



## Weekly Newsletter: 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

The confusion of having our school week end on a Thursday has thrown all of us, especially as it hard to believe it is half term already, which is why the newsletter has still come out at its normal time.



Thank you to everyone who supported our 'Wear it Pink' day yesterday. It was wonderful to see all of the children decked out in pink, purple or red – it even made me question whether pink would make a good school uniform colour, as it certainly made the school seem brighter! The School Council counted up the donations from the non-uniform

day and the pupil and staff competitions and are really pleased to announce that we raised £305.50 for Breast Cancer Now.

It was wonderful to see so many parents attending our Autumn Parents' Evenings. I hope that you found the appointment with your child's class teacher useful and informative and were able to take the time to celebrate your child's successes from this term when looking through their work. If you were unable to make it to your appointment, please speak to your child's class teacher to arrange a convenient time to meet after half term.



I hope that you have a fantastic half-term and the children enjoy the opportunity to recharge their batteries before we return on the 2<sup>nd</sup> November.

Kind regards

Jonathan Gray  
Headteacher

### House Points

| Willow | Cedar | Oak | Lime |
|--------|-------|-----|------|
| 257    | 291   | 366 | 273  |

## Prestige Sports Development Holiday Camp

We are really excited to announce that PSD (who run our after school clubs and support with our PE lessons) are going to be running a holiday camp at school during half-term. The sessions will run from Monday 26<sup>th</sup> October to Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> October, 9am to 3:30pm (with an option of an early drop off).

A little taster of the activities on offer are below:

- Super Sports – like Dodgeball, Football, Basketball, & more.
- Arts & Crafts – like Jewellery Making, Slime, Rock Painting & more.
- Mega Moments – like Laser Tag, Nerf Targets, Axe Throwing & more.
- Go Wild – Like Axe Throwing, Soft Archery, Scavenger Hunts, Garden Games
- Brain Busters – like scavenger hunts, quizzes and Team Games.
- STEM Stars – like Lego, Board games, Fort Building and Water Rockets!

If you would like to find out more and book your child in one or more of the days then please visit - <https://www.prestigesportsdevelopment.com/holiday-camp-venues> .

## Acton Light Switch On

Acton Parish Council would like to invite the children of Acton CEVC Primary School to take part in the annual poster competition to create a poster to advertise the **Acton Lights Switch On**. The winning design will be used in promotional material for the event and the winner will receive a prize donated by the Acton Puzzle Library and Book Swap to be presented at the event on Sat 28<sup>th</sup> November at 4pm, Queensway Green.



The poster just needs to be a Christmassy picture on A4 paper with NO TEXT on it. The info for the event will be added afterwards. Children may like to include elements from the Switch On such as a Christmas tree, singing, lanterns, hot chocolate, mince pies, Santa etc.

Please could all entries be handed in by 2<sup>nd</sup> November (first day back after half term) to the school office, with the entrant's name on the back.

## School Lunch Price Update from Caterlink

We would like to make you aware of an important update regarding the price of school meals at your school. From Monday 2 November 2026, **the cost of a school meal will increase to £3.20 per pupil**. We appreciate that any increase in the cost of school meals needs to be carefully considered, particularly at a time when schools and families continue to manage increasing financial pressures. We have therefore worked hard to keep this increase to the minimum necessary.

## Christmas Performances

I know it's a long way off but below are the dates and approximate times of the Christmas performances. Further details regarding tickets will be released nearer the time.

- Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2pm - KS1 Nativity Performance
- Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> December, 9:30am – KS1 Nativity Performance
- Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> December, 2pm– Reception Nativity Performance



## Autumn 2026 Term Dates

- Half Term: w/c Monday 26<sup>th</sup> October
- Children Return: Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November
- U11 Girls' Football Tournament: 6<sup>th</sup> November
- Individual Photos: Monday 16<sup>th</sup> November
- Last Day of Autumn Term: Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December

More dates to be added as the term goes on. All term and holiday dates can be found [here](#). Details about events and trips to be shared nearer the time.



## Stars of the Week!



| Class        | Strive  | Support   | Succeed   |
|--------------|---------|-----------|-----------|
| Caterpillars | Bobby   | Freya T   | Henry     |
| Leopards     | Lily    | Zachary W | Ted S     |
| Pandas       | Frank P | Archie    | Barnaby   |
| Llamas       | Sophia  | Archie    | Tillyanna |
| Orcas        | Addy    | Reuben    | Eloise    |
| Penguins     | Alice   | Albie     | Amelia F  |
| Wolves       | Michael | Annabelle | Emily     |

## Class News

### Caterpillars

This week in Caterpillar Class, we have continued our 'Marvellous Me' topic, consolidating and celebrating all the learning that has taken place over the half term. The children have created self-portraits, which we can compare with those they drew during their first week at school. We will revisit this activity throughout the year to celebrate their progress and development. In Phonics, we revisited the phonemes we have learnt this half term and continued to practise reading the tricky words *I*, *the* and *is*. In Maths, our focus has been on the numbers 1, 2 and 3. The children have enjoyed using a variety of practical resources to represent, build and compare these numbers. We have also made the most of our outdoor classroom, exploring the signs of autumn and noticing the changes happening in the world around us. The children have had a fantastic first half term at school, and we are so proud of all they have achieved. We hope everyone has a wonderful and restful 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, in English, we focused on sentence structure and using our phonics knowledge to help us spell. We tried hard to make sure we used a capital letter, finger spaces and a full stop for each sentence we wrote. In Maths, we concluded our place value unit by learning to use a number line. We then 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 RE, we concluded our learning about Christenings by discussing everything we had learnt. 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 English we have been working on noun phrases in relation to 'The Tiger who came to Tea'. We wrote about the delicious food the tiger ate, as well as describing the characters in the story. We sequenced the story and wrote a sentence to describe each part. In Maths, we have continued to work on our number bonds as well as looking at related facts to help us add ones and tens. Also this week, we explored the force of friction in Science, testing cars movement across ramps of different materials. We worked as a table group to explore how the properties of the materials affected the turning of the wheels. Later in the week, we created a mindmap about all of the information we have learnt about materials in Science this half term. We could name materials and their properties, discuss whether they were waterproof, what caused friction and how we can bend and strengthen them. In PE, we really enjoyed getting out the apparatus in the hall, as well as the balancing benches and practising our jumps. With Mrs Fisher this week, we got creative: we made poppies out of wool which we curled, scrunched and glued to a poppy template. We can't wait to see what they look like when they're made into a Remembrance Day display.

### Llamas

What a fantastic final week we've had in Year 3! In English, we completed our first hot write of Year 3, a setting description of a Stone Age setting, which included expanded noun phrases. The whole class took such great care of their work and worked so hard to include as much detail as possible. In Maths, we have been working on the basics of column addition and subtraction, which has been tricky so far but we're making great progress. In PE, we enjoyed a yoga session to wrap up our mindfulness learning. The highlight of our week was, of course, building (and eating!) Stonehenge using bourbon biscuits for the sarsen stones, rich tea fingers for the lintels and icing to stick it all together. The class showed great collaboration and teamwork for this task and it turns out they can polish off a good few biscuits too - what a way to bring Autumn 1 to a close! Well done for all your hard work in Year 3 so far, Llamas, you have truly earned this half term break.

### Orcas

I can't quite believe that we have completed eight weeks of Year 4 together and have reached our first half-term holiday! We have had a lovely, arty final week together, creating lots of creative pieces of work. As you probably guessed, we have completed our Art unit this week, which has been all about drawing, texture and tone. We learnt how to sketch 3D drawings through observation (with the help of apples and Quality Street!). We created lovely collages, thinking about composition, and observed different pieces of art featuring creative proportions, such as a giant spoon and cherry sculpture. In English this week, we have done quite a lot of group reading of 'How to Train Your Dragon', which has included some superb Scottish accents for Stoick the Vast. I have been really impressed by everyone's eagerness to read different roles to the class and look forward to hearing some more after the holidays. In addition, we created a wanted poster for Toothless the dragon, which you will see on our wall display in the resource area. In Maths, we have been working some more with the column method, particularly column

subtraction. Everyone has put a lot of effort into this and the outcome has been great. Well done for another super week, Year 4. Have a lovely half-term, and I'll see you after the break!

### **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 UFOs by reading challenging texts about them and then used dictionaries to select the correct homophones when writing sentences on the topic. In Maths, we learned all about factors and multiples, following a short cold assessment to set up our multiplication and division unit. In PE, we enjoyed our final games of netball and completing our class dodgeball tournament. In Music with Mrs Fisher, we completed our unit by playing the final pieces for our hot assessment and, in PSHE, we finished our unit on building positive relationships. In French with Mrs Fisher, we continued learning all about pets and we also loved creating poppy collages ready for Remembrance Day. Finally, we really enjoyed getting involved with the school gardens to finish a busy four day week. We wish everyone a restful and restorative break!

### **Wolves**

The results of the bread experiment are in... We very much enjoyed observing the bread over the past week and, although some sadly didn't develop any mould, most definitely did! There were lots of changes to the bread even if there wasn't any obvious mould including white bits round the edges and cracks appearing. We also discovered that the bread that developed the most mould were the ones that were in damp, dark conditions. We also completed our hot task to showcase all our learning about animals and their habitats. In other news, with Mrs Fielder, we performed, filmed and evaluated our Samba Dances; in Maths, we showed our learning by completing our hot task on addition and subtraction; and in Music, we worked on improving the drum beat on our hip hop tracks. With Mrs Clow, we completed our English topic by writing a persuasive letter to the Brazilian Embassy all about the devastating effects of deforestation using the formal language that we have learnt and the homework notes we researched. We also finished reading 'The Explorer'. Finally, in Maths, we worked on simplifying fractions using common denominators as well as comparing and ordering fractions. Thank you for a great half term Wolves- enjoy your week off!



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

## Community Events



**PADEL EVOLUTION**  
Old Joes, Joes Rd, Sudbury CO10 0QB

**JUNIOR PADEL**  
**AUTUMN TERM 2026**

- Learn all the padel shots and tactics
- Meet and make friends
- Have FUN!

**FROM £104**  
13 WEEKS

- 4:30pm-5:15pm 6-9yrs old
- 5:15pm-6:00pm 10-15yrs
- Friday 11th September - Friday 11th December

**BOOK NOW** | [elevatepadelcoaching.com/padel-evolution](http://elevatepadelcoaching.com/padel-evolution)

EMAIL: [contact@elevatepadelcoaching.com](mailto:contact@elevatepadelcoaching.com)



**WEST END DANCE CAMP**

Join professional performer, Beth Curnock, who has just returned from the world tour of *Les Miserables*, for an action packed day designed to unleash your creativity, confidence and stage presence! A fantastic opportunity for young performers to improve skills, build confidence and experience musical theatre!

**Monday 26<sup>th</sup> October**  
Colne Engaine  
Dancing singing

**Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> October**  
Long Melford  
Playing games

9am - 3pm  
**Age 4 - 11 years**  
Performances at 2:45pm

**£26 for a day workshop**  
Crafting

Complete the Google form to book or email [info@elizabethschoolofdance.com](mailto:info@elizabethschoolofdance.com)

## 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**

Free virtual workshops:

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

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



NHS Norfolk and Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust

### 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](https://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>