Hartest Church of England Primary School

Weekly Update – 14/09/2026

St Edmundsbury and Ipswich Diocesan Multi Academy Trust

Dates for this week

Monday 14th	Choccy Dog listening to readers Board Games Club
Tuesday 15th	Art and Craft Club
Wednesday 16th	Wacky Wednesday
Thursday 17th	Multi-sports lunch club (Rec – Yr 2) Multi-Sports afterschool club (Yr 3 – 6)
Friday 18th	Film Friday

Forest School Dates:

Tuesday 15th September – Hedgehog Class
Tuesday 22nd September – Owl Class
Friday 9th October – Hedgehog Class

Weekly Attendance

To 11/09/26

Hedgehog Class	98%
Squirrel Class	100% ★
Kestrel Class	91%

If your child is ill, please ring the school and leave a message
Thank you.

Our Christian Value is
Compassion

Weekly Menu – 07/09/26

Week 3	Core Menu
Monday	Beef Burger or Homemade Veg Burger or Jacket Potato with Cheese or Beans or Pasta with Tomato Sauce
Tuesday	Bolognese Pata Bake or Cheese and Potato Pastry and Wedges or Jacket Potato with Cheese or Beans or Pasta with Tomato Sauce
Wednesday	Roast Chicken or Roast Quorn Fillet or Jacket Potato with Cheese or Beans or Pasta with Tomato Sauce
Thursday	Chicken Pitta or BBQ Veg Pitta or Jacket Potato with Cheese or Beans or Pasta with Tomato Sauce
Friday	Fish Fingers or Cheese and Tomato Pizza or Jacket Potato with Cheese or Beans or Pasta with Tomato Sauce



Birthdays

Happy Birthday to Lily and Archie!



Certificates		
Achievement	Compassion	Reading
All of Kestrel Class	Ava	Aiden
Trixie	Ezra	Amelia
Ezra	Freddy	Liliana
Freddy		Trixie
Cassius		Daisy
Finley G		River
		Jakob

Forest School

Our forest school sessions are changing slightly due to the new work arrangements with Mrs James.

For this term, if your child has a forest school session, they can come into school wearing part of their forest school kit: joggers/trousers/leggings and long-sleeved top with a jumper/hoodie. Your child can also wear their school shoes or trainers for this day.

On the morning of their session, your child will bring into school: waterproof trousers/all in ones/coats, wellies (Owls) and a spare pair of socks.

Due to the size of our cloakrooms, we cannot store forest school kits every week so please ensure your child only brings their kit with them on the day they have a session.

Attendance

Attending school every day can help children to achieve their full potential. Research suggests that being in school regularly reduces stress and anxiety and boosts confidence. Therefore, our aim is for all children to be in school every day. We recognise that this isn't always possible, but we ask parents to help us to do everything we can together to ensure children attend school.

This year, the Government are once again instructing local authorities to look closely at, and monitor, children's attendance. The Government's expectation is that children should be at school for at least 95% of the school year. If children's attendance falls below 90%, a child is in a group called 'Persistently Absent'. If the child's attendance does not improve, the local authority may decide to take action which can include home visits or fines.

Suffolk Education Welfare Officers visit schools regularly to monitor attendance.
When you are trying to get your child into school we will always support you whenever we can.
If your child is unwell, we can give prescribed medicine if you have completed a permission form.
We can also monitor your child and send them home if they are unwell.

I have a well-being team who will work with you and your child to support them in coming into school.
If you are concerned about your child's attendance and would like to discuss it with me, please contact the School Office and make an appointment to see Miss Burroughs or Mrs Woolmer.

Free School Meals

Free School Meals have changed from 1st September. From the beginning of this school year, all children from households in receipt of Universal Credit will be entitled to receive a free school meal.

From September, there are two categories of benefits-based Free School Meals:

- Targeted Free School Meals
  These continue to be based on the existing threshold, covering pupils who are in households in receipt of Universal Credit with annual household earnings of £7,400 or less.
- Expanded Free School Meals
  A new category covering pupils who do not qualify for targeted free school meals, but who are in households receiving Universal Credit.

Since 1st April 2018, any pupil who has been eligible for free school meals under the benefits-based criteria have retained their entitlement, even if their household circumstances have changed. Their free school meal eligibility has been protected. This protection ended at the end of July 2026.

From the start of the Autumn Term (September 2026), households must meet the free school meal eligibility criteria from the start to the end of the school year, ie. September 2026 to August 2027.

We know that a number of people have had checks undertaken over the Summer and that the Free School Meals team at Suffolk are swamped and have yet to let school know all the information. We should get another update this week, but, please be assured that if you have already paid for a school dinner this term and we then get notified of your eligibility for free school meals, back-dated to 1st September, we will refund what you have paid.

The school has an Allergy Menu. If your child has an allergy (excluding a Nut Allergy), please speak to Mrs Griggs in the office on a Monday or Tuesday.

Benedict's Law

Benedict's Law is new legislation that came into effect on 1st September 2026, making comprehensive allergy training, clear safety policies, and emergency adrenaline pens mandatory for all schools in England. The new law is named in memory of five-year-old Benedict Blythe—who tragically died from an allergic reaction at a school in 2021—this law changes allergy safety from optional guidance into a strict legal requirement.

What the Law Means for Hartest CE Primary School

- **Training for All Staff:** Every single person working at the school—from teachers and learning support assistants to catering and lunchtime staff—must now be trained to spot the signs of an allergic reaction.
- **Spare Emergency Pens:** Schools are required to keep in-date emergency adrenaline auto-injectors (AAIs, or "epi-pens") on the premises in case a child's own device fails or is not nearby.
- **Individual Healthcare Plans:** If your child has a diagnosed allergy, the school must maintain a clear, up-to-date medical plan detailing their specific triggers and emergency steps.
- **Published School Policy:** Every primary school must have a clear, written allergy policy that is accessible to parents.

Within Benedict's Law, parents / carers also have responsibility to support their child's school. It is the parent/carer's responsibility to:

- Inform the school of any allergies. This information should include their medical needs, any dietary requirements, history of anaphylaxis and previous severe allergic reactions and details of all prescribed medication.
- If required, provide their child with 2 in-date adrenaline auto-injectors and any other medication, including inhalers, antihistamine etc., and making sure these are in date and replaced in a timely manner.
- Supply a copy of their child's Allergy Action Plan (BSACI plans preferred) to school. If they do not currently have an Allergy Action Plan this should be developed as soon as possible in collaboration with a healthcare professional.
- Updating the school on any changes to their child's condition

All parents/carers, including those without allergies are responsible for:

- Being aware of the school's allergy policy
- Being aware of allergens and the risk they may pose to other children
- Carefully considering the food they provide to their child as packed lunches and snacks, and trying to limit the number of allergens included
- Following the school's guidance on food brought in to be shared
- Updating the school on any changes to their child's condition

The School's Allergy Policy can be found on the school's website.
If your child has an allergy, please make sure that you have spoken to Mrs Griggs and have completed paperwork for us.

“Meet the Teacher” Sessions

"Meet the Teacher" meetings are introductory sessions held at the beginning of the academic year to help parents and carers understand classroom expectations, daily routines, and the curriculum ahead.

Key Purposes of the Meeting:

- Understanding routines: Teachers explain daily timetables, drop-off and pick-up procedures, and expectations for school uniform and equipment.
- Outlining the curriculum: Parents learn what subjects, topics, and key milestones their children will cover during the year.
- Explaining homework routines: Schools clarify how homework is set, how often it is collected, and how parents can best help at home.
- Building a connection: Families get a chance to put a face to a name, see the physical classroom environment, and establish a positive home-school relationship.

Wednesday 23rd September 2026 at 3:30 in the hall.

Please do not worry if you are unable to come to the meetings, we will send a copy of the information home.






GLOBAL VILLAGE
SUDBURY ARTS CENTRE
SUNDAY 20 SEPTEMBER
2-5pm, Free entry
A celebration of dance, community and cultural exchange, featuring...
TROUPE DE DANCE: South Africa Pantsula Dance Show
VEDANCE: Moldovan & Romanian Dance
DESI GIRLS: inspired by Bollywood
KHUSHI SRIVASTAVA: Indian Contemporary Fusion
Sudbury Arts Centre, St Peters, Market Hill, Sudbury, Suffolk, CO10 2EA
Essex Cultural Diversity Project
ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND
Arts La'Olam
SUDBURY ARTS CENTRE


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Long Melford Heritage Trust
heritage open days
SILENT WITNESS:
THE 1940 WEEKEND
An Exploration of Landscape, War and Memory
EXHIBITION
Long Melford Old School
FREE EVENT
19-20 SEPT
Sat 10am - 4pm
Sun 10am - 3pm
• Pillbox Projection
• Mick Cant Photography
• Captain Mainwaring's HQ
• Village Memories
• 10th Battalion Suffolk HG
• WWII Vehicles
• 'NAAFI' Tearoom
Join the fun - WWII costumes are strongly encouraged!
Bacton Logistics
pure energy
NETHERGATE
Suffolk County Council
indigo ross

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Open Evening Thursday 17th September 2026 5:00 - 7:00pm

Visit our Open Evening to find out how we inspire, challenge and support every student to achieve their very best.

Best GCSE Results in Bury St Edmunds!

60% Grade 5 or better in English and Maths
75% Grade 4 or better in English and Maths



Ormiston Sudbury Academy

OPEN EVENTS

Parents/carers of children in Years 5 and 6 are invited to our open events

Open Evening – Thursday 24 September 2026, 5.30pm – 7.00pm.
Principal's talks at 5.30pm and again at 6.15pm.
Feel free to tour the school before or after the talk.

Open Mornings – Tuesday 29 September – Thursday 1 October 2026.
Tours available at 9.15am and 11.45am, please call 01787 375131 to pre-book.

Visit our website www.ormistonsudburyacademy.co.uk
for further information.