

Newsletter



Friday 2nd December, 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

Here we are in December already! We are gearing up for all things festive at Place Farm and are very much looking forward to welcoming you into school to join in with our upcoming Carols on the Playground and, for EYFS and Year 1, our forthcoming Christmas nativity performances in the final week.

We have also enjoyed some exciting visitors in school this week: Year 4 participated in a Greek day (it was great to see the children in their very imaginative costumes) and EYFS enjoyed a visit from the police and firefighters as part of their learning.

This week's newsletter focuses on Year 3 learning and also contains information about a grant available for families on low-income. You will also see details relating to some holiday camp offers being run locally.



Please do follow us on Twitter for school updates: [@PlaceFarmAcad](https://twitter.com/PlaceFarmAcad) and visit our website, which has lots of information about our curriculum on <https://placefarm.org.uk/>

Wishing you a wonderful weekend.

Lisa McConnell
Head of School

CALENDAR

December

Tuesday 13th December - Carols on the Playground, Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas lunch day

Tuesday 13th December (evening) - Castle Manor, Burton End and Place Farm Carol service at St Mary's Church - Haverhill

Wednesday 14th and Thursday 15th December - EYFS and Year 1 Nativity performances

Friday 16th December - Christmas Parties (information shared on Class Dojo)

Friday 16th December - Last day of autumn term

January Tuesday 3rd January - PD Day(School closed to pupils)

Wednesday 4th January - First day of spring term



10-point Attendance Reminders for Parents

1. Please take families holiday during the school holidays. Holidays in term time will be fined (£60 per adult per child)
2. Please call in before **9.30am** if your child is not going to be at school. It saves us having to call you!
3. If your child is regularly off due to illness, we will call you for a meeting to see how we can help
4. Absence due to illness can be unauthorised if we suspect your child is well enough to come to school
5. If your child comes into school after **9.05am** the registers are closed and it counts as 1 session of unauthorised absence
6. Too many unauthorised absences will result in a fine or a referral to our School Attendance Support Officer at Suffolk County Council
7. If your child has a medical appointment please give school a copy of the appointment so we can authorise the absence
8. If you know there is an unusual or unexpected reason for your child's absence, please talk to us ahead of time (if possible). We may agree to authorise the absence
9. 90% - or below - is poor attendance (but great in tests)
10. If you or your child have any worries about what's happening or has happened in school please bring your child in to school and talk to us about it. Do not give your child a day off

Year 3

We are pleased to share with you some of the fantastic learning that Year 3 pupils have been engaged in this week.

Writing:

We have been busy drafting formal letters to the Prime Minister to express our disappointment at the prospect of the summer holidays being shortened. We are sure that you will agree that they have done a fantastic job at using persuasive language to try and convince Mr Sunak that this should not happen!

Reading:

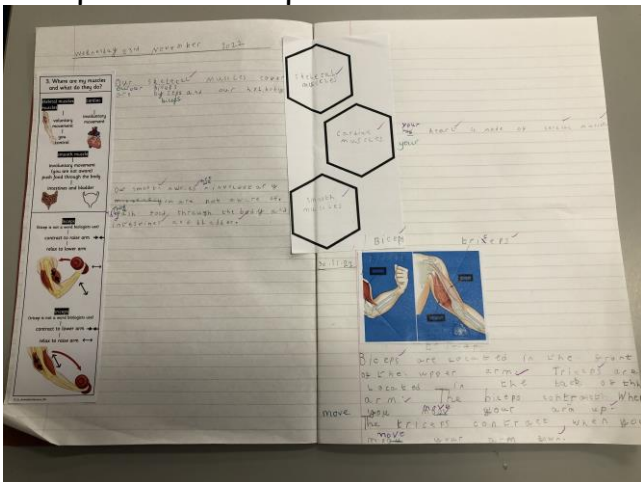
We continued to learn about the poem 'Twas The Night Before Christmas'. This week we focused on how the poet creates a sense of speed and commotion throughout the poem. We thoroughly enjoyed using instruments, gestures and intonation to emphasise the rhythm, rhyme and events of the poem.

Mathematics:

Pupils have been busy calculating the perimeters of 2-D shapes in mixed units (centimetres and millimetres) and are becoming more confident doing this.

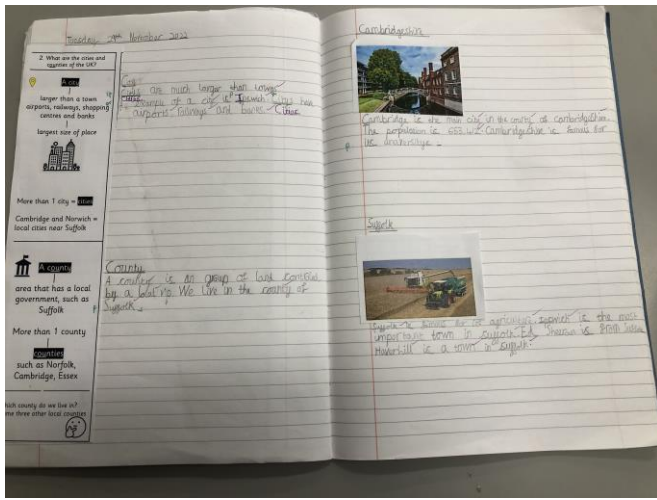
Science:

In Science this week, pupils have learnt what their muscles do and where their 'biceps' and 'triceps' are located.



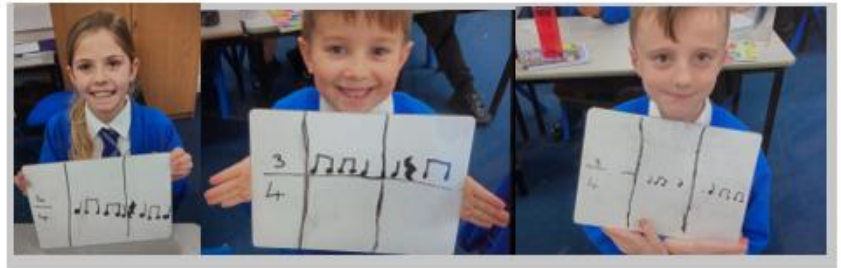
Geography:

We have been learning what a 'city' and a 'county' is focusing on the counties of Cambridgeshire and Suffolk.



Music:

This week we have been notating rhythms in 2/4, 3/4 and 4/4 time using a combination of crotchets, paired quavers and crotchet rests. Pupils thoroughly enjoyed notating their rhythms on whiteboards and clapping to see if they had the correct number of beats in each bar.



Design & Technology:

In D&T we have started a new textiles unit where we are experimenting with different solutions to stiffen fabric and create our own special boxes. They will be using skills such as cutting templates, hardening fabrics and using glue to achieve the finished product. We look forward to showing you some photos once these are completed!

Year 5 & 7 Author Visit

Year 5 and 6 had a fantastic time on a Zoom call with Emma Carroll, author of *Secrets of a Sun King*. Year 6 read this novel last year during their reading lessons and our current Year 5's are reading it now! Emma shared the history within the book and answered questions. 210 other schools also tuned in from across England – it was a really special opportunity!



FAMILY & JUNIOR SWIM & LUNCH

Swim & lunch will run in the school holidays providing a FREE swim and nutritious meal for those eligible for free school meals in the holidays

5-16 years old

17th - 30th December

*Subject dates applied

Bury St Edmunds Leisure Centre
Haverhill Leisure Centre
Hadleigh Pool & Leisure
Kingfisher Leisure Centre
Mildenhall HUB
Newmarket Leisure centre

To book:

Email: HAF@acleisure.com

Call: 01284 757473

For more info, visit

www.acleisure.com/HAF





Suffolk
County Council

December 2022



Dear Parent/Carer

Suffolk County Council is pleased to confirm a further discretionary grant is available to support low-income families over the Christmas holiday. The grant will be ordered by your child(ren)'s school and will be issued as a £30 Edenred supermarket voucher for each eligible child. The grant is to help families with their essential living costs during the school holiday.

Please note that this grant will be issued to you via the email address that the school holds for you so please ensure that this address is up to date.

The voucher must be spent before the expiry date as failure to redeem by that date will mean you cannot be reissued, and you will lose the grant.

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

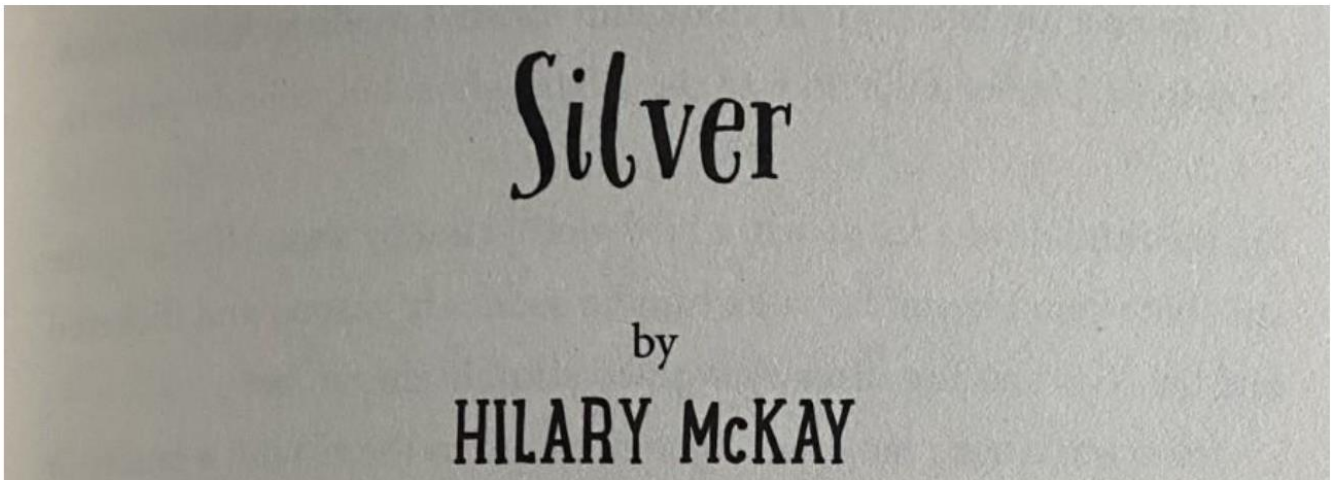
Yours faithfully

Suffolk County Council

Hello everyone,

Please enjoy this little story or poem ☺

Miss Jenkins



Please click on this link to access the PDF for the story: [Silver](#)

Looking for some Holiday Activities this Christmas? Please click on these links to access a range of activities being run by West Suffolk Council (also shared on Class Dojo):

[Posters](#)

[Holiday Activities Timetable](#)

Christmas Football Fun Camps
A truly unique inflatable football experience

To secure a place please email:
eloise@thefootballfunfactory.co.uk
www.thefootballfunfactory.co.uk

Schools Out Activities
FOR AGES 4 - 16 (SCHOOL GOING)

FREE SPACES THIS WINTER Holiday Activity Fund

Free School Meals
Calling all parents currently in receipt of 'Benefit Related Free School Meals'... through the HAF programme we are able to offer up to 4 days This Winter... This is worth over £170!
A free packed lunch is provided, with choices of sandwiches, snacks, and drinks.

Dates
CHOOSE ANY 4 DAYS FROM...
Monday 19th - Friday 23rd December 2022

Times
Drop Off 9am-9:30am | Lunchtime 12:30pm-2:30pm | Pick Up 4:30pm-5pm
Early Bird 8am-9am | Extended Fun 5pm-6pm
Early Bird & Extended Fun each charged at £5 per session

Activities:
- Singing, Drawing, Creating, Building, Dancing, Painting, Baking, and more!
- Arts & Crafts, Cooking, Textiles, Fashion, Performing, Singing, and more!
- Net Wars, Roller Racers, Dodgeball, Softball, Football, RC Cars, Mario Kart, and more!
- Developing leaders of the future with our '5 Levels to Leadership' programme: Working Journal, Build Confidence, Work Experience, Gain Rewards.

Questions? Phone us on: 01473 942990

SOUTH LEE SCHOOL (Newton Road, Bury St Edmunds, IP13 2BT. Ofsted Number: E12593817)
WOODBRIDGE SCHOOL (Barkitt Road, Woodbridge IP12 4JH. Ofsted Number: E1756142)
IPSWICH HIGH SCHOOL (Woolverstone, Suffolk IP9 2AZ. Ofsted Number: E133272)

Learn More www.schoolsoutactivities.co.uk

NHRM
NATIONAL HORSE RACING MUSEUM

Free Creative Christmas Workshop
11am - 3pm on Saturday 17 December 2022

Get festive and creative with our artist-led workshop!
Take part in our FREE family drop-in creative workshop with artist Ali Atkins inspired by our collection at Christmas time and make festive decorations together using a variety of sculpture materials to take home. Suitable for all ages.

NHRM is part of the Suffolk Holiday Activity Programme and if families are eligible for Free School Meals from our local area, picnic bag lunches from The Bakery in King's Yard for children and young people aged 5 - 16 are available to book in advance by sending an email to Sarah at info@nhrm.co.uk or on the day with the HAF Code.

www.nhrm.co.uk | National Horseracing Museum, Newmarket