

NEWSLETTER

Friday 16th January 2026



Thank you so much for the many lovely responses to my retirement announcement last week. I appreciated your kind words which made me feel really valued.

Enjoy this week's Newsletter which includes an insight into learning in Year 5 and 2 as well as a celebration of the children who attended the swimming gala.



Things got very cute during R.E. this week when Mrs Draper invited 3 babies into class to be Christened! Luckily they were only baby dolls, but they provided the opportunity for the children to apply their knowledge of what happens during a Christening, to be able to bless the babies. Everyone took turns to draw a cross with water on to the baby doll's heads, and share promises.

KEY EVENTS next week

Mon 19th Jan	Big Bird Watch Assembly by Eco council
	Yr 5 at Young Voices at the O2 leaving at 11.30am and performing at 7pm
Thurs 22nd Jan	Great Fire of London immersive curriculum day for Year 1



Year 5 literacy

Year 5 played Sentence Monopoly in English this week. In order to earn points, children were expected to change main clauses, subordinate clauses and adverbials and even the order of these in complex sentences. It was a real challenge but great fun!



Don't forget to help yourself to a book from the Book Shed.



Health Advice Drop-in for 5-19 year olds

Dates: Wednesday, 21st January, 18th February and 18th March 2026

Time: 8.45 - 9.45am

Venue: Spangles Family Hub, St. John's Road, Stansted Mountfitchet CM24 8JP

Drop-in sessions for parents/carers to get advice and support for school aged child with a member of our school health team, where you can discuss things which may be concerning you. No booking needed.

Areas of support

- Managing worries, low mood, stress or anger issues
- Bullying and friendship issues
- Diet / Nutritional support
- Improving sleep
- Day and night wetting
- Behavioural concerns
- Personal hygiene
- Sexual health
- Information and signposting regarding medical conditions

t: 0300 247 0122

w: essexfamilywellbeing.co.uk

Elsenham School now has a Facebook page for updates and sign-posting for parents of children with SEND. Please follow us using the link below or by searching Elsenham School.

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61584591046587>

Mrs Eleanor Carruthers

Assistant SENCo

Hope to see you there!

SEND Coffee Morning

Thursday 22nd January

8:45am

The Studio



Please do come and meet Jules Cowell our new SENDCo, at our SEND Coffee Morning – everyone is welcome.

This is an opportunity to chat, ask questions and to let the Hub team know what you would like support with for your child in future sessions.

We're also pleased to welcome Chloe Hill from the Essex Family Forum, who will be joining us to share a short feedback update from the Elsenham parent survey.

We look forward to seeing you!

celebrating success

The winner of the
golden dustpan was
Cedar class this week!



swimming gala

On Wednesday afternoon, our swimming team proudly represented the school at the Uttlesford Swimming Gala at Lord Butler Leisure Centre.

Competing against two larger schools, the children faced strong competition but approached every race with enthusiasm, determination and excellent sportsmanship.

The atmosphere was lively and supportive, with lots of cheering from all schools. Although we were unable to place in the final rankings due to not having a full team, the children took this in their stride and thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to race, challenge themselves and represent the school.

It was wonderful to see our swimmers showcase their talents and take part in a sport they do not always get the chance to shine in. They made us incredibly proud.

STARS OF THE WEEK

Acorn	Theo
Cherry	Evelyn
Beech	Daphne
Chestnut	Kit
Silver Birch	Poppy
Cedar	Amelia
Sycamore	Blake
Rowan	Eva
Elm	Popsie
Ash	Isla
Willow	Lily
Pine	Penelope
Maple	Eli
Oak	Archie

CONGRATULATIONS!



DIARY DATES

Changes are
highlighted in red

JANUARY	
Mon 19 th	Young Voices Yr5 at the O2
Tues 27th	Sycamore class Assembly—doors open 2.30pm for a 2.40pm start
FEBRUARY	
Tues 3 rd	Pine class Assembly—doors open 2.30pm for a 2.40pm start
w/c 9 th Feb	Children's mental health week
Tues 10 th	Safer Internet Day Cedar class Assembly—doors open 2.30pm for a 2.40pm start
Fri 13 th	Year 4 Tudor Day FOES valentine tuck shop after school
Mon 16th Feb – Fri 20th Feb - HALF TERM BREAK	
MARCH	
W/C 2 nd	Literacy week
Tues 3 rd	Willow class Assembly—doors open 2.30pm for a 2.40pm start
Thurs 5 th	House Poetry Competition Heats
Fri 6 th	World Book Day dress up day for Elsenham Primary
Sun 8 th	FOES Mothers' Day event
W/C 9 th	Science week
Fri 13 th	Relaxed dress rehearsal by Yr 4 to EYFS and KS1 at 1.30pm House Poetry Competition Final FOES disco night
Mon 16 th	Yr 4 Dress rehearsal to KS2 at 1.45pm
Tues 17 th	Pupil summit for future leaders at the cathedral- identity and diversity—selected pupils
Wed 18 th	Yr. 4 performance 1.45pm & 6pm
Wed 25 th	Parents evening – 3.30pm – 5.30pm
Thurs 26 th	Parents evening – 4.30pm – 7.30pm
Fri 27 th	End of term awards assembly / Church Easter service 9.30am Last day of term – finish at 1.30pm
Mon 30th March –Fri 11th April – EASTER HOLIDAYS	
APRIL	
Tues 21 st	Chestnut class Assembly—doors open 2.30pm for a 2.40pm start
Tues 28 th	Yr4 HFL Maths challenge Beech class Assembly—doors open 2.30pm for a 2.40pm start
MAY	
Mon 4th	BANK HOLIDAY—school closed
W/B 11 th May	Yr 6 SATs week
Sat 16th May	FOES summer fayre
Mon 25th May – Fri 29th May – HALF TERM BREAK	
JUNE	
Wed 3 rd	Sports Day
W/C Mon 8 th	Phonics screening
Tues 9 th	Reserve sports day
Tues 9 th	Yr3 HFL Maths challenge
Tues 9 th	6pm Welcome talk to new Year R parents 2026/2027

JULY	
Wed 1 st	Open evening 4.30pm – 5.45pm
Fri 3 rd July	Relaxed dress rehearsal to KS1 of Yr. 6 play FOES frozen Friday
Tues 7 th	1.45pm Dress rehearsal to KS2
Wed 8 th	Yr. 6 performance 1.45pm & 6pm
Fri 10 th	FOES colour run
Tues 14 th July	Cherry class Assembly 2.30pm for 2.40pm
Thurs 16 th	HT awards assembly
Fri 17 th	Yr 6 Leavers Assembly
Fri 17 th	Last day of term—finish at 1.30pm

Please note that whilst we will do our best to keep to these dates, circumstances may require us to make a change

2026/2027 Term Dates	
Autumn Term:	Tuesday 1 September 2026 (NPD) – Friday 18 December 2026 <i>Half Term 26 October – 30 October</i>
Spring Term:	Monday 4 January 2027 – Thursday 25 March 2027 <i>Half Term 15 February - 19 February</i>
Summer Term:	Monday 12 April 2027 – Wednesday 21 July 2027 <i>Half Term 31 May – 4 June, and May Bank Holiday - 3 May</i>

CHALLENGE

DESIGN AND MAKE YOUR OWN HEALTHY RECIPE

TO FEATURE IN OUR SCHOOL COOK BOOK

ENTRIES ON AN A4
SHEET

- Title of dish
- Ingredients
- Method




INCLUDE A PHOTO
OF YOUR DISH

What's on this JANUARY at



All take place at Crafton Green, Chapel Hill, Stansted CM24 8AQ, are funded by TouchPoint and are free of charge (donations welcome), unless otherwise stated:

Regular TouchPoint events and activities:

MONDAYS

10am-12pm: Memory Lane Café (dementia support)
6:30-7:15pm: Women's Running & Fitness*
7:15pm-8pm: Women's Body Blitz*

TUESDAYS

9:15-10:15am: Yoga Mindfulness
12:15-1pm: Community Food Share - Elsenham Memorial Hall, CM22 6BY
10-11am: Pilates - Pam's Place, Thaxted, CM6 2RL
11am-12pm: Chair-based Pilates - Pam's Place, Thaxted, CM6 2RL
1:40pm-2:30pm: Chair Boogie seated exercise - Wimbish Primary School, Maple Lane, Tye Green, CB10 2XE

WEDNESDAYS

12pm: Chair-based yoga (45 mins)
1pm: Chair Boogie seated exercise (40 mins)
2:30-3:15pm: Community Food Share - Stansted Social Club, 10-12 Lower St, CM24 8LP
6:30-7:30pm: Women's 'Stronger You' - Elsenham Village Hall, CM22 6DD
7-8pm: Yoga - Birchanger Primary School, Birchanger, CM23 5QL

THURSDAYS

9:15-10am: Chair-based exercise - Takeley Old School Community Hub, CM22 6OJ
10am-10:45am: Community Food Share - Takeley Old School Community Hub, CM22 6OJ
10am-3:30pm: Community Café
3-6pm: TouchPoint Teatime

FRIDAYS

8:30-10:30am: Free Breakfast Club
9:15-10am: Women's Bootcamp*
9:15-10am: Running Group Couch to 5K - Recreation Ground, Stansted
10-11am: Community Food Share - Saffron Walden Baptist Church, CB11 3HD
10-11am: Friday Walking Group
10-12pm: Friday Social
1-1.45pm: Community Food Share - Crafton Green, Stansted

SATURDAYS

10-11am: Community Food Share - Crafton Green, Stansted

SUNDAYS

10:30-11:30am: Yoga Mindfulness
1pm-4pm: Sunday Afternoon at the Movies: **NOTE:**
Sunday 4th and Sunday 18th January ONLY.

***Women Only**

For more information, visit
our website:



Also this month at Crafton Green:

Winter Wellness Evenings

- 7pm-8.30pm, Tuesday 6th January: Meditation
- 7pm-8.15pm, Tuesday 20th January: Yoga Nidra

Bereavement Café, with St Clare Hospice:

- 10-11:30am, Wednesday 7th January
- 10-11:30am, Wednesday 21st January
- 7-8:30pm, Wednesday 28th January

Peabody Trust drop-in housing advice session:

- 11am-3pm, Thursday 15th January

Essex Police Advice session:

- 10am-12pm, Thursday 22nd January