



St Edmundsbury and Ipswich
Diocesan Multi Academy Trust

News – Spring 2026



St Mary's CofE Primary, Woodbridge

Epiphany Crown Parade

It is a St Mary's tradition that we start the spring term with an Epiphany crown parade. Children use their creativity to make crowns for their Christmas holiday homework project and the results are very impressive. We hold a special collective worship to remind us of the story of the Three Kings and the traditions that are celebrated around the world. The Faith Council chalks the Epiphany blessing on the entrance of the school 20+C+B+M+26; can you work out what it means?





Nacton C of E Primary

World Book Day

World Book Day was a wonderful success this year, especially as it marked our very first dress-up event. The day began with an exciting morning parade, where everyone had the chance to show off their fantastic costumes and celebrate their favourite characters from books. It was lovely to see such creativity and enthusiasm as the parade brought the whole community together to admire each other's outfits. In the afternoon, the celebration continued with a relaxed time of reading together, giving everyone the opportunity to enjoy stories and share their love of books. Overall, it was a joyful and memorable day that truly captured the spirit of World Book Day.





Wetheringsett C of E Primary School

Lime Class' Trip to Norfolk and Suffolk Aviation Museum



Last month KS1 went to the Norfolk and Suffolk Aviation Museum to link with their History learning.

During the trip the children learnt all about the Wright Brothers, the names of different parts of the aeroplane and experienced walking onto aeroplanes to see how they work.



They all had an amazing time and their behaviour was described as impeccable by the museum volunteers.



Bedfield C of E Primary

World Book Day 2026

This year, for World Book Day's 'Go All in', Bedfield Primary School children brought in a book about a hobby or something that interests them and dressed up accordingly. We had ballet dancers, gymnasts, guitar players (even Ed showed up!), an astronaut, a dinosaur, a chef - a good variety of hobbies!

Oak Class children joined in the World Book Day quiz online and all the children enjoyed sharing their books with each other!





SPROUGHTON C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL

Let your light shine - MATTHEW 5:16



Adventurers Class are Learning About Animals Including Humans in Science!

We have Four Ducklings Named Oreo, Cookie, Sonic and Custard! Yesterday, we let them have a swim in the water and Oreo and Custard kept diving in the water whilst Sonic and Cookie bobbed in the water. Sonic was the first to hatch, Oreo was second and Custard and Cookie hatched overnight. We were lucky to be able to watch Oreo hatch out of the egg, it was really interesting.

We feed them duck food and gave them water to drink and sawdust to lay on. They have a heat pad to keep them warm. Each day, we clean them out and make sure they have enough food and water.



Long Melford C of E Primary and Hartest C of E Primary



At Long Melford and Hartest we have been looking at learning outside the curriculum

First Aid Course

Learning first aid in primary school is an important life skill that will enable children to act calmly in emergencies, prevent injuries from worsening, and build confidence. It teaches responsibility, risk awareness, and essential techniques like CPR. In January, Long Melford and Hartest were joined by Sue Roberts for three days. Sue worked with all our classes (except Nursery) and taught them First Aid. I am really pleased that Sue has given us the opportunity to run this course for all our children, and that Sue has already promised that she will return and give the training again next year!





Tractors into Schools Visit



A huge thank you to Hyde Parker Farms for bringing a tractor into Long Melford, and Andrew Maddever for bringing a tractor into Hartest, during February, as part of the 'Tractors into Schools' initiative organised by Suffolk Agricultural Association.

Sir William, Lady Hyde Parker, Andrew Maddever and Sean gave us a very interesting talk about how weather affects farming. They then helped us explore the tractor, including let us climb in it!



Did you know, you can get four year 1 children in the tyre of the tractor or that local wheat is used to make Shreddies!

It was a great morning and the children loved it!

The Robot and the Bluebird – The Britten Sinfonia

In February Hartest and Long Melford were visited by members of the Britten Sinfonia who performed the Robot and the Bluebird. The Robot and the Bluebird is a book by David Lucas that tells the story of a lonely robot on a scrap heap whose broken heart is rekindled by a small bluebird seeking shelter. Raphael Clarkson wrote a musical score for the story and we learnt the songs and actions during January, ready to perform when the Britten Sinfonia came in to school.

Raphael and the Britten Sinfonia were awesome. At the start they played Happy Birthday to Mrs Woolmer, and at the end, they answered all our questions.





All Saints' C of E Primary

We have had a very busy term at All Saints' it is hard to remember all the exciting things we have been a part of!

In January we celebrated Kings day—we had a collective worship in the morning learning about what this meant followed by some Year 6 pupils dressing up as the 3 kings (and Camel) to put Gold coins inside the children's shoes.



February brought the beginning of Lent. In collective worship Rev Robert came and shared the meaning of Ash Wednesday, we then had a very exciting pancake races in the Arena.



March has been busy too— we have celebrated World book day, we had the author James Campbell in to share his stories, alongside a travelling book fair.



We also celebrated science week by having a science fair after school where each class had an activity.





Chelmondiston C of E Primary

An incredible highlight for this term was the Year 3 and 4 visit to the Energy from Waste Facility at Great Blakenham. The children's enthusiasm and knowledge from their experience as engineers for the day, stood out as they told me about it on their return.

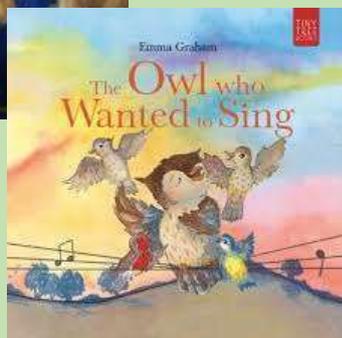


Some Y5 pupils were invited, by Suffolk Mind and Axter, to the company's office on Fox's Marina. Here they received a certificate to acknowledge our partnership with Suffolk Mind to support children's mental health, all of which was sponsored by Axter Ltd.

Our choir had a fantastic trip to the O2, where they sang with over 8000 other voices!



We also enjoyed a special visit from local author and illustrator, Emma Graham. KS1 children in each class enjoyed creating a story and Emma illustrated as the story unfolded. It was wonderful to see how quickly she could turn their ideas into real pictures - and children always come up with interesting things to say!





Hintlesham & Chattisham C of E Primary

Skipping Fun with Mr Massey

We were delighted to welcome Mr Massey back to school for another fantastic day of skipping and playground games. As always, Mr Massey brought great energy and enthusiasm, inspiring everyone to stay active and healthy but have fun while doing it.

It was wonderful to see the children's skipping skills on display throughout the day — from those **persevering** as they learned to skip for the first time, to others confidently and **successfully** mastering some very impressive and tricky moves.

We ended the day with a whole-school assembly where many children bravely took the **opportunity** to demonstrate their successful skipping skills to everyone.



A highlight was watching children from Diamond Class (Years 5 and 6), along with two teachers, take on an end-of-day challenge to see how many people we could get skipping together under the long rope — the cheers and excitement could probably be heard well beyond the school gates!

Mr Massey also trained a new group of pupils as play leaders. Through their leadership, our play leaders will take **responsibility** for keeping the games and ideas from the day going on our playground so we can all enjoy fun, healthy and happy play times together.

A huge thank you to Mr Massey and a big well done to all of the children for showing such wonderful **perseverance, creativity and unity** throughout the day.

Last year, we also linked up with Mr Massey's International Primary School in Malawi with the year 3 and 4 children writing pen pal letters to each other and learning about the similarities and differences between the schools. We hope to have the opportunity to do this again soon.

Thank you, Mr Massey, for a great day!





Eyke C of E Primary

Eyke C of E Primary, has been presented with a Silver Award from Christian Aid's Global Neighbours Scheme this term. The award recognises their global citizenship work focusing on five strands: school leadership, teaching and learning; collective worship and spiritual development; pupil participation; and community engagement.



The accreditation programme celebrates schools which are helping pupils learn about global poverty and the Christian responsibility to tackle it, as well as giving them the tools to play a confident part in creating a fairer world. At Eyke our proactive and innovative pupil voice committees, our partnership with a school in Sierra Leone and our close links with the Morabe music charity were recognised as they show pupils and staff have been working hard to take their place as global citizens.

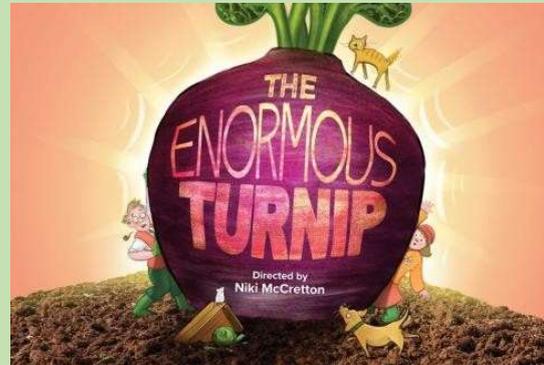
The work was led by our RE and Global Citizenship Lead, Grace Headley: "We are thrilled to be recognised for the work we have done as a whole school community to raise awareness of the extreme inequalities across our globe and perhaps more importantly, the steps we can take to address these. The pupils learn about global issues regularly and gain an understanding of injustice in our world. Our different committees frequently enjoy tackling global justice issues in their teams both locally and globally which was a great starting point for building a courageous advocacy mindset in both children and staff. Adaptions to both our curriculum and daily Collective Worship with a global justice focus has given then children a better global perspective and has massively helped the children to talk passionately and confidently about the local and global justice issues that are on their hearts as individuals. Pupils have been learning about examples of people who faced adversity and overcame this to be courageous advocates for change. These stories have challenged the whole school community to think about how each of us can make a difference in our local community and globally."

Our pupils did us proud, speaking confidently to the assessor on a whole range of subjects from justice for the Global South to lobbying our local MP and using the committee structure in school to make change and have a voice.



Tudor C of E Primary

This term it was a delight to watch the Key Stage 1 play of 'The Enormous Turnip' led by Mrs Munnings. The children sang beautifully and everyone is so so proud of them all!



The school also held week of 'Kindness' when we were congratulating and noticing children who have shown kindness to their friends.

Some classes learnt about kindness in their RE lessons too.

Sutton class heard the Sikh story of Guru Nanak & the boulder. A rich man living at the top of a hill in a hot place wouldn't share the water from his well with the people in his village, he would only sell it for money . Guru Nanak showed him that all people are equal & should get help when they need it. The children shared their own stories of kindness & using helping hands.



During the week the children watched a film of a children's choir in Uganda. They sing to raise money to help a hospital look after babies when their mums & dads aren't able to!

We all can play our part in sharing kindness across the world 😊

What wonderful lessons our children are learning. They will all go out and make the world a better place.



Mellis C of E Primary

Mellis School heads to the Big Smoke for Shakespeare, Mudlarking and Rooftop views!

Mellis School takes a great deal of pride on the range and variety of visits and excursions that the pupils experience as part of their educational experience. The Year 6s had an amazing opportunity to develop their work on Shakespeare in English writing; they had been focusing on a Midsummer Night's Dream in recent writing.

We took the train into Liverpool Street and walked through the City of London, taking in the Bank of England, the Royal Exchange and the Christopher Wren designed St Stephen's Walbrook Church, which is where the Samaritans started. We saw an original Henry Moore sculpture that formed the altar and some 300 year graffiti at the back of the church!



We then headed over the Millennium Bridge, taking in the famous 'bubble gum art' that can be seen there! We had lunch overlooking the Thames, before heading off to the Globe Theatre! We



spent time finding out about this iconic building and its famous stage before taking part in an acting lesson courtesy of a trained Shakespeare actor!



After that, we went mud-larking on Ernie's beach finding washed up bones and shells and wood from the Thames, and saw some fantastic pointillist graffiti showing the various places we were visiting. We even went to the Turbine Hall to view the Finnish installation art currently on display...and actually ran into the BubbleGum artist on the way back!



A walk back through the City took us to the famous Walkie Talkie building, and the highest roof top garden in the Capital. We could see the Bladerunneresque night-view of what has to be one of- if not the - greatest cities on earth. Even our trip home was an adventure; we were temporarily adopted by a member of the City Police force, who supplied free lollies! After about 6 miles walking and 12 hours on our feet we washed up back at Diss train station.



It only goes to show what can be achieved with a little planning and ambition, and the chance to see and experience a huge range of the things our Capital has to offer. A day to remember!



