for the cars to zoom down. We linked this to our Maths learning, by measuring how far the cars had travelled. Another very busy week - well done Caterpillars!

Leopards

We have had another busy week in Leopard Class. This week, we used adjectives to describe Dogger. We also thought about what could have happened to Dogger from the time he was lost to the time he was found. We used our imaginations and came up with lots of ideas. In Maths, we learnt about the key terms 'greater than', 'less than' and 'equal to' and the signs used for each of these. We compared both sets of objects and numbers. In History, we spent some time learning about how the materials used to make toys have changed over time. We compared a range of toys and discussed similarities and differences. In RE, we have been learning about Christenings and Baptisms. This week, we thought about the promises people make during the service and wrote our own promises. We also decorated biscuits as part of the celebrations. Next week, we will retell the story of 'Dogger'. In Maths, we will order numbers and, in Science, we will sort a range of everyday materials. Our Phonics will continue to focus on longer words. We will also visit the church for Harvest Festival.

Pandas

This week in Year 2, we have been enjoying writing our own 'The Tiger who came to Tea' stories, swapping out the tiger for a different animal of our choice. We have included punctuation skills learnt so far this year, as well as expanded noun phrases to describe. Also this week, we started our new Geography topic all about Felixstowe. We thought about why people might visit and located where it is on Google Maps. In D.T., we also started a new topic 'Healthy Eating'. We learnt all about the Eatwell plate and organised foods into which food group they belong to. We talked about the importance of a varied diet and why some sections of the plate were larger than others. In P.E., we played a dodgeball competition on Monday, whilst on Wednesday, we thought about the importance of the roles of leaders and referees. In Maths, we have been counting in 2s, 5s, 10s and 3s; some of this was quite tricky but we persevered! Lots of the children have been busy with their phonics assessments this week and should be very proud of the progress they are making. Many of the children are now reading fluently and others are segmenting and blending with confidence - well done Pandas!

Llamas

We've had a busy week of learning in Year 3 this week! In English, we completed our first hot write of the year - a Stone Age setting description! We then moved onto our learning about adverbs and how we can expand simple sentences with them. In Maths, we completed our place value hot task and everyone should be super proud of their progress! We've now started our addition and subtraction learning. In History, we learnt about Stone Age monuments and tombs. We then used all of our knowledge to create a visitors leaflet about Stonehenge. Towards the end of the week, we used natural materials such as leaves, petals and spices to create our own paints, just like prehistoric people. It was great fun!

Orcas

It has been another lovely week in Orca Class. Rather excitingly, we finished our first English hot write of the year - writing our own first 3 paragraphs of Chapter 3 from 'The Butterfly Lion'. Everyone's writing was fantastic, featuring many adverbs, adjectives, plenty of speech (with the correct punctuation) and more! What a way to start the year! In Maths, we have been looking at different mental addition and subtraction methods this week (with a ban on using column method...for now). We found that partitioning numbers worked well. We have had to get our heads around some tricky concepts during our Geography lessons this week - the meanings of longitude, latitude, where the Tropics/Equator/Arctic and Antarctic Circles are and more. To help us with this, we sang a song called 'Latitude' to the music of 'Azizam' by Ed Sheeran. We also played lots of games using the atlases. In our PSHE lesson, we discussed peer pressure and who is likely to pressure you when you are older. We also thought about how they might do so and what we can do to prevent it. In addition, we finished our first French unit off and had a great benchball tournament in PE. Finally, everyone has been working hard this week on TTRS, competing in a class tournament. Well done to Dolphin table, who absolutely smashed it!

Penguins

We have enjoyed getting stuck into our Art unit about portraits this week, completing a cold assessment of our prior knowledge. We also used a picture of Michael Rosen to practice our continuous line drawing before applying this skill to self-portraits that we will turn into poem portraits next week. In English, we have researched the Rendlesham UFO incident (by analysing classified documents) and answered tricky comprehension questions about "alien encounters", before using our dictionary skills to select the correct homophone spellings and writing lists about aliens using commas or bullet point lists. In Maths, we have revised and refined our columnar addition and subtraction methods, using them to solve word problems that were quite difficult to model. In PE with Coach Caragh we thrived in a competitive, in-class netball tournament and, in Hockey, we compared indoor and outdoor forms of the game. In PSHE with Mrs Fisher, we discovered how our body reacts to our emotions and - in Music - we analysed "I Saw Her Standing There" by The Beatles. In RE with Mrs Fisher, we continued with our unit on Islam and, in French, we rehearsed discussions about each other's birthdays.

Wolves

The highlight of our week has to be setting up our bread experiment! We discussed various ways in which food goes mouldy and then set up an experiment to test out in which conditions bread goes the mouldiest e.g. cold and damp, hot and dry etc. We are going to observe them every day for a week and are already looking forward to seeing what the results bring. In English, we started a new unit all about persuasion. We thought carefully about what makes certain adverts stick in our minds and then wrote letters on a subject we feel passionately about, for example homework should be banned, mobile phones should not be banned, and pets should be brought into school. With Mrs Clow, we learnt the challenging concept of long division in Maths and, with Mrs Fielder, we continued working on BODMAS. We also tested our listening skills in French to pick out key information from conversations, perfected out Samba dances ready for a performance next week, and, in Music, we added a rap to our hip-hop tracks. In Computing, we carried on creating our online safety games and enjoyed playing mini games in hockey with coach Dan. We finished the week with Mrs Fisher by discussing how to act appropriately in different situations in PSHE, and, in RE, we explored how Muslims live and the importance of giving to charity.



[@actonprimary](https://www.instagram.com/actonprimary)

Community Events/News



**CORNARD DYNAMITES:
GIRLS FOOTBALL TRAINING**

Players required ages 5-8
(School years 1-4)

*PATHWAY TO
CORNARD DYNAMOS GIRLS
TEAMS U8-U18*

All abilities welcome!
FA Qualified Coaches, female and male

				
Football	Fun	Fitness	Friendships	Feel-Good

Weekly training starts:
Saturday 18th January 2025 11am-12pm
Blackhouse Lane, Sudbury, CO10 0NL
First two sessions free, £3 per session
thereafter

For further information contact
Lisa on 079 38 512 849

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

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>



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

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