

NEWSLETTER



Friday 13th February 2026

Happy Valentines!

We have been feeling the love today!



Chocolate slab made by Lexi, Lacey and Alice with the help of Mrs Stimpson. Thanks girls, for my beautifully wrapped slice.



Cards and flowers were delivered enthusiastically by Reception children, spreading the love around the school.

Thank you to FOES for putting on the wonderful Valentine's treats sale after school today.

KEY EVENTS first week back

Thurs 26th	Understanding neurodiversity workshop for parents 9am, Studio
Thurs 26th & Fri 27th	Reception class—National height, weight measurement programme and vision screening
Fri 27th	Yr. 6—National height and weight measurement programme

FOOD GLORIOUS FOOD!

It has been busy in the food tech room this week with Years 4 and 5 both enjoying creating and tasting.

Year 4 had the incredible opportunity this week to work with the very talented Chefs: Mr and Mrs Hayward. We went completely off timetable to allow plenty of time to learn, explore and be inspired in the kitchen.

The children learnt how to cut various vegetables, taste-tested numerous sauces, watched a fish be expertly filleted and then cooked, saw a chicken be broken down into its specific parts and also cooked and iced cupcakes.

Mrs Hayward was meticulous in her timings and organised such an unforgettable day for us all. They also generously provided a lot of the foods and ingredients.

We are incredibly grateful to both parents for giving up their time to help enrich our children's' experiences outside of the classroom.

The Year 4 Team



On Friday, Year 5 made full use of our school's amazing food tech room to cook their adapted meat and vegan Bolognese sauces.

Beginning by carefully preparing the ingredients, using their chopping and slicing skills, then taste testing each dish and comparing them.

The verdict...DELICIOUS!



Calling all budding bakers!

We are looking for young budding bakers between **9-15 years old** and interested bakers can apply online at -

www.applyforjuniorbakeoff.co.uk

APPLICATIONS ARE NOW OPEN

JUNIOR BAKE OFF

WWW.APPLYFORJUNIORBAKEOFF.CO.UK

AGED BETWEEN 9-15 AND WANT TO GIVE YOUR BAKING SKILLS A GO?

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!



LAST CHANCE TO APPLY 15TH MARCH 2026





Team EYFS had a wet and wonderful visit from the Stansted Firefighters last Friday. They showed the children their special equipment, took them on a tour of their amazing fire engine and even got Mrs Rowell to dress up in their heavy uniform!

The most exciting part was watching as the firefighters got a real-life 'call' and jumped into action, leaving with their siren and lights blaring. Luckily, they were able to return to us and continue their visit. What a memorable experience! Thank you firefighters!

The children were inspired to construct their own fire engine from loose parts in the EYFS garden.



Mrs Rowell found her inner firefighter!



News from EYFS



Cherry Class have enjoyed welcoming 'Secret Readers' in this half term. Freddie's Mum's rendition of 'Jack and The Flumflum Tree', by Julia Donaldson, proved a particular hit with children exploding into giggles galore! Thank you to all our secret readers so far. Don't forget to book in with your teacher if you would like to surprise your child.

Internet safety week

This week, our school was buzzing with thoughtful discussions and critical thinking as we celebrated **Safer Internet Day**! Every year group took part in exciting activities designed to help them become safe, respectful and confident digital citizens.

Year 1 explored the idea of *online friends*. They had fantastic discussions about who we can trust online and the importance of talking to a trusted adult if something doesn't feel right.

Year 2 became digital detectives! They carefully sorted images into *real* and *AI-generated*, learning how technology can create realistic pictures and why it's important to question what we see online.

Year 3 created brilliant mind maps all about the *benefits of AI*. They explored how artificial intelligence can help us learn, create and solve problems — while also thinking about how to use it responsibly.

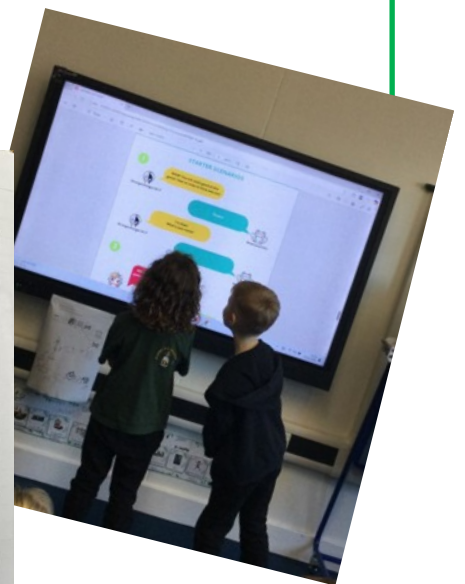
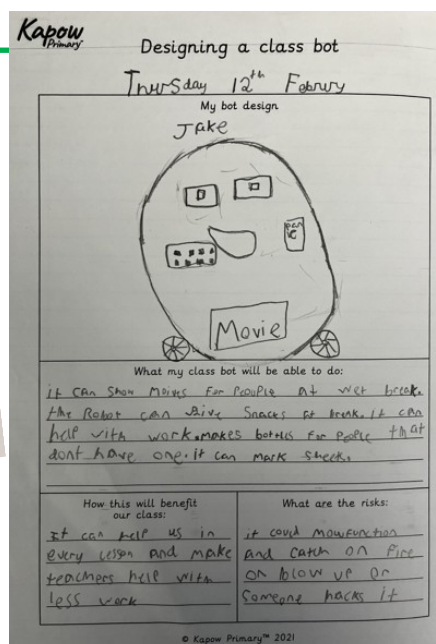
Year 4 put their creativity to the test by designing their own *chatbots*! They considered how to make them helpful, safe and user-friendly, showing a great understanding of how digital tools should support people positively.

Year 5 tackled the tricky topic of *clickbait*. Through eye-catching posters, they explored how some online headlines are designed to mislead us and discussed strategies for spotting and avoiding them.

Year 6 focused on real-life scenarios involving text messages and group chats. They practised writing safe, respectful and responsible responses, showing maturity and empathy in handling tricky online situations.

It has been wonderful to see our pupils engaging so thoughtfully with their online safety learning. We encourage you to ask your child about what they've been learning this week. Talking together about online experiences and following up on these discussions at home is one of the most powerful ways to support children in staying safe online.

Mrs Jackson, Computing Lead.





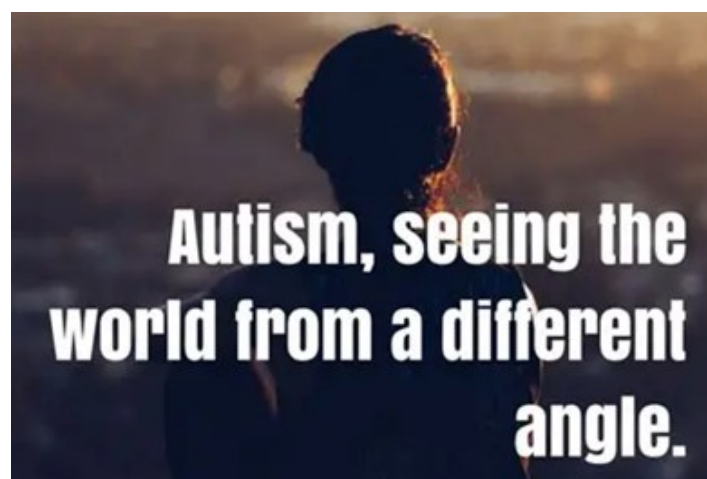
HUB NEWS

On Thursday, the Autism Reality Experience Bus visited our school and parents and teachers were able to experience what it might feel like to have autism.



As we entered the bus we were asked to wear special glasses and gloves. We then watched a short video which was very uncomfortable to our ears. We heard amplified noises of the scraping of a chair on the floor, the tapping of a pen, the ringing of a bell and the sounds of voices. All the time we saw lights flashing. Afterwards we had to complete 3 simple instructions we were given during the video.

Following the instructions was impossible. We were left feeling very disorientated and overwhelmed. It was a very emotional, powerful and eye opening experience of how a child with autism might struggle with sensory overwhelm.



Celebrating success

Ash class won the Battle of the Bands Times Tables competition!



STARS OF THE WEEK

Acorn	Humphrey
Cherry	Albie
Beech	Matilda
Chestnut	Wihan
Silver Birch	Jack
Cedar	Pablo
Sycamore	Hattie
Rowan	Lois
Elm	Margot
Ash	Evie
Willow	Daphne
Pine	Harry
Maple	Sylvia
Oak	Amber

CONGRATULATIONS!



Well done to Lilly on achieving a bronze medal for her proficiency in Gymnastics. Good luck in your work towards a silver medal!



Please do **not** send KS1 children in with back packs as we do not have the storage space and we find it leads to coats ending up on the floor in the cloak areas. Children should just bring reading records, water bottle, snack (if wanted) and a packed lunch.

We have places for book bags in the classroom and trolleys for lunch boxes in the corridors. There really is no need for back packs. Ideally for the rest of school, bags should be as small as possible.

Thank you for your support with this.

News from the HUB

It has been lovely getting to know the families and parents at Elsenham. I have picked up that we have a number of children who are struggling with masking, anxiety at home and emotional regulation.

Therefore, I am delighted that we are able to put on 4 Parent Workshops at Elsenham Primary School.

We would really encourage you to join us for these sessions, sometimes it can help to know there are other parents struggling with the same issues and to be able to off-load. There will always be coffee/tea and biscuits of course.

Feel free to let the office know if you can attend or just turn up on the day. No need to attend all four.

Mrs Cowell, SENCO

EPINS Project

Partnership for Inclusion of Neurodiversity in Schools

Session 1

Understanding Neurodiversity: What Every School and Parent Needs to Know to Successfully to Support their Children.

What is neurodiversity? What is autism, ADHD and learning disability? Does a child need a diagnosis to get support? This introductory workshop will answer these questions and introduce where schools and parents/carers can find advice and guidance for supporting their neurodiverse children and young people.

When & Where?

Thursday 26th February 9am to 10.30am
Elsenham Primary School

How do I book my place?

Feel free to let the office know you are coming or just turn up on the day

Thursday 26th February 9am to 10.30am

1) Understanding Neurodiversity Workshop

Supporting neurodiverse children
Neuro developmental diagnosis
Co-occurring challenges
Talking to children about neurodiversity
Ensuring a consistent approach

Thursday 5th March 9am to 10.30am

2) Unique Learning and Thinking Styles

Differences in executive function
The brain house
Memory, planning and organising
Working together

Thursday 12th March 9am to 10.30am

3) Emotional Regulation

Supporting neurodiverse children with emotional processing and anxiety
What is the prevalence of emotional problems in neurodivergent children?
Why might neurodivergent children struggle with their emotions?
Helping your children manage their big feelings

Thursday 19th March 9am to 10.30am

4) Neurodiversity and sleep

Understanding sleep and the difficulties that families of ND children face.
Things we can do to ensure the best sleep environment and help support children to find falling and staying asleep easier



Spring Term

The Essex SEND Local Offer Roadshows

Are you a parent or carer of a young person with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) aged 0 to 25? Do you want to know what support is available in your area? Come along to one of our Essex SEND Local Offer Roadshows.

You can chat with teams from Education, Health and Social Care, as well as local support groups and activity providers.



The marketplace is free and there is no need to book. Children are welcome!



Drop in between 9:30am and 12:30pm



This term we are in Chelmsford, Harlow, Colchester and Basildon



Scan the QR Code for all the information, including dates and venues or visit the Essex Local Offer at:

<https://send.essex.gov.uk/i-think-my-child-needs-help/essex-local-offer-roadshows>

In Partnership with



FOES EVENTS



*Celebrate
your
Special Person*

**Sunday 8th March
1.00 - 2.30pm**

**Fun crafts filled with love
Location - School hall**

**Tea/coffee/soft drinks
Yummy treats
Served by your little person**

**£6 per adult attending
Please pay through parent pay**



SCHOOL DISCO

FRIDAY 13TH MARCH 2026
3.30 - 4.30PM = EYFS & YR 1
PLEASE PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING:
A SNACK FOR THE CHILDREN TO EAT IN THE CLASSROOM.
A CHANGE OF CLOTHES - THEY WILL GET CHANGED IN THE CLASSROOM
TEACHERS WILL TAKE THE CHILDREN TO THE MAINHALL TO MEET PARENTS & HAVE FUN

4.45 - 5.45PM = YRS 2 & 3

6 - 7PM = YRS 4 - 6

£2.50 ENTRY - PRE PAY ON PARENTMAIL
ONLY 1 ADULT PER CHILD TO ATTEND FOR EYFS, YEARS 1 & 2 *

*IF YOUR CHILD IS HAPPY/CONFIDENT ON THEIR OWN IN THE HALL, YOU CAN GO TO A DESIGNATED CLASSROOM TO GIVE THE CHILDREN MORE SPACE IN THE HALL.



POCKET MONEY NEEDED FOR:

- FESTIVAL FACEDOTS - 50P**
- RAFFLE £1 PER TICKET**
- FUN MERCH - 50P - £1**
- CRISPS - 30P**
- HARIBO - 20P**
- SQUASH & WATER - FREE**
- FIZZY DRINKS* - 50P**
YEARS 4-6 ONLY

DIARY DATES

Mon 16 th Feb – Fri 20 th Feb - HALF TERM BREAK	
Thurs 26th	Parent workshop: Understanding neurodiversity 9am at school
Thurs 26th & Fri 27th	Reception class—National height, weight measurement programme and vision screening
Fri 27th	Yr. 6—National height and weight measurement programme
MARCH	
Tues 3rd	Willow class Assembly—doors open 2.30pm for a 2.40pm start
Thurs 5 th	Parent workshop—Unique Learning and Thinking Styles 9am at school House Poetry Competition Heats
Fri 6 th	World Book Day dress up day for Elsenham Primary
Sun 8 th	FOES Mothers' Day event
Thurs 12th	Parent workshop—emotional regulation 9am at school
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
Thurs 19th	Parent workshop—neurodiversity and sleep 9am at school
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 30 th March –Fri 11 th April – EASTER HOLIDAYS	
APRIL	
Tues 21st	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 25 th May – Fri 29 th 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 6pm Welcome talk to new Year R parents 2026/2027
Tues 16 th	Cedar class Assembly 2.30pm for 2.40pm
Weds 24th	Silver birch class Assembly 2.30pm for 2.40pm
Tues 30th	Acorn class Assembly 2.30pm for 2.40pm

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 14th July	Cherry class Assembly 2.30pm for 2.40pm
Thurs 16 th	HT awards assembly
Fri 17 th	Yr 6 Leavers Assembly
Fri 17th	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 (NPD) – 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>



Nominate us!

If you think our school, or someone who works in our school is worth celebrating, please nominate us for the Essex Teaching Awards!



Essex Teaching Awards 2026

www.essex.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/essex-teaching-awards

From the HUB Team



Essex Child and Family
Wellbeing Service



SEND Outreach Drop in sessions

Uttlesford Healthy Family Support Team would like to invite you to an informal SEND drop in session at your school or preschool.

We will be there to listen to any concerns you have and advise you of the SEND support our team can provide for you and your child. This support includes 1:1 home support for parents coping with a child with an additional need, providing strategies to support your child with behaviour, toileting, sleep and eating. We can also attend one plan and EHCP meetings with you at your school or preschool.

Our team can advise and support with signposting to other health services such as Speech and Language Therapy, Occupational Therapy and Physiotherapy. We can provide support with referrals for Autism and ADHD.

We can also support with referrals or signposting to other support services such as Home Start and Families in Focus for an extended level of home support, should you request this.

w: essexfamilywellbeing.co.uk

March 2nd 2pm—3pm

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](https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61584591046587)



Upcoming Elsenham dates for your diary

Tuesday 10th March 2-3 : Uttlesford Health Family Support Team will be hosting an informal SEND drop in session at Elsenham- providing strategies for behaviour, toileting, sleep and eating.

Thursday 12th Feb- Autism Reality Experience Bus: Book a 15 minute parent slot- email/phone the office

Upcoming Parent Workshops- Everyone Welcome

Thurs 26th Feb 9:00-10:30 Understanding Neurodiversity
Thurs 5th Mar 9:00-10.30 Unique Learning and Thinking Skills
Thurs 12th Mar 9:00-10:30 Emotional Regulation
Thurs 19th March 9:00-10:30 Neurodiversity and Sleep



What's on this FEBRUARY at



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

Regular TouchPoint events and activities:

MONDAYS

10am-12pm: Memory Lane Café (dementia support)
2:45-3:15pm: Community Foodshare - Wimbish Primary School, CB10 2XE
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 Foodshare - 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 Foodshare - 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 6QJ
10am-10:45am: Community Foodshare - Takeley Old School Community Hub, CM22 6QJ
10am-3:30pm: Community Café (inc. small Community Foodshare)
3-6pm: TouchPoint Teatime

FRIDAYS

8:30-10:30am: Free Breakfast Club
9:15-10am: Running Group Couch to 5K - Recreation Ground, Stansted, CM24 8BD
10-11am: Community Foodshare - Saffron Walden Baptist Church, CB11 3HD
10-11am: Friday Walking Group
10-12pm: Friday Social
1-1.45pm: Community Foodshare - Stansted

SATURDAYS

10-11am: Community Foodshare - Stansted

SUNDAYS

10:30-11:30am: Yoga Mindfulness
1pm-4pm: Sunday Afternoon at the Movies: **NOTE:** Sunday 1st and Sunday 15th February **ONLY.**

***Women Only**

For more information, visit our website, www.thetouchpoint.org:



Also this month at Crafton Green House:

Bereavement Café, with St Clare Hospice:

- 10-11:30am, Wednesday 4th February
- 10-11:30am, Wednesday 18th February
- 7-8:30pm, Wednesday 25th February

Peabody Trust drop-in housing advice session:

- 11am-3pm, Thursday 12th February

Essex Police Advice session:

- 10am-12pm, Thursday 19th February

www.thetouchpoint.org | Charity Number: 1194098

MHST Support Sessions

MHST are offering free 1:1 support sessions.

If your child is displaying either challenging behaviour or anxious symptoms mostly at home and you would like to receive support please scan the code below.

**Scan here to
complete an
enquiry form...**



Possible anxious symptoms:

- Worrying or having negative thoughts
- Experiencing lots of fears
- Tearfulness
- Difficulty concentrating
- Becoming angry or irritable
- Clingy
- Feeling unwell; constant stomach ache, feeling sick

Possible symptoms of challenging behaviour:

- Having lots of angry outbursts or 'tantrums'
- Ignoring or refusing to follow requests
- Verbal aggression e.g. shouting, swearing
- Physical aggression e.g. hitting, biting
- Damaging things
- Excessive anger when not getting their own way

February dates

Community supermarket

Wednesday 4th	9:30 – 11:30am	Takeley
	1:30 – 3:30pm	White Roding
Friday 6th	10:00-12:00	Dunmow
	1:30-3:30pm	Hatfield Heath
Tuesday 10th	9:30 – 11:30am	Flitch Green
	1:30 – 3:30pm	Little Hallingbury
Thursday 12th	9:30 – 11:30am	Thaxted
	1:30 – 3:30pm	Elsenham
Wednesday 18th	9:30 – 11:30am	Takeley
	1:30 – 3:30pm	White Roding
Friday 20th	10:00-12:00	Dunmow
	1:30-3:30pm	Hatfield Heath
Tuesday 24th	9:30 – 11:30am	Flitch Green
	1:30 – 3:30pm	Little Hallingbury
Thursday 26th	9:30 – 11:30am	Thaxted
	1:30 – 3:30pm	Elsenham



Facebook/UttlesfordMobileCommunitySupermarket

Communitysupermarket@theaws.org



Community Working in Partnership