

NEWSLETTER

Friday 6th March 2026



What a fabulous week we have enjoyed, immersed in all things literacy. Today we celebrated our love of books by dressing up as our favourite characters.

Being the Queen of Hearts today, I thoroughly enjoyed declaring "Off with their heads" at every opportunity!

Many thanks to Mrs McCraith who organised another successful Literacy Week at Elsenham.



Thank you to the FOES Book Fairies who delivered an amazing selection of donated books to the children today. Every child was able to take a book to keep home today.



KEY EVENTS next week

- | | |
|------------------------|---|
| Sun 8 th | FOES Mothers' Day event |
| W/C 9 th | Science week |
| Thurs 12 th | Parent workshop—emotional regulation 9am at school |
| Fri 13 th | Relaxed dress rehearsal by Yr 4 to EYFS and KS1 at 1.30pm
House Poetry Competition Final
FOES disco night |

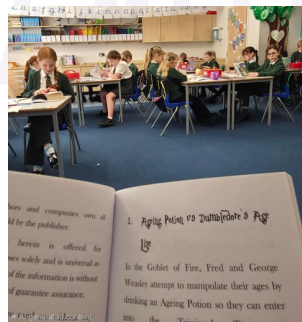


Josh from *Rascals* held more successful workshops for our Yr 3/4/5 classes on Tuesday. He used the music from Annie and introduced props, movement and dance. It was wonderful to see new, and emerging, dancers and thespians really shine in these enrichment opportunities. Year 4 also capitalised on his experience and utilised his help to polish some production performances. Thank you, Josh!

LITERACY WEEK

The children had a wonderful reading session with their class teachers or parents on Thursday. Such lovely stories were being shared and a real love of reading inspired and promoted.

We look forward to the next summer Family Reading session whereby grandparents or other extended family members can attend.



We loved the signal to 'drop everything and read'. Even the teachers got to pull out their books.



This week KS1 and EYFS absolutely loved stepping into character and immersing themselves in imaginative role play during 'Pop-up Play'. From caring vets and busy builders to campsite adventurers, talented hairdressers, beauty salon stylists, and restaurant chefs and servers, every area was buzzing with creativity and excitement. With a wonderful selection of outfits to bring each role to life, the children fully embraced the experience and even the adults couldn't resist

Years 5 and 6 were extremely fortunate to have the author Murray Fisher visit. We were treated to an inspiring assembly where we all learnt how to become authors and then Year 6 had the opportunity to take part in workshops where they planned their own characters for a story.

Murray also signed books for those who had pre-ordered and gave all children a chance to have something signed as a memento of the day. You can still buy his book (details found in previous PMail communications).

What a fantastic start it was to the week!

Mrs McCraith



Celebrating success



Accelerated Reader - 100 Club - February 2026

Maple Class

Lucy

Stanley

Alfie

Haiden

Oak Class

Charlie

Jared

Mason

Jessica

Sebastian

Pine Class

Grace

Jacob

Lily

Lily-May

Ollie

Seb

Willow Class

Alexander Evren

Lily Henry

Jack Suzie

Corey Ted

Sycamore Class

Seb

Esme

Nancy

Bertie

Ash Class

Charlotte

Sebastian

Eloise

Eleanor

Zahra

Rowan Class

Isla Olivia

Harry

Marley

Ezra

Elm Class

Isabel

Jacob

Penelope

Piper

Ollie

*Well done!
Keep reading!*

STARS OF THE WEEK

Acorn

Cherry

Beech

Chestnut

Silver Birch

Cedar

Sycamore

Rowan

Elm

Ash

Willow

Pine

Maple

Oak

Mila

Forbes

Halle

Teddy

Nia

Ava

George

Freddie

Leilani

Eleanor

Everyone

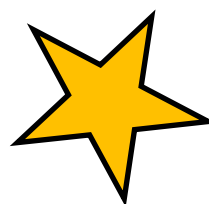
Lily-May

Kara

Connor

CONGRATULATIONS!

Sports News



Elsenham were away again this week, travelling to face Stansted St Mary's. The team produced another brilliant performance, playing some excellent football from start to finish.

The passing was superb and the team created chance after chance, eventually securing another impressive 8-0 victory. It was a dominant display with great teamwork and attacking play throughout the match.

There were also lots of amazing saves from our goalkeeper, helping to keep another clean sheet.

The goals were shared around the team, with strikes from Connor, Charlie, Mason, Bleux, Bertie and Jak.

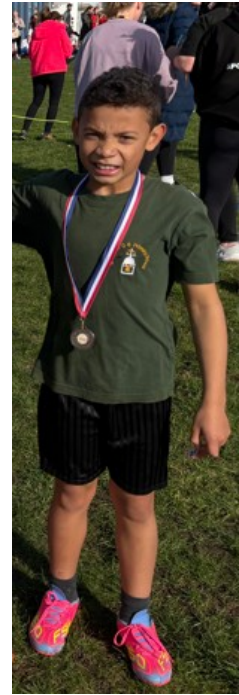
A fantastic effort from everyone involved – well done, Elsenham!



SPORTING NEWS

A very successful afternoon was had at Carver Barracks for our KS2 Cross-country last week. The effort, determination and teamwork that the children showed throughout the afternoon was incredible. All year groups cheered each other on and the boost that it gave the runners was notable. The parental support we also received was much appreciated – thank you for giving up your time. A particular shout out should go to Miles Hayward on his exceptional performance and superbly timed sprint to the finish (spurred on by the sight of his mum cheering away!), where he secured a third place finish. Well done to all of our racers; you showed bravery and great willpower.

Mrs McCraith and Mrs Fox



The netball team were amazing on Thursday morning at a tournament. They made it to the final and ultimately came second overall. Well done girls!

Mrs Carruthers

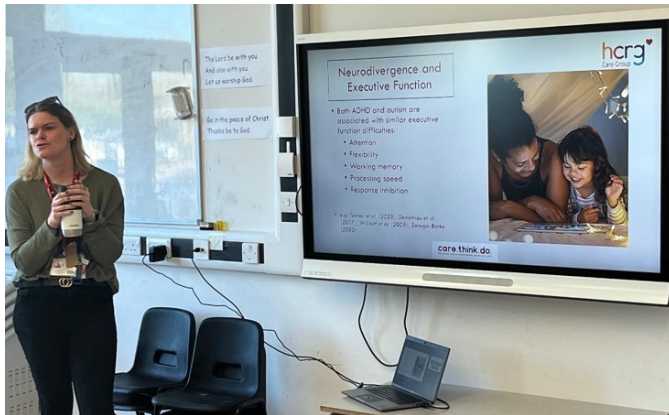
A tough morning in the cold and thick fog for our Year 3 and 4 rugby team. They had a great start to the morning by winning their group stage convincingly. However, this then meant that they faced some very tough teams in the final games who posed real challenges. Elsenham dug deep, listened to great feedback from Jackie Drake and Mr Maddison-Woods and tried their hardest, finishing a respectable 6th overall.

Mrs McCraith



News from the HUB

Why not come along to the next workshop?



On Thursday we had our second parent workshop. Eight families joined us for a useful discussion about ADHD and strategies that can help at home.

Please join us at 9am on Thursday 12th March for a session about emotional regulation.

Also, on Tuesday 10th March between 2 and 3pm there is a SEND drop-in session at school organised by the Essex Child and Family Wellbeing Service.

Thursday 12th March 9am to 10.30am

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

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



Today, the Inclusion Ambassadors visited Henham and Ugley School to meet with the Multi-Schools Council. They discussed topics such as homework, physical health, mental health, secondary school transfers and what belonging means. They were a credit to our school.

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

MARCH	
Sun 8 th	FOES Mothers' Day event
Thurs 12 th	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 19 th	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 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 16 th 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 6pm Welcome talk to new Year R parents 2026/2027
Tues 16 th	Cedar class Assembly 2.30pm for 2.40pm
Weds 24 th	Silver birch class Assembly 2.30pm for 2.40pm
Thurs 25 th	Transition day for Yr. 6 into Yr. 7 at JFAN and SWCH
Tues 30 th	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 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> <i>Friday 4th December 2026 (NPD)</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>

What's on this MARCH at



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

Regular TouchPoint events and activities:

MONDAYS

10am-12pm: Memory Lane Café (free dementia support group)
1:40pm-2:30pm: Chair Boogie seated exercise - Wimbish Primary School, Maple Lane, Tye Green, CB10 2XE
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

WEDNESDAYS

12pm: Chair-based yoga (45 mins)
1pm: Chair Boogie seated exercise (40 mins)
5-5:30pm: Community Foodshare - Stansted (time subject to change, please check our website before heading out)
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 Foodshare - Takeley Old School Community Hub, CM22 6OJ
10am-2:30pm: 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
10-10:45am: Community Foodshare - Saffron Walden Baptist Church, CB11 3HD
10-11am: Friday Walking Group
10-12pm: Friday Social
1-2pm: Community Foodshare - Stansted

SATURDAYS

10-11am: Community Foodshare - Stansted

SUNDAYS

10:30-11:30am: Yoga Mindfulness
1pm-4pm: Sunday Afternoon at the Movies: **NOTE:**
1st and 15th March 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 March
- 10-11:30am, Wednesday 18th March
- 7-8:30pm, Wednesday 25th March

Peabody Trust drop-in housing advice session:

- 11am-3pm, Thursday 12th March

Essex Police Advice session:

- 10am-12pm, Monday 9th March

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