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Newsletter – October 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

Where has this half term gone – I feel like it was only a few weeks ago we welcomed the children back into school for a new academic year! The children have settled into their new classes so well and it has been fantastic to have everyone back in school.

It has already been a busy half term with our 200-year alumni events, a visit from BBC Look East and lots of amazing learning. This year is looking to be an exciting one for all.

I want to take this opportunity to welcome Vanessa McDonald to the team. Mrs McDonald will be teaching in Falcon Class on a Friday while I am out of class. She is already known to the children and the school and we look forward to working with her.

Sadly, I also need to take this time to let you know that Tom will not be returning to school after the half term break – he has decided to retire after many years with us; I am sure you all join me in wishing him the best of luck. We will also sadly be losing Lindsey as our cook however we are hoping not to lose her completely! We are talking to Lindsey about setting up a cooking club with the children, so do watch this space for more updates on this.

With Christmas fast approaching we have got many exciting things planned to celebrate. Please do check the diary dates so you know what we have coming up.

As always, I would like to thank you all for your continued support. Have a wonderful half term break and we will see you all back on Monday 2nd November.

Kind regards,

Josie Davenport
Senior Teacher

Catherine Ogle & Sian Gowland
Executive Head and Executive Deputy Head

Star of the Month

Congratulations to the children who have received our Star of the Month awards!



September – Teddy (YR), Freddie (Y1), Zara (Y3), Caitlyn (Y5)
October – Ben (YR), Ayla (Y2), Molly (Y4), Charlie (Y6)



After School Clubs – NEW ‘Themed Clubs’

After-School Clubs will continue in the Autumn Term 2. This half-term we are going to have **‘themed clubs’**, ranging from Board Games, Lego, Maths Club, Singing & Drawing. All clubs will take place in ‘The Annex’ in the main school building. Please can parents collect their child from there.

The Clubs will run half-termly, so booking is required each half-term. The cost of each session is **£4.00** and payment for the whole half-term will be required. *For children who are eligible for and receiving ‘Targeted’ Pupil Premium Funding, there will be no charge – please select the Targeted Pupil Premium option when booking.*

Autumn Term 2 Clubs will start week beginning Monday 2nd November through to Friday 18th December 2026

Mondays – **Board Games** – 7 weeks – total cost: £28.00

Tuesdays – **Lego** - 7 weeks – total cost: £28.00

Wednesdays – **KS1 Maths Club / KS2 TTRS Maths Club** - 7 weeks – total cost: £28.00

Thursdays – **Singing** - 7 weeks - total cost: £28.00

Fridays – **Drawing** - 7 weeks – total cost: £28.00

Please book on Arbor as usual to secure your place. **Bookings open from 9.00am on Monday 26th October 2026.**



Breakfast Club

We will continue to provide breakfast club starting from 7.30am to 8.40am that you can book into. The cost remains at **£4.50** per child for each session. This will be booked via Arbor.

Note: you will need to top-up your child’s Breakfast Club account in Arbor prior to booking as you will be unable to complete the booking process if there are no funds available in the account.

If you have any questions regarding booking Breakfast or After-School Clubs then please speak to the school office.

200 Year Anniversary & BBC Look East

Thank you to everyone who supported our alumni events whether it was through providing cakes, passing word on about the events or coming along. Both the afternoon tea and the cheese and wine events were huge successes with many past students and staff coming along to share their stories.

We were of course joined by BBC Look East on this day. All the children made us incredibly proud as they represented the school fantastically. If you haven't had a chance to see the report do just follow the link.

Below is the link to the show, if you missed it and to their website with the article:

BBC LOOK EAST <https://southreppshistory.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2026/10/School-v2-compressed.mp4>

BBC News Website: [Southrepps primary school celebrates 200 years of history - BBC News](https://www.bbc.com/news/health-67888888)

Southrepps Village also has their own **Southrepps History Hub** website, which you may find of interest:

<https://southreppshistory.org.uk/buildings/antingham-and-southrepps-school/>



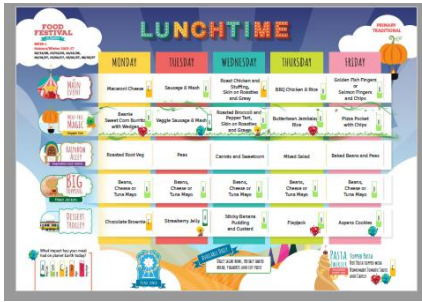
Thank You to MKM!

A huge thank you to MKM for their extremely generous donation of fencing panels and posts to enhance our EYFS area. These will be going up shortly so watch this space!

Welcome!

A warm welcome to Vanessa McDonald,
who joined our team last week.
Mrs McDonald will be teaching in Falcon Class
on a Friday.





New Autumn/Winter School Menu

After half-term, Aspens' have their new Autumn/Winter Menu. Your child will have been given a paper copy to bring home and is also available on our school website.

As you are aware, Lindsey is leaving us at the end of this term. We will, therefore, after half-term be having a brought-in service from Cromer Junior School.



Happy Birthday



The following pupils celebrated their birthday during the month of **September 2026**

Happy Birthday to You!

Hugo (N2) Ofelia (Y1) Alexa (Y6)

The following pupils are celebrating their birthday during the month of **October 2026**

Happy Birthday to You!

River (N2) Jake (YR) Arian (YR) Teddy (YR) Lola (Y3)

Harry (Y4) Rafe (Y5) Zinnia (Y6) Mabel (Y6)



Administering of Calpol

As we are now entering the coughs & colds season and if your child requires Calpol during the school day, we are happy to administer this to your child, rather than asking you to come into school to do so. Please bring in your bottle of calpol and complete a **Parental Agreement for School to Administer Medicine** form, which are available in the school office, letting us know when they are expecting their next dose, if they have already had some that morning.

Wanted – spare clothes

We are in short supply of spare clothes in school. If you are having a sort out over the half-term break, we would be extremely grateful for donations of girls and boys joggers/sweatpants, trousers and skirts.



Online Safety

As part of our ongoing commitment to keeping children safe both in and out of school, we will be sharing a series of online safety resources and links over the coming weeks.

The digital world offers many wonderful opportunities for learning, creativity and communication, but it is important that children are supported to navigate it safely. The resources we share will provide practical advice on topics such as social media, gaming, parental controls, screen time, and helping children make safe choices online.

We encourage you to take a few moments to explore these resources as they become available. We hope they will help support conversations at home and provide useful guidance for families.

If you have any concerns about your child's online safety, please do not hesitate to contact the school

[Free Online Safety Guide | YouTube](#)

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many apps which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about YOUTUBE KIDS

YouTube Kids is a child-friendly version of YouTube which offers a colourful and easy-to-navigate environment that's suitable for young children. This app is easily accessible and available for mobile devices, which can be downloaded without needing the YouTube app on the device. Despite YouTube Kids seeming like a very child-friendly platform, it has raised concerns over its advertising and inappropriate content seeping through the curation process.

SETTING UP

- 1 Download the YouTube Kids app and connect your own YouTube channel.
- 2 Input your child's name, age and birth month.
- 3 Select the types of videos you want to include for your child based on their age and your own personal choice.
- 4 If you decide to approve the content yourself, the app will present you with sample videos for you to accept and reject.
- 5 Once you've made your choice, you're ready to use the app!

Advice for Parents & Carers

REMOVE ADVERTISEMENTS

Like YouTube, adverts on YouTube Kids are also quite pervasive. If you decide you don't want your child being exposed to adverts, you can subscribe to YouTube Premium, which will remove adverts on YouTube Kids. However, it's worth remembering that this doesn't block adverts that content creators decide to make as part of their content, and children are still able to access channels from branded fast food or toy companies.

BE AWARE OF UNSUITABLE CONTENT

YouTube Kids has a far lower chance of showing unsuitable material than YouTube, but there are still reports of malicious users deliberately uploading inappropriate content. It's important that your child feels able to talk to you if they were ever exposed to upsetting content in the future. It's also useful to report inappropriate videos: tap the three dots in the corner of the video and select 'Report'.

DISABLE SEARCH OPTION

YouTube Kids allows you to disable the search feature, which you may find useful in preventing your child from unintentionally finding age-inappropriate content. Doing this will also give you more control over what your child is watching. It's also worth noting that setting an age limit will ensure that your child is only exposed to recommended videos that are deemed suitable for their age group.

RESTRICT VIEWING TIME

The YouTube Kids app provides you with the option of setting up a timer to monitor and limit your child's daily usage, which automatically stops the video when it reaches the set time. It may be best to make use of this feature to prevent screen addiction - which can potentially lead to children staying up too late, affecting their mood and concentration the following day.

MONITOR WATCH HISTORY

YouTube Kids has also made it possible for parents and carers to see what their children are watching on the app by clicking on the 'Recommended' icon on the top right of the home screen. It may also be worth having a look at what your child has recently watched by clicking on their history tab. The red bar on the video shows how much of the video has been watched.

WATCH TOGETHER

It's important to make YouTube Kids a fun and positive experience for your child. This may require spending time finding channels and content that you and your child will enjoy and benefit from. Try introducing family sessions where you can share the most enjoyable videos that you and your child have recently watched. This can be a great way of giving you and your child many new things to talk about with each other.

Meet Our Expert

Claire Seddon (a.k.a. Luscious) has worked as an editor and journalist in the gaming industry since 2005, providing websites with event coverage, reviews and gaming guides, she is the co-author of *Luscious Gaming* and is currently working on various game-related projects including game development and writing non-fiction books.



National Online Safety

#WakeUpWednesday

www.nationalonlinesafety.com [@natonlinesafety](#) [/NationalOnlineSafety](#) [@nationalonlinesafety](#)

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What have we been learning?

Eagle Class:-

Since September, Eagle Class have been researching historically significant people who have had a major impact on the world. We have practised using timelines, listened to stories and explored historical sources to learn more about these inspirational figures. We have also used historical models to help us understand and explain their significance.

In Geography, the children have been learning about atlases, maps and the cardinal compass points, developing their understanding of the world around them.

In Science, we have been exploring the basic needs of humans for survival, including the importance of exercise, nutrition and good hygiene.

In Maths, we have started the year by focusing on place value, developing our understanding of tens and ones and building strong number skills. We have used a range of concrete resources to support and embed our learning, alongside pictorial representations, before progressing towards more abstract methods.

In English, we began by studying *Here We Are* by Oliver Jeffers. This inspired the children to create some eye-catching leaflets about looking after our world, our bodies and our well-being. We then journeyed into the wonderful world of *Where the Wild Things Are* by Maurice Sendak. This story really brought out the children's creative sides as they planned and wrote their own versions of Max's rumpus adventure. Their imaginations certainly ran wild!

Nursery and Reception have been busy exploring autumn and the changes happening in the world around us. We have enjoyed walks around the school grounds, looking carefully at the trees and collecting autumn treasures such as conkers, colourful leaves, and pinecones. We have also learnt about woodland animals and their characteristics, explored harvest through food tasting, and enjoyed lots of imaginative play in our pumpkin patch and autumnal farmers' market. A real highlight has been carving our own pumpkins and saving the seeds, which we hope to plant in our garden!

Our Me and My Community learning have helped the children discover more about themselves, their local environment and the people who help us. The children particularly enjoyed dressing up and role-playing as emergency service workers. We especially enjoyed looking at our baby photos and talking about how we have grown and changed. The children thought it was very funny seeing photos of the teachers and staff as babies too! We have also been thinking about what makes a good friend, learning the importance of being kind, sharing and taking turns.

In Maths, we have been developing our understanding of numbers 1 to 5, learning to recognise numerals and quantities, and beginning to subitise, recognising a small number of objects without needing to count them one by one. Counting songs and number rhymes have been a firm favourite, especially Five Little Men in a Flying Saucer!

Another highlight has been our shape hunt around the school, where we looked carefully for shapes in our environment. The children were excited to spot circles and triangles all around us!

We have also had great fun exploring positional language, using words such as in front, behind, next to, on and in. The children have really embraced this learning and now use these words naturally throughout the day, proudly telling us, "I'm sitting next to..." or "I'm in front of..."

Eagle Class (continued).....



Falcon Class:-

We have started the year with an exciting history topic looking at Ancient China. The children have been exploring what life was like in the Shang Dynasty and researching the different cultural aspects of life. In geography, their map skills have been put to the test! They have explored grid references, compass points and contour lines – why not give them a map over the half term break and see if they can locate somewhere! Our science has changed for year in that we now have weekly lessons rather than science weeks. This half term they children have been learning about forces with lots of exciting experiments exploring air resistance, water resistance and friction.

Our English for this year started with a whole school text, 'Here We Are' by Oliver Jeffers. The class used this text to write an information piece on how to look after Earth and ourselves. We then moved on to writing our own narrative based on the book 'The Ever-Changing Earth.'

In maths we started looking at place value to ensure the children had an embedded knowledge in number before moving onto addition and subtraction. They have been using various methods for adding and subtracting to find the method that best suits them.

All children have worked exceptionally well this half term and I look forward to next half term to continue to see them grow,



Diary Dates – 2026/2027

UPDATED 22/10/2026



Please bear in mind that occasionally trips maybe arranged or cancelled last minute. This can happen for any number of reasons and we try, where possible, to give as much notice as we can. We also will often need adult volunteers to support on these trips. Thank you!

October 2026	
Friday 23 rd October	INSET DAY – children not in school today
Monday 26 th October-Friday 30 th October	HALF TERM

November 2026	
Week beginning Monday 2 nd November	JAPAN WEEK
Thursday 5 th November	EYFS Open Morning – 9.15am
Tuesday 10 th November	Flu Vaccination Programme for children YR to Y6 – with Norfolk Immunisation Team
Wednesday 11 th November	Parents Evening – 3.30pm-7.00pm
Thursday 12 th November	Parents Evening – 3.30pm-5.30pm
Tuesday 17 th November	EYFS Open Morning – 9.15am
Monday 23 rd November	Second Session - Flu Vaccination Programme with Norfolk Immunisation Team – for children who missed the first session.
Monday 23 rd November to Friday 27 th November	ASSESSMENT WEEK – (Y2-Y5)
Thursday 26 th November	LAST swimming lesson for Year 5 & Year 6 children (NOTE NEW DATE)
Thursday 26 th November	Star of the Month Assembly – 2.50pm in the school hall

December 2026	
Friday 4 th December	Christmas Decorations Day – parents invited for the afternoon (more information to follow)
Week beginning Monday 7 th December	EYFS Christmas Play – DAY & TIME TO BE CONFIRMED
Wednesday 9 th December	Year 6 – Crucial Crew Event- The Nest – morning
Thursday 10 th December	KS2 Carols on the Lawn – 4.00pm
Wednesday 16 th December	School Christmas Lunch and Jumper Day
Thursday 17 th December	Star of the Month Assembly – 2.50pm in the school hall
Friday 18 th December	END OF AUTUMN TERM – Note: school finishes at 1.15pm today

January 2027	
Wednesday 6 th January	Children return to school for the Spring Term

February 2027	
Monday 8 th February to Friday 12 th February	ASSESSMENT WEEK – (Y2-Y5)
Monday 15 th February to Friday 19 th February	HALF TERM
Week beginning Monday 22 nd February	FRANCE WEEK

March 2027	
Wednesday 3 rd March	Parents Evening – 3.30pm-7.00pm
Thursday 4 th March	WORLD BOOK DAY
Thursday 4 th March	Parents Evening – 3.30pm-5.30pm

Friday 5 th March	Bikeability Level 1 Cycle Training Course for Year 3 & Year 4 pupils
Thursday 25 th March	End of Spring Term
Friday 26 th March to Friday 9 th April	EASTER HOLIDAYS

April 2027	
Monday 12 th April	Children return to school for Summer Term

May 2027	
Monday 3 rd May	BANK HOLIDAY
Monday 10 th May to Thursday 13 th May	SATS WEEK
Thursday 27 th May	Class Photos & Year 6 Leavers Photos – Tempest Photography
Monday 31 st May to Friday 4 th June	HALF TERM

June 2027	
Monday 7 th June to Friday 11 th June	Multiplication Tables Check (MTC) - Test Window – Year 4
Monday 7 th June to Friday 11 th June	NORFOLK WEEK
Monday 14 th June to Friday 18 th June	PHONICS SCREENING
Monday 28 th June to Wednesday 30 th June	SPORTS WEEK (SPORTS DAY DATE TO BE CONFIRMED)
Wednesday 30 th June to Friday 2 nd July	Aylsham High School – Year 6 Induction Days

July 2027	
Thursday 1 st July	INSET DAY – children not in school today
Friday 2 nd July	INSET DAY – children not in school today
Friday 16 th July	End of Year School Report to Parents
Monday 19 th July	Year 6 Leavers Assembly - afternoon
Tuesday 20 th July	END OF SUMMER TERM – Note: school finishes at 1.15pm today

Please note that these dates differ slightly to the holiday dates of some neighbouring schools

2026-2027

September 2026						
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October 2026						
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November 2026						
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December 2026						
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January 2027						
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February 2027						
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March 2027						
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April 2027						
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May 2027						
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31						

June 2027						
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July 2027						
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August 2027						
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Key : White dates - schools open to pupils
Yellow dates - pupil holiday
Red dates - bank holiday

Staff training days are 1st & 2nd September, 23rd October, 4th & 5th January, 1st, 2nd and 21st July. The training days on 23rd October (at the Head's discretion), 2nd and 21st July will be disaggregated over twilights throughout the year.

