

Newsletter



31st January 2025

Dear families,

We enjoyed a lovely Celebration assembly this morning where, alongside our usual coloured certificates and PROUD certificates, we also celebrated some wonderful outside achievements. We also had one class - OAP - achieve 100% attendance this week! Amazing work, OAP!

Pupils from Years 3 and 4 took part in an external Dodgeball competition this week. They represented our school brilliantly and demonstrated all our PROUD values alongside great sportsmanship. Huge well done and thank you to Miss Martin for organising!

You will see from our newsletters that we have applied for Tesco's Stronger Start programme, in the hope that we can secure further funding to support our outdoor learning provision. Please do look out for those blue coins in Tesco - we appreciate the support.

Wishing you a great weekend,

Mrs McConnell



Upcoming dates:

February

Thur 6th Feb: 3SA Reading Café 9:00-9:30

Thur 13th Feb: 3KM Reading Café 9:00-9:30

Michael Rosen workshop Yrs 5&6

Fri 14th Feb: NSPCC Number Day (see further information below)

Mon 17th – Fri 21st Feb is half term

Thur 27th Feb: 4KM Reading Café 9:00-9:30

March

Thur 6th Mar: 4RG Reading Café 9:00-9:30

World Book Day

Thur 13th Mar: 5JG Reading Café 9:00-9:30

Fri 14th Mar: Red Nose Day

Thur 20th Mar: 6SL Reading Café 9:00-9:30

Mon 24th Mar: Parents evening (further information to follow)

Tues 25th Mar: Parents evening (further information to follow)

Thur 27th Mar: 6EJ Reading Café 9:00-9:30

Fri 28th Mar: Y4 Trip to West Stow

April

Thur 3rd Apr: 5ML Reading Café 9:00-9:30

Y6 Visit to Mosque

Friday 4th April: School term ends

Tue 22nd April: New school term begins

May

Mon 12th May: Y6 SATS week (Mon-Thurs)

Thur 22nd May: Class photos

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.

Trust Dodgeball Competition



Children from years 3 and 4 represented Place Farm in a dodgeball competition on Thursday and had an excellent time! Miss Martin was extremely impressed with the team's motivation, resilience and sportsmanship which was shown throughout the matches.

Celebration Assembly



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

We had lots of children receiving their coloured certificates today.



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 3SA.



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. We also celebrated the problem-solvers of the week in Year 1 and Rainbow class.

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 3rd place we had 2LP with 97.8%
In 2nd place we had 3SA with 98.6%
In 1st place we had OAP with 100%

Whole school attendance was 95.4%



5ML Library Visit

On Thursday afternoon, 5ML had their visit to Haverhill library. The children enjoyed using their library cards to sign out books and spend time browsing the vast selection of children's books on offer.



Reading Café Rainbow

We had a slightly smaller scale Reading Café for our Rainbow class on Thursday, and it was super! The children and their siblings enjoyed reading some lovely books with their parents in our cosy setting in front of the fire.

Our children love inviting you in to share stories with them. Thank you to everyone that has joined us so far, and we look forward to seeing more of you each week.



Maths at Place Farm



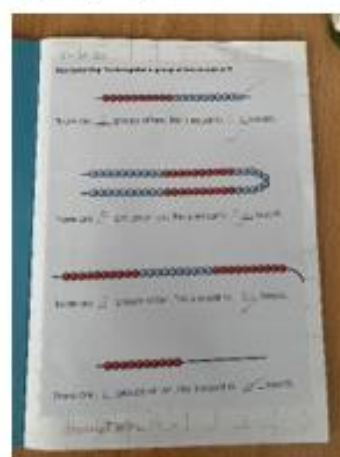
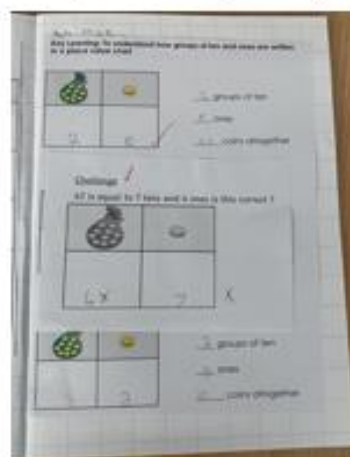
EYFS

The children in Early Years have been working incredibly hard in their Maths learning this week. They have been looking at numbers up to 10 in depth and exploring these in different ways. The children have been looking at greater than and less than, addition and place value. Children have been taking part in races to link positions into their learning! Well done everyone! 😊



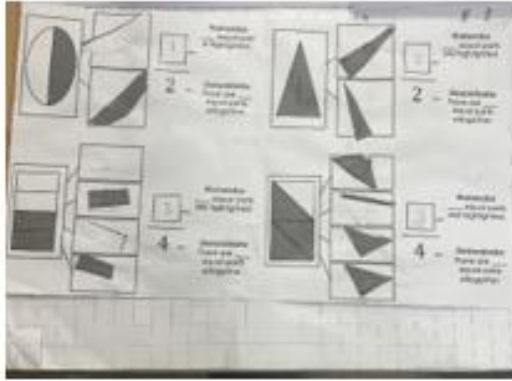
Year One

Year One have been working super hard this week. They have been looking at and exploring numbers up to 50. They have been exploring place value, focusing on tens and ones and using bead strings to represent groups of 10. Well done Year One! 😊



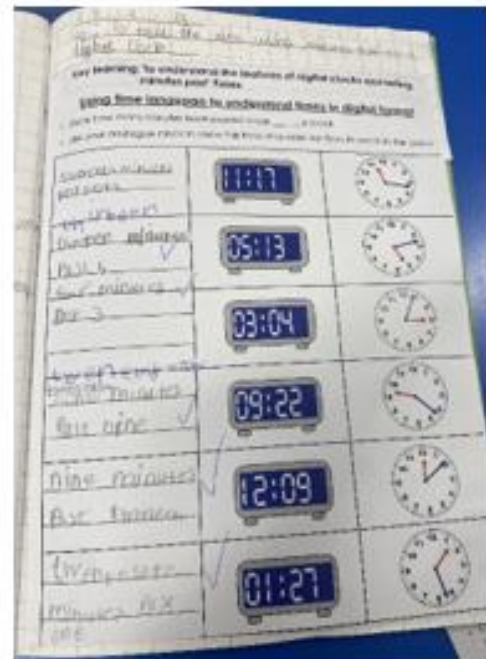
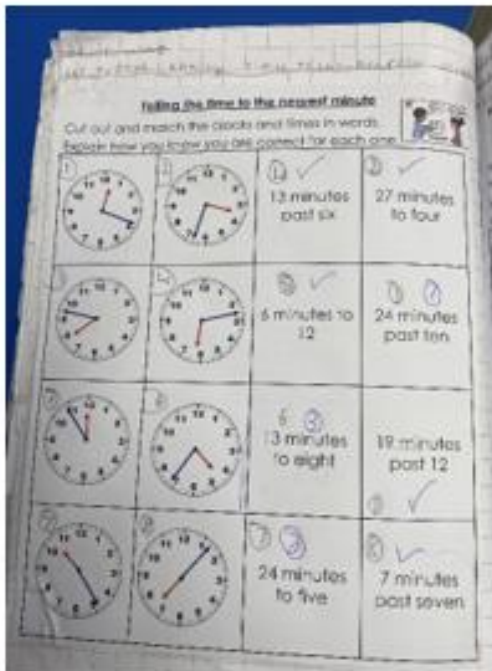
Year Two

In Year Two, the children have been looking at fractions, focusing on halves and quarters. The children have been working really hard to identify all the different parts of a fraction. Super work Year Two 😊



Year Three

In Year Three, the children have been learning about Time. They have been really focusing on the difference between AM and PM as well as the difference between digital and analogue clocks. They have also been challenging themselves to tell the time to the nearest minute! Keep up the fab work Year Three! 😊



Year Four

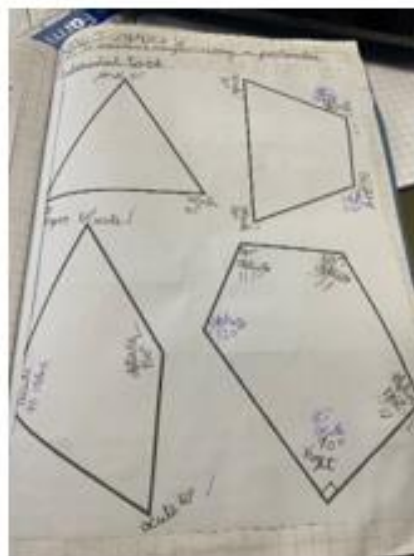
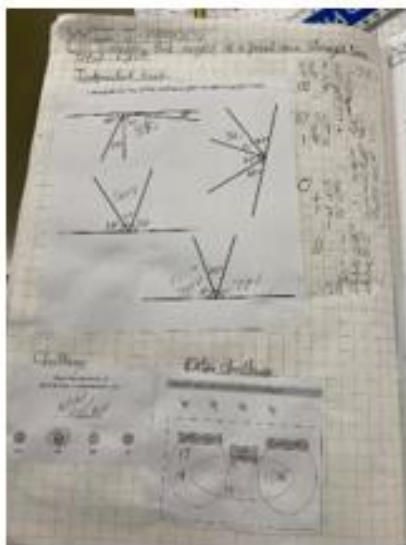
In Year Four, they have been looking at fractions. The children have been learning about mixed numbers and improper fractions. The children have learnt how to convert between the two. They have also applied their knowledge of fractions to answering reasoning-based questions.

The children have also been trying really hard to improve their speed on TTRS! Keep up the fantastic work Year Four! 😊



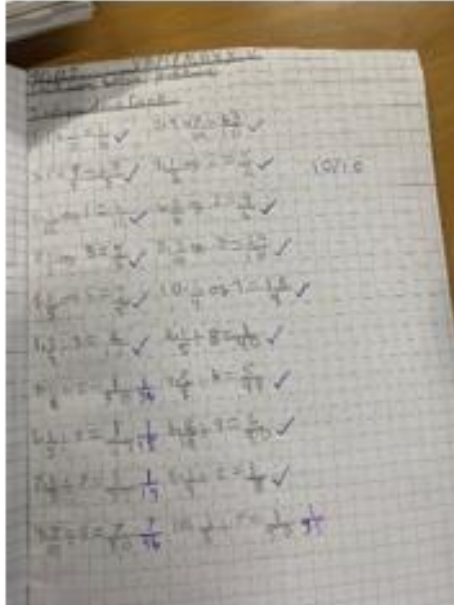
Year Five

Year Five have been working incredibly hard this week. They have been measuring angles using a protractor and looking at the difference between acute, obtuse, right and reflex angles. They have also been problem solving around angles and drawing shapes with certain angles. A tricky task! Great work Year Five! 😊



Year Six

This week, the Year 6 children have been learning all about solving problems which involve fractions of amounts. A great skill to have when out shopping in the real world! They have shown great resilience in applying their knowledge to answer some tricky questions! Well done Year 6, keep up the hard work! 😊



Rainbow

Rainbow have been working really hard learning their numbers up to 20. They have been using concrete materials such as dienes and bead strings. Next, they will be moving on to adding and subtracting numbers up to 20.

Great work Rainbow! 😊



Best wishes 😊

Miss Lister & Mrs Griffiths

NSPCC Number Day

Dear Parents/Carers,

As a school we will be celebrating **NSPCC Number Day on Friday, 14th February 2025.**

It's the perfect way to celebrate Maths and raise awareness of this wonderful charity.

The theme for this year is 'Dress up as **digits**' so the children can come in wearing something numbered such as a football shirt or something you can count e.g. spots or stripes – be creative!

Throughout the day children will take part in lots of fun curriculum-based activities and work as team to solve Maths based problems. There will also be a TTRS competition which all children can take part in and race to win against other classes.

We hope to see lots of children taking part in a fun-filled day!

Many thanks for your support with this,

Mrs Griffiths & Miss Lister



Teacher Training Opportunity

A flyer for an 'Initial Teacher Training Information Webinar'. It features a blue background with white icons of a book, a globe, and a graduation cap. A central image shows a young boy with glasses and a red bow tie giving a thumbs up. Text includes: 'NATIONAL INSTITUTE of Teaching', 'Book your place today', 'Initial Teacher Training Information Webinar', 'Wednesday 5th February 6pm-6:45pm', 'Online ITT Information Webinar', 'Wednesday 5th February 2025 18:00 - 18:45 Microsoft Teams', and a list of topics to be covered. A 'Book your place' button is at the bottom.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE of Teaching

Book your place today

Initial Teacher Training Information Webinar

Wednesday 5th February 6pm-6:45pm

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 5th 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 6th 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.



JOIN THE FAMILY NUMERACY PROGRAMME

- +** Starts: February 2025
- =** 12 engaging classroom & home learning sessions
- ×** Contribute to an England-wide research trial into adult numeracy

The trial is a family learning numeracy programme for adults and children (Year 2 or Year 3) to build maths confidence and understanding together.

The programme is designed to introduce concepts, build skills and confidence in maths for parents and carers to support children's maths learning.

This approach is a series of structured, in-person group, learning sessions designed for adults and their children to bolster both numeracy learning and family learning.

The sessions align learning outcomes from KS1 children (Yr2) with Level 1 functional skills.



**FOR MORE INFORMATION, SPEAK
TO YOUR SCHOOL ADMIN TEAM**



Department
for Education

ies

campaign
for learning

etio

February Half-Term Prestige Sports Activities

Dear Parents/Carers,

Are you looking for stress-free childcare this February Half term? Prestige Sports have got you covered!

Our Holiday Camps provide a range of enriching experiences and exciting activities! From Super Sports to Creative Crafts, we are your local Activity Crusaders!

Book your slice of the fun at www.prestigesportsdevelopment.com/mega-activity-holiday-camps

We have a 10% Early Bird Discount offer running until the 17th January!

Kind Regards

Mr Shane Lebbon

Assistant Manager & Schools
workshop lead

Prestige Sports Development
Chalkstone Way

Haverhill

CB9 0BW

Telephone: 07725918979



SCAN HERE TO FIND OUT MORE OR BOOK!

FEBRUARY HALF TERM HOLIDAY CLUBS!

- Haverhill
- Ickworth Park
- Linton
- Radwinter/Great Easton
- Sudbury
- Stetchworth
- Soham
- Great Yeldham

10% EARLY BIRD UP TO 17th JAN CODE:FEB25

Ofsted

Awesome multi-activity experiences for every child!
For boys & girls aged 5-12.
9am-3.30pm £22.50
Early Drop Off 8.15am £2.50

****Late Pick Available at some venues**

- Whats involved? We offer all sorts of activities from multi sports such as Dodgeball and Football, Nerf, Laser Tag, Arts & Crafts, Lego Boards, Rock Painting & more!

Visit our website to book.

prestige.sports@gmx.com 07494002352

www.prestigesportsdevelopment.com

Abbecroft Leisure Activities

Schools in West Suffolk

January is almost over and we are taking bookings for February Half Term! Please could you share this information with the appropriate families that you work with. These are all **free sessions are aimed at those pupils receiving means tested free school meals.**

- **Family Park Cooking** - A great family day out including campfires, marshmallows and cooking a hearty lunch. Each family will also receive ingredients for a weeks' worth of meals to take home.
- **Adventure Days** - Action Packed Adventure Day including a breakfast, lunch and snacks.
- **Swimming and Lunch** - Free swimming and a lunch for families.
- **Soft Play and Lunch** - Free Soft Play and a lunch for families (Kingfisher only)

All the information including how to book is on the attached pdf letter and mini 'fliers' that you can share with your parents.

If anyone has questions they can also:

- email HAF@acleisure.com
- Visit www.abbecroft.org.uk/HAF
- Call 01284 757495 and leave a name and number for a call back

Everything else families need to know (including eligibility and booking) is on the attached email letter and 'fliers' but for your ease there is also a brief summary and local dates below. These sessions are extremely popular, spaces are limited and are allocated on a first come first served basis so your help sharing the message soon will give your families the best chance of participating.

To book visit: www.abbecroft.org.uk/HAF

Adventure Days (8.30am – 4.30pm to help working parents – breakfast lunch and snacks provided)

- A full day of indoor and outdoor adventures (8:30am-4:30pm)
- Activities include team games, fire-lighting, axe throwing, archery, swimming and loads more!
- Breakfast and Lunch included

Session	Age	Locality	Town	Venue	Dates	Dates with Additional SEND Support
Adventure Days	8-12 yrs.	West Suffolk	Bury (Mortenhall)	Moreton Hall Community Centre	21st Feb	n/a
Adventure Days	8-12 yrs.	West Suffolk	Haverhill	Haverhill Leisure Centre	17th & 18th Feb	n/a
Adventure Days	8-12 yrs.	BMSDC	Sudbury	Sudbury Scout Hut	19th Feb	19th Feb
Adventure Days	8-12 yrs.	BMSDC	Stowmarket	1st Combs scouts	20th & 21st Feb	n/a

SEND support – On these days we provide an extra instructor increasing our ratio from 1:10 to 1:5 to provide a little extra support to those that need it.

Children will still be expected to be independent and manage their own behaviour and interactions with other children as set out in our behavioural policy.

Family Park Cooking Days (Children aged 5-16 years with their parents/carers) (Younger siblings can attend)

- A full day out for the family (10am-2pm)
- Take part in a cooking master class
- Take home all the ingredients for a Christmas Dinner and Boxing Day Lunch
- All locations have indoor or covered areas

Session	Age	Locality	Town	Venue	Dates
Family Park Cooking	5 +	West Suffolk	Bury	Bury Scout Hut	17th, 18th, 19th & 20th Feb
Family Park Cooking	5 +	West Suffolk	Newmarket	Jarman Centre	17th & 18th Feb
Family Park Cooking	5 +	West Suffolk	Haverhill	East Town Park	19th & 20th Feb
Family Park Cooking	5 +	West Suffolk	Beccles	Ringfield Village Hall	21st Feb
Family Park Cooking	5 +	West Suffolk	Lowestoft	4th Lowestoft Scouts	20th Feb
Family Park Cooking	5 +	BMSDC	Hadleigh	Hadleigh Scout Hut	19th Feb
Family Park Cooking	5 +	Ipswich	Ipswich	IP1	17th Feb
Family Park Cooking	5 +	Ipswich	Ipswich	IP2	18th Feb
Family Park Cooking	5 +	Ipswich	Ipswich	IP10	20th Feb
Family Park Cooking	5 +	Ipswich	Ipswich	IP4	19th Feb
Family Park Cooking	5 +	BMSDC	Stowmarket	1st Combs Scouts	17th & 18th Feb
Family Park Cooking	5 +	BMSDC	Sudbury	Sudbury Scout Hut	20th & 21st Feb
Family Park Cooking	5 +	East Suffolk	Felixstowe	Ferry Centre	21st Feb

To book visit: www.abbeycroft.org.uk/HAF

Free Swim / Soft Play and Lunch (ages 5+)

Abbeycroft is offering free swim and lunch to eligible children from 5-16 years old. (Younger siblings can attend)

Tickets are available for children and parents.

Please note Kingfisher Leisure Centre is offering Soft Play and Lunch instead of swimming

Session	Age	Locality	Town	Venue	Dates	Notes
Free SoftPlay + Lunch	5+11 yrs	BMSDC	Sudbury	Kingfisher Leisure Centre	17th-21st Feb	n/a
Free Swim + Lunch	5 +	BMSDC	Hadleigh	Hadleigh Pool and Leisure Centre	17th-21st Feb	n/a
Free Swim	5 +	West Suffolk	Bury	Bury Leisure Centre	17th-21st Feb	For Bury Residents Only
Free Water Polo	6=15 yrs	West Suffolk	Bury	Bury Leisure Centre	17th-21st Feb	For Bury Residents Only

To book visit: www.abbeycroft.org.uk/HAF

EXPLORE OUTDOOR

ADVENTURE DAYS

AGES 8-12 YEARS

17th - 23rd February
*subject dates apply
08:30-16:30

Come to life in the great outdoors this February Half-term and enjoy fire lighting and cooking in the wild, Archery, axe throwing and swimming, and much more.

With our Adventure Days happening across Babergh, Mid and west Suffolk, your child has the chance to unlock their inner explorer whilst fitting around your working hours.

Breakfast, lunch and snacks provided!

*Free for those eligible for free school meals or meet Suffolk Country Council eligibility criteria

abbeycroft.org.uk/HAF

FREE* BOOK NOW

Abbeycroft
Let's Love Life

EXPLORE OUTDOOR

FAMILY PARK COOKING

17th - 23rd February
Across Suffolk
10:00-15:00
*subject dates apply

Parents and children take part in an amazing family day out with a wide range of activities including an outdoor cooking master class where you will cook a delicious lunch together.

Every family that attend will take home all of the ingredients and recipe cards for a weeks' worth of meals.

*Free for those eligible for free school meals or meet Suffolk Country Council eligibility criteria

abbeycroft.org.uk/HAF

FREE* BOOK NOW

Abbeycroft
Let's Love Life

January 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

Important information regarding Household Support Fund discretionary grant

Suffolk County Council (SCC) is pleased to confirm that the Government announced a further six-month extension to the Household Support Fund from September 2024 to March 2025.

We can confirm that funds have been made available for SCC to extend the support previously provided to low-income families in receipt of Free School Meals (FSM) over the **February half term and Easter holidays 2025**. There is currently no information on the level of funding that will be available for May 2025 – March 2026.

The grant will be issued as a **£45** supermarket voucher for each eligible child from our provider **Pluxee** to cover both the February half term (£15) and Easter holidays (£30) and is designed to help families with their essential living costs during the holiday.

To ensure that SCC meets the reporting requirements of the Household Support Fund, you will need to redeem all vouchers by **Friday 11 April 2025**. Voucher redemption after this date will not be possible as the fund for 2024/25 will be closed.

As with previous issues of vouchers, the SCC Free School Meals (FSM) team will place the voucher order using the information provided by your child's school. Please ensure that your child's school holds the most up to date contact information for you, so that the voucher is sent to the correct recipient.

If the school has previously printed the vouchers on your behalf, then this arrangement will continue, or you can ask for the voucher to be sent via text message to your mobile phone number. **Please inform your school if you wish to receive the vouchers via text message, if you have previously been unable to receive them via email.**

We aim to have all vouchers sent to recipients by **Thursday 13 February 2024**. If you have **not received the vouchers by this date** or in the event of any queries regarding the vouchers, then please contact our team at freeschoolmeals@suffolk.gov.uk, rather than speaking to the school directly.

Please note, that if you have children who attend different Suffolk schools, you may receive your vouchers at separate times before the start of the school holiday.

Please look out for an email from noreponse@vouchers.pluxee.uk, and please also check junk and spam folders before contacting us directly.

Please can we remind you that all vouchers will have a 2-month expiry date to be redeemed. Once redeemed, the expiry conditions of your chosen supermarket will apply, and you will have a minimum of 12 months to use the voucher. We urge you to contact our team as soon as possible if you encounter any issues redeeming your voucher as we will not be able to access the funding once it has closed and vouchers have expired.

We hope that this discretionary grant goes some way to help in supporting your family during the school holiday, whether buying food or freeing up some income to go towards energy and water bills or other essential living costs.

If you are financially struggling and require additional support, further information can be found at: www.suffolk.gov.uk/community-and-safety/communities/healthier/cost-of-living-support/.

Yours faithfully



Lucy Nicholas (she/her)

Resource Manager (Admissions and School Travel)

Education, Skills and Learning

Directorate of Children and Young People

Suffolk County Council