



School Newsletter

FRIDAY 25TH SEPTEMBER 2026

Headteacher's insight

One of the things we are really proud of across our schools is the way our children are building positive connections with the adults and children around them. A simple but powerful part of this focus this academic year has been our introduction of The Good Morning Club approach and, in particular, "Say Hey Your Way."

The idea is wonderfully simple: there is no single "right" way to say hello. Children are encouraged to choose a greeting that feels comfortable for them. That might be a wave, a smile, a high five, a fist bump or simply saying "good morning". What matters is not the particular greeting, but the moment of connection it creates.

We have been using Say Hey Your Way successfully in school and it has been lovely to see children embracing it. Those few seconds communicate something important: I see you, you belong here, and I'm pleased you're here.

And that sense of connection matters for learning too. We know that children are more ready to learn when they feel safe, settled and connected. A positive interaction at the start of the day can help a child make the transition from home into school, regulate how they are feeling and begin the day knowing that there is an adult who has noticed them and is pleased to see them. Connection comes before learning because connection helps create the conditions in which learning can happen.

It also gives children agency. Not every child wants a high five or feels comfortable with the same type of interaction, and that is absolutely fine. Giving children a choice teaches them that their own boundaries matter while also learning to respect the choices of others.



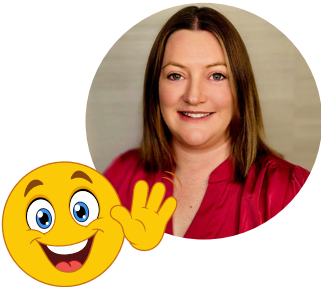


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This fits beautifully with our school focus on intentional connections and our belief that strong relationships are not separate from great teaching; they are part of what makes great teaching possible. When children feel that they belong, understand the routines around them and arrive emotionally ready for the day, we give them the strongest possible foundations for learning.



So, if you hear your child talking about “Say Hey Your Way,” you now know that behind that very simple greeting sits something much bigger: connection, belonging and readiness to learn.



Mrs Thompson

Mrs Emily Thompson
Executive Headteacher



Educational Visits – A Change to Our Approach

We are writing to let you know about a change to our approach to educational visits and activities, in line with national guidance for schools.

Educational visits and activities are an important part of our curriculum. They provide children with valuable opportunities to learn beyond the classroom, develop independence and confidence, and make meaningful connections with their learning.

Under national guidance, schools are not required to obtain individual parental consent for curriculum-related activities and visits that take place wholly within the school's normal hours, unless the child is of nursery age. This includes regular activities and visits that form part of our planned curriculum.

Going forward, therefore, for children in Reception and above, we will not routinely ask you to provide individual consent for these types of visits. Instead, we will ensure that you are informed about activities and visits taking place away from school, including the locations regularly used as part of our curriculum.

You can expect information about these opportunities to be shared through our usual communication channels, such as newsletters, letters, emails or Tapestry. This will allow you to understand where your child may be going, why the visit is taking place and how it supports their learning.

What will stay the same?

The safety and wellbeing of your child will remain our highest priority. All educational visits will continue to be carefully planned and risk assessed, with appropriate staffing and safeguarding arrangements in place.



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For more complex or unusual activities, such as residential visits, overseas visits, visits involving adventurous activities or activities involving remote supervision, we will provide more detailed information and may invite parents and carers to a meeting so that you have the opportunity to ask questions and understand all aspects of the visit. Where parental consent is required, this will continue to be sought.

For our Nursery children, parental consent will continue to be requested where required, in line with the guidance for Nursery-age children.

We are excited to continue providing our children with rich and varied learning experiences beyond the classroom and thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards,

Mrs Sellars Assistant Headteacher - EYFS and Educational Visits Co-Ordinator



News from our classrooms

Dragonflies Class

Dragonflies Class have settled brilliantly into the new school year and have enjoyed a busy and exciting first two weeks of learning. The children have shown great enthusiasm, curiosity and resilience as they have begun exploring a range of new topics across the curriculum.



In **Maths**, we have been developing our understanding of **place value within 20**, using practical resources and hands-on activities to count, compare and represent numbers in different ways.

In **English**, we have started our new text, **Cave Baby** by Julia Donaldson. The children have enjoyed exploring the story, making predictions and discussing the characters and setting, while developing their speaking, listening and early writing skills.

Our **Science** learning has focused on **human bodies and our senses**. Dragonflies have been investigating how we use our senses to help us learn about and interact with the world around us.



In **PSHE**, we have been learning about **how our brains work** and discussing strategies for managing challenges. The children have explored the importance of resilience, perseverance and having a positive attitude towards learning.

In **History**, we have begun creating **timelines of our lives**, helping the children understand the concepts of past and present while reflecting on important events and achievements.

Art lessons have seen the children starting to develop their sketching skills by exploring **facial features** and learning how artists carefully observe and draw what they see.





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In **RE**, we have been thinking about **different ways people represent God**, encouraging thoughtful discussions and respect for a range of beliefs and viewpoints.

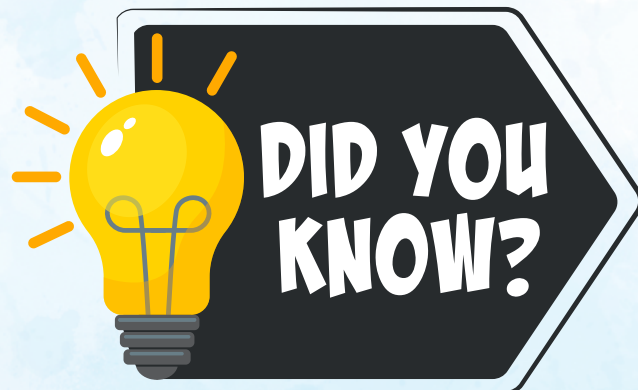
Our budding digital learners have been developing their confidence in **Computing** by practising how to **use a mouse**, including clicking, dragging and selecting objects on screen.

In **PE**, the children have been working on **fundamental movement skills**, including balancing, running, jumping, throwing and catching, while demonstrating excellent teamwork and determination.

Finally, in **Music**, Dragonflies have been learning about **pulse**, identifying the steady beat in music and responding through movement, singing and rhythm activities.

We are incredibly proud of how well the children have settled into class routines and embraced their learning. We look forward to sharing more of their fantastic achievements as the term continues!





Healthy children
brighter
futures



Is my child too ill for school?

A quick guide for parents

Regular attendance helps your child learn, make friends and feel their best.



STAY AT HOME

Keep your child off school if they have:



High temperature (38°C or above)

Stay home until the temperature has gone.



Vomiting or diarrhoea

Return only after 48 hours with no vomiting or diarrhoea.



Chickenpox

Stay home until all spots have crusted over, usually about 5 days after spots first appear.



Impetigo

Stay home until sores have crusted/healed OR 48 hours after starting antibiotic treatment.



Scarlet fever

Return 24 hours after starting antibiotics.



Measles

Stay home for at least 4 days from when the rash first appears.



Ear infection

Stay home if there is a high temperature or severe earache, until feeling better / temperature has gone.



COME TO SCHOOL IF OTHERWISE WELL

Your child can usually attend school with:



Slight cough or common cold, including runny nose, sore throat or headache

Attend if otherwise well and no high temperature.



Conjunctivitis

No need to stay off unless very unwell.



Hand, foot and mouth disease

Can attend if well enough.



Head lice or nits

No need to stay off.



Cold sores

No need to stay off.



Ringworm

Can attend once treatment has started.



Slapped cheek syndrome

No need to stay off once the rash appears.



Threadworms

No need to stay off.

If your child is well enough to learn and does not meet an exclusion rule, they should be in school.

Based on NHS guidance • If you're unsure, contact NHS 111, your GP, pharmacist or the school.

Same brighter
tomorrows



THIS WEEKEND

Ninja warrior



ULY'S
INFLATABLES
& SOFT PLAY

COMMUNITY FUN DAY

**Saturday 26th September
12- 4pm**

BOTTISHAM VILLAGE COLLEGE

FREE ENTRY

JOIN US FOR LOTS OF FUN INCLUDING

Inflatables

BBQ & refreshments

Live music

Classic cars

Tombola

Games

Bingo

Tug-of-war

Stalls



Football Fun Factory



ANGLIAN LEARNING



Key Dates/Events

Events - Autumn term

There are several curriculum events being held during school time that your child will be able to tell you about and we will share in the newsletter and on social media. Below are a list of only dates that we feel are most important for parents to be aware of or may require some support/action. We hope it is helpful to have these dates in advance.

OCTOBER

- **Thursday 8th October:** Harvest Festival (food donations encouraged for collective donation to local food bank)
- **Thursday 8th October:** Individual and sibling photos
- **Friday 9th October:** Learner Review schedule and booking information for Learner Reviews shared with parents (see below for dates of Learner Reviews)
- **Monday 19th October:** Parent and Child Workshop Reception and Year 1 - Phonics 3:30-4pm
- **Friday 23rd October:** PTFA Halloween Bake Sale
- **October half term:** 26th - 30th October

NOVEMBER

- **Monday 2nd November:** INSET Day - School not open for children
- **Monday 2nd November:** Book Advent Calendar Raffle tickets go on sale
- **Tuesday 3rd November:** Tea towel order deadline for parents and carers
- **Friday 13th November:** Non uniform day - donations welcomed to support the Christmas Fair
- **Monday 16th to Friday 20th November:** Learner Review meetings for each pupil and parent/carer from Reception to Year 6. Each family will make a 10 minute appointment and attend in person or online to review their child's learning with the class teacher.
- **Friday 27th November:** Confirmation of Spring term clubs schedule and arrangements for securing places to be shared with parents and carers
- **Sunday 29th November:** Deadline for Book Advent Calendar Raffle tickets purchasing
- **Monday 30th November:** Winners of Book Advent Calendar Raffle announced and prizes given

DECEMBER

- **Thursday 10th December:** Parent and Child Workshop Year 3 and 4 - Times Tables 3:30-4pm
- **Friday 11th December:** Christmas Fair 3:30-4:45pm
- **Friday 11th December:** Christmas Jumper Day
- **Thursday 17th December:** Last Day of Term - School closes for Christmas

Reception Open Day 2027

We invite you to visit **Fen Ditton Community Primary School**, register today for a group tour.

Group Tour Dates & Times

Monday 5 Oct, 11am - 11:45am

Monday 12 Oct, 2pm - 2:45pm

Monday 19 Oct, 4pm - 4:45pm

Monday 9 Nov, 11am - 11:45am

Monday 16 Nov, 2pm - 2:45pm



REGISTER NOW



If your child was born between 1 September 2022 and 31 August 2023 you need to apply for Reception for September 2027.

Deadline for applications is 15th January 2027





FOLLOW US



AUTUMN TERM 2026

Autumn 1 Term Starts – Friday 4 September
Autumn 1 Term Ends – Friday 23 October
Half Term - 26 October - 30 October
Inset Day – Monday 2 November
Autumn 2 Term Starts– Tuesday 3 November
Autumn 2 Term Ends – Thursday 17 December
Inset Day – Friday 18 December
21 December – 1 January – Christmas Holidays

SPRING TERM 2027

Inset Day – Monday 4 January
Spring Term 1 Starts – Tuesday 5 January
Spring Term 1 Ends – Friday 12 February
Half Term - 15 February - 19 February
Spring Term 2 Starts – Monday 22 February
Spring Term 2 Ends – Thursday 25 March
Friday 26 March – Friday 10 April – Easter Holidays

SUMMER TERM 2027

Summer Term 1 Starts – Monday 12 April
May Bank Holiday – Monday 3 May
Summer Term 1 Ends – Friday 28 May
Half Term - 31 May – 4 June
Summer Term 2 Starts – Monday 7 June
Inset Day – Friday 2 July
Summer Term 2 Ends – Wednesday 21 July

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ANGLIAN LEARNING