The Federation of
Fairfield and Colneis



Dear Parent/Carer,

Welcome to the final newsletter of the academic year - as always, please do take your time to look through all the various opportunities that have been open to the children over the last few weeks. We are very proud of our children and the experiences they get at our schools and I am sure you will enjoy reading all about them. We have recently received the results of our statutory outcomes and are pleased to be able to let you know that children in our schools continue to reach high standards that are above national averages.

I am also delighted to let you know that we have recently received some communication and positive recognition from none other than King Charles and renowned author, David Walliams. You will be aware of the success of our 'Sammy the Suffolk Seal' published book, written and illustrated by a number of children at Colneis. We are so pleased that the King and David Walliams have taken the time to share their enthusiasm for this project! Well done to everyone involved - what a great recognition.

As we have previously mentioned - our 'Friends of' Committee have done an amazing job this year at raising some significant funds for our schools - you will see the final amount is £20K - a really impressive amount and invaluable for our children. My huge thanks to the committee for making this possible. At this current point we have had no interest in anyone taking on the chair or secretary roles from September. Please be reassured that the current chair and secretary will be on hand to support - they are even roles that can be completed on a 'job share' basis. Please do give this some serious consideration as without these roles being filled by parents, the committee will no longer be able to run, which would have a real impact on some of the work that we are able to do. Please can any interest be emailed to - friendsfandc@gmail.com.

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

July 2025

School Newsletter

Finally, thank you for your continued support - we have had another successful year! Good luck to all our children moving onto new schools from September and we look forward to welcoming all other children back into school on Wednesday 3rd September.

Best wishes,

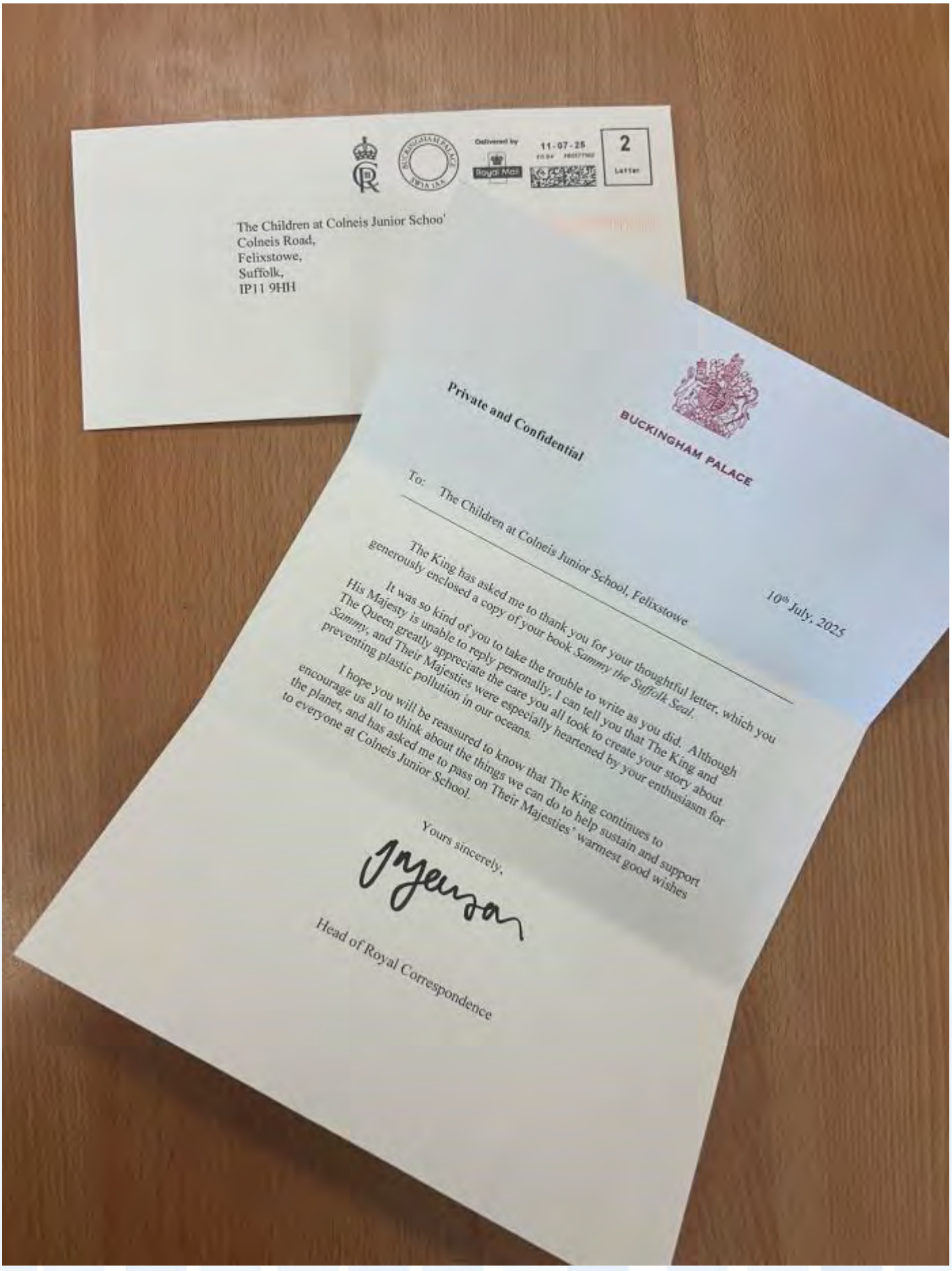
Mr Mark Girling

Headteacher



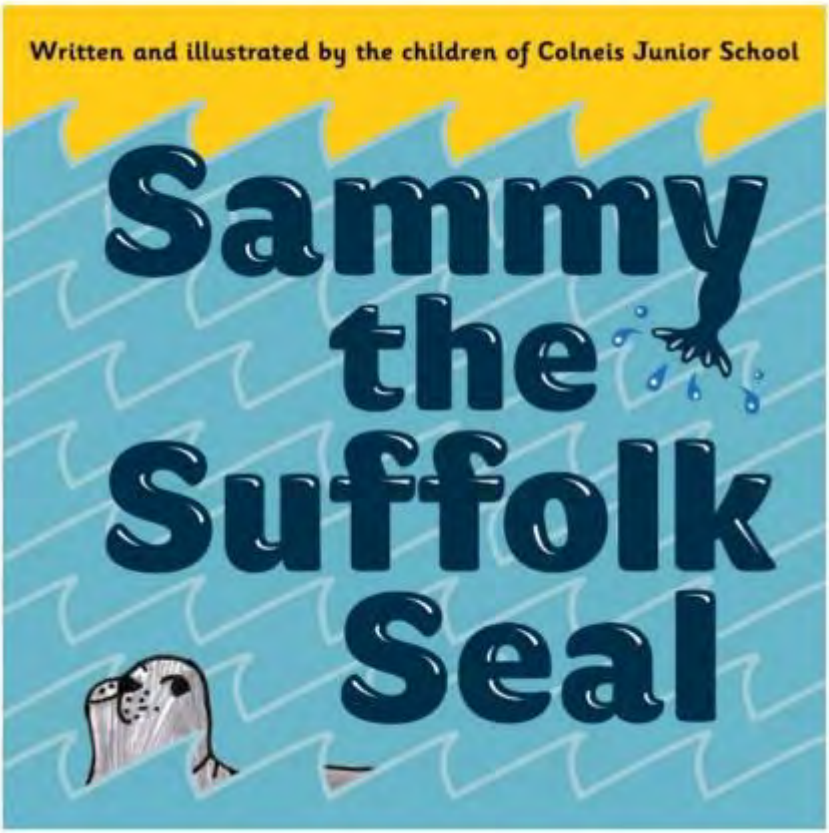


Letter from the King



Letter from David Walliams





News from Nursery

Moving Up!



It is a bittersweet time in Nursery as we support the children with their transition into Reception whilst celebrating a wonderful year together.

The children continue to thrive and show us that they are well-prepared for their next adventure. We couldn't be prouder of this group of children who have grown so much in such a short time. It has been an absolute pleasure getting to know them and being part of their journey.



Good Luck to all of our Nursery stars!

Happiness festival—Ugly Bug Ball

Inspired by our Little Feet Project and the children's own interest in mini-beasts we chose to theme our day. The children enjoyed a wonderful day of mini-beast exploration. There were lots of activities to investigate:





Spider web assault course.

'Build a Bug' station.

Snail races.

Pond dipping (chia seed).

Face painting.

Bug Yoga.






Since our Ugly Bug Ball the Nursery garden has become a hub for mini-beast hunts, with children discovering snails, caterpillars, grasshoppers and wood-lice!

Our butterfly life cycle science project has also been an excellent learning experience for our children as they have been able to observe each stage of this exciting life cycle. They have learnt new vocabulary and have a basic understanding of metamorphosis, gained an appreciation of nature and developed some scientific enquiry skills.








News from Reception

What a fantastic first year of school!

This year the children have made huge progress across all areas of the curriculum and we are incredibly proud of each and every one of them!

They have:





- built friendships,
- learnt to share and take turns,
- learnt and followed the Fairfield Values,
- explored new activities,
- visited the church, twice!
- learnt to read by blending,
- learnt to write by segmenting,
- become mathematicians,
- learnt a range of songs,
- learnt some basic Makaton,
- taken on roles in their play,
- raised money for charity,
- carried out experiments,
- developed creative skills,
- developed imagination skills,
- cared for ducklings,
- completed a drill with Sgt Bond













- taken part in Sports Day,
- developed gross and fine motor skills,
- designed fabulous constructions,
- enjoyed sensory play,
- visited the local library,
- enjoyed the Happiness Festival,
- enjoyed visits from Boarder Force, a vet, a nurse, a firefighter, a writer and The Mayor!
- played interactive games on the smartboard as well as board games,
- learnt about religious festivals including Christmas, Easter and Diwali,
- And so much more!

We look forward to hearing about all the things you continue to learn in Year 1!

News from Year One

Visiting the Library

This term we have been enjoying studying the chapter book, Flat Stanley. We visited the Library to look at their range of books. Amy, the librarian, shared a storybook then told us how the books are organised into fiction and non-fiction. We learnt that the books are labelled with coloured stickers and stripes to help organise the early readers and the chapter books. It was exciting to hear about the weekly Lego club and the Summer Reading Challenge. We hope that the children enjoy the library's projects over the holidays.









Felixstowe in Flower

This term we have been busy preparing for our Felixstowe in Flower entries, including planting sunflower seeds and producing floral artwork using our observational drawing skills. Children used sketching, painting and college for their artwork. The community project celebrates 40 years so we opted for a Wizard of Oz theme linking the Ruby Anniversary with the sparkly glass slippers. We have been creating an Emerald City in the Year One growing boxes using wild flower seeds, vegetables and sunflowers - celebrating everything that is green! Children also used their geographical skills to design their own Emerald City maps. There have been some impressive home growing projects including sunflower seedlings shared. Great green fingers Year One!



















News from Year One



This term, Year One children participated in the **Flat Stanley Project**, supporting our recent curriculum work in Geography. The project helped us to learn about our country and continents around the world as well as gaining an understanding of our postal system. We previously read the chapter book, discovering that Stanley was flattened one night by a falling pinboard. In one of the chapters, Stanley's parents roll him up, place him in an envelope and post him to their friends in another town. What an exciting way for Stanley to travel on his holiday! Families nominated hosts for Stanley to visit and we have had wonderful responses. Children have been able to learn about new towns, different cultures and many exciting countries around the world. We have learnt about transport including ferries, planes and explored how our posted letters would have travelled. We have been delighted by the returned fact files, photos, post cards and emails. A huge thank you to everyone who has participated and plans to take Flat Stanley on adventures over the Summer Holidays.























News from Year 2

Swimming and Buddy Days at Colneis

The children have been brave, beautifully behaved and so supportive of one another during these new experiences. They have shown great independence and organization when changing and made excellent progress in their swimming lessons because they have listened carefully to the instructors. All of the children have enjoyed meeting their Year 5 buddies, who will be in Year 6 in September and ready support the new Year 3 intake. We are really proud of the children's conduct when visiting Colneis and can see they are ready for the next step in the school journey!












Beach Trip

We packed our water bottles and snacks for the annual Year 2 trip to the beach as part of our Geography topic this term. The main focus was learning about the physical and human features of the Felixstowe coastline however there was also time for games including Duck, Duck, Goose and Hide and Seek as well as Andy Goldsworthy inspired art sculptures of the beach with all the stones, shells and seaweed that we could find.



Sports Day and the Happiness Festival

Highlights of the Summer Term are always the days when we can get outside and enjoy the fresh air and sunshine. After several afternoons of practising our races, the children were able to compete in running, obstacle, relay and water races. Their genuine enjoyment and encouragement of one another was wonderful to see and we were delighted to watch everyone taking part. The Happiness Festival has become a yearly event where the children have the freedom and creativity to choose their own activities throughout the day, which helps then develop independence. Lots of fun was had by all!



News from Year 3

I cannot believe that we have reached the end of the school year already. We are so pleased with the children's transition from Year 2 to Year 3. The Open Evening was a great opportunity to see how much progress they have made across the year and we hope you enjoyed looking through their work. This half term, we have continued our Rainforest topic. They have made some fantastic rainforest animal masks. In English, we have written letters of complaint to stop deforestation. In Maths, we have learnt about fractions, time and shape. In Science, they have taken part in a number of experiments to investigate light and shadow. The children have also had fantastic opportunities to take part in sports events competing against other schools, sports day and a Musical theatre dance session. We also got to enjoy the Outdoor Learning day celebrating the launch of our school book, watch the Year 6 performance and take part in the Happiness Festival. Thank you for all of your support and we hope you have a great, safe summer.
















News from Year 3



Rainforest Projects

We were very impressed with the children's rainforest homework. There were a variety of creative ideas and the children got to share their projects in our assembly. One of our arts mark and school focus is to practice public speaking. They explained what they had created and how they achieved it.



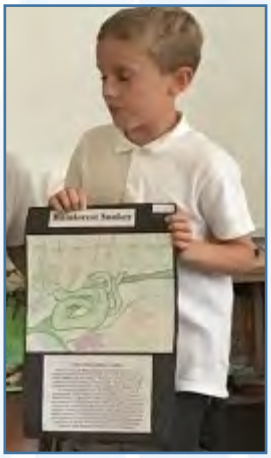














News from Year 4



Outdoor Learning Day

We recently had an outdoor learning day to celebrate the release of our 'Sammy the Seal' book, written and illustrated by the children at Colneis. We took part in several activities which promoted wildlife safety and sustainability. Our crafts were a huge success at the fair after school and the money raised will greatly support our outdoor learning space.

Happiness Festival

We thoroughly enjoyed happiness festival and were fortunate enough to have glorious sunshine on the day. Many children got to try out our new Ninja course which proved to be quite a challenge!







School Trip

We had a lovely day at the Stowmarket Food Museum finding out what the history of farming looked like and where our food comes from. We found it particularly interesting finding out about school dinners and even having a little

News from Year 5

We have had a packed half term. Some of the exciting things we have organised include; taking part in the school Happiness Festival, outdoor learning, a geography field trip and our Buddy day.



Happiness Festival

The children were permitted to choose any activity from the many that had been set out across the field, the playground and the wildlife area.



Here are some children taking part in the nature treasure hunt.



Buddy Day

During the Buddy visit the Year 5 children were responsible for showing their buddy around and showing them where everyone was and how to behave at Colneis. Some of the activities the Year 2 and Year 5 children took part in was a maths challenge, a nature treasure hunt and a mindfulness task.

Outdoor Learning

The children have been studying flowering plants. Here they are planting flowering plants to create a living wall. It was one of the suggestions from the School Council.



Geography Field Trip

We have been studying Settlements in Geography. During the fieldtrip we completed a traffic survey at the end of Colneis Road, before looking at the use of shops in our high street. We then headed to the beach for a bit of lunch.



News from Year 6

Year 6 have had another busy half term; they have been preparing for their production, enjoyed learning outside, and even been on a couple of trips.

Year 6 production—A Hint of Snow White

The children have auditioned, been selected and learnt lines and songs in preparation for their end of year 6 production. We have been very impressed with their acting skills and we're sure you felt as proud as we did as you saw them perform on stage. Great job Year 6!








Duxford

On 18th June, the children had a great day visiting Duxford. They loved travelling on a double decker bus and especially enjoyed serenading us all for most of the journey! Whilst we were there, we were able to explore different hangers (full of a variety of planes including a Concorde), played on a the play park and even managed to eat an ice cream. This visit really brought their learning to life.






Outdoor learning

We have been really lucky this half term as we have had lots of outdoor learning sessions. On 12th June, we celebrated 'Outdoor Education Day', we took part in a variety of activities including 'spread the word', green wall planting and rounders. During our other sessions, we have measured the growth of some of the trees from when we first studied them in year 4, and completed a pollinator count as part of Education Nature Park.





Science—beak experiment

As part of our Evolution and Inheritance unit, we planned and carried out a beak experiment. Using different types of 'beaks' (tweezers, chop sticks, spoon, stones and a peg), we tested which beak was the easiest to use to eat different types



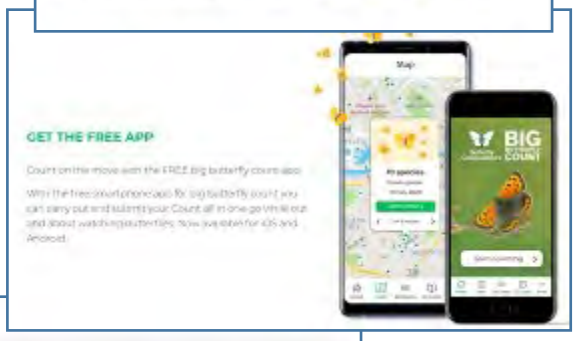


Summer Science News

Where are all the butterflies?

Following the results of the Big Butterfly Count 2024, Butterfly Conservation have declared a butterfly emergency, and we need your help more than ever before. By taking part in Butterfly Conservation's Big Butterfly Count - a UK wide survey, you can help assess the health of our environment simply by counting butterflies.

Butterfly Conservation's BIG BUTTERFLY COUNT



HOW DO I TAKE PART?



Step 1.

Get ready

Download our handy butterfly ID chart or free app for iOS and Android to identify and record the butterflies you spot.

DOWNLOAD CHART



Step 2.

Join in

Between **Friday 18th July** and **Sunday 10th August** choose a place to spot butterflies and moths. Watch for **15 minutes**. Then record which species you see in step 3.



Step 3.

Add your counts

Add your counts on the website or via the app and look at our fascinating interactive map to see how your data is contributing to conservation science and research.



PE

Event 42 - Clip and Climb

We are continuing a blossoming relationship with the Felixstowe Rotary club this year and they very kindly support a few events for our children to attend. They funded spaces for 8 children from each of the Felixstowe schools to attend clip and climb for the afternoon. The children had a fantastic time and thoroughly enjoyed themselves. For lots of them, it was their first visit and so even more important that we continue to create new opportunities for all of children across the Federation!









Event 43 - U9 Cricket @ Dellwood

A wonderful event. We are very lucky to have Dellwood so close and to have some really close club links through a few of our staff members. One of our main focuses over the last few years has been to increase our relationships with local sports clubs and cricket has been our most successful!

This event provided a number of children the opportunity to experience cricket for the first time and was well supported as ever by both the club and the young leaders from Felixstowe School.



PE

Event 44 - U7 Cricket @ Ransomes

We don't get many opportunities for our children at Fairfield to access events outside of school and it is always lovely to see how excited they are when they do!

This group of children did not let us down. They competed in the individual activities really well and were incredibly well behaved. They represented the school so well.

Event 45 - U9 Netball

A lovely morning in the sunshine. These children went to Ipswich School Sports Centre in Rushmere to represent our school in a development event.

Netball is something that we always find a little tricky and I am hoping that having the posts out a little more next year might inspire them!

The development events are lovely though because they introduce the children to the skills needed without putting them under too much pressure. As ever, our children represented our school really well and I was very proud of their efforts.



PE

Event 46 - U11 Netball

A really hot day but the children did really well. We always struggle a little with netball as we don't have the posts out all year round but they definitely make up for this in effort. They worked really hard and listened well, giving their best in every match.

We were able to take both a development and a competitive team, which provided a good opportunity to more of our children.

Well done to School Games for their efforts in hosting so many children!





Event 47 - U11 Development cricket

This was a great event. Development competitions are difficult to pitch sometimes and we took a balance of experience but they worked well together and supported each other well.

A few of them had a go at captaining the team, setting fields and overarm bowling and definitely left with a better understanding of the sport!

PE

Event 48 - U8 Girls Football Festival

These football festivals are always really well attended and the girls have a fantastic time. They are well supported by the team from the Suffolk FA and the idea is to get as many girls playing football as possible. They worked well as a team, supported each other and most importantly, had fun!

Well done to all of the girls who attended and represented our school so beautifully.



Event 49 - U6 Football @ ITFC

We don't get many opportunities for KS1 to represent the school and these boys were so excited. The bus journey alone was a noisy affair, with songs almost all the way to Ipswich.

When we were there, they split into two teams and played a number of friendly matches against other schools. The game with the most injuries was when they played each other!

It was a quieter journey on the way home, with one of them even falling asleep!

Well done boys!



PE

Event 50 - Felixstowe Cricket @ Dellwood

Another wonderful event supported well by the young leaders at Felixstowe School and the Cricket club, who had representatives there to open the club house and support with some drills. Both teams played really well, with the B team winners of their group and the A team finishing a close second. They scored lots of runs but lost too many wickets trying to hit everything for 6!

Either way, it was a perfect afternoon of cricket with the weather to match!







Event 51 - U10 Football Festival @ St Joe's

Another Suffolk FA event. We were able to take two teams to this festival in what was a very competitive afternoon of football. The Year 5 boys went unbeaten, scoring 26, conceding 0 and came away thrilled with their performance.

The Year 3/4 team, which will form the basis of our school football team over the next few years, played brilliantly, winning their first two before some really difficult fixtures. Drawing one, losing one and then getting back on track with a hard fought 2-0 victory over Dale Hall. A brilliant afternoon. They did incredibly well in what was high temperatures!

PE

Event 52 - Tennis Panathlon

A Send focused event that invites children to experience a little competition in a supportive and structured environment. These are always greatly enjoyed by the children that attend - I think a lot of it has to do with the medal that they get at the end!





Event 53 - Sailing

This is my favourite event of the year. We always try and book it as late as possible in the year so that we can guarantee good weather and it didn't disappoint. The children get to experience a number of different jobs on the boat including having a go at steering. They have great fun and we are very lucky to get the opportunity so a big thank you to the team at East Anglian Sailing Trust and their volunteers.

PE

Event 54 - Wimbledon

We have been incredibly lucky over the last three years to get tickets to Wimbledon and provide children with potentially a once in a lifetime opportunity. I know that there would be a lot of jealous adults but as ever, considering the length of the day and the travel included, the children were amazing and had a fantastic day. I was very sad to not be able to attend this year!

It's inspired me to look at a few other events that we could potentially attend!







PE





Event 55 - U11 Quad Kids

A brilliant effort this afternoon by our older children in the school. We had a team of 9 Year 6 children and 1 Year 5, who all tried their best and gave maximum effort to all of the activities. This is not an easy event. Not only do they have to be fairly good allrounders, there are also over 400 children from over 40 schools competing. I am really proud to tell you that they were able to finish 7th overall, which is an incredible achievement.

Well done to all of the children involved!



Event 56 - U9 Quad Kids

The following afternoon was the turn of our year 4 children to have a go. They were amazing as well, in similar heat as the day before. It is a genuine all round event this one and the children supported and encouraged each other throughout the long afternoon.

They were very excited to find out that they had placed 10th overall in the event, out of 32 schools. This is a really good effort and one they should be proud of!

PE



Event 57 - Area Sports

Tremendous effort from all of our children. This event, over the years, has been dominated by Colneis and trying to keep them focused (and not too confident) was difficult. We had a tough start to the event but came alive in the relay races, winning every event from 21 - 31. There were a few fantastic results in the individual sprints too but we had too much to do, eventually finishing 2nd to Kingsfleet by just 3 points. The curse of the year ending in 5 has struck again! 2015 being the other year that we weren't able to bring the trophy home. Although they were disappointed, I couldn't have asked for more effort on an incredibly hot afternoon and this will help to refocus us for next year! A new rivalry ignited!



Event 58—Trampolining enrichment

Another superb link with our local high school. Felixstowe have been brilliant this last few years at opening their doors to us and allowing for us to make use of their facilities. This not only offers our children unique opportunities that we would not be able to at primary school but also acts as fantastic transition opportunities for any children that may attend the school in the future.

A massive thank you to the staff and the children at Felixstowe School - this partnership is blossoming and incredibly successful and we all really appreciate the support that you give us.



PE

Event 59 - Sports Day

What a brilliant day!

The morning was awash with smiley faces and hard work. The idea of the morning is an inclusive approach to activity, with every child able to have a go at something without feeling the pressure of the crowd of parents of the need to be the best. They collect points as a team and are regularly updated as they rotate around the different activities.

The sunshine came out properly for the afternoon and the children remained focused on their goal well. Lots of different lead changes throughout the morning and the afternoon kept it very exciting and we had a very happy Rashford House at the end. A different name on the trophy after 2 years of Pankhurst victories!

Well done to all of the children involved and a massive thank you to all of the parents for their attendance. It does make a massive difference to their afternoon and your presence is always appreciated. A special shout out to Stuart too for lending us the gazebo that added some much needed shade throughout the day!



PE

Calling All Girls in School Years 4 and 5!

Join the New Trimley U11s Girls' Football Team!

We're launching a brand-new, female-led team for the 2025–26 season — and we're inviting girls in Trimley and the surrounding area in **school years 4 and 5** to come and be part of something exciting and inclusive.

Whether you're completely new or already love the game, we welcome all levels. You'll train with an experienced coach and ex-Ipswich Town Ladies player, with a strong focus on growth, confidence, and teamwork.

Training will be Friday evenings, with games on Sunday mornings.

We've even created a fun Skills Practice Sheet to get you started while we complete DBS checks and confirm final training dates (end of May).

Interested?
Drop us a message at **mark@humanfocusedaisolutions.co.uk**
Or scan the QR code below to express your interest and receive the Skills Practice Sheet!

Trimley Red Devils | FA Registered | Female-led Coaching | All Welcome

PE


Don't forget your gum shield!
FELIXSTOWE
RUGBY
U9 & U10
CONTACT PREP
SUNDAYS
15 & 22 JUNE
6 & 13 JULY
3 & 17 AUGUST
09:30–11:00 AM
INCLUDED:
• General fitness
• Core rugby skills
• Safe contact skills
CONTACT ANDY:
07534 218948
AT FELIXSTOWE RUGBY CLUB
NEW PLAYERS WELCOME

Term Dates

Academic Year: Term dates for 2024-2025

Autumn term:

Start of Autumn term:	Wednesday 4th September 2024
Half term:	Monday 28th October to Friday 1st November 2024
End of Autumn term:	Friday 20th December 2024
PD (non school) days:	Monday 2nd September 2024
	Tuesday 3rd September 2024

Spring term:

Start of Spring term:	Tuesday 7th January 2025
Half term:	Monday 17th February to Friday 21st February 2025
End of Spring term:	Friday 4th April 2025
PD (non school) day:	Monday 6th January 2025

Summer term:

Start of Summer term:	Wednesday 23rd April 2025
May Bank Holiday:	Monday 5th May 2025
Half term:	Monday 26th May to Friday 30th May 2025
End of Summer term:	Tuesday 22nd July 2025
PD (non school) days:	Tuesday 22nd April 2025
	Friday 23rd May 2025

Next Academic Year: Term dates for 2025-2026

Autumn term:

Start of Autumn term:	Wednesday 3rd September 2025
Half term:	Monday 27th October to Friday 31st October 2025
End of Autumn term:	Friday 19th December 2025
PD (non school) days:	Monday 1st September 2025
	Tuesday 2nd September 2025

Spring term:

Start of Spring term:	Tuesday 6th January 2026
Half term:	Monday 16th February to Friday 20th February 2026
End of Spring term:	Friday 27th March 2026
PD (non school) day:	Monday 5th January 2026

Summer term:

Start of Summer term:	Monday 13th April 2026
May Bank Holiday:	Monday 4th May 2026
Half term:	Monday 25th May to Friday 29th May 2026
End of Summer term:	Friday 17th July 2026
PD (non school) days:	Friday 22nd May 2026
	Monday 20th July 2026