

What a fantastic week it has been! Pupil leadership is so important to us, and this week we have celebrated it in style with our School Council elections and the formation of our new Eco Committee. The enthusiasm, ideas, and dedication shown by all the children involved have been inspiring, and we can't wait to see the positive impact they will have on our school and the environment this year.

PUPIL LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



Eco Committee

We have been busy forming an eco-committee. Each of the children who wanted to be part of the team wrote a thoughtful letter, explaining why they care about the environment and how they would like to help our school become even more eco-friendly. I was VERY impressed with their ideas and enthusiasm.

Our Eco Committee members are:

Roza, Daisy, Alex, Elliot, Jasper, Harvey, Elfrida, Hannah and Harry

School Council

We are delighted to introduce our new School Council! After listening to inspiring manifestos from our Year 6 candidates in assembly, the whole school took part in a secret ballot to vote for this year's council members. Each class also voted for a representative from their year group.

This year's School Council members are:

Chair: Ella

Vice Chair: Arthur

Year 5 Representative: Senan

Representative: Audrey

Representative: Verity

Representative: Ivy

Representative: Cassidy

Representative: Nellie



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Experiencing our Geography curriculum through exploring our local environment

THE FIELD

Some of you may be aware that the Mack Family have donated us a FIELD at the back of the school. We are absolutely blown away by their generosity and support for the school and couldn't be more grateful.

This November, we'll be planting around 200 young trees to create a hedgerow around the plot. These "wild harvest" saplings will bring colour all year round and provide food and shelter for birds and insects—making the place feel full of life.

After that, we'll start trying out some of the crops grown on Mack's farm. To begin with, we'll keep it simple—potatoes and salad leaves in one section of the plot. Over time, we'd love to grow three different plots (potatoes/leaves, oilseed rape, and wild seeds), so we can learn about crop rotation and show how it works in practice. One day, we'll even be able to harvest our own oilseed rape and press it into oil with Will's hand press—something Mack's farm does themselves.

And finally... chickens! We're really hoping to welcome some onto the land. They'll play their part in the rotation too, moving around the plots.

FARM VISIT – An Exciting Learning Opportunity!

We are delighted to share that the children will be visiting the Mack family's farm in Surlingham to see the **potato harvest** in action.

This is a local trip, so a separate consent form is not required

During the visit, children will have the opportunity to:

- Watch the farmers lifting potatoes from the fields into trailers.
- See how potatoes are sorted and stored back at the farmyard.
- Explore the different features of the farm and surrounding area (shop, patisserie, swimming pool, campsite, farmhouse, and the farm itself).
- Hear directly from farmer Will, who will also be coming into school on another occasion to talk more about farming and the harvest.

Why this trip is so valuable

- For KS1 (Chestnuts): It links to geography studies of our local area, land use, and human vs. physical features. Farming provides a brilliant real-life example of both.
- For KS2 (Willow): It ties into our Harvest Festival service and learning about the journey "from field to fork." It also connects with our work on the school's own plot of land, kindly donated by the Mack family.

We are very grateful to the Mack family for welcoming us and giving our children such a rich, hands-on learning experience.



Attendance

Our school target for attendance this year is **97%**.

Our attendance this week is

93.1%

SPORTS UPDATES

BOYS FOOTBALL COMPETITION

On **Thursday 16th October 2025** some of the boys in year 5 and 6 will be selected to attend the Boys Football competition at Framingham Earl. Letters will go out Monday 29th September 2025.



Sophie in year 4 made the amazing decision to donate her hair to the Little Princess Trust over the holidays. They are a charity that provides children who have lost their hair due to cancer and other conditions with real hair wigs. Sophie is currently at **£467** for her Little Princess Trust Fundraiser. She is hoping the last **£33** comes in by the end of next week so we can close the page and transfer the money to them!

👉 <https://www.justgiving.com/page/julie-lincoln-1>

Thanks so much for any support you can give!



Tel: 01508 538214



www.rockland-surlingham-schools.co.uk

Diary Dates

September

- **Tuesday 30th September Surlingham Primary School** – Extra Flu Vaccines for Hawthorn Class and any absent children – Complete online form

October

- **Wednesday 1st October** – Cross Country Trip, 9:45–12:00 (Years 3–6)
- **Thursday 2nd October** – Chestnuts and Willows trip to the Mack Farm to learn about the potato harvest (for info – this is a local area trip so no consent forms required)
- **Tuesday 7th October** – Tempest school photos
- **Wednesday 8th October** – Science trip (Y5 and 6)
- **Thursday 9th October** Some girls will be taking part in the Girls' Football Tournament at Goals (KS2)
- **WC 13th October** – SEND parents evenings.
- **Tuesday 7th October** – Parent Forum 8:50am @ Parish Hall – all welcome
- **10th October** – Yellow Day non- school uniform - Childrens Mental Health Awareness Day raising funds for *Young Minds*
- **Thursday 16th October** – Selected Boys football competition at FRAM
- Saturday 18th October - FORMS Bingo Night.
- **Monday 20th October** – Harvest Festival 2:00–3:00pm at the church
- **Wednesday 22nd October 2025**, a group of selected children from Years 3–6 will be representing our school at the Cross-Country Qualifying Event in Langley
- **Thursday 23rd October** our caretaker Steve Gildersleeve is going to be doing some school grounds work with our new Eco-Committee – parents/carers/grandparents/friends invited to help out 12 – 1pm.
- **24th October** – Wear It Pink non-school uniform – Raising funds for *Breast Cancer Now!*

November

- **Monday 27th - Monday 3rd November** – Half term and INSET Day
- **Monday 4th** – Children return to school.
- **Friday 15th November** – Children in Need – Non-uniform Day
- **Thursday 20th November** – Maths Café
- **Thursday 27th November** – Nursery Parent Forum, 8:50am in the Margaret Mack Hall (All parents of Nursery children welcome)
- **Thursday 27th November** – Gressenhall Victorian Trip (Willow)

December

- **On Wednesday 3rd December** – Parent invitation to watch Hawthorn ukelele group music sessions @ 10am -10.30am
- **Week commencing 9th December** – Parent Teacher Meetings
- **Week commencing 15th December** – Nativity (dates TBC)
- **Thursday 18th December** – Carol Service, 2:00–3:00pm at Surlingham Church





Kids

Disabled children
say we can

Norfolk

Parent Carer Service

Fortnightly on Wednesday

10.30 – 12.30

Autum Term 2025

10th Sept – Guest Speaker (Stacey, Anglian Water)

24th Sept – Lego Workshop

8th October – Guest Speaker (Alice MacDonald MP)

22nd October – Wellbeing

5th November – Guest Speaker (Young Carers Matter)

19th November – Workshop (tbc)

3rd December – Guest Speaker (Family Action)

17th December – Wellbeing

The Viking Centre, Tills Road, Norwich, NR6 7QZ

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Quiz and Chips

Surlingham Village Hall
Thursday 16th October



Tickets £15 per person

Includes food, quiz entry & a welcome drink.

Teams of 5-7 Individual entries welcome

Team prize for 1st Place

Tickets available in advance by email -
friendsofsurlingham-school@gmail.com
or Sally or Kate at school or on whatsapp

Menu

Jumbo Sausage
Chunky Chicken bites
Halloumi Fries
BBQ Pork
Upgrade for £3.00 to
Cod

All served freshly fried,
with chips.



Please bring cash

Drinks and sweet treats available to purchase on the night

WIN Treasure Chest - enter a £2 coin for a chance to win

Doors open at 6.30pm for a 7.00pm start



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