



# MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

## MONTHLY UPDATE!

Dear parents and carers,

We've had a wonderfully busy and productive start to the academic year, and it's been a joy to see our children continue to thrive in their new classrooms. From the very first day, they've embraced routines, shown great enthusiasm for learning, and worked incredibly hard across all areas of the curriculum. The positive energy throughout the school has been uplifting, and we're proud of the way our pupils have approached the term with such focus and determination.

One of the early highlights was our delightful Harvest assembly, where Nursery and Reception children came together to share songs and reflections on the importance of giving and gratitude. Their performances were heart-warming, and it was lovely to welcome families into school to celebrate this special occasion.

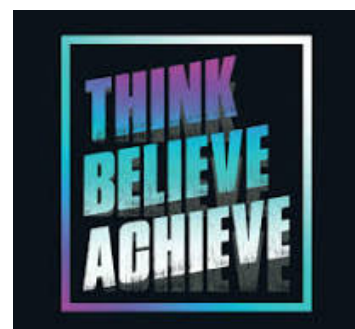
Our sporting calendar has also been full of excitement, with pupils taking part in football matches and the ever-popular Quadkids athletics event. These opportunities not only promote physical wellbeing but also teamwork, resilience, and school spirit. We've been impressed by the effort and sportsmanship shown by all involved.

Reception children were thrilled by a visit from the local fire service, which sparked curiosity and plenty of questions! The firefighters shared important safety messages and gave the children a close-up look at their equipment and fire engine — a memorable experience that combined fun with learning.

We were pleased to welcome representatives from the Wensum Trust, who are working closely with us to further enhance our phonics provision. Their visit was part of our ongoing commitment to ensuring every child receives the best possible start in reading. In addition, we received a very positive review of our writing provision from the Trust, recognising the hard work of staff and the quality of children's outcomes.

Parents' evenings provided a valuable opportunity to connect with families and share the progress children have made so far. We are grateful for the continued support and engagement from our parent community — working together makes a real difference.

Mr James Murray  
Acting Head of School



## HEADTEACHER INFORMATION

As you know, Mrs Steele has been Acting Executive Headteacher at Ickworth Park Primary and Sexton's Manor Primary for the Summer and Autumn terms 2025.

I have been working closely with Mr Richard Selby (Sexton's Manor's Chair of Governors) and Mr Russell Ayling (Chair of the All Saints Schools Trust Board) to recruit a permanent Headteacher for Sexton's Manor Primary.

I am delighted to let you know that the Trust and Governing Body have appointed a new substantive Headteacher, Mrs Lorainne Ratcliffe from January 2026. She is a very experienced Headteacher who brings a great deal of expertise to the Headship role.

I want to assure you that Sexton's Manor is in very good hands. The Trust wider Senior leadership team will be very involved with guiding the school and ensuring that it continues to make good progress. Mrs Flatman, the Director of the West, regularly visits the school and is working with school staff. She will continue to work with the new Headteacher.

We would like to thank Mrs Steele for all her hard work and the dedication she has given the Headship at Sexton's Manor. She is resuming her full time Headship at Ickworth Park Primary from January 2026.

This is an exciting time for Sexton's Manor Primary, and we are sure it will be guided to go from strength to strength.

We look forward to the New Year, continuing to work with Mrs Steele and welcoming Mrs Ratcliffe.

Yours sincerely,



CEO- All Saints Schools Trust

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## RECEPTION FIRE TRUCK VISIT



## SUCCESS ON THE FAIRWAYS



Buddy and Sidney have been achieving fantastic things on the golf course racking up significant wins with great scores in high-profile tournaments. Buddy's form has been so good that he has been selected to represent the county at U14 level despite being only ten years old!  
Well done to both boys!

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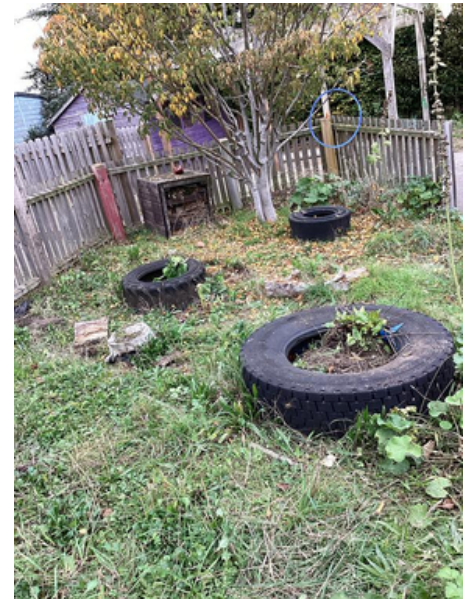
**BELIEVE**

**ACHIEVE**

## VOLUNTEERS

Our wonderful volunteers spent a really busy three days clearing the outside space in Nursery and Reception. We are immensely grateful to the parents for stepping in. It really has made a huge difference.

Thanks to Mrs Burkett, Mrs Sotrines, Miss Buckley, Mr O'Sullivan, Mrs Orchowski, Ms PrzyBorowska.



## PTA

We have a good number of new people joining the PTA this year so we want to welcome them and thank them for their time and contributions as well as the continuing PTA who are all carrying on their roles. It's not too late if you would like to join the group, the more we have the better the work is shared out and it's a great way to feel part of the school community.

We had a great year last year with events including a bake sale, disco and bingo nights and much more in between. Thank you to everyone who contributed donations, time and came along to support us.

Through the school events and some very generous donations from Suffolk County Council and local ward councillors we raised £7505. Of this total, £5300 came from grants and £455.11 came from Asda Cashpots for Schools. The grants allowed us to buy the reading room and tidy up Amy's garden. The money raised through events has helped to pay for a visit from the Drama Geezers, year 6 SATS breakfasts, photobooks, art trollies and the Christmas books the children receive, along with some other bits. So thank you to everyone for their help in raising this money.

The PTA has already got plans under way for another year of fundraising for our school which will hopefully give the children some great opportunities at school but also some fun events to enjoy with their friends.

Dates for your diary

Christmas film night- Friday 5 December

Valentines disco- Friday 13 February 2026

**Mrs Pickering (PTA chair)**



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## HALF-TERM CLUBS

**THE GREAT AUTUMN GET TOGETHER**  
October Half term

**Drop-in Activity Sessions**  
**Adventure Days**  
**Swimming**

**Free**  
for any children living in Bury St Edmunds

**FIND OUT MORE**

**BURY ST EDMUNDS TOWN COUNCIL**

**EXPLORE OUTDOOR**

**Abbeycroft**  
Let's Love Life

We're partnering with Bury St. Edmunds Town Council to offer children and young people who live in Bury St Edmunds FREE activities during the October half term.

**ACTIVITY DROP IN SESSIONS**

This October half term book on to one of our free 30 minute drop in activity sessions where you can enjoy Axe throwing and Climbing. These are running across Bury, for children aged 5-16 years who live in postcode areas IP32 or IP33.

**FIND OUT MORE**

Scan and out more\* for the activity sessions taking place at each location

Axe Throwing 10am-12pm  
Climbing 1pm-3pm

27<sup>th</sup> Oct Gainsborough Park  
28<sup>th</sup> Oct Tollgate Playing Field  
29<sup>th</sup> Oct Abbey Gardens  
30<sup>th</sup> Oct Hardwick Heath  
31<sup>st</sup> Oct Moreton Hall Community Centre

**ADVENTURE DAYS**

8:30am-4:30pm for children aged 8-14 years

Take part in an actioned packed day at Bury St Edmunds Leisure Centre. Have a go at Axe Throwing, Archery, Swimming, Fire Lighting and much more! Breakfast and Lunch included!

**FREE SWIMMING**

FREE swimming places for children & their parents/guardians to enjoy any of our floats & fun, family or wet-n-wild swim sessions between Wednesday 27th Oct - 2nd Nov. You must register for free swimming before booking. See website for details

To be eligible for free activities, children must live in postcode areas IP32 or IP33.

**OCTOBER HALF TERM MEGA SPORTS CAMPS**

**PRESTIGE SPORTS DEVELOPMENT**

**Ickworth Park Primary School**

**Monday 27th - Wednesday 29th Oct**

Our camps run 9am - 3.30pm.  
Early drop off from 8.15am

**AGE 5 - 12 year olds**

Children will need to bring a water bottle, packed lunch, suitable clothing, their biggest smile and lots of energy!

**07494 002352**

**BOOKINGS@PRESTIGESPORTSDEVELOPMENT.CO.UK**

**WWW.PRESTIGESPORTSDEVELOPMENT.COM**

Our Prestige Holiday Camps feature an awesome selection of Games, Sports, Activities & Arts & Crafts with the aim to cater for a variety of interests!

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## OCTOBER SPECIAL MENTIONS



## SPORTS STARS



Our Quadkids competitors were victorious in the local competition. Ms Spurgeon was so proud of their success, but also the way they encouraged all the competitors from other schools to do their best too.



Well done to the girls who represented the school at the girls' football tournament. They played admirably, reflecting many of our learning values in the face of healthy competition. A special well done to Ella who scored, assisted by Gabby.



A first for me in presenting awards during assembly- Madeleine was named swimmer of the month at the Abbeycroft Leisure centre. She said she asked who instructor who said she always does he best, and watches others to know how she can improve her own strokes. Well done to you!



Congratulations to Evelyn who has been scouted for her footballing skills. We are so impressed, and look forward to hearing more about her successes!

# SEXTON'S MANOR

## PRIMARY SCHOOL NURSERY



**OUR NURSERY WELCOMES CHILDREN FROM THE TERM AFTER THEY ARE 3 YEARS OLD.**

**OUR SESSIONS ARE FROM 8.40 – 11.40AM.**



**We offer a unique opportunity to be a part of an Ofsted rated 'Good' school, with the Nursery led by a qualified teacher.**

**We have opportunities to use the whole schoolsite for exploring and using indoor and outdoor play equipment.**

**Our Nursery class site has a large outside area for super-fast car races, muddy kitchen recipes, sand for digging and special role play moments!**



**Our aim is to develop the whole child through moments to take risks, grow confidence and become independent learners through play. Children are nurtured and inspired; laughter is encouraged; friendships and trust are formed.**

**'OPENING MINDS, IN A CARING, REFLECTIVE ENVIRONMENT'**

**Think, Believe, Achieve**



## SAFEGUARDING UPDATE

Safeguarding plays a crucial role in our school community. We remain vigilant and committed to educating all stakeholders, ensuring they are kept informed with the most relevant information. Each month, we will provide important resources to help enhance your understanding of safeguarding.

## TRANSITIONS TO SCHOOL

Safeguarding during arrival at school is essential for the safety and wellbeing of all pupils, staff, and families. Parents and carers must adhere to road laws when parking, ensuring visibility and safety for pedestrians. Children should walk calmly within school grounds; riding bikes or scooters is not permitted to prevent accidents. Respectful language and behaviour are expected from everyone, fostering a positive and welcoming environment. Smoking or vaping is strictly prohibited on or near school premises to maintain a healthy atmosphere.

It is the responsibility of parents and carers to supervise their child's conduct until they are safely inside the classroom, ensuring they follow school rules and behave appropriately. Parents who have given children permission to go to and leave school independently must ensure these responsibilities are understood and followed. These measures help create a secure, respectful, and orderly start to the school day, reinforcing the school's commitment to safeguarding and promoting a culture of care and responsibility from the moment children arrive.

If you have a safeguarding concern, please ask to see one of our Designated Safeguarding Leads.



Mr. James Murray



Mrs K. Steele



Mrs D. Ballam

KEY DATES

27<sup>th</sup> October- 31<sup>st</sup> October: half-term (no children in school)

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> November: Crafty Foxes art in Year 5 & 6

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> : Year 2 parents' evening

17<sup>th</sup> November: Odd Socks Day

17<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup> November: anti-bullying week

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December: PTA Film Night

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December: All Saints' Church Visit

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December: Christmas lunch

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December: school Christmas carol singing

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December: Year 1 and 2 Nativity- 2pm

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December: Year 1 and 2 Nativity- 5:30pm

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December: PD day (no children in school)

# CLASS REMINDERS

Whole school	Please remember snacks should be fruit or vegetables only, and water not squash in bottles.
Nursery	Please help your child to put on their coat, socks and shoes to encourage independence.
Reception	PE- Monday Wellies to be left in school and come in coats, hats, gloves for outdoor provision If you are able to have a change of clothes in a named bag to be left on a peg, that would be useful (in case of accidents or getting wet).
Year 1	PE- Monday (PE kit will be kept in school for the half term). Spellings- these will be tested each Friday. Reading books- these will be sent home Friday and collected Monday.
Year 2	PE- Tuesday and Friday.
Year 3	Homework and spellings- Wednesday PE- Tuesday and Friday Forest Schools- Wednesday (please bring Forest School clothes in a named bag on a Wednesday morning).
Year 4	PE- Wednesday and Friday Homework and spellings- Wednesdays.
Year 5	PE- Tuesday and Thursday
Year 6	Year 6 Homework- Fridays, Spellings- Mondays, PE- Wednesday morning for both indoor and outdoor