

St Botolph's C of E Primary School

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Friday 5th June 2026

NEWSLETTER – June 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

How did the last half term catch us all up so quickly? This year is flying by. I can't wait to see you all at the various events the school has over the coming weeks. Some training Miss Noble went on about building community with our families has made our senior leaders really reflect again on what a great bunch of families and staff we have, and we feel blessed to work with you and your children.

Summer Picnic

Talking of enjoying your company: Our recent summer picnic was a fantastic opportunity for families and friends to come together just before we disappeared for the half term break. It always warms the hearts of us staff to see the field come alive with chatter, music and dancing across the generations. Thank you for taking time out of your days to join in – we know it can take a lot of planning from your end – the children love having you here, as do we. Thank you also to Year 6 and the teaching team for entertaining us with your very skilful country dancing.

Trust name change

If you missed the letter at the end of Spring Term from our Academy Trust, you may not be aware that our family of schools has rebranded as Grace Schools. I hope you'll agree that this is a lovely name for us all and sounds less corporate than The Diocese of Ely Multi Academy Trust and a little warmer. It also trips off the tongue more easily! The decision to rebrand reflects the ambition and the journey that the Trust has been on. It's great to be part of leading out and sharing how we do things here with schools both in the Trust and from further afield and we continue to be proud of the work of our school.

As a result of this there will be changes to our website coming and maybe a change to our school logo and site signage over time. If there is a change to the school logo we will let you know but we will not be making everyone buy new uniform!

We need your help! Community Council members wanted

The governance of the Trust is also changing. We will no longer have a governing body so I would like to thank everyone who has taken the time and spent copious energy sitting on the governing body of our school over the time I have been head. The team have been some of the loveliest governors I have worked with and really took responsibility for making sure our community was cared for and making progress.

Dates

5 th and 6 th June	Grace Schools Art Exhibition at St Mary's Church, Ely
9 th June	Reception 2026 Parent Information Evening
10 th June	Class photos
10 th June	Dance performance at the Cresset for dance club
11 th June	World Cup Lunch!
18 th June	Father's Day Sale (Bring £1 in to school)
20 th June	School Summer Fete
22 nd June	Year 2 Burghley House Visit
25 th June	Family Café - Transitions
29 th June	Sports' Day KS1 am and KS2 pm
1 st -2 nd July	Move up days and stay and play sessions for Reception 2026
3 rd July	Y6 Twin Lakes trip
3 rd July	Grace Schools Netball Tournament (Invite only)
9 th July	Reports to families
9 th July	Summer Discos
13 th July	Reserve Sports' Day
14 th July	Reports Parent/carer evening
15 th July	Y6 Play to parents 6pm in the school hall
17 th July	Last day of school for families
20 th July	Staff training day
1 st – 2 nd September	Staff training days
3 rd September	Years 1-6 children return to school
8 th September	1 st session for Reception children

So that there is a community voice and action we are going to start a 'Community Council'. This will help us monitor our Christian Vision as a Church School and also engage with our local community including our families. Our Friends of St Botolph's already do an amazing job of organising events for our family community so this council will have a broader remit of helping to spread the word about St Botolph's and the work we do here as well as helping us to understand the needs of our families and the local area.

If you are interested in finding out more then we'd be very grateful if you could express your interest by clicking the link and completing the short questionnaire. [Community Council – Fill in form](#)

Playtime developments

As you may remember from our last newsletter, we are working with an organisation called OPAL to revamp our playtimes. Jo Clanfield from OPAL, has visited and observed lunchtime on the field and is very excited about what we can achieve here because of our beautiful grounds and well-behaved children. She noted that some children were seeking out less busy social spaces so we aim to help them with that. When the children are on the field they also miss out on places to climb and swing so we'll think more about that too. To help us we would like to ask you to complete a questionnaire at our school Sports Day and we will also have donation boxes for items we would love to have for the children. Miss Noble will let you know exactly what we need – please adhere to the guidance she sets out as we are very mindful of health and safety for different stages of our children's development.

The Big Wheel and Walk Challenge

Thank you to all our families for taking part in the Big Wheel and Walk Challenge. As a school, we logged an amazing 1,681 journeys, with Leicester Class winning our internal challenge with an impressive total of 204 journeys. As a reward, Leicester class enjoyed an additional playtime, which they thoroughly loved! We are incredibly proud of our whole school community for coming together to support this initiative. Your efforts are helping to protect our environment while also promoting healthier, more active lifestyles for our children.

Summer Fête 2026

Our fabulous group of volunteers on the Friends committee are getting ready for the biggest event of the year – the Summer Fete! There will be games, stalls, BBQ and other food stalls, drinks, crafts and bouncy castles. We also have dance and martial arts demonstrations from local groups. Please come along and support from 12pm to 3pm on Saturday 20th June.

Also in the pipeline from the Friends are a further Colour Run and discos to finish an exceptional year on a high. Keep an eye out for more information.

Peterborough Cultural Alliance

Peterborough Cultural Alliance is working with cultural organisations in Peterborough to better understand how people get involved in art, heritage and culture - whether that's attending events, exploring local history, or getting creative for fun. **Student, teacher, and staff voice is essential** in helping support a vibrant and inclusive cultural offer for the city. Please complete the survey to support our local community getting more of what we want and need.

www.be-heard-pbo.com

MCAS (My Child at School)

The MCAS app (or website version) is an essential tool in school life. We send all of our communications via MCAS along with notifications regarding school meals, trips, parent's evenings and your child's end of year report. We have found there is a big drop in parents accessing their accounts and therefore missing information. We would highly suggest logging in a few times each week to keep up to date. While you may not wish to engage with every item sent, the vast majority are directly linked to your child's life at St Botolph's and we want you to feel involved. It will also reduce the need for us to chase you for consent, payments and dinner bookings. If you need any help with MCAS, please speak with any member of the office team, they are happy to help.



Weather watch

After sweltering heat over a beautifully sunny half term, we now have torrential rain showers and even some thunder predicted. As the weather is a little more unpredictable, please could you keep an eye on the weather and ensure your child has a coat. We do like to get them out even if it's raining a bit – you will completely understand how a little bit of outside helps their day!

However, it looks like we may have more heat on the way. Please ensure sun lotion goes on at the start of the day if hot and provide a hat!

Remember to add your child's full name to everything they wear and bring to school, Mrs Drew will be very happy to have less lost property to contend with!

Finally...

Have a great weekend and I'm looking forward to catching up with you all over the next few weeks.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'M. Drew', followed by a small dash.

Headteacher