



Ashill VC Primary School Newsletter



Tel: 01760 440403

Friday 16th May 2025

www.ashillschool.co.uk

From the Desk of Mr Creasey...

Dear Parents/Carers

Last week I had the privilege of joining Hedgehog Class (Year 3/4) on their residential to Eaton Vale.

Residential visits are simply incredible for creating memories that you will remember even in adulthood. I still remember my trips to Holt Hall and How Hill, two classic Norfolk residential hotspots back in the 1990s, and getting absolutely soaked in a Canadian canoe in the middle of the Norfolk broads. I'm showing my age here...

Aside from the late nights and lack of sleep, residential visits bring out very different sides to your children's character. It's amazing to see how different they are when they're given that sense of freedom. From steely determination and problem solving, to courage and bravery; you see it all. Not forgetting that some of your children have an incredible ability to roll a sleeping bag and get it back in its case – we love a challenge!

This year, every child in Hedgehog Class went on the residential, which is an amazing achievement in itself. What is more, we were so impressed with each and every one of them for adopting a 'give it a go' attitude. Even Mr Brown and I were suffering for a few days with pain in the lower back following our grass sledging efforts!

With best wishes,

Steve Creasey
Headteacher



“For I know the plans I have for you,” declared the Lord, “Plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”

(Jeremiah 29:11)

Our vision, guided by our Christian ethos, is to create an inclusive school family where every child is nurtured to grow and thrive, be confident in showing their strengths and achieve their ambitions in the world.

We aim to achieve this through our values of:

Resilience, Kindness, Respect, Aspiration, Curiosity and Independence

Dates for the Diary

(please note that events marked in **blue** are new events and those in **bold** are where parent/carers are invited)

Summer

Mon 19 th May	3:15pm to 4:15pm Parent/Carer drop in
Tues 20 th May	pm: Sports Day
Fri 23 rd May	9:00 - 10:00 Friends of Ashill School Coffee Morning (raising money for Squirrel Class)
Thurs 5 th June	Friends of Ashill School: Father's Day 'Buy a Gift'
Thurs 5th June	KS1 Maths Workshop 9am to 11am
Thurs 5th June	KS2 Maths Workshop 1pm to 3pm
Thurs 12th June	KS1 Maths Workshop 9am to 11am
Thurs 12th June	KS2 Maths Workshop 1pm to 3pm
11 th /12 th /13 th June	Year 5/6 Residential to Thorpe Woodlands
Tues 17 th June	Bumblebee Class – Gressenhall Trip
Tues 17 th June	pm: Reserve Sports Day
Thurs 19th June	KS1 Maths Workshop 9am to 11am
Thurs 19th June	KS2 Maths Workshop 1pm to 3pm
Tues 24 th June	Inter-house Rounders
Thurs 26th June	KS1 Maths Workshop 9am to 11am
Thurs 26th June	KS2 Maths Workshop 1pm to 3pm
Tues 1 st July	Inter-house Cricket
Tues 1 st July	Year 5 trip to Northgate – Wizard of Oz Performance
Sat 5 th July	Friends of Ashill – Summer Funday
Tues 8 th July	2pm Squirrel Class Curriculum Café
Wed 9 th July	Friends of Ashill School Disco
8 th /9 th /10 th July	Wayland High School Transition days
Fri 11 th July	Badger Class – Ashill Fest overnight
16 th – 22 nd July	Whole School Transition Week (starts Wednesday)
Mon 14 th July	Reading Reward Trip
Wed 16 th July	Pleasurewood Hills for Year 6
Thurs 17th July	9:30am Leavers Service at St. Nicholas Church
18 th /21 st /22 nd July	Northgate and Neatherd High School Transition days – children are invited back to us for the last day of term
Mon 21 st July	3:15pm to 4:15pm Parent/Carer drop in (with new class teachers)
Tues 22 nd July	9:30am Leavers Service and Prize Giving at St. Nicholas Church

2024-2025 Term dates

Summer term:	Wed 23 rd Apr	to	Fri 23 rd May
	Mon 2 nd Jun	to	Tues 22 nd July

2025-2026 Term dates

Autumn term:	Wed 3 rd Sept	to	Fri 24 th Oct
	Mon 3 rd Nov	to	Fri 19 th Dec
Spring term:	Tues 6 th Jan	to	Fri 13 th Feb
	Mon 23 rd Feb	to	Fri 27 th Mar
Summer term:	Tues 14 th Apr	to	Fri 22 nd May
	Mon 1 st Jun	to	Fri 17 th July

ICS Summer Holiday Dates:

Mondays:	28 th July, 4 th August, 11 th August, 18 th August
Wednesday:	30 th July, 6 th August, 13 th August, 20 th August



Getting in touch...

There will be times, as a parent or carer, when you need to get in touch with us. It could be to discuss something that you need to share with us, something that is worrying you or simply to keep us in the loop. If you need to get in touch, we'd encourage you to take the following steps:



Before or after school chat on the playground

Most mornings, your child's class teacher or Mr Creasey will be on the playground at the beginning of the day between 8:45am and 8:55am. This is often the case at the end of the school day too. This is the perfect opportunity to have a brief chat or to arrange a phone call or a meeting.

Give us a call

You are welcome to give the office a call, either to chat directly to your child's teacher, if they're not teaching, or leave a message to call you back.



Arranging a meeting

If you would like to discuss anything regarding your child, the best person to speak to is the class teacher. You can catch them at the beginning or end of the day to arrange a face to face meeting or alternatively, you can email or call the school office and the class teacher will get back to you.

Avoid the emails, if you can...

As a school, we take great pride in our approach to staff wellbeing.

As we've mentioned before, we much prefer a two-way, verbal conversation between school and home; it's the most ideal way to share any concerns from both home and school and come up with a solution.



Therefore, we'd like to politely remind that, although emails to the office are ideal for letting us know information or responding to a member of staff, please avoid using emails to raise a concern or issue and instead opt for one of the above options.

Our teaching and leadership staff work lots of hours outside of school. To protect the balance of work and home, as much as we can, and to avoid any concern or issue impacting upon their own lives and those of their families, we kindly ask that this is respected, particularly outside of working hours, i.e. evenings, weekends and during the holidays.

What if I need to raise things further?

With our complaints policy in mind, if a conversation with the class teacher is unable to resolve a concern or issue, then please follow the above suggestions to get in touch with Mr Creasey and arrange a phone call or meeting.

Respect in the workplace

All staff at Ashill VC Primary School are committed to working with you in a professional and courteous manner, and have the right to work in a safe and supportive working environment

Ashill VC Primary does not accept or tolerate behaviour towards the staff that is unsafe and unsupportive. Actions will be taken should incidents of this nature arise.

Please set a good example by behaving in a polite, kind and respectful manner towards school staff.

We thank you for your support and co-operation.



Friends of Ashill School




Easy Fundraising

We are using a great website called easyfundraising to help raise money for Ashill School PTA - Thetford - simply by shopping online. Easyfundraising turns your everyday online shopping into FREE donations when you use them to shop with over 7,000 brands such as eBay, John Lewis & Partners, Argos, ASOS and Booking.com. Brands then make a small donation to say 'thank you' and easyfundraising gives those free funds to the cause.



Please register using this link – just click sign up - <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/support-a-good-cause/step-1/?char=27981&invite=wt04dy&referral-campaign=s2s>

Plus, once you've raised your first £5, easyfundraising will double it! There's no catch or hidden charges and Ashill School PTA - Thetford will be really grateful for your donations.



1 2 3 4

We Declare a Penny War!

Penny Wars Starting 2nd June,

save up those pennies and classes will battle it out to win a prize!

more information will follow in the next newsletter



Friends of Ashill
Primary

Save The Date!!

Friday	Saturday	Sunday
4	5 July!	6

Mark your calendars! Friends Of Ashill Primary
Summer Funday
Car Boot, Games, Refreshments And More Please Do
Come Along And Support Us!

Car Boot Pitches £10 Per Pitch, Pitches Can Be
Booked By Emailing pta@ashill.norfolk.sch.uk

A few bits from our last newsletter...

Hot Weather

With us reminding you all about the heat, we've probably jinxed the weather now and probably in for months of rain ☺



During spells of hot weather, please ensure each day your child comes to school with sun screen already applied and that they wear a peaked sun hat.

Children may bring in sun cream (named) and apply a top up at break or lunch if required. Depending upon their age, appropriate supervision and support will be given.



We kindly ask that children do not share sun cream due to the possibility of skin reactions.

If we feel the midday heat is too intense, there will be times where we review the risk and opt for the more shaded playground (thanks to the large oak tree) or possibly even indoors.

We've had a few questions about children wearing sunglasses recently. After reviewing this last year, we would only encourage children to wear sunglasses for medical reasons. Instead, we advise children to wear peaked sun hats, which should be adequate to protect their eyes from the sun in most situations.

Being realistic, like glasses which are naturally worn for appropriate reasons, sunglasses are often lost, found damaged, difficult to name and can potentially be more of a hazard when playing at break/lunch and in outdoor lessons. Therefore, we only encourage the wearing of any glasses if really needed.



Dukes Award

Dukes Presentation Afternoon Tea – a little awards ceremony will be held in the library on Wednesday 9th July at 2.30pm for all those children who have completed their Dukes Awards (and their parents). Lots of children have made a start with two children finished, well done to you. Invitations will be sent out nearer the time but the deadline for an invitation on the 9th is Friday 4th July (so I have time to get everything ready). If your child has not finished by then, they can still complete the award over the weeks/months following. I look forward to seeing what they have been up to.



Sports Day – Tuesday 20th May – 1pm

We're hopeful that our Sports Day will be going ahead on Tuesday 20th May from 1:00pm. Here's some information about how we run our sports day. Remember, you and family members are all welcome.

How it works

Our sports day is held in the afternoon, between 1:00pm and 3:00pm. We have a traditional sports day in that we use our running track on the field, with the finish line being nearest the school building.

We do this as a whole school event and there will be a mixture of running and obstacle races throughout the afternoon, with the children racing in their year groups and representing their house.

Each event will be scored by the children's houses and we'll give you updates throughout the afternoon on which house is first, second and third. Last year's winners were Conifer (blue) by the way...no pressure there!

Sports Day is kindly run by Mrs Grigg and supported by our house captains, staff and governors. Between the adults, there will be some tough decisions as to who comes first, second and third but, as we haven't invested in 'finish line technology', please be respectful of any decisions made.

The Friends of Ashill School will be kindly providing refreshments, located just near the Bumblebee and Squirrel Class outside area.



What does your child need to have on the day?

Please can we ask that your child comes to school in their P.E. kit and ideally if they can wear their house team colour. If the weather isn't overly warm, they can come in either shorts or jogging bottoms, with a hoodie or jumper if needed (this can be removed for a race when needed). It would also be helpful for children to have a water bottle too and sun cream if the weather is warm.

Coming to watch Sports Day

The double black gates at the car park entrance will be open from 1pm, in order to access our field. We will set up several rows of chairs along one side of the running track for you as parents/carers to watch.

The children will be sitting on the opposite side of the track in their house teams, with lots of staff supervising and supporting your children. Please ensure that you do not cross the track to see your child whilst sports day is running, even if you feel there is a need to. With so many staff available, we will ensure your child is well looked after and we'll always come to get you if we feel it's needed.

Spectator area

This year (having trialled this last year), just near the finish line, we will have a special standing area for parents/carers of children who are currently racing. We kindly ask that this area is simply used for your child's race and that you return to the main viewing area afterwards. We know many of you will be keen to be near the finish line but we hope this gives people a fair chance of seeing their child race.

Photographs/Videos

Based upon GDPR guidance and our current policy, you are allowed to take photographs and videos during Sports Day but we kindly ask that you only share or post images on social media of your own child(ren), unless you have consent from other parent/carers to include others.



Just like in recent years, we will also allow time at the end of the afternoon for you to see your child(ren) and take a photograph if you would like to, particularly as they like to 'show off' their rosettes.

However, and maybe we're being a bit old-fashioned here but, we would strongly encourage you to keep use of mobile phones to a minimum and simply enjoy watching your child take part.

We will also be taking photos and video clips and we will share a large selection of these in our next newsletter. Unlike the years post-covid, we do not intend to send these out to parents/carers.

Weather

We will probably jinx this by mentioning that since moving our sports day to May around nine years ago, we've been pretty fortunate with weather.

We will make the decision by mid-morning on the day and text you if sports day isn't going ahead. We will then look to make an alternative date in June and let you know as soon as possible.

Celebration Assembly
2nd May 2025

Well done to the following children:

Bumblebees



Squirrels



Hedgehogs



Badgers



Headteacher Award



The attendance winners are:

Bumblebee Class 98.9%

**2nd
Hedgehog Class
98.7%**

**3rd
Badger Class
96.9%**

**4th
Squirrel Class
90.7%**

Overall Attendance (so far this year):

95.1%

Celebration Assembly
9th May 2025

Well done to the following children:

Bumblebees



Squirrels



Hedgehogs



Badgers



Headteacher Award



The attendance winners are:

Bumblebee Class 100%

2nd
Badger Class 93%

3rd
Hedgehog Class 91.7%

4th
Squirrel Class 85.8%

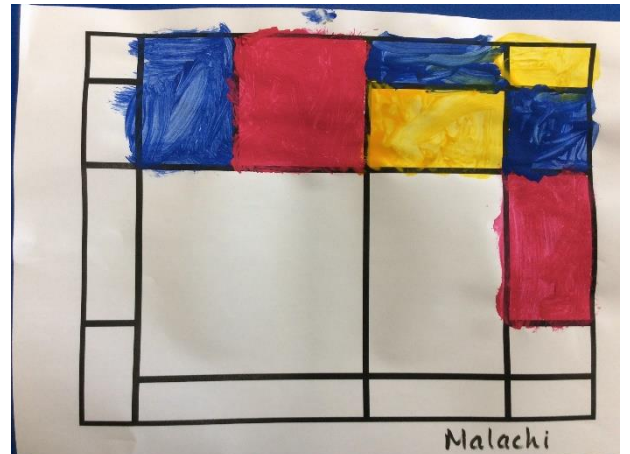
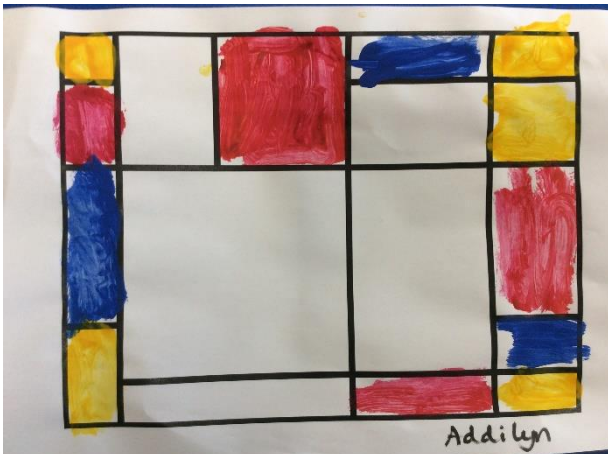
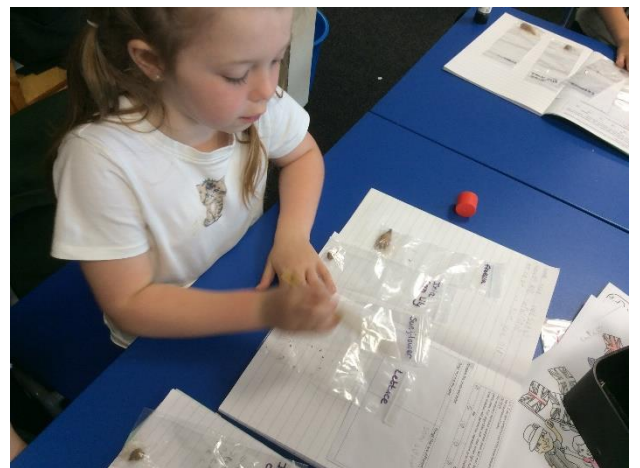
Overall Attendance (so far this year):

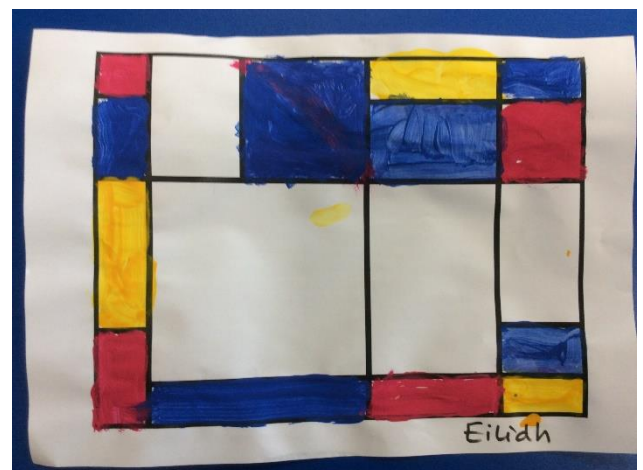
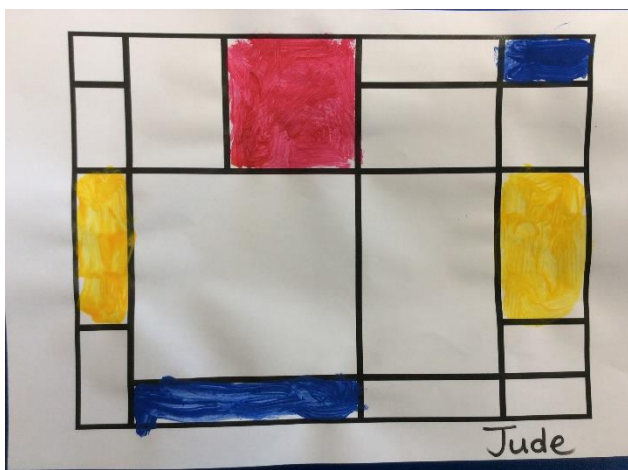
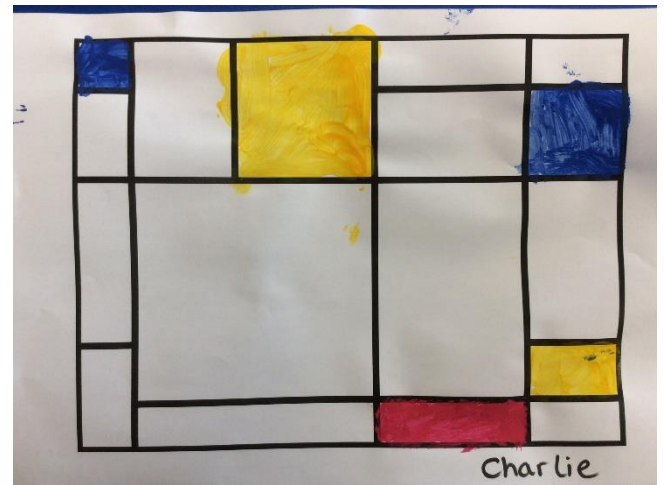
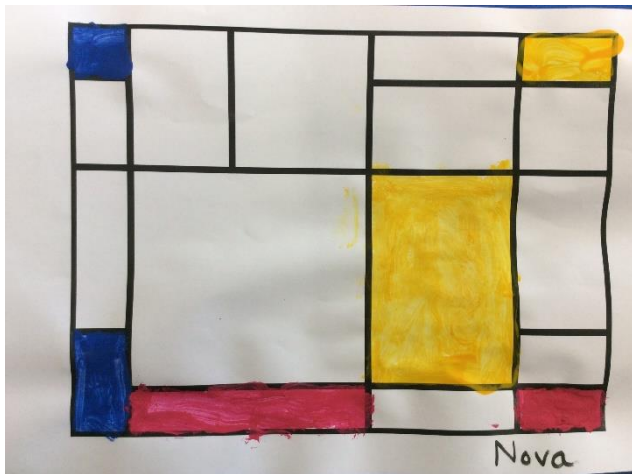
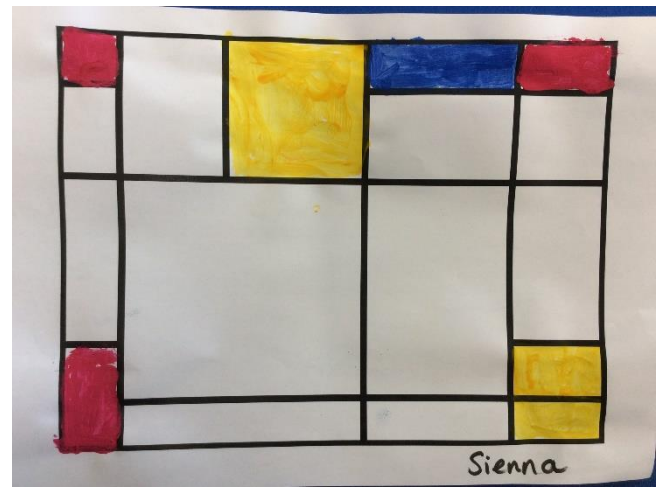
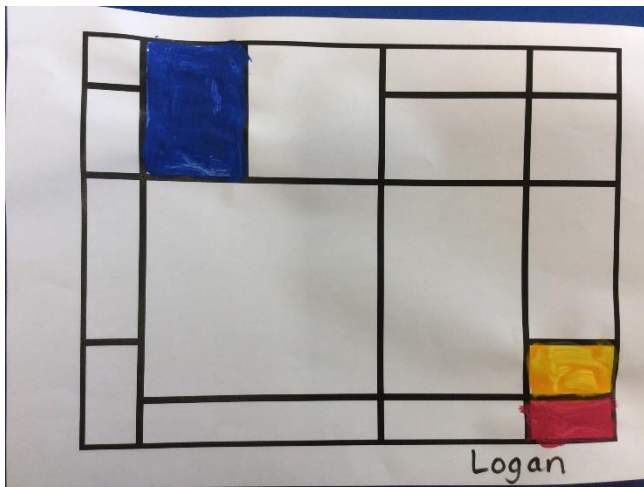
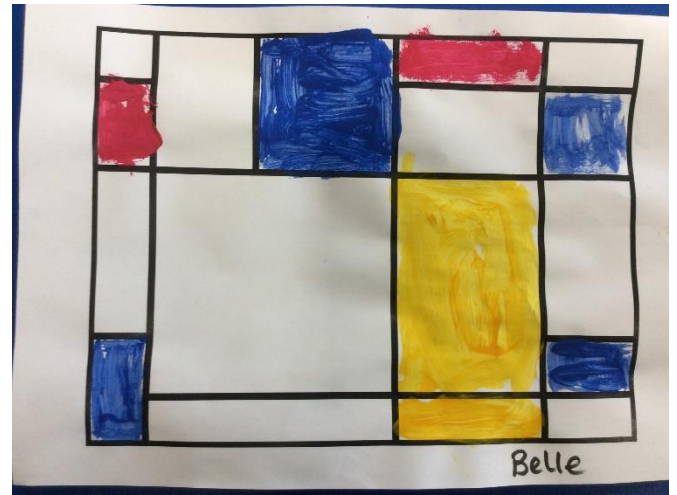
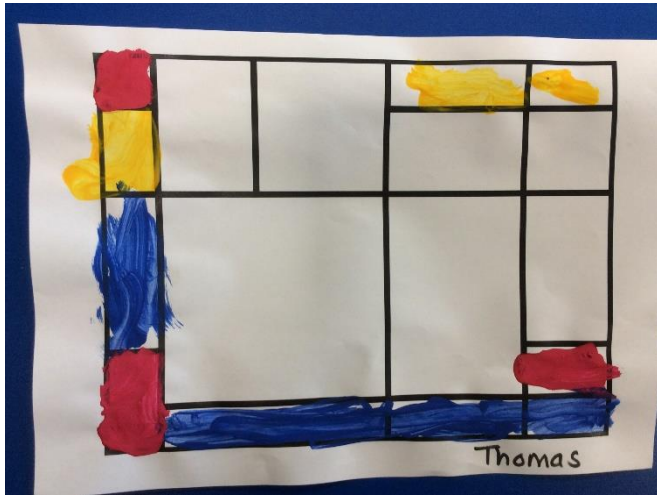
95%

What's Been Happening?





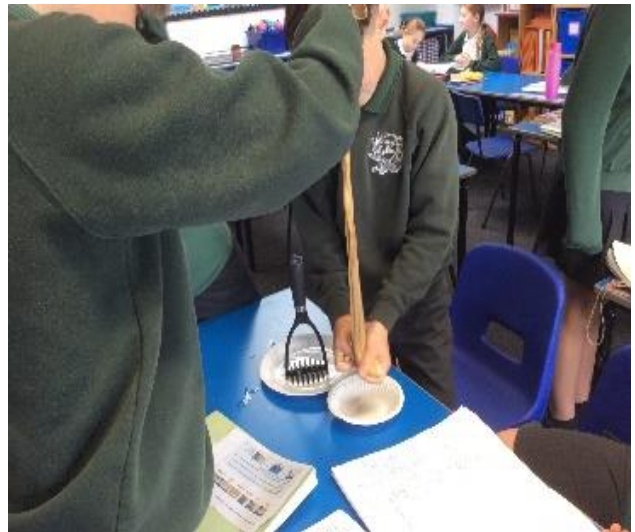












VE Celebrations



All of Hedgehog Class enjoyed a brilliant trip to Eaton Vale on their annual residential visit. Lots of confidence was built over the two days and new

skills learnt, including many of the children experiencing their first sleep over – they all did brilliantly and had a great time.







Young Carers

Basketball session run alongside Norfolk Hoopstars:

Ellie Brown will be running a basketball session for Young Carers alongside Norfolk Hoopstars on Wednesday 11th June, 17:30-18:45 @ Wayland Academy. All ages welcome.



Link for parents (please sign up here if you are interested):

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=ZyZWZwTGN0KadDWRrJtINEkvUaU7c9IJmnOPvS62xIRUNEVGM0taUEILU1RSTIJVSTFPRIJPOTRWTC4u>

Carers Matter Norfolk
SUPPORTING YOUNG CARERS & FAMILIES

The Benjamin Foundation

FREE PERFORMING ARTS WORKSHOPS FOR YOUNG CARERS

YOUNG CARERS MATTER NORFOLK AND THE BENJAMIN FOUNDATION WARMLY INVITE YOUNG CARERS TO JOIN THEM FOR A FUN AND ENGAGING PERFORMING ARTS AND DRAMA SESSION.

LED BY EXPERIENCED TUTORS, THESE WORKSHOPS ARE ALL ABOUT CREATIVITY, CONFIDENCE, AND SELF-EXPRESSION — A CHANCE TO STEP INTO THE SPOTLIGHT, TRY SOMETHING NEW, AND CONNECT WITH OTHERS WHO UNDERSTAND WHAT IT'S LIKE TO BE A YOUNG CARER.

THE WORKSHOP
KING'S LYNN

THE WORKSHOP
38 NEW CONDUIT STREET
VANCOUVER QUARTER
KING'S LYNN
PE30 1DL

THE GARAGE

THE GARAGE
14 CHAPEL FIELD NORTH
NORWICH
NORFOLK
NR2 1NY

🕒 10AM – 11AM: AGES 5–9
🕒 11.30AM – 12.30PM: AGES 10–16

BOOK YOUR PLACE NOW!
SPACES ARE LIMITED, SO DON'T MISS OUT!
SCAN THE QR CODE OR VISIT THE LINK BELOW
TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT:

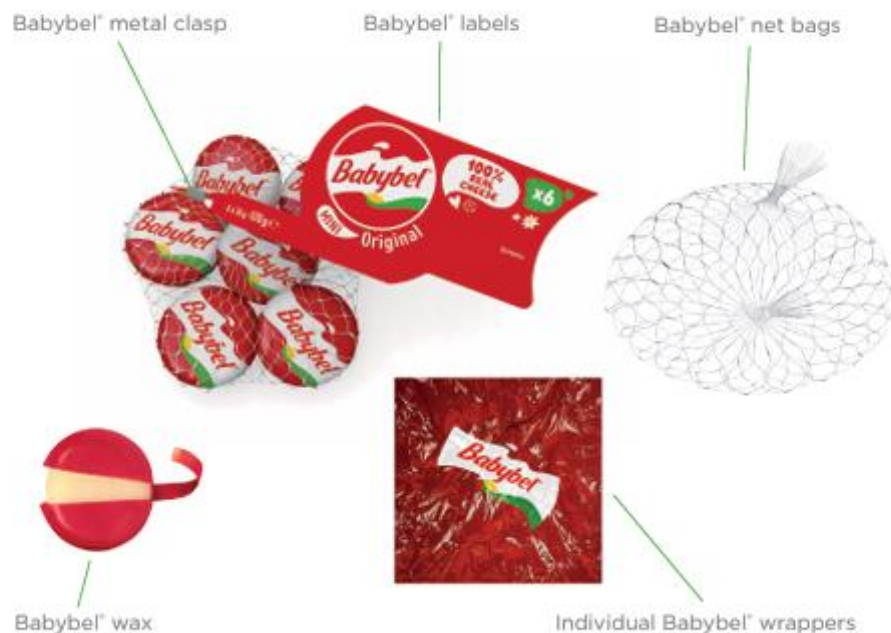
➡ **SIGN UP FORM**

St Nicholas Church Recycling Scheme

St Nicholas Church now have three schemes with terracycle. It's been early days for the church but so far, their scheme has saved 2kg from landfill and they would love to make it more. Instead of throwing the following packaging in the bin, save it and take it to their collection point (at the church door).

THE BABYBEL[®] RECYCLING PROGRAMME

ACCEPTED WASTE



Waste that is NOT accepted:

- Any other brand of cheese packaging
- Any other brand of snack packaging
- Cardboard packaging (this can be recycled through local council facilities)





The Cheese Packaging Recycling Programme



yes

- ✓ Any brand of flexible plastic cheese packaging, nets and pouches
- ✓ Any brand of sliced cheese protective plastic film
- ✓ Any brand of individual plastic cheese wrappers
- ✓ Labels from Cathedral City Mini's packs of 6
- ✓ Any brand of plastic nets for mini cheeses

no

- ✗ Plastic cheese tubs and trays
- ✗ Non-flexible plastic cheese packaging (Eg. cardboard, aluminium or paper packaging)
- ✗ Cheese slice dividers
- ✗ Squeazy cheese tubes
- ✗ Labels from other Cathedral City nets products or from other brands of mini cheeses

When in doubt, leave it out.

Learn more at terracycle.com/cheesepackaging-uk
or scan QR code



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Recycle your air, home and laundry care packaging here



Accepted

- ✓ Flexible packaging for: laundry washing capsules and pods, wipes
- ✓ Lenor tumble dryer sheets

Not accepted

- ✗ Aerosols
- ✗ Glass air freshener cartridges
- ✗ Transparent plastic bottles and caps
- ✗ Any other brands of tumble dryer sheets
- ✗ Caps from home cleaning and dishwashing products
- ✗ Any other flexible plastic packaging

Lenor

ARIEL

+

TERRACYCLE

Scan QR code
to learn more



**STUDY
SMART**
Free Online Courses



ncfe. | **cache**



Education & Skills
Funding Agency

Fully Funded School Support Course

Available in Levels 1, 2 & 3

***Please go to our website
for more detailed
information.**



**6 Week
Course**

Mon - Fri

Daily sessions

1st session 9:30 - 11:30am

2nd session 12:30 - 2pm

www.studysmartuk.online

We are looking to fill 150+ School Support vacancies in local schools (e.g. SEN Support, Behaviour Mentors, 1-1 Classroom Support, Cover Supervisors etc). These roles are available in both full time and part time positions.

Please go to our website address given above, or scan the QR code for more information.

This is a 6 week course, full time, intensive course, with online guided learning sessions within school hours.

If you are earning less than £23,500 per annum or are in receipt of any benefits, you will be eligible for a fully funded place with us.



FREE Family Learning Sessions



I wasn't taught like that - English KS1/KS2

FREE courses to engage with parents and show the current English curriculum and terminology, with a heavy emphasis on the reasons this is taught and how it upscales writing. Parents shown the content but also how to make it engaging and carry this on at home.



English through story sacks EYFS/KS1

Parents and children choose a story then discuss stories (and story-telling) and create interactive and multi-sensory characters, props, story maps, scenery, and a non-fiction fact sheet based on their book of choice. The book and items then get placed inside a decorated 'Story Sack'.



English through illustrated books KS1/KS2

4-week family-focused workshop showcasing a different way of approaching story-writing by creating a traditional illustrated children's book (KS1) or manga comic (KS2). Combines elements of art (with Maths) and English.



English through real writers KS2

Instilling a love of writing and clear explanation of National Curriculum terminology, punctuation and grammar, these workshops are not only designed to show parents the SPaG which is now in SATs, but also WHY we use them and HOW these authorial techniques upscale writing.

I wasn't taught like that - Maths KS1/KS2

Workshop to engage with parents and show the current Maths curriculum and terminology, with a heavy emphasis on 'modern' methods and use of manipulatives. Parents shown the content in an engaging, hands-on way, and also covers progression to High School, and fluency & reasoning.

Maths through games KS1

Parents and children can take part in contextual learning involving clear explanation of the maths in sports; scoring and data collection with darts, archery, bowling, throwing games and 'playground games' involving shape and time.

Maths through football LKS2

Designed for pupils (and parents) who may be uncomfortable with Maths, but love football data. Conversely, it could be useful for parents who are comfortable with Maths but find it hard to create a relatable context for when they are trying to explain it.

Maths through Baking UKS2

Workshop for parents on how to bake but with an emphasis on the National Curriculum Maths contained in it. This is not just limited to weighing and measuring but overt concepts that parents and pupils may find tricky outside of a baking context. Improve baking, Maths skills or both!



ESOL support - life in the UK

Designed to help newly-arrived families understand: quirks of the English language, British mannerisms and social etiquette, British culture and Logistics (e.g. currency or council tax or the NHS).

Environmental heroes

FREE family sessions for schools, on environmental issues. This will cover a wide variety of the curriculum but particularly Science and Maths, as well as being a relevant topic to many pupils and a DfE requirement for 2025.



Cooking for fussy eaters

Do you have children (or a partner!) who are quite particular about what they will and won't eat? Learn tips and tricks about getting more fruit and vegetables into diets, and generally improve cooking and knife skills, and meet new people.



Once upon a times - fusion KS1/KS2

2-hour one-off engagement session to give parents an overview of modern teaching methods, terminology, techniques and SPaG content. A fusion showing parents the language of Maths, and the numeracy in English through the medium of stories.

Visit: www.norfolk.gov.uk/adultlearning, call: 01603 222400

I Wasn't Taught That at School - Maths EYFS/KS1 & KS2



FREE four-week workshop to engage with parents and show the current Maths curriculum and terminology, with a heavy emphasis on 'modern' methods and use of manipulatives. Parents shown the content in an engaging, hands-on way, and also covers progression to High School, and fluency & reasoning.

Key Stage-specific. Can be generic or SATs-focused.

Schools' choice as to whether it's parents-only or pupils join us.

- * Free four-week workshop to engage with parents.
- * Highlights modern techniques such as number lines and bar models, and emphasis on fluency and reasoning.
- * Designed to be fun and engaging, building confidence and empowering parents to support their children's learning at home

www.norfolk.gov.uk/adultlearning
adultlearning@norfolk.gov.uk

f @norfolkadultlearning

X @norfolklearn

@norfolk_adult_learning

Maths through Football



FREE 4-week course for either parents-only or parents and children. Designed for pupils (and parents) who may be uncomfortable with Maths, but love football data. Conversely, it could be useful for parents who are comfortable with Maths but find it hard to create a relatable context for when they are trying to explain it.

Course contains more UKS2 topics such as circles, algebra, equivalent fractions, types of angles etc, but hopefully could be accessible for most pupils.

National Curriculum topics include:

Fractions; Mixed Numbers; Kilo- conversion

Algebra; positive and negative numbers

Angles and circles; shapes, including quadrilaterals. Symmetry in club crests

Percentages and decimals; graphs

www.norfolk.gov.uk/adultlearning
adultlearning@norfolk.gov.uk
 01603 222400

f @norfolkadultlearning

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@norfolk_adult_learning

It all starts with...



We all play at:

Bradenham CC

Session dates:

Starts Thursday 15th May

Session timings:

Ages:

17.15 – 18.15 pm 5 -8 Years

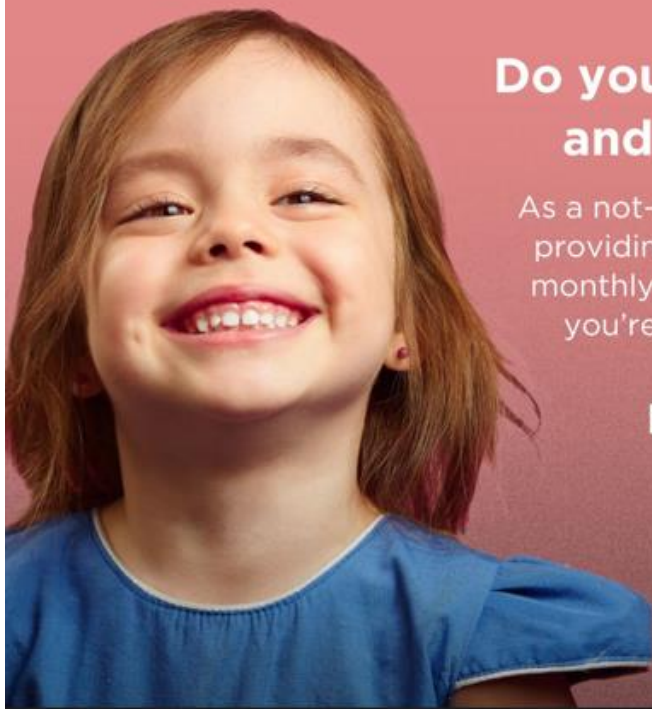
Contact:

brownie.69@live.co.uk

Including a FREE personalised t-shirt, bat, ball and backpack

Sign up today at
allstarscricket.co.uk





Do you have space in your home and heart to foster a child?

As a not-for-profit, we reinvest in our foster carers, providing full training, a dedicated social worker, monthly funding, and all the support you need so you're never alone on this incredible journey.

break-charity.org/foster





KARATE

4yrs+ to Adults



Free
TASTER SESSION

松涛館空手道

JOIN NOW

50% OFF START UP DEALS

FAMILY DISCOUNTS

DBS Checked & Fully Insured Instructors

FIND A CLUB IN YOUR AREA

For more information :

07767 721558

TSKR.CO.UK





**FOAMY
FUN
RUN!**

NORWICH

Sunday 18th May 2025

Norfolk Showground, Norwich

each.org.uk/NorwichBR

Registered charity no. 1069284

Sponsored by

BATEMAN
GROUNDWORKS

