



Weekly Newsletter: 17th April 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to the Summer term! I hope that had a wonderful Easter and managed to find some time to relax, enjoy the sunshine and devour the odd chocolate egg!

It has been a relatively quiet start to the term, following the crazy end to Spring, although there is a lots of exciting learning to be shared in the Class News Section.

This week, Mrs. Pegley and Mrs. Smith have been tackling the thankless task of transferring lunch payments from Parentmail to Arbor. I know there have been a few teething problems but I would like to extend my thanks to you all for your patience and understanding over this period. Hopefully all of the gremlins will be ironed out over the next couple of weeks.

Yesterday, we received the names of the children who will be joining us in Reception in September. We are really pleased to have a full class of 30 again – this is the third year that we have been oversubscribed for places in our Reception class. When I am carrying out the parent tours in the Autumn, I am always really proud of the fact that many of the prospective parents have chosen to visit our school based on the recommendation of current parents. This means so much to both myself and the staff so, from all of us, thank you for spreading the word about our school and what we do here at Acton.



Below, you will find this term's PE days (hopefully that will be the last change until the end of term to save any more confusion) and the list of dates for this term, including Sports Day.

I hope that you have a fantastic weekend!

Kind regards
Jonathan Gray
Headteacher

House Points

| Willow | Cedar | Oak | Lime |
|--------|-------|-----|------|
| 31 | 69 | 41 | 20 |

Box-ing Clever on the Football Pitch

Yesterday evening, our U11 Football teams played their second game of the Sudbury Prestige Sports Development League, following two postponements. Both teams played matches against Boxford CEVC Primary School.

The boys kicked their game off first and it wasn't long before they raced into a one-nil lead with a great strike from Alfie. Moments later, Freddie W doubled the lead after slotting the ball past the Boxford goalkeeper. Despite ongoing pressure, and some wonderful football (including a wonder strike from Charlie which rattled the post), the game remained two-nil going into half time. After the break, Acton continued to push forward and eventually got their reward as Harry joined his brother on the scoresheet. The goals weren't finished as Oscar dusted himself down, after being fouled, to curl a great free kick into the bottom corner of the goal. The game finished a few moments later with Acton winning 4 – 0, making it two wins in two matches.

The girls were next up and did not hang about! They raced into a two-nil lead with a thunderbolt from Bethany and a clever finish from Sophia. They continued to apply pressure and the Boxford goalkeeper was definitely the busier of the two players between the sticks. After a free kick was awarded to Acton for handball, Sophia stepped up and smashed the ball into the back of the net – giving the goalkeeper no chance of stopping it! After half-time, the girls continued to grow in confidence as they began to pass the ball around. A lovely little square pass from Olivia, on the edge of the area, was the perfect set-up for Sophia to slide the ball past the 'keeper for her hat trick goal. Poppy then got in on the goal scoring action with a wonderful finish to complete the scoring (although the less said about the celebration the better!). The match finished 5 - 0 to Acton as the girls got their first win in the league.

PE Days for Summer Term

| Class | PE Days |
|-----------|---------------------------------|
| Reception | Tuesday and Friday |
| Year 1 | Monday and Friday |
| Year 2 | Wednesday and Friday |
| Year 3 | Tuesday and Thursday |
| Year 4 | Tuesday and Thursday |
| Year 5 | Monday and Wednesday |
| Year 6 | Wednesday and Friday (Swimming) |

Summer Term Dates

- Y5 Residential to Aylmerton: Wednesday 22nd April to Friday 24th April
- PSD Football League vs Wells Hall: Thursday 30th April
- Y6 'Breakfast Week': w/c Monday 11th May
- PSD Football League vs Glemsford: Thursday 14th May
- Y6 trip to High Lodge: Friday 15th May
- Y3 Ancient Greek Day: Wednesday 20th May
- PSD Football League vs Great Waldingfield: Thursday 21st May
- Half term: w/c Monday 25th May to Friday May
- Children return to school: Monday 1st June
- Y6 Residential to Thorpe Woodlands: Monday 22nd June to Wednesday 24th June
- Y1 visit to Hollow Trees Farm: Friday 26th June
- **Sports Day: Wednesday 1st July**
- FOAS Summer Fayre: Friday 3rd July
- Y6 RSC Performance at the Mercury Theatre: Thursday 9th July
- Y3 visit to Dawes Hall: Tuesday 14th July
- Last day of the year: Friday 17th July

More dates to be added as the term goes on. Details about events and trips to be shared nearer the time.



Stars of the Week!



| Class | Strive | Support | Succeed |
|--------------|----------|------------|---------|
| Caterpillars | Madison | Max | Ezra |
| Leopards | Isabella | Barnaby | Reya |
| Pandas | Abel | Sophia | Esme |
| Llamas | Nancy | Jack | Lucas |
| Orcas | Travis | Corinne | Lilly |
| Penguins | Oscar H | Evie | Nyla |
| Wolves | Alissa | Billie-Mae | Max |

Class News

Caterpillars

This week the Caterpillars have come back to school focused and ready to learn. In Drawing Club, we have shared the story 'Mr Bunny's Chocolate Factory', looking at the characters and the setting in the story before thinking about what surprise we would put inside our own chocolate egg. The children have enjoyed sharing their Easter holiday news and have created their own Easter holiday diaries. In Phonics this week, we have revisited the digraphs ai, ee, oa and the trigraph igh. Please continue to look at these sounds with your child at home, using their Phonics Home Learning Book. Our Maths focus this week has been looking at numbers beyond 10, focusing on 11, 12, 13 and 14. This term the Caterpillars are very lucky to have one of our PE sessions led by one of the fantastic sports coaches. They all had a fantastic time and all followed instructions brilliantly. Well done Caterpillars.

Leopards

It was lovely to welcome everyone back to school this week following the Easter break. We enjoyed sharing our news about our holidays and went on to write recounts documenting our

favourite moments. After this, we started our fairy tale unit by reading and discussing a range of fairy tales. We discovered that fairy tales have an unkind character in them and tend to involve some form of magic. In Maths, we started our half term by learning about measurement. We compared lengths and heights before moving to measure items using objects and centimetres. Our big question this half term is 'What made Thomas Gainsborough a significant individual?' We started our learning linked to this by finding out who Thomas Gainsborough was. We found out that Thomas Gainsborough was a famous artist who painted both landscapes and portraits. Next week, we will answer questions about fairy tales. In Maths, we will learn about weight and capacity, and in History, we will look at some of Thomas Gainsborough's work. In Phonics, we will review and apply sounds we have learnt.

Pandas

It was lovely to see the Pandas back and refreshed after the Easter break. I hope that you all had a lovely holiday and enjoyed some delicious chocolate eggs! We are back with our new topic 'What a Wonderful World' in Geography, where we have been using the globes and atlases to map the continents and oceans of the world. We then worked together in teams to create posters of each continent, finding out facts and statistics for each. In English, we are reading fantasy dragon stories. We have started with 'The Dragon Machine' and used this to map where we would locate dragons in the classroom before writing a letter of description. In Maths, we are now learning about fractions. We recapped part, part, whole and then how we can make sure a shape is split evenly. In PE, we worked on our racket skills with Coach Dan, and then focused on passing in our second lesson on Friday. We have also started our journey to cursive handwriting. We are practising a little bit each day to make our writing beautifully neat and joined in all our work. It's quite a tricky skill, but we are persevering!

Llamas

What an excellent first week back we have had in Year 3! In English, we explored the world of Greek myths and identified their key features, reading both 'Theseus and the Minotaur' and 'Daedalus and Icarus'. We even carried this theme into our indoor P.E. lessons by learning a traditional Greek dance! Over in History, we kicked off our Ancient Greece topic by discovering who the Greeks were and creating a timeline of major events. Meanwhile, in Maths, we continued tackling word problems while mastering concepts like 'sum' and 'product'. Towards the end of the week, we took our P.E. learning outside to begin our tennis unit, focusing on our accuracy and spatial awareness. Our Science lessons took a brilliant turn as we started studying light and dark. We discussed the differences between natural and artificial light sources, and even discovered the fascinating world of bioluminescence! Finally, in English with Mrs Price, we started reading the fantastic book 'The Boy Who Grew Dragons' and became enthusiastic 'vocabulary thieves', eagerly stealing wonderful new words to use in our own writing.

Orcas

It has been a wonderful first four days back in Orca Class, although it barely feels as though we have been away! We have been sharing our fantastic homework all week, which was a holiday diary project. This has been a lovely way to talk about what we have been up to, while also encouraging some writing over the break. In English this week, we have been learning about the features of a newspaper article, using reports about Pompeii to support our understanding. In Maths, we have been focusing on measure and have been converting between units of weight, length and capacity. We will continue this learning next week. In PE, we have started two new units—tennis and Quidditch! These link nicely, as we are practising throwing, catching and aiming skills. In Geography, we have begun our new topic on settlements and will be using maps and atlases over the coming weeks to support our learning. In French, we have moved on to a popular topic—ordering food and drink in a café! Hopefully this will come in useful for some pupils over the summer holidays! We also completed our Star Reader tests this week and received our final AR levels of the year, which Mrs Garrod is very pleased with. Well done for settling back in so well, Year 4!

Penguins

A lovely welcome back from Penguin Class this week with some fabulous results on our final STAR reader assessment and lots of interesting preparation for our residential trip next week! In

Geography and Science, we found out all about coastal erosion and animals that live around the British coast, answering an array of comprehension questions about information texts around these topics. In English, we applied our persuasive writing skills to arguments about sea defences in North Norfolk. In Maths, we revised our multiplication and division by powers of 10 to help us convert metric units of mass and capacity and tried out our first arithmetic test of the season! In PE, we began our Tennis sessions by playing King of the Ring, working on our rallies and one of the Penguins even conquered Killer Catch (well done Nyla!). In Music with Mrs Fisher, we started studying improvisation by listening to an amazing K-Pop tune and, in French, we learned about items of clothing. In PSHE with Mrs Fisher, we completed our cold assessment about "Being my Best" before learning some fascinating facts about the human body, and, in RE, we opened our topic on Judaism by thinking about sacred objects.

Wolves

It's been lovely having the Wolf Pack back and thank you once again for supporting with the homework books. Our Maths this week has focused on time and timetables as well as revisiting a few concepts like algebra, mean and comparing fractions. In English, we have been going over some of the trickier spelling rules and answering inference questions in comprehension. We also began the sequel to Wild Boy - 'Wild Boy and the Black Terror'- and are looking forward to finding out what happens next. With Miss P, we began our new Art unit which was all about memories and sculptures and we know, at the end of the project, we will have some incredible memory boxes to take away with us to remember our time at Acton. In PE, with Coach Dan, we practised our howler throws and on Friday, we really enjoyed our first swimming session. Finally, we finished the week with Mrs Fisher. In PSHE we discussed what we want to be when we grow up and what we need to do to achieve this; in DT, we tested and evaluated our bridges; and in RE, looked at the Torah, discussed how Jewish people care for it and talked about how this relates to our own lives.



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Community News and Events

Book Sale

In Acton Church,
Satnav: CO10 0BA

**Sat.25th
April**

10.00—2.00
Free Entry



**Teen &
Children's books
less than half price!**

All Proceeds to Church funds.

Join us for

Thorpe Woodlands Family Fun Day

£20pp
for a morning or afternoon of unlimited
activities!

please feel free to bring a picnic or there is a cafe located at Forest Holidays

- *Archery
- *Zip Wire
- *High Ropes
- *Canoe Hire
- *Rock Climbing
- *Tree Trekking
- *Caving



scan me to book!
(please select the date then click 'family adventure day')

29.03.26

Thorpe Woodlands
Adventure Centre
Stamwell, Thetford
IP24 2RX

**9:30am – 12:30pm
OR
1:30pm – 4:30pm**



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](#).

Child and Adolescent Mental Health Parent Workshops

NHS
Norfolk and Suffolk
NHS Foundation Trust

Free virtual workshops:

- Anxiety
- Emetophobia
- Tourette's Symptoms/Tics
- Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD)



Access here: <https://nsft.uk/Workshops>

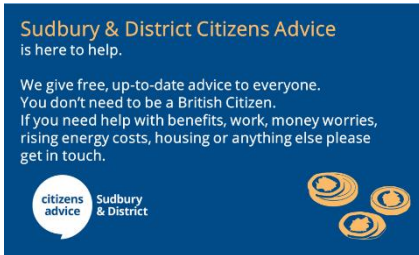
Free NHS Virtual workshops – Supporting Young People's Mental Health

These free virtual workshops (Zoom) are 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 minutes long.

To book onto a workshop visit 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>



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