



FEBRUARY 2026

NEWSLETTER

We are now well into Term 3, and it has been wonderful to see the energy and enthusiasm across our school. As we look ahead, we are excited about the range of events and extra-curricular activities planned for the coming weeks. These opportunities will allow students to further explore their interests, build new skills, and stay actively engaged both in and beyond the classroom.

Miss Bennett

OPEN AFTERNOON

We look forward to welcoming you to our open afternoon from 2pm on Tuesday 10th February. This is an opportunity to come into class and look at your child's work from the past term.



PANTOMIME

Thank you to the generosity of parents/carers that kindly contributed towards M&M's production of Beauty and the Beast. As always, it was a fabulous performance, with the cast taking time out to speak with some of our pupils to look at the masks and special effects in advance of the show for reassurance. A special well done to Mrs Jephcott and Miss Bryant (Student Teacher) for your active participation in the dance-off!

We are delighted to say that as we (almost) covered the cost this year, we have re-booked the pantomime for January 2027 where we'll be treated to a production of Peter Pan. Thank you once again to our parents/carers for your support.

CREEPY CLAWS



Just a reminder to our Reception parents that payment for Creepy Claws is now open via the 'store' tab on MCAS. To allow this event to go ahead, we are asking for a contribution of £5.24 per pupil. The fabulous Creepy Claws visited us for the first time last year bringing a delightful collection of weird, wonderful and cute animals into the classroom that children usually wouldn't ever get the chance to meet! They will be visiting us again on Wednesday 3rd June to link in with our topic 'the natural world'. Thank you for your continued support.

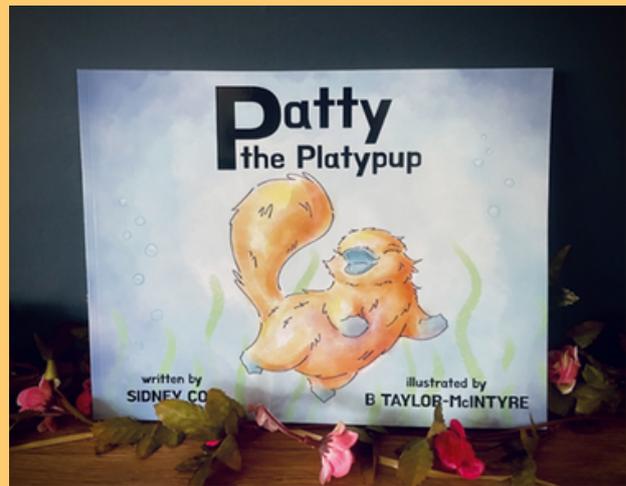
BEES: AUTHOR VISIT

We are very excited to announce that local author, Sidney Coe, will be joining Bees class on Friday 6th February to read her book Patty the Platypup.

Perfect for young readers, this is a touching story about feeling different and how, deep down, we are really all the same. If you would like to pre-order a copy of the book, the payment link is below.

If ordering, please can parents include their children's name. All those that pre order will receive a signed copy of the book.

<https://pay.sumup.com/b2c/QC5MUT7B>



SPARE CLOTHES PLEASE!

We are running low on a few key 'spare' items. If you have any spare/outgrown ones at home, please could you donate via the School Office?

Girls pants

Tights

Socks (girls and boys)

School shoes (girls and boys)



SAFETY WEEK

Every year we have multiple 'themed' weeks to put a spotlight on subjects or topics. This week it is Safety Week.

We started this off by a visit from the Police, teaching the children about their important role and how they support our community. The children will also be taught and reminded about the importance of internet safety.



LIBRARY VISIT

Just a reminder that all pupils will be visiting Sandwich Library on Monday 23rd March. The children will have the opportunity to take a book out on the day, provided that they have a library card. If your child does not already have a library card, please we can arrange this prior to our visit. Please collect a form from the school office and return it before Monday 9th March.

If your child already has a library card, please leave it with school on the Friday before (20th March 2026). Please be aware that book returns are the responsibility of parents.

SKIPPING NINJA

On Monday 23rd February we have 'The Skipping Ninja' delivering workshops to our children. We are very excited for everyone to have this experience this year. If they'd like a little practice before the session, videos can be accessed here:

<https://www.skipping.ninja/ninja-skills>



There will be a merchandise shop at the end of the school day where you will have the opportunity to purchase a rope that will enable your child to put what they have learnt into practice.

FOREST SCHOOL

Hedgehogs will continue their Forest School sessions after half term, with their last date being 27th February.

Badgers will have Forest School from 6th March to 8th May. Details will follow on MCAS.



PARKING

We have several cars persistently parking on Church Street St Mary's to drop-off and pick-up from school. Please use Gazen Salts, the Co-op or dedicated parking on Strand Street. Not only is this unsafe for pedestrians but staff are also having difficulty accessing the school because of inconsiderate parking. Dover District Council parking enforcement are aware. Thank you to those of you that continue to park respectfully in the roads surrounding the school.

KS1 WINGHAM TRIP

We are planning to take our Year 1 and 2 children on an educational visit to Wingham Wildlife Park on Thursday 26th March. During the visit, the children will take part in an African animal talk, which links to our current geography learning about Africa and our science topic on animals and their habitats. The children will travel to and from Wingham Wildlife Park by coach and will need to bring a packed lunch that day. Children should attend school in full school uniform and wear sensible footwear. They should also bring a water bottle and a suitable coat for the weather.

Prices will vary, depending on if your child has a pass into Wingham Wildlife Park already. Payment is requested by 2nd March via the 'store' tab on MCAS.

WORLD BOOK DAY

On Thursday 5th March it is World Book Day. Children are welcome to come in dressed as a character from a book. We encourage you to use accessories or clothing you already have at home.

At 9.15am, we welcome parents/carers in to school to join us to celebrate World Book Day with your child. Your child will have a choice of books to choose from, and you can join them in completing an activity related to this story. This will last around an hour.

More information will follow so please keep an eye out for an MCAS notification.



NELFT EMOTIONAL WELLBEING TEAM

Emma and Antonia from the NELFT emotional support team are working with us over the coming weeks and months, to offer guidance and support for the emotional wellbeing and mental health of our pupils.

This may include whole school initiatives, for example, assemblies and classroom-base activities that raise awareness about emotional wellbeing and mental health. In addition, children with a specific identified emotional wellbeing need (e.g. worry) may be invited to join a group or workshop, and you will be informed if your child is included.

We kickstart this programme with a parent/carer coffee morning on Wednesday 11th February at 8:35am in the Staff Room. Emma and Antonia will outline what support they can offer to our children and families and also to gather ideas on which workshops you would most benefit from. Please use the following link by Friday 6th February to indicate whether you are able to join us.
<https://forms.office.com/e/GqJvJRz7B3>

PARENTS EVENING

Our next parents evening will be on Monday 2nd March (3:30pm-5:00pm) and Thursday 5th March (3:30pm-7:00pm).

The slots will be available to book via MCAS on Friday 13th February from 6:00am.



PLEASE SCROLL TO THE NEXT PAGE FOR DIARY DATES



DAIRY DATES

Tuesday 10th February	Open Afternoon from 2pm
Wednesday 11th February	NELFT Parent/Carer Coffee Morning from 8:35am
Friday 13th February	FOSIS Break the Rules Day and Bake Sale
Friday 13th February	Last Day of Term
Monday 23rd February	Skipping Ninja – all years to wear PE Kit
Monday 2nd March	Sponsored read
Monday 2nd March	Parents Eve (3:20 – 5:00pm) book from Friday 13th via MCAS
Wednesday 4th March	Parent Workshop NELFT
Thursday 5th March	World Book Day
Thursday 5th March	Parents Eve (3:30 – 7:00pm) book from Friday 13th via MCAS
Monday 9th March	Science Week
Wednesday 18th March	FOSIS Happy School Bag collection
Wednesday 18th March	KS1 Victorian Day
Friday 20th March	Downs Syndrome Awareness Day
Monday 23rd March	Library Visits
Thursday 26th March	KS1 Wingham Trip
Friday 27th March	FOSIS Easter Egg Hunt
Monday 30th March	Community Week
Thursday 2nd April	Last Day of Term