

HOPTON NEWSLETTER

UPDATE FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL

Welcome back to school! It has been lovely to see all of our families return this term. We have had a busy start to term, with our parent session for OPAL last week and our Hopton video. We had a fantastic bake sale this week, so thank you for all of your donations and support with this event. Our harvest festival is on Tuesday at the church and we look forward to seeing you there. We will be taking donations to the church for the food bank so would appreciate anything you may be able to give.



CLASS UPDATES

We have been delighted to welcome the children back to school and see how quickly they have settled into their new routines. The Early Years and KS1 children have been busy exploring the classroom, making new friends and becoming familiar with their learning environment. They have also enjoyed spending time in Forest School, where they have shown great curiosity, confidence and enthusiasm as they investigated the outdoors. It has been a lovely start to the term, and we are looking forward to all the learning and adventures ahead.

Oak Class have had a busy start to the school year but have settled well into their new class and new classroom. Our history topic for this term is 'The Romans' and we have worked together to correctly order a timeline and locate the Roman invasion on it. Our guided reading text is 'The Thieves of Ostia' by Caroline Lawrence, which is the first in a series of mysteries set in Ancient Rome. We will work together to read and understand the text, including vocabulary linked to our history topic. We will be learning about light and shadows in science, and have spent some time considering different light sources as an introduction to the topic.

It has been another busy and enjoyable week in Ash Class, with the children showing lots of enthusiasm and curiosity across their learning. In English, we have continued exploring our class text, Other Words for Home. The children have shared some thoughtful ideas and are becoming increasingly confident at looking beyond what a character says to consider how they might really be feeling. There has been plenty of practical learning too! In Science, we have enjoyed testing and classifying different materials, while our History learning has taken us back to explore the origins of Islam. We have linked this beautifully with our Art work, where the children have been inspired by Islamic art and have created their own intricate repeating geometric pattern designs.

There are still spaces available for all clubs. Please do email the office if you would like to book!

AFTER SCHOOL

CLUBS - AUTUMN 1



TUESDAY

Gymnastics



WEDNESDAY

3:30-4:30 SPLAT

4:30-5:30 Nerf Combat



THURSDAY



3:30-4:30 - Tri Golf



UPCOMING EVENTS AND REMINDERS

TUESDAY 22ND SEPTEMBER	HARVEST FESTIVAL AT THE CHURCH 9:00
THURSDAY 24TH SEPTEMBER	KS2 MONEY WORKSHOPS BY THE MONEY CHARITY
FRIDAY 25TH SEPTEMBER	EUROPEAN DAY OF LANGUAGES
WEDNESDAY 30TH SEPTEMBER	ROMAN BRITAIN WORKSHOP FOR OAK CLASS - A ROMAN WILL BE VISITING US FOR AN IMMERSIVE DAY! ELVEDEN CHILDREN WILL ALSO BE JOINING US.
THURSDAY 1ST OCTOBER	NATIONAL POETRY DAY
THURSDAY 1ST OCTOBER	SPRING DANCE INTERACTIVE PARABLE PERFORMANCE
WEDNESDAY 7TH OCTOBER	1:30 RECEPTION OPEN DAY FOR NEW PROSPECTIVE PARENTS
MONDAY 12TH OCTOBER	BLACK HISTORY MONTH - ACTIVITIES IN CLASS THIS WEEK
THURSDAY 22ND OCTOBER	PARENT SHARE - ART - PARENTS INVITED IN FROM 1:30
THURSDAY 22ND OCTOBER	LAST DAY FOR CHILDREN
FRIDAY 23RD OCTOBER	INSET DAY - NO CHILDREN IN SCHOOL
MONDAY 26TH OCTOBER - FRIDAY 30TH OCTOBER	HALF TERM

FRIDAY 6TH NOVEMBER	MINI FIRST AID TRAINING FOR ALL CHILDREN
FRIDAY 6TH NOVEMBER	NON UNIFORM - CHOCOLATE TOMBOLA FOR CHRISTMAS FAYRE
MONDAY 9TH NOVEMBER	PARENT'S EVENING 3:30-5:30
TUESDAY 10TH NOVEMBER	PARENT'S EVENING 3:30-4:30 1:30 RECEPTION OPEN DAY FOR NEW PROSPECTIVE PARENTS
WEDNESDAY 11TH NOVEMBER	REMEMBRANCE SERVICE AT THE CHURCH 10:45
TUESDAY 24TH NOVEMBER	CHRISTINGLE AT THE CHURCH 9:00
WEDNESDAY 25TH NOVEMBER	ART DAY
FRIDAY 20TH NOVEMBER	CHILDREN IN NEED - THEME TBC
WEDNESDAY 2ND DECEMBER	WHOLE SCHOOL TRIP TO THE PANTOMIME - 10AM START
THURSDAY 3RD DECEMBER	9:30 RECEPTION OPEN DAY FOR NEW PROSPECTIVE PARENTS
WEDNESDAY 9TH DECEMBER	SECRET SANTA
THURSDAY 10TH DECEMBER	CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY AND CHRISTMAS DINNER
MONDAY 14TH DECEMBER	GOVERNORS AWARDS 8:45 - INVITATION ONLY.
TUESDAY 15TH DECEMBER	CHRISTMAS NATIVITY SERVICE IN THE CHURCH - 9:00
FRIDAY 18TH DECEMBER	LAST DAY OF TERM
MONDAY 21ST DECEMBER TO FRIDAY 1ST JANUARY	XMAS HOLIDAYS
MONDAY 4TH JANUARY	INSET DAY - NO CHILDREN IN SCHOOL

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about YOUTUBE

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Almost anyone with an internet connection knows about YouTube. The Google-owned platform allows users to upload and share videos globally, making it a readily accessible resource with free content on almost any topic. However, with over 20 million videos uploaded each day, not all material is suitable for younger audiences.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT



YouTube is free and can be accessed across multiple device types, even without an account. While some videos are marked as 'age restricted', this relies on uploader honesty and automated moderation, meaning children and young people may still encounter unsuitable content if these measures aren't taken.

TRENDS AND CHALLENGES



Popular trends and challenges can be entertaining and widely shared. While many are harmless, some can be risky or harmful if copied. For example, the 'salt and ice challenge' has caused injuries when imitated.

EXPOSURE TO EXTREME CONTENT



The platform's algorithm often promotes content that attracts high engagement, which can sometimes include videos containing extreme viewpoints, misinformation, or risky behaviour. As children and young people watch more of this content, similar videos are likely to be recommended by YouTube's algorithm, therefore reinforcing the exposure.

CONNECTING WITH STRANGERS



YouTube includes social features such as comments and direct messaging. This means young users can interact with people they don't know, potentially exposing them to inappropriate language, cyberbullying, or unwanted contact. Young content creators may be especially vulnerable.

SUGGESTED CONTENT



YouTube recommends videos based on what a user has previously watched. While this can enhance the experience, it may also encourage binge-watching and excessive screen time, particularly when Autoplay is enabled. Without an account, users are shown trending videos, which are not always age appropriate.

SHORT-FORM CONTENT IMPACT



YouTube Shorts – short, fast-paced videos – are designed for continuous viewing. This style of content can be highly engaging but may also contribute to increased screen time and difficulties with maintaining focus over longer periods.

Advice for Parents & Educators

CONSIDER YOUTUBE KIDS



YouTube Kids can help reduce young users' exposure to unsuitable content by filtering videos into age groups, such as preschool, younger, and older children. However, as moderation is automated, it should be used alongside active supervision.

USE PARENTAL CONTROLS



Google Family Link allows adults to filter content, monitor usage, and manage younger users' screen time. Supervised Accounts offer a gradual step up from YouTube Kids, enabling children to explore the platform with appropriate safeguards.

CHECK PRIVACY SETTINGS



If a child in your care uploads content, consider setting videos to Private or Unlisted so they are only shared with trusted viewers. Disabling comments can also help reduce unwanted interaction from strangers.

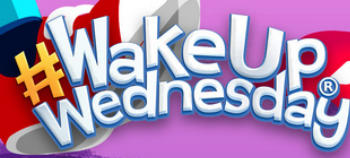
WATCH TOGETHER



Spending time watching YouTube with the children and young people in your care can help you understand what they enjoy and guide your conversations about content. Tools like Downtime in Family Link can also help limit unsupervised viewing.

Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for publications including Wired, TechRadar, Tom's Guide, The Evening Standard and The New Statesman.



The National College®

See full reference list on our [website](https://nationalcollege.com)

COME AND MEET

Bluey THE DOG

SUNDAY 27TH SEPTEMBER
KINGFISHER LEISURE
CENTRE, SUDBURY

A fun, family-friendly
3-mile trail, with a
prize for every child!

In partnership with:



PART OF THE

HOME START HIKE

HOME START HIKE

KINGFISHER LEISURE CENTRE, SUDBURY
SUNDAY 27TH SEPTEMBER 2026

OPEN TO FAMILIES, INDIVIDUALS & TEAMS

FOUR ROUTES TO CHOOSE FROM

3 MILES	6 MILES	13 MILES*	26 MILES*
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Child Ticket from £10

Adult Ticket from £15

Family Ticket from £45

Team Ticket - £120

*Age restrictions apply

Family ticket includes 2 adults and
up to 3 children

In partnership with:



DOGS ALSO
WELCOME
FOR 2026



SIGN UP
TODAY

For more information please visit:
homestartinsuffolk.org

Registered Charity No. 1105001



WE ARE COMING TO SUFFOLK

EMERGING ATHLETE PROGRAMME (EAP)

U11

Finborough School
(IP14 3EF)
Fridays
18:00 – 19:30

**TRIAL -
FRI 02ND
OCT '26
18:00**

U13

Finborough School
(IP14 3EF)
Mondays
18:00 – 19:30

**TRIAL -
MON 28TH
SEPT '26
18:00**

U15

Finborough School
(IP14 3EF)
Mondays
19:30 – 21:00

**TRIAL -
MON 28TH
SEPT '26
19:30**

SIGN UP NOW TO TRIAL AT 1ST SESSION

SPACES ARE LIMITED. DONT MISS OUT!

WWW.LONDONMAVERICKS.CO.UK/TRIALS