



Chelmondiston CofE Primary School Newsletter

10.10.25



Parents in need of advice or support?

<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/children-families-and-learning/childrens-health/school-nursing-service>

Help and/or advice with parenting issues: Freephone Parents Advice
Centre helpline on 08088 010722

<https://www.parenting.org/>

If you have a safeguarding concern please talk to a member of our DSL team:
Kerry Palmer-Long, Lesley Etchingam or Tracy Whayman

For general information about our **Early Help Offer** and other **general information about safeguarding**, both in school and beyond, please follow the link to the safeguarding section of our school website.

<https://www.chelmondiston.suffolk.sch.uk/safeguarding/>

The Good Samaritans

Wills	Cygnets	For being a great talk partner and always listening carefully to others ideas
Ezra C	Melissa	For showing exceptional kindness and patience in pair work
Henry M	Edith May	For showing excellent resilience during the writing process
Taiya	Thistle	For being a considerate and supportive learning partner
Lucy	Edme	For being patient and sensitive towards others

Well done everyone!

Diary dates from Monday 13th October - Friday 24th October

- Monday 13th Yr5 & 6 beach clean - 9am-12.30pm
- Tuesday 14th EYFS/KS1 morning woodland walk to the river
- Thursday 16th Yr3/4 swimming
- Yr6 SATs information session for parents - 3.30-4.15pm

Friday 17th	Edith-May sharing assembly - 2.40-3.10pm
Tuesday 21st	Thistle sharing assembly - 2.40-3.10pm
Thursday 23rd	BRIGHT Day - children wear bright clothes to promote being safe and seen at night <u>NO</u> Yr3/4 swimming Cooked meal choice today will be ' fish fingers '
Friday 24th	PD day - staff training (non pupil day)

New menu

Please note that a new menu starts after half term. Please click the link below to the page on our website -

<https://chelmondiston-church-of-england.secure-primariesite.net/school-lunches/>

Wednesday 5th November - Food Festival Sparkle Spectacular!



Bonfire Banger/Quorn Banger Hot Dogs with Sweet Potato Wedges and Rainbow Slaw followed by Toffee Apple Sponge & Custard

Allergy Free Option -

Bonfire Beef Chilli/Veggie Bean Chilli with Sweet Potato Wedges and Sweetcorn followed by Sparkle Cookies

Applying for a Reception place in school for September 2026?

If your child was born between 1st September 2021 and 31st August 2022, you will need to apply for a Reception class place by 15th January 2026. You should receive information directly from Suffolk County Council but if not, please see the link below to apply:

<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/children-families-and-learning/schools/school-places/apply-for-a-primary-school-place-2026-2027>

Ipswich Star - Reception intake September 2025

Photos will be published in the Ipswich Star on Tuesday 14th October.

Norwich City Girls' Football Development Trials (School Yrs 4, 5 & 6)

For further information, please see the end of our newsletter.



This week, our new School Council representatives led Collective Worship and told everyone about some of their plans for the year ahead. They have lots of ideas and are keen to get stuck in!

A message from our School Council

Hello, School Council here! We have arranged some upcoming activities/events to take place that we think you should know about. Firstly, we have decided to tackle the problem of having unnamed jumpers so we will be having a jumper name check. We have found around 60% of jumpers left on our field do not have name labels - we would like you to add a name label to your child's clothing please. Our school uses Stikins - link below - and if you use code 4132 our PTA will earn funds!

<https://www.stikins.co.uk/>

Spring Talent Show - We will be holding a talent show for your child(ren) in the spring. £1 per entry. All money raised will go to charity.

Thank you! Pippa (Y6 School Council Rep).

Dear parents and carers,

Today, to celebrate the wonder of poetry, each class recited a poem that they had learnt off by heart. We were all impressed with the standard of each recital and enjoyed the whole occasion.



A significant highlight this fortnight has been our Year 5 and 6 residential to Hilltop in Norfolk. Residential trips are an extremely valuable life experience for our pupils and Hilltop never disappoints! In a woodland setting, children take on 'challenges by choice' which all include extensive social interaction and teamwork, stepping out of comfort zones and learning that it is ok to 'push yourself' sometimes to achieve something that, at first, seems impossible. Our goals include building self-confidence and resilience.



As a school, we like to reflect and are always looking to improve. This fortnight we have been visited by our Trust School Improvement Officer and other Headteachers from our Trust, some of whom are OFSTED inspectors. I am delighted to report that our children showed our visitors how important they think it is to read and that they loved reading books and listening to stories. Of course, our new Reception pupils were able to show how they are quickly progressing through the initial sounds and are beginning to blend as they read - all in only a few weeks! Our writing across the school was also commended, as was pupil behaviour. Writing is a school development focus for us as, although our pupils generally write well, we are aiming high and want this to be a real strength across the curriculum. You may have noticed that your child has been working hard on improving their handwriting and applying grammar and spelling rules to a higher level.

Next week is the first of our class sharing assemblies - Edith May on Friday - and we look forward to inviting parents to find out more about what children have been learning about in class.

As always, thank you for your continued support.

Lesley Etchingam, Headteacher

Here are our amazing learning highlights from the last fortnight:

Cygnets

In Phonics, Reception children have been busy learning lots of new sounds as well as blending them to read and segmenting them to spell words such as 'sad' and 'mat'. Year 1 children have independently written letters to Ruby from our class book 'Ruby's Worry', advising her what to do if she has a worry and sharing what they would do themselves. In spelling, they have been adding suffixes. As poets, all of the children have learned the words and actions to 'Misty' by Shirley Hughes and perform it very well.



Reception children have enjoyed finding out more about their classmates in our weekly 'Focus Child' sessions. The focus children have shown lots of confidence sharing photos of their interests and hobbies, and the rest of the class have been fantastic listeners and shared thoughtful comments and interesting questions for them. They have had lots of fun completing activities based on the focus children's favourite things, such as making banana pancakes, painting sunsets, making up their own dinosaurs and playing snakes and ladders.



Year 1 children have been very excited about their Computing lessons, learning how to log in and access programs themselves and developing their digital painting skills and creativity in Paintz. In

Music, they have been finding the pulse and rhythm using their bodies, speaking and singing voices and untuned instruments.



Melissa

In Maths lessons, Melissa class has started their learning on addition and subtraction and have been applying their number bond and fact family knowledge to help them solve calculations efficiently. They have learnt that a number sentence such as $8+6$ is easier when they can make a 10 first, thus $8+6$ becomes $10+4$, and $7+5$ becomes $10+2$ etc. Building on these skills, they have been using tens frames to help them add 3 single digit numbers together quickly and efficiently.

Last week the children wrote amazing setting descriptions, using just a picture as a prompt. They thought carefully about using interesting adjectives and describing as many different things in the picture as they could. Here's what Urte wrote!

'Deep in the magic forest I saw a mythical, crumbling castle. The haunted castle is surrounded by giant and big evergreen trees. As I walked along the dusty, dirty path I could hear owls hooting and bears growling'.

"The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go." Dr. Seuss (author of 'The Cat in the Hat') The children have been reading some non-fiction books this week, one of these books was a recipe. Some children were so inspired by this book that they made 'Peach Treats at home'.



In Art, Melissa class has carefully designed and made their own block printing stamps using matchsticks. Following their own designs took patience and skill. The children can't wait to print from them next week!

Edith-May

Inspired by Arthur's magical adventures and Norse mythology, Edith May class planned and wrote their own narrative stories. They created imaginative characters, exciting plots and mysterious settings. To bring their writing to life, they experimented with different ways to begin their sentences.



As she cautiously tiptoed through the pyramid, Ava saw a white flash - **Evie**

As she carefully dived into the shimmering, cobalt ocean, Ivy sadly lost her goggles - **Grace**

To share their new knowledge, Year 4 children partnered with Year 2 learners to help them with their writing. They offered support with ideas, sentences and spelling when describing newly created monsters!



As scientists, the class has learned about the water cycle. They explored the processes of evaporation, condensation, precipitation and collection through hands-on investigations along with the help of Taylor Swift. They built working models of the water cycle using plastic bags and food colouring. Watching the

mini water cycles in action really helped them understand how water moves around our planet.

In Design and Technology, the focus has been on pneumatics—using air to create movement. After exploring how air pressure works, they designed and made their own pneumatic toys aimed at younger children. From popping creatures to lifting arms, each toy had a fun, interactive element.



Thistle

Thistle has thoroughly enjoyed the new experiences they encountered last week in their residential trip at Hilltop. Each child challenged and pushed themselves in every activity throughout the week, showing resilience in themselves and kindness towards others in their own challenges. A buzz of excitement and teamwork could be felt around the site and new friendships and memories were formed. Well done, Thistle, for being courageous.



Whilst in school, the class has continued deepening their understanding of addition and subtraction by calculating the inverse, rounding to check their answers and solving multi-step calculations.

As writers, Thistle completed their short narrative based on predictions from their class text. This involved role-playing the scene and discussing the characters' emotions. The children are now writing a police report to find the missing character.



In PSHE, the class role-played different friendship scenarios, deciding how to resolve conflict in a healthy way.

As scientists, Thistle developed their knowledge of air resistance by investigating the difference between running with and without a parachute (and trying to keep the parachute in the air) and enquiring into the most effective material for their own parachutes.



Finally, the children memorised and recited their class poem, *Hope is the thing with feathers*, to the whole school to commemorate Poetry Day and during their forest school session.



Edme

From the tremendous rush of adrenaline brought on by treetop challenges at Hilltop to the crashing sound of powerful waves made with body percussion in Music, the children of Edme class have had quite the fortnight. The No.1 highlight, of course, was our residential trip to Hilltop last week. Year 6 thoroughly enjoyed teaming up with Thistle Class in dorms and in activity groups. It was wonderful to watch them participate in such an exciting range of adventurous activities. From the exhilarating speed of the 'Big Zipper' to the dizzying heights of the 'All Aboard' platform, the children gave it their all. So many new experiences, personal achievements and memories to treasure.



As Scientists, Year 6 investigated the question, 'How does exercise affect heart rate?'. Working in groups, carrying out designated roles, the children generated, collected and recorded data showing the changes to heart rate resulting from one minute of four different types of exercise. The children noticed that exercises of higher intensity such as burpees, tuck jumps and jogging on the spot caused a greater increase in heart rate. Whereas activities such as the plank seemed to have a less noticeable impact. The children concluded that the heart pumps faster during vigorous exercise to enable much-needed, oxygen-rich blood to be pumped to the muscles.





As Historians, the children have learned about the Roman invasion and settlement of Britain. They have used primary sources, such as Cassius Dio's description of Boudicca and secondary sources such as a BBC documentary about Roman Britain to find out more about some significant events in the timeline of Roman Britain. In particular, the children learned how Boudicca, Queen of the Iceni tribe, led a revolt against the Romans following her family's humiliation at the hands of the Roman invaders. Boudicca and her fellow Britons, razed the city of Colchester to the ground to make a statement against increased taxes and land theft. The children have also compared Celtic and Roman settlements, noticing the different ways in which these people organised their settlements and built their dwellings.



Dear Parents and guardians,

Please see details of an exciting opportunity for female footballers in school year 4-6 to attend a free trial training session at one of our player development centers in the Suffolk area. If your daughter is passionate about football, dedicated to improving, and wants to be part of a professional development programme, this is the opportunity for her.

Players on our programmes pay a small fee to take part in the programme but receive the following benefits:

- Take part in weekly training sessions delivered by our UEFA qualified coaches, we pride ourselves on sessions being both educational and enjoyable for our players
- Train with highly talented players to develop skills and tactical understanding.
- The opportunity to progress within the clubs development pathway.
- Full Norwich City Training kit.
- The opportunity to travel on residential training trips.
- Take part in fixtures against other development programmes.

Please see full details below of the session and how to book your place.

Bury St Edmunds - Girls Development Centre

Venue: Bury St Edmunds Leisure Centre

Address: Beetons Way, Bury Saint Edmunds IP33 3TT

What3Words: ///magpie.supported.trample

Evenings: Fridays

Time: 6:00 - 7:30 pm

Trial Date: 17th October 2025



Trial Booking Link:

<https://www.abler.io/shop/ncfcfd/girlsdevelopmentpathway/product/Q2x1YINlcnZpY2U6NDA0NDU=?>

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to get in touch with me via email - phil.turner@canaries.co.uk

Best wishes,

Phil Turner

Head of Girl Football

Norwich City Football Development

TWO RIVERS ART GROUP PRESENTS

an **ARTS & CRAFTS**
EXHIBITION

**FREE
ENTRY**

*featuring the work
of local artists*

at Stutton Community Hall
Manningtree Road, Stutton Ipswich
IP9 2TA

on **SATURDAY 11th OCTOBER**
from 10am until 4 pm

tea / coffee and cakes available

ALL ART FOR SALE
- PLEASE BRING CASH/ CHEQUES