



Weekly Newsletter: 24th October 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

While this has been a long term, it also feels like it has flown past in a blink of an eye. Although, those shiny new shoes aren't looking as shiny anymore and there is probably at least one pen mark on those new school jumpers.

Thank you to everyone who attended Parents' Evenings this week. From the feedback that we have received, it appears that the online booking system was a positive move and it meant that appointments could be more easily managed. I know that the children love the opportunity to share their learning and share their pride in their work. Thank you also to the staff for the two later nights than usual (due to the larger class sizes), especially in Week 8!



Last academic year, we had a real focus on developing our science curriculum and what we could offer in this area of the curriculum. Last week, all of the hard work paid off as we were awarded a Primary Science Quality Mark, this recognises the developments that were made in the teaching of science and the raised profile of the subject at our school (it also means we have a shiny new award to put on our new look website). Well done to all of the staff involved, especially Mrs. Garrod who led the project, for their hard work in achieving this award.

Yesterday, I had the pleasure of accompanying Rev. Faith and the Y5/6 members of our Faith Council to deliver Harvest Food parcels to members of our village community. We walked all over the village to drop off the donations. The Faith Councillors were amazing as they greeted every opened door with big smiles and kind words. What particularly stood out was the impact these greetings had on the recipients, who were grateful for the food parcel but even more grateful for the opportunity to talk to the children. The remaining donations (as there was too much to carry) will be taken to a local food bank to support those in our wider community.





Today marks the end of Little Oaks, as Lisa runs the last of her sessions after school. I wanted to take this opportunity to thank Lisa for running our Wraparound Care for the past couple of years. I know, for many parents, it was a deciding factor in choosing our school. We all wish Lisa, Scarlett and Isla the very best as they move away and onto new adventures.

Continuing with Wraparound Care remains a priority as I am aware of the importance of it to so many of our families. Information about next term's arrangements have been shared via Arbor today.

I hope that you have a great half-term with lots of happy memories made and stories to be shared when the children return to school on Monday 3rd November.

Kind regards

Jonathan Gray
Headteacher

House Points

Willow	Cedar	Oak	Lime
221	191	185	204

Remembrance Artwork

Mrs. Fisher is on the hunt for plastic fizzy drink bottles and old umbrellas (and any spare red fabric) for a whole school Remembrance display. She is planning on working with children across the school, starting on Monday 3rd November. Any donations will be greatly received.



PE Days

After half-term, we will have a coach from Northampton Saints RFC working with the children. This will mean a few changes to the PE timetable for some classes (highlighted below).

Class	PE Days
Reception (Caterpillars)	Tuesday and Friday
Year 1 (Leopards)	Tuesday and Friday
Year 2 (Pandas)	Wednesday and Friday
Year 3 (Llamas)	Tuesday and Thursday
Year 4 (Orcas)	Wednesday and Thursday
Year 5 (Penguins)	Monday and Tuesday
Year 6 (Wolves)	Monday and Wednesday

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

- 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	Max	Indie	Mati
Leopards	Eden	Molly	Cory-Hunter
Pandas	Jerry	Lucy	Abel
Llamas	Hunter	Eloise	Addy
Orcas	Dexter	Isabella-Rose	Lilly
Penguins	Eric	Daisy B (nominated by Mrs Fisher)	Luna
Wolves	Ollie	Harry	Aurora

Class News

Caterpillars

This week in Caterpillar class, our learning has been based on the story 'Room on a Broom'. The children have enjoyed re-telling the story using puppets and prompts and have loved designing their own hats, potions and brooms. In Drawing Club, the children have designed some fantastic broomsticks, as well as drawing their own witch. In Phonics, we revisited the phonemes learnt this half term, and continued to practice the tricky words I, the, is. This week our Maths focus has been pattern. The children have worked hard, using a variety of resources to create two and three colour repeating patterns. We have also enjoyed being in the outside

classroom, exploring signs of Autumn. The children have had a super first half term at school and we hope they have a great half term holiday.

Leopards

We cannot believe how quickly the first half term has gone. We have learnt so much and we were pleased to be able to show you lots of our learning at Parents' Evening. This week, we planned and wrote our own toy themed stories. We enjoyed using our imagination and creativity to create characters and decide what would happen in our own story. In Maths, we started our addition and subtraction unit by learning about part-whole models. We used double sided counters and large part- whole models to explore this concept. In Science, we learnt about the season of Autumn and, in Art, we enjoyed using our skills to mix secondary colours for some autumnal artwork. After half term, we will have more of a Geography focus and will be thinking about the big question 'Where is my school?'. In English, we will learn about both stories with repeating patterns and information texts and, in Maths, we will begin by learning about addition and subtraction. Have a wonderful half term.

Pandas

This week in Year 2, we have written our fantastic 'Tiger who came to tea' stories up in neat. We remembered to use commas, speech marks and expanded noun phrases within our writing. We then started to read some Oliver Jeffers adventure stories ready for after half term. It's been fantastic to write quest stories and remember all of the skills we have learnt so far. In Maths, we are working hard on addition and subtraction using number bonds to 10 and 100, especially using visual aids to support this learning. Also this week, we have really enjoyed our D.T. Unit-making wraps and eating them! We designed wraps, which covered lots of the food groups, and thought about combinations of food which taste really nice together. We then enjoyed cutting, spreading and grating all of our ingredients before eating our lovely wrap. We've had a great time in P.E. This week as we approach half term, we decided to get out the wall bars and the ropes, as well as the pommel horse and springboard. We had some amazing gymnasts in our class! We enjoyed PSHE and Music with Mrs Fisher on Monday, and, on Wednesday, we completed our Felixstowe topic in Geography. After half term, we're looking forward to starting our new History unit all about the Gunpowder Plot. I hope that you all have a wonderful half term!

Llamas

We've had an excellent end to our first half term in Llama Class. In English, we finished our second hot write, which was all about how we wanted 'Tilly and the Time Machine' to end. We focused on using expanded noun phrases, conjunctions and adverbs to describe what was going on in our stories. In Maths, we have been working on our mental calculation methods for adding two and three digit numbers, using our number facts to complete trickier calculations. I think all the Llamas would agree that the highlight of our week was finishing our Stonehenge learning by building Stonehenge out of biscuits and icing - who knew a Stone Age monument would taste so yummy?! We've had a fantastic term of learning together and the Llamas should be super proud of all the progress they've made since September, we hope you have a well-earned rest!

Orcas

We have made it! Longest half term ever = complete. What a super half term to start Year 4 we have had! We are currently enjoying reading 'How to Train Your Dragon' together as a class. We had a go at sketching Snotlout/Hiccup in one lesson and then compared our sketches to Cressida Cowell's illustrations. We have also been considering our thoughts on the book so far. During possibly my favourite lesson of the week, we got our creative juices flowing and designed our own dragons before painting them using really vibrant water colours. Some of these are now displayed on the wall and look absolutely superb! In Maths, we have been using column addition and subtraction to help us with calculations. During many of our afternoons this week, we have been enjoying working our way through our Art unit. We spent a lesson looking at how to use texture (like crosshatching) to make our work look more 3D. We then created our own collages using paper and wrappers, really considering the composition of our materials. Following on from this, we sketched and coloured the designs that we had made into collages.

We used several artists as inspiration for our work this week, including Nicola McBride, Sarah Graham and Beatriz Milhazes. Overall, we have had a really fun week (and half term) together. I hope everyone has a super holiday and I look forward to starting Autumn Term #2 in November!

Penguins

A huge "Well Done!" to all the Penguins for such a successful half term to open the year. In Art, we completed our portraits unit by creating mixed media self-portraits, drawing on all of the skills and knowledge we have gained in the last fortnight - quite an undertaking! In English, we deepened our understanding of adverbials and enumeration by linking our sentence work to our topic and then showcased these elements in our final Hot Write assessment, recounting our UFO encounters. In Maths, after using rounding to help us with estimation, we looked again at written and mental methods of addition and subtraction, so that we were well prepared for our hot assessment. In PE, we enjoyed our final games of Netball and completing our class Hockey tournament. In Music with Mrs Fisher, we began our new unit by singing "Sparkle in my Life" and, in PSHE, we finished our unit on building positive relationships. In RE with Mrs Fisher we created Islamic tiles and, in French, we continued learning all about pets. Finally, we reviewed all of our work from the year so far, creating quizzes to test our friends and mind-maps to lodge our learning in our long-term memory. We wish everyone a happy half term.

Wolves

We can't quite believe that we have finished our first half term of Year 6! It has flown by and Mrs Clow has been incredibly impressed by everything we have done. We have spent the week finishing up a few of our topics. In Maths, we completed a hot task on multiplication and division demonstrating all that we have learnt including the formal written methods as well as factors, multiples and prime numbers. In English, we wrote a persuasive letter to the Brazilian Embassy all about the devastating effects of deforestation using the formal language we have learnt and the homework notes we researched. We also spent a lot of time this week on our Art topic with help from the very talented Miss P. We studied vanishing points and drew a scene that ensured that our pictures 'disappeared' into the distance; we used grids to scale up drawings; and finally, we drew our name using graffiti style writing. We also had our final session of hockey with Coach Dan- it was great to see how much our skills have improved over the last 6 weeks. We also really enjoyed performing our Samba dance to the Caterpillars and Mrs Clow. Thank you for a great half term, Wolves- enjoy your half term break.



[@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)

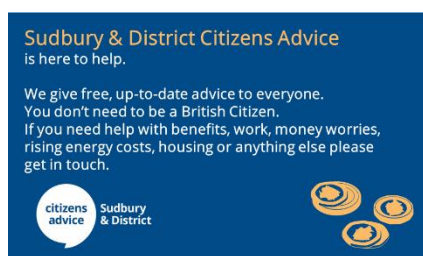
Access here: <https://www.nsft.nhs.uk/parent-workshops>

The poster features the NHS logo and the text 'Norfolk and Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust'. It includes a circular image of three young people walking outdoors.



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 features the Citizens Advice logo and three gold coins.

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