

It's been a wonderfully enriching week across the school. Willows Class enjoyed an immersive trip to Gressingham, stepping straight into Victorian life for the day. Hawthorn Class marked UK Parliament Week by holding their own council meeting, confidently sharing ideas, debating respectfully and showing real maturity as they followed a formal agenda. They'll now be preparing letters for our local MP ahead of his visit in the new year. And a personal highlight: watching Chestnuts rehearse their Nativity — they were brilliant, and you're in for a real treat!

Gressingham Trip



What a memorable day Willows Class had at Gressingham Workhouse and Museum! From the moment they arrived, the children stepped straight into Victorian life. Dressed in brilliant period costumes, they met the fully-in-character staff — from a stern school teacher to a farmer's widow and even a workhouse inmate.

Throughout the visit, the class worked to solve a Victorian mystery: two church candle holders had gone missing, and each stop around the site offered new clues and characters to question.

Their activities took them all over the museum — picking stones in the fields, 'milking' cows, meeting a Suffolk Punch horse, tasting warm drop scones, tackling real Victorian laundry, sitting through a strict classroom lesson, and even picking oakum like workhouse children once did.

It was an amazing day of hands-on history, and the children were fully absorbed from start to finish. A huge thank you to parents for the fantastic costumes and Victorian-style lunches — they made the experience even more special.



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Parliament Week



This week is UK Parliament Week and so Hawthorn Class took part in a local council meeting. We talked about the structure of a meeting, introduced ourselves, talked about the agenda and each child spoke about something that they felt passionately about and brought it up in the meeting. The children responded respectfully, either agreeing with a suggestion, offering further advice or politely challenging a suggestion. We didn't need to intervene at all and it was a pleasure to see the children act so maturely. We will be welcoming the local MP in for an

assembly in the new year and so next week the children will be writing up their ideas on to a formal letter to give to the MP when he visits.

ATTENDANCE

Our school target for attendance this year is 97%.

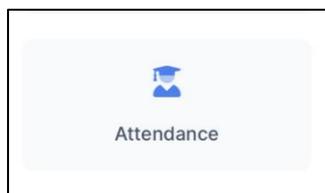
This week our attendance was 92.7%

Year 1 had the highest attendance with 97.1 %.

Attendance Update

Bromcom

Parent and carers should now be able to see their child's attendance on Bromcom. The icon is on the home page, along with trips, dinner bookings etc.



We monitor attendance of each pupil on a weekly basis. Any child that falls below 90% is considered to be 'persistently absent' and is a cause for concern.

Illness

We understand it is difficult to know whether your child is too ill for school.

Please find the link to a useful NHS document: [Is my child too ill for school?](#)

[Is my child too ill for school? - NHS](#)

With minor illnesses, such as coughs, colds and stomach-ache, we would always rather you send your child to school, and we will contact you if we feel their condition has deteriorated and they need to go home.

However, if your child has sickness or diarrhoea, then they need to miss school for 48 hours from the last bout of illness.



Christmas Jumper and Christmas Dinner Day

From Monday 1st December there will be a Christmas jumper donation box in the reception area. Take what you need to borrow, pop in any Christmas jumpers that you wish to donate. All we ask is that any borrowed jumpers are returned before the end of term after the Christmas Jumper day on **Wednesday 17th December**. Many thanks to Mrs Hardingham for arranging this for the school.

If your child would like to have a school Christmas dinner and has not yet signed up for a school dinner on Wednesday 17th December, please add their order on **MCAS no later than Wednesday 10th December 2025**.



We're delighted to say that the Big Norfolk Holiday Fun programme is live this school holiday.

Big Norfolk Holiday Fun (BNHF) activity programme provides holiday activities for children and young people aged 5-16 (or 4 if your child is in reception) in Norfolk.

The UK Government's funding for the programme has been extended for a further 3 years, after 5 initial years of their support.

Children who receive benefits-related free school meals can claim free spaces on the activities, whilst paid spots are available on many activities for those who don't.

Active Norfolk and Norfolk activity providers have helped facilitate multiple fun activities designed for children aged 5-16 during the holidays, with free slots for children who receive benefits-related free school meals. Parents and carers can book their child's holiday activities using our activity finder: <https://bignorfolkholidayfun.activityfinder.net/>

OPEN DAY

We are having another Open Morning on Monday, 8th
December 09:00 to 10:30

Please share the posters and encourage anyone you know with
a child starting school soon (or wanting an in-year transfer) to
come and visit.



Diary Date (updates in red)

December

- **Monday 8th December** – School Open day 9am – 10.30am Spread the word!
- **Wednesday 3rd December** – Parent invitation to watch Hawthorn ukelele group music sessions @ 10am -10.30am
- **Week commencing 9th December** – Parent Teacher Meetings
- **11th December** – Hippodrome visit – Whole school trip
- **Friday 12th December** - Celebration Assembly for whole school Healthy Relationships Project and invited guests at 2.30 (Parents welcome to join us)
- **Saturday 13th December** – Foss Christmas Celebration 5pm-8pm Village Hall
- **Monday 15th December** – Nativity evening performance – 6.00pm Village Hall
- **Tuesday 16th December** – Nativity afternoon performance - 2.00pm Village Hall
- **Wednesday 17th December** – Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day.
- **Thursday 18th December** – Carol Service, 2:00–3:00pm at Surlingham Church



OPEN DAYS

Believe, Explore, Achieve



Surlingham
Primary School



- ◆ Small class sizes
- ◆ Beautiful outdoor area
- ◆ Excellent SATS results
- ◆ Exciting child-centred curriculum enriched with lots of trips
- ◆ Opportunities and adventures
- ◆ Located in the heart of the Norfolk Broads
- ◆ Full wraparound care available

Meet our wonderful staff and pupils

Monday, 8th December
09:00 to 10:30

No need to book

Enjoy refreshments with other parents | Stay and play in our lovely early years area

SURLINGHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL, WALNUT HILL, NORWICH, NR14 7DO | 01508 538214



Tel: 01508 538214



www.rockland-surlingham-schools.co.uk

JOIN US FOR A

FOSS CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

A FESTIVE EVENING FOR ALL TO ENJOY.
CHRISTMAS CAROL SINGERS PERFORMING
A SHORT ROUTE FROM THE VILLAGE HALL
FROM 6PM -7PM.

CHILDRENS ACTIVITIES.

MINCE PIES, CHRISTMAS SWEET TREATS,
MULLED WINE AND OTHER REFRESHMENTS
AVAILABLE.

13th
DEC

SURLINGHAM
VILLAGE HALL
5PM - 8PM

Christmas treasure chest, bring
a £2 coin to enter to win!

CARD PAYMENTS TAKEN, CASH PREFERRED

FREE
ENTRY



Tel: 01508 538214



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Kids Disabled children
say we can

Norfolk
Parent Carer Service

Fortnightly on Wednesday
10.30 – 12.30

Coffee

&

Connect

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

Email: hayley.huckle@kids.org.uk/sally.macgregor@kids.org.uk



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

