

# Newsletter



28<sup>th</sup> February, 2025

Dear families,

Welcome back to the second half of the spring term - I can't believe we are very nearly in March already. Thank goodness spring is just around the corner now!

It has been great to welcome you all back this week. Our children have settled back into school beautifully and it has been great to see them hitting the ground running with reading cafes, library visits and Eco Warrior activities!

On Monday we enjoyed a special assembly where we were the first school across the country to be awarded a trophy in recognition of our work as a CUSP (Curriculum for Unity Schools Partnership) Lead School. We are 1 of only 11 lead schools across the country - recognised for excellence in our curriculum - with over 600 schools across the world now teaching this curriculum. As a lead school, we share our work regularly and invite other schools in to visit and see our school in action. The children loved seeing our school on the world map!



I would like to officially congratulate Place Farm Primary Academy for being recognised as a CUSP Lead School. It is my pleasure to enclose an award that I hope you will be proud to display in your school and share with your entire school community.

On behalf of everyone at CUSP, I'd like to commend the consistent commitment of everyone at Place Farm in striving for excellence for your pupils. In particular, I would like to thank you for sharing your wisdom and successes with other schools so that they too may follow in your footsteps and thrive with CUSP.

As you know, our curriculum is generative and continues to improve with the help of feedback that schools like yours provides. We are incredibly grateful for your collaboration, experience and passion to help improve outcomes for children across the country, as well as within your own school.



We have recently created an official Place Farm Primary Academy Facebook page to share with our families. This will be used to promote and celebrate all the wonderful things that are going on in our school, for example pieces of work, photos of events, trips and visitors etc. Please note that this will **not** be used to communicate messages or comments - Class Dojo will continue to be our main channel of communication to families, and we ask that parents please continue to use [admin@placefarm.org.uk](mailto:admin@placefarm.org.uk), or Class Dojo, for communicating messages to the school. Our Facebook page can be found by searching directly, or following this link: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61570369205221>

Wishing you a great weekend,

Mrs McConnell

## Upcoming dates:

### March

Thur 6<sup>th</sup> Mar: 4RG Reading Café 9:00-9:30  
World Book Day

Wed 12<sup>th</sup> Mar: Year 3 Trip to Cinema

Thur 13<sup>th</sup> Mar: 5JG Reading Café 9:00-9:30  
4KM & 2LA library visits

Fri 14<sup>th</sup> Mar: Red Nose Day

Thur 20<sup>th</sup> Mar: 6SL Reading Café 9:00-9:30

Mon 24<sup>th</sup> Mar: Parents evening (further information to follow)

Tues 25<sup>th</sup> Mar: Parents evening (further information to follow)

Wed 26<sup>th</sup> Mar: Y5 Trip to Cambridge Museums

Thur 27<sup>th</sup> Mar: 6EJ Reading Café 9:00-9:30  
3SA library visit

Fri 28<sup>th</sup> Mar: Y4 Trip to West Stow

### April

Thur 3<sup>rd</sup> Apr: 5ML Reading Café 9:00-9:30  
Y6 Visit to Mosque

1ES & 1ED library visits

Spring term discos (further information to follow)

**Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April: School term ends**

**Tue 22<sup>nd</sup> April: New school term begins**

Thur 24<sup>th</sup> April: 2LA Reading Café 9:00-9:30  
4RG & 2LP library visits

### May

Thur 1<sup>st</sup> May: 2LP and Rainbow Reading Café 9:00-9:30  
3KM library visit

Thur 8<sup>th</sup> May: 1ED and 1ES Reading Café 9:00-9:30  
5JG & 5ML library visits

Mon 12<sup>th</sup> May: Y6 SATS week (Mon-Thurs)

Thur 22<sup>nd</sup> May: Class photos

**Mon 26<sup>th</sup> – Fri 30<sup>th</sup> May is half term**

### June

Tue 3<sup>rd</sup> Jun: EYFS Trip to Boydells Farm

Thur 5<sup>th</sup> Jun: 0AP and 0CS Reading Café 9:00-9:30

Thur 12<sup>th</sup> Jun: 3SA and 6EJ Reading Café 9:00-9:30

Thur 19<sup>th</sup> Jun: Y5 Kip on a ship residential trip (until Fri 20<sup>th</sup> June)  
3KM and 6SL Reading Café 9:00-9:30

Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> Jun: Sports Days this week (further information to follow)

**Fri 27<sup>th</sup> Jun: PD day (school closed to all)**

### July

Thur 3<sup>rd</sup> Jul: 4RG and 4KM Reading Café 9:00-9:30

Wed 9<sup>th</sup> Jul: Y6 residential trip (Wed – Fri)

Thur 10<sup>th</sup> Jul: 5JG and 5ML Reading Café 9:00-9:30

Fri 11<sup>th</sup> Jul: Reports sent home

Tue 15<sup>th</sup> Jul: Y6 Graduation

Wed 16<sup>th</sup> Jul: Transition days (Wed-Fri)

**Mon 21<sup>st</sup> Jul: Start of summer holidays**

## **Tesco Stronger Start Grant**

An application that we made to Tesco for funding the development of our outdoor learning provision was successful and from next week there will be the option to vote for our school to receive the funding. If you shop at Tesco, and you get given the blue plastic tokens, could you please put these in the box with our school information on which will say:

Place Farm Primary Academy  
Outdoor Learning Enhancement  
Haverhill

The grant will be used in an after-school club to create new wildlife habitats around our school site. This will enhance science learning that takes place inside the classroom.

## **Water Bottles**

We kindly ask that children bring in plastic water bottles, rather than the metal versions. This is for health and safety reasons to avoid injuries related to any knocks or drops. Thank you for your support with this! 😊

## **SEND Parent Padlet:**

<https://padlet.com/lkidd11/parenting-padlet-hgdrprcnhl3ene5>

Please use this link to have an explore of our new SEND Parent Padlet, which contains lots of information resources and links to provide you with support and advice. There are links to local groups, SEND resources and parenting tips.

## **NHS courses to support emotional health and wellbeing**

The NHS have a website called 'inourplace' which provides online learning courses for parents and families to support with emotional health and wellbeing. Please see below for the link to this:

<https://inourplace.co.uk/>



**Welcome to your place for  
emotional health and wellbeing**

# Celebration Assembly



Congratulations to everyone who received a certificate in celebration assembly this week.

We had lots of children receiving their coloured certificates today as well as some PROUD certificates.

We also had several children who were celebrated for their achievements from outside of school.



The AR Word count champions for this week were 6EJ, the AR Quiz champions for this week were 5ML and the most improved readers were 3KM.



We are also continuing to celebrate maths achievements on tt rockstars.

This term, we are presenting certificates to the child in Years 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 who achieved the most coins in their year group, as well as certificates for the three children who had the biggest increase in their times table recall speed.

Times table knowledge and fluency are so important in many areas of maths. Please continue to encourage your children to use tt rockstars at home. Thank you for your ongoing support with this.



## **Attendance**

In celebration assembly each week, we also celebrate the classes with the best attendance of the previous week. Attendance is vitally important to a child's success both in school and in later life.

In 3<sup>rd</sup> place we had 1ED with 97%  
In 2<sup>nd</sup> place we had 2LA with 97.1%  
In 1<sup>st</sup> place we had 3KM with 97.8%

Whole school attendance was 93.1%



## CUSP Lead School

Out of over 750 schools internationally, we are one of only 11 schools to be a CUSP lead school. We were presented with a trophy in honour of this on Monday by Alex Bedford – the CUSP Curriculum Development Director. As a CUSP lead school, other school leaders are invited to visit Place Farm for a day to see the teaching and learning that takes place across the school as a model and example of how high quality CUSP lessons are taught.



## Music performance at Castle Manor



On the last Friday of term, eight Place Farm students were invited to Castle Manor to take part in a music performance.

We joined pupils from Samuel Ward and Castle Manor, and spent the afternoon learning new music, before the after-school performance.

Richard and Di from Haverhill Youth and Community Band were leading the session, and said how wonderful the music was.

Our children behaved beautifully, and demonstrated our PROUD values well.

## Year 6 Library Visits

The children had a great time visiting Haverhill Library yesterday. They enjoyed exploring different books and used the index catalogue to find the topics they love the most! As always, they were respectful and considerate of others. To finish the session, Jenny read the children a book.



## Teacher Training Opportunity

**NATIONAL INSTITUTE of Teaching**

**Initial Teacher Training Information Webinar**

Wednesday 5th February  
6pm-6:45pm

Book your place today

**Online ITT Information Webinar**  
Wednesday 5th February 2025  
18:00 - 18:45  
Microsoft Teams

Join our online information webinar to learn more about our ITT programme at the National Institute of Teaching. This 45-minute webinar will cover:

- What is the National Institute of Teaching?
- The benefits of joining our ITT programme
- The nuts and bolts: finance options, full and part time training, accreditation, support structures, and a range of additional information to ensure you're well-informed on our provision
- Our application process

Book your place

*Are you interested in training to be a teacher? Unity Schools Partnership are an associate college of the National Institute of Teaching and will deliver Initial Teacher Training from July 2025. We are keen to recruit members of our communities to become teachers in our schools. If you are interested, please click on 'Book your place' on the flyer and register for the webinar on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February, 6pm-6.45pm. Alternatively, you can apply directly [Find courses by location or by training provider](#) - [Find teacher training courses](#) - [GOV.UK](#) using the search function to look for your preferred location.*

# World Book Day – Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2025

WORLD  
**BOOK  
DAY**

**Thursday 6 March**

**WORLD  
BOOK DAY**

This year, children can come to school dressed as a **character from their favourite book**. Please find some easy costume ideas below.

If your child does not want to dress up, please send them to school in their usual school uniform.

We would like every child to bring in their favourite book so they can share it in class.



WORLD BOOK DAY

# STORY IN A BOX COMPETITION



Create your own story scene in a box this world book day! We are inviting the children to use a shoe box to create any story scene of their choice. Please bring this in on World Book Day.

THERE WILL  
BE ONE  
WINNER PER  
YEAR GROUP!

**THURSDAY 6TH  
MARCH 2025**

PLACE FARM PRIMARY ACADEMY







## PSHE

### Spring 2 – Healthy Me

PSHE at Place Farm is taught on a weekly basis. There are six puzzle pieces which are split across the year. This term's puzzle piece is all about Healthy Me. In this Puzzle, the children will learn about how to be and keep safe and healthy. It also discusses what they might need to do to keep healthy and things they should avoid.

In KS1, they look into personal hygiene and how to stay safe on the road (Road Safety). In KS2, they look into the effects that smoking and alcohol can have on the body.

Below is a link to a parent version of our PSHE sessions that we teach at Place Farm. You will need to click on the link and type in the code for the year group that your child is in. Then it should take you to the resources we use in our lessons.

Year 1 – 28707-03648

Year 2 – 28707-01099

Year 3 – 28707-06538

Year 4 – 28707-03908

Year 5 – 28707-00797

Year 6 – 28707-07699

<https://jigsawpshe.online/parent>



## Reading Volunteers:



We are reaching out and looking for volunteers to come into school and listen to children read from different year groups .

This can be for an hour an afternoon or the whole afternoon – whatever availability you have will be a huge help to our readers.

There is a recruitment process to follow and therefore if you are interested please email [admin@placefarm.org.uk](mailto:admin@placefarm.org.uk) with the subject: Reading Volunteer.

If you have any questions please do message Miss Jenkins on Class Dojo.

Thank you so much for your support with developing children who love to read! 😊

# parkrun

## SUFFOLK



Walk, jog, run or volunteer... *IT'S YOUR CHOICE*

Join over **2,000** Suffolk residents every week



For full details on all  
the events visit:  
[www.parkrun.org.uk](http://www.parkrun.org.uk)

  
**HEALTHY  
SUFFOLK**  
[healthysuffolk.org.uk](http://healthysuffolk.org.uk)