



IMPORTANT DATES:

January

Friday 30th—Pyjama day! Mental Health team leading Collective Worship

February

W/B 9th—Mental Health Week
Thursday 12th—2.50—Show and Share
W/B 16th—Half Term
Thursday 26th—2.50—Grebes class assembly

March

W/B 2nd—Parent Consultations
Thursday 5th—2.50—Puffins class assembly
Thursday 12th—2.50—Kingfishers class assembly
Thursday 26th—2.50—Show & Share
Monday 23rd—2.00—Celebration of Achievement
Friday 27th—2pm—Easter Service. Last day of term.
Monday 30th—Easter holiday begins

April

Monday 13th—School begins—No PD day
Tuesday 14th—swimming starts
Thursday 16th—School Farm and Country Fair

September 2024



Message from the Head teacher

Dear Parents and Pupils,

A very Happy New Year to you all! I hope you had a lovely Christmas and enjoyed the festive break.

Thank you to so many of you for the thoughtful Christmas gifts for myself and other members of staff. Your generosity is always very kind and much appreciated.

It was wonderful to see so many of you in church for our Nativity on the last day of term. I was amazed at how beautifully the children sang! We received so much positive feedback afterwards, which was a real delight to hear.

Thank you also to FoTS for organising such an enjoyable Christmas Fayre, and to everyone who helped on the day. We are very grateful to all who attended, and we look forward to hearing how much money was raised.

We've had a rather chilly start to the new year! Please take a moment to read the 'Snow and Bad Weather' information at the back of this newsletter. Can I also remind you that children should bring a coat to school every day, as they will not be allowed outside in drizzly or cold weather without one.



A definite highlight of January was our annual trip to the pantomime at the New Wolsey Theatre last week. It was wonderful to see the children clap, dance, sing along, and let their hair down. Who knows, perhaps it will inspire some future stage stars!

In the first few days back, we have also been focusing on our school vision and values, exploring what it means to start school as a *small wonder* and grow into a *shining light*. To support this, every pupil painted their own version of Van Gogh's *Starry Night*, a beautiful reminder to shine brightly, celebrate individuality, and let our light be seen.

We were also delighted to celebrate our first Values Awards of the year, recognising pupils who have demonstrated trust, perseverance, forgiveness, responsibility, courage, and respect. Photographs of the recipients will go in our new Values Hall of Fame in the School House, showing pupils proudly receiving their certificates, do take a look next time you are in school.

As I teach each morning, I don't always get to see you as I used to, but please do make an appointment to speak with me if there is anything you would like to know or discuss.

Kind regards
Mrs Beverley Derrett



Puffins

Our Learning this Half Term

Puffins Class Parent Newsletter Spring 1 2026

Dear Parents,

I hope you are well and had a good Christmas and New Year. It felt like a lovely long and relaxing break and I hope it did for you also. I certainly feel the children deserved their break after their busy nativity rehearsals and then the final performance. We were very proud of all of the children as they did so well.

Puffins have returned with no fuss this week and have settled in brilliantly. Maybe the snow had something to do with this?

I look forward to catching up with you at gate and if you do need to pass on a message or speak to me in person please pop in and see Mrs Bartlett in the school office.

Mrs Cocksedge

Our Learning this Half Term

Maths

In Maths we will be learning about Addition & Subtraction along with Multiplication and Division.

English

Our learning in English will be centred around the story 'Claude in the City' by Alex T.Smith and then moving to another story yet to be decided.

Foundation Subjects

We are also going to be learning about the following :-

Science—Animal including Humans—Growth

Computing— Computer systems and networks 2

R.E— Islam – Mercy / Compassion—How do some Muslims so Allah is compassionate and merciful?

PSHE— How I feel

Music— Exploring sounds

History - Childhood now and then

DT—Moving Jungle Animals



Puffins

Useful Ways to Share Learning at Home

- * Read with your child on a regular basis.
- * Number and Letter formation
- * Work with us on any of the areas within ‘Our learning section’ above that you think your child might need extra support on.

On-going Learning for the Term for Puffins

Spellings	Read Write Inc or SPAG
Handwriting	Regular Reading
Cross-Curricular Activities	

Routines to Remember

Wednesday and Friday- P.E – P.E kits do need to be in school at all times.

Spellings will be tested on a Friday each week. It would be appreciated if children could learn their spellings as we are noticing that many children are not learning them.



Kingfishers

Kingfishers

Our Learning this Half Term

Kingfishers Class Parent Newsletter Spring (1) 2026

Dear Parents,

I hope you are well and that you enjoyed a lovely Christmas and New Year. It seemed to go so quickly, but it was good to have some time to relax with family and friends. The children definitely deserved the rest after their busy Nativity rehearsals and final performance — they were absolutely amazing! We were so proud of them!

I will continue to teach maths first thing everyday, and teach all of Key Stage 2 for the remainder of Wednesday morning and all day Friday.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to ask.

Kind regards

Mrs Derrett

Our Learning

English

Pupils will continue to read the novel *Letters From The Lighthouse* for Guided Reading lessons, which the children have been enjoying. These lessons will focus on reading fluency, technique and comprehension. For grammar they will continue to study word classes and then past tense of verbs, direct and reported speech, subordinating conjunctions and clauses. They will use these in writing newspaper reports based on the History and Geography topics.

Maths

This half term will continue to focus on multiplication and division with a couple of weeks spent learning about area. Despite our efforts, the children are still struggling to remember their times tables. Please can you ensure your child does 10 minutes TT Rockstars a day please.

Science

The new science topic is Earth and Space and pupils will be learning about the solar system and how the Earth moves in space.

Geography

The topic this half term is Extreme Earth. Pupils will be studying the Earth's climate, hurricanes, tsunamis, earthquakes and volcanoes.

Art

This week, pupils have painted Vincent van Gogh's *Starry Night* as part of their learning linked to our school vision. Over the coming weeks, they will continue to create artwork using a range of media, inspired by Bible stories that reflect our Christian vision and link to our school values of forgiveness, trust, responsibility, perseverance, courage and respect.

RE

Hinduism: How do questions about Brahman and atman influence the way a Hindu lives?

PSHE

The topic is Think Positive, which links to good mental health.

Computing

Pupils are continuing to study Computing Systems & Networks: Bletchley Park, which relates to World War 2.

Useful Ways to Share Learning at Home

- Please read with your child on a regular basis. Encourage them to read independently every day and remind them to take quizzes at school as this will help improve their comprehension skills.
- Please encourage your child to practise their times tables every day for 10 minutes. They can use TT Rock-stars and write out the times tables repeatedly. Quick fire questions are also good but remember to ask the questions out of chronological order. Quick recall of times tables will help your child access the Maths curriculum more easily. We will be practising every day in class and having a weekly test.
- Remind your child to use Spelling Shed. Log ins are stuck in their reading records.
- Practice your child's spellings with them each day for their weekly test on Friday.
- Turn off **all** electronic devices at least one hour before bedtime for a good night's sleep.

Key dates and routines to remember:

Wednesday:

County Music lesson

(bring your instrument in if it has been loaned to you)

PE (PE kit)

Friday:

PE (PE kit)

Spellings will be tested and new spellings given out then also.

New spellings are stuck into their reading records.

Please can children bring in their reading book and reading diary every day so we can listen to them read.



Grebes

Grebes

Our Learning this Half Term

Grebes Class Parent Newsletter Spring (1) 2026

Dear Parents,

Welcome back and Happy New Year! I hope you all have had a lovely Christmas with your families. For the first couple of weeks back we are focusing on Science and History in order to complete WW2 and Forces. The following week is when we will begin our new topics.

I wanted to say thank you to those of you who have been hearing your child read regularly and ensuring they are reading every day. I noticed a big improvement in their overall reading ages in our assessment before the end of term and more children have been taking quizzes.

Mrs Derrett will continue to teach Year 3 for Maths and the whole class on a Friday.

Music will still be on a Wednesday – please can you ensure that your child brings in their violin into school.

Please feel free to catch up with me after school or by email if you have any concerns about your child.

Mrs McCulloch

Our Learning

English

We will continue to read the novel Letters From The Lighthouse for our Guided Reading lessons, which the children have been enjoying. These lessons will focus on our reading fluency, technique and comprehension. For grammar we will continue to study word classes and then past tense of verbs, direct and reported speech, subordinating conjunctions and clauses. We will use these in writing newspaper reports based on our History and Geography topics.

Maths

This half term will focus on multiplication and division written methods and then multiplying and dividing fractions. We will continue to have a daily focus on times tables to improve our recall of those number facts. We all follow the same times table every week and the focus is to recall them and related division facts at speed. Despite our efforts, the children are still struggling to remember their times tables. Please can you ensure your child does 10 minutes TT Rockstars a day please.

Science

Our new topic is Earth and Space and we will be learning about the solar system and how the Earth moves in space.

Geography

Our topic is Extreme Earth. We will be studying the Earth's climate, hurricanes, tsunamis, earthquakes and volcanoes.

Art

We have been painting Vincent Van Gogh's Starry Night this week, to link with our school vision. Over the following weeks we will be creating artwork in various media to link to our school values of forgiveness, trust, responsibility, perseverance and respect to Christianity and stories from the Bible.

RE

Hinduism: How do questions about Brahman and atman influence the way a Hindu lives?

PSHE

Our topic is Think Positive, which links to good mental health.

Computing

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School Groups

Eco-Council

Recycle Fashion Show

Our fashion show was a great success and we loved judging the costumes. Everybody worked very hard on making them so thank you. Our next project is to be announced soon!



Charlotte, Imogen, Alexia, Eva and Poppy

E-Safety Ambassadors

Children have been busy talking about to keep safe online and are currently creating posters to share with the rest of the school. Watch out for these around our school.

Governors Update

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to Mrs Alison Huard and Mr Mike Huard for the invaluable support and guidance they provided to the Governing Body last year. Their experience, commitment and thoughtful advice were greatly appreciated and played an important role in supporting the work and development of the school.

We are pleased to welcome Mr Kevin O’Connell as our new Chair of Governors. Mr O’Connell brings a wealth of experience as a governor and Chair of Governors, as well as significant involvement in a range of panels across Suffolk. We look forward to benefiting from his knowledge and leadership.

We also warmly welcome Mrs Lyn Tomlinson as our new Foundation Governor, following the sad departure of Mrs Tweedy, and Mr Paradzai Matashu as a co-opted Governor. We look forward to welcoming them to the team and to the valuable experience and insight they will bring to the Governing Body.

Mrs Derrett’s

Philosophical thought for the month

At Tattlingstone, we talk about starting school as **small wonders** and growing into **shining lights**. But shining doesn’t always mean everything is easy. Sometimes lights flicker. Sometimes they feel dim.

In the Bible, Philippians 4:13 reminds us:
“I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.”

This verse doesn’t mean we will never find things difficult. It reminds us that when learning feels hard, when friendships are tricky, or when we make mistakes, we don’t face these moments on our own. Strength can come from God, from others, and from believing we can keep trying.

So think carefully:

Would you rather

- A) shine brightly on your own
or
B) help someone else shine, even if it meant your own light was less visible?



What makes a shining light?

Can helping others help us shine too?

Remember your reasons are more important than
your answer!

Collective Worship

Our Christian Value for this half term is **Justice** – *The justice revealed in the Bible is always seen in the context of love. It includes the call to take responsibility for one another, especially the poor and oppressed, and to see that no-one is excluded from the essentials of life.*



Snow and Bad Weather Policy

“Schools should, wherever possible, stay open in severe weather. They play a key role in their communities and by staying open help both their pupils and parents.” – Department for Education

Every winter brings the possibility of snow and ice. Extreme bad weather can cause widespread and prolonged disruption. Schools are often affected and it can be difficult to maintain an education service. As a fundamental principle every effort must be made to keep schools open, even if only limited numbers of pupils can attend. There is a legal requirement to keep schools open for children to attend for 190 days per year (380 sessions). However, schools may close due to ‘unavoidable’ circumstances. Those circumstances being that it is no longer safe for staff or pupils to be onsite. We recognise that it is important that our school remains open so parents are able to work and pupils can continue to learn. Staff at Tattingstone Primary School will make every effort to prepare for severe snow/ice.

The government has stressed the importance of schools remaining open, wherever possible, as closures have a knock on effect on parents/carers who may also need to work. The overriding principle is, therefore, for schools to remain open to the maximum degree possible, as is consistent with health and safety requirements, even if it is not possible to run a full timetable however when unsafe to do so a message will be sent from school to inform parents and it will also be on the Suffolk County Council website and announced on local radio. In the first instance, it may be that the school opens later than usual to give staff and pupils more time to get into school safely.

‘The decision whether to close must, however, be for headteachers as they know their schools and surrounding areas. They should use common sense in assessing the risks and keep their schools open.’ – Department of Education

Making a decision between 6 – 7am is difficult. It is difficult to know the weather conditions beyond your immediate vicinity let alone travel conditions, nor whether conditions are likely to improve or decline throughout the day. As a guiding principle, the first decision would be to delay opening the school until 10am to allow time for a more informed decision to be made and also to give staff and pupils additional time to travel to school safely (particularly as it takes roads in rural areas longer to clear). This will be announced on Local Radio and Suffolk County Council website. If it appears unsafe for the school to open at 10am a text message will be sent to the parents of all pupils.