

The children have enjoyed lots of curriculum enhancement this week. It was fantastic to hear the feedback from the Dodgeball competition where our pupils really stood out for their sportsmanship and resilience. Meanwhile Chestnuts class had a brilliant time at Hobart High School for the Dance festival. They were a credit to themselves and the school. Lastly, our year 6s enjoyed going to Framingham Earl High School to watch their performance of Oliver. They really enjoyed the visit which has been a great opportunity to get excited about their transition up to high school.

### Dance Festival

Chestnut Class had a brilliant time at Hobart High School for the Dance Festival! The children loved learning a brand new dance and were such superstars throughout the day. They were incredibly brave when splitting up and working with children from different schools, showing confidence and maturity. Their behaviour was excellent – they truly did our school proud. They listened carefully, joined in enthusiastically and showed great teamwork while learning the routine.

We are so proud of each and every one of them.

Well done, Chestnut Class! 🌟



### ATTENDANCE

Our school target for attendance this year is 97%.

This week our attendance was 96.2%.

Year 1 and Year 3 and Year all had 100% attendance!!! 😊



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## What an amazing day at the dodgeball competition! 🏆

With over 20 schools attending and some very strong opponents, the competition was tough from start to finish. We are incredibly proud to share that Surlingham placed 6th overall, securing 3 wins, 2 draws, and only a handful of losses — a fantastic achievement for the team!

Even more impressive than the results was the way our children conducted themselves throughout the day. They were commended by other pupils, school staff, and event organisers for their honesty and commitment to playing by the rules — something we are really proud of!

The children had so much fun, showed great teamwork, and demonstrated brilliant resilience. Despite a few minor bumps and scrapes along the way, they bounced straight back into the games with determination and smiles.

Audrey was also awarded the school games values certificate for honesty on the pitch in all her games. Well done Audrey!

A huge well done to everyone involved — we are very proud!



## Planting Chestnuts

Year 1 and 2 children took part in a fun planting activity! They chose to plant either a pepper, tomato or basil seed, which they will carefully look after over the next few weeks. 🌱

As part of our Science topic on plants, each child has started their own growth diary. They will be observing their plant closely and recording how it changes and grows over the next six weeks.



## Parent feedback on rewards

Following feedback and suggestions from parents, we have recently reviewed our approach to celebration assembly to ensure it continues to promote fairness, inclusion and a strong sense of belonging for all pupils.

Therefore, from this term, we are introducing a **Values Spotlight** celebration. Each week, one child from every class will be recognised in a structured way, ensuring that over time every child is celebrated. Children will be acknowledged through the lens of our school values — Believe, Explore, Achieve — and recognised for the individual strengths they bring to our school community.

We will continue to use Dojos within classes to motivate and recognise effort. However, dojo totals will no longer be celebrated publicly in assembly. This change is designed to reduce comparison between pupils and encourage children to focus on their own progress.

After many happy years at Surlingham, Dave the Kindness Dinosaur has decided to retire! The School Council's newly formed Kindness Crew will now lead our kindness award. Dave will remain in school supporting them — and will still be available for cuddles — but will no longer travel home each week or award his own certificate.

In line with a number of local schools, we will also no longer post celebration assembly photographs on the school blog. Celebrations will remain in-house, with children sharing their special moments with families themselves.

These changes aim to ensure that every child's light shines and that celebration promotes inclusion, individuality and belonging across our school.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support and thoughtful suggestions.

## Parent Forum and Survey

Many thanks to those of you that attended the parent forum – it was a really productive conversation and it is always great to get your feedback. We discussed the new Ofsted Framework and our work on Healthy Relationships and our behaviour system.

Your views are important to us – please take the time to complete our parent survey here:

[Surlingham- Parent View 2026 – Fill out form](#)



Tel: 01508 538214



[www.rockland-surlingham-schools.co.uk](http://www.rockland-surlingham-schools.co.uk)

## World Book Day

Just a reminder that it is World Book Day on 5<sup>th</sup> March – we will be dressing up as our favourite book character (or school uniform) and having a reading café in the morning at drop off: 9 – 10am. Please feel welcome to join us!

### **Free Dyslexia Friendly World Book Day Audiobooks**

There's a great range of free audiobooks to enjoy!  
Audiobooks are brilliant for dyslexic readers - they make stories easier to access and much more relaxing to enjoy. All the World Book Day books are available in audio, plus there are free video stories for younger children. Have a listen here:

<https://www.worldbookday.com/book-types/audiobook/>



## Dates for the Diary

(New dates in red)

### March

- **Tuesday 3rd March** – Rockland Nursery Open Morning, 9:00am–10:30am
- **Thursday 5th March** – World Book Day Reading Café – Dress Up Day!
- **Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March** – Norfolk County Music Festival – Whole School 11-1.30pm
- **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March** – Willow Class Bawdsey Residential
- **Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2026 – Hathorn Class (letters to follow)**
- **Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March** – Last day of the Spring Term
- **Easter Holiday:** Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March – Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April

### April

- **Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> April** – Return to school after Easter Holiday
- **Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April** – Open Morning for perspective new parents/students
- **Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> April** – Parent/Carers' Information Evening, 4:00pm–5:00pm @ FEHS (Current Year 6's)

### May

- **Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May** –
  - Y7 Director of Learning visit to Year 6



# Vacancy for Self-Employed Cleaner



Surlingham Parish Council is seeking a **reliable, self-motivated, and conscientious cleaner** to help maintain our public facilities to a high standard for the benefit of residents and visitors.

**Location:** Surlingham Village Hall

**Hours:** 2.5 hours per week, (outside school hours: 8:30am – 3.15pm, Monday-Friday)

**Start Date:** To be confirmed

**Contract Type:** Self-employed basis

## Main Duties:

- Cleaning and sanitising facilities, including toilets, sinks, floors, and touchpoints
  - Restocking consumables (soap, paper towels, toilet rolls)
- Reporting any maintenance issues or damage to the Parish Clerk
- Ensuring health and safety standards are met at all times

## Requirements:

- Previous cleaning experience preferred but not essential
- Ability to work independently and take pride in your work
  - Own transport (if required)
  - Public liability insurance (proof required)

**Rate of Pay:** £14.50 per hour (self-employed – responsible for own tax and NI)

## How to Apply:

Please send a brief CV or outline of your experience, along with your contact details, to:

Charlotte Rust, Parish Clerk  
[clerk@surlingham-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@surlingham-pc.gov.uk)

**Applications close on: 28<sup>th</sup> February 2026**

*Interview date to be confirmed*



Tel: 01508 538214



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## Events 2025-26

### September

**Teddy Bears Picnic**  
Sunday 14th



FREE

### October

**Quiz and Chips**  
Thursday 16th 6.30pm  
Surlingham Village Hall

**Halloween Cafe**  
Friday 24th 3.15pm

### November



### December

**Christmas Carols**  
Saturday 13th



### January

**Movie Night**  
Film and date - TBC



### February

**Jumble Sale**  
Saturday 21st  
Surlingham Village Hall  
2pm-4pm



### March



### April

**Spring sculpture Trail**  
Over the 2 week Easter  
break



### May



### June

**Summer Fun Day**  
Saturday 6th



### July



### August

**Fantasy Football**



# Free Online Parent & Carer Webinars

## Free Online Webinars: Feb - March 2026

### Join Our Spring Term Webinar Series!

The PINS Spring Webinar programme offers a series of free, supportive online sessions designed to help families better understand and support neurodiverse children — both at home and in school.

These sessions are part of PINS (Partnerships for Inclusion of Neurodiversity in Schools), a Norfolk programme working alongside families and schools to create inclusive, understanding learning environments for every child.

- ✓ Free to attend
- ✓ Online – join from home
- ✓ Welcoming and practical
- ✓ No diagnosis or prior knowledge needed

### When?

Understanding neurodiversity in school

- Social communication and friendships
- Masking and emotional wellbeing
- Behaviour as communication
- Inclusive school cultures
- Working positively with families
- Supportive learning environments

### Who is it for?

These sessions are designed to be supportive, practical and understanding. Whether you're just beginning to explore neurodiversity or looking for new ideas, you'll find insight, reassurance and encouragement.

All sessions are free and delivered online via Microsoft Teams. Joining links are attached with QR codes as an option. Join as many sessions as you like — even just one can make a difference.



Session and session title	Date/Time Presenter	Audience	Session detail and Registration link
<p><b>Session 9.</b> Behind the Mask: Thinking about why children mask and how home and school can work together</p>	<p><b>26th Feb 1000-1100</b>  <b>Family Action Norfolk</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Governors</li> <li>• SLT</li> <li>• SENDCO</li> <li>• Teachers</li> <li>• Parent/Carers</li> </ul>	<p><a href="#">NORFOLK PINS 2026: Session 9</a></p> 
<p><b>Session 12.</b> Plan Bee Taster: Understanding and Supporting Neurodivergence at home and at school</p>	<p><b>3rd March 0930-1100</b>  <b>Family Action Norfolk</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Governors</li> <li>• SLT</li> <li>• SENDCO</li> <li>• Teachers</li> <li>• Parent/Carers</li> </ul>	<p><a href="#">Norfolk PINS 2026: Session 12</a></p> 
<p><b>Session 14.</b> A Low Demand Approach – Looking at demand anxiety and strategies to help</p>	<p><b>5th March 1000-1100</b>  <b>Family Action Norfolk</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Governors</li> <li>• SLT</li> <li>• SENDCO</li> <li>• Teachers</li> <li>• Parent/ Carers</li> </ul>	<p><a href="#">NORFOLK PINS 2026: Session 14</a></p> 
<p><b>Session 17.</b> Plan Bee Taster: Understanding and Supporting Neurodivergence at home and at school</p>	<p><b>10th March 1530-1700</b>  <b>Family Action Norfolk</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Governors</li> <li>• SLT</li> <li>• SENDCO</li> <li>• Teachers</li> <li>• Parent /Carers</li> </ul>	<p><a href="#">NORFOLK PINS 2026: Session 17</a></p> 
<p><b>Session 18.</b> Anger or Anxieties? Thinking about emotional distress and how it can present.</p>	<p><b>12th March 1000-1100</b>  <b>Family Action Norfolk</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Governors</li> <li>• SLT</li> <li>• SENDCO</li> <li>• Teachers</li> <li>• Parent/ Carers</li> </ul>	<p><a href="#">NORFOLK PINS 2026: Session 18</a></p> 
<p><b>Session 20.</b> Masking – What It Looks Like, Why It Happens, and How We Can Support <i>(evening)</i></p>	<p><b>12th March 1900-2030</b>  <b>Dr Pooky Knightsmith</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Governors</li> <li>• SLT</li> <li>• SENDCO</li> <li>• Teachers</li> <li>• Parent/ Carers</li> </ul>	<p><a href="#">NORFOLK PINS 2026: Session 20</a></p> 

