

Capel St. Mary Church of England VC Primary School

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"A Place to Learn and Achieve"



With faith as small as a mustard seed, you can move mountains. – Matthew 13 verses 31- 35

Friday 14th November, 2025

Dear Families,

School News!

I hope all the children had a relaxing, fun half term break. They have settled back into school life quickly since the holiday and have been enjoying lots of learning opportunities, including sharing activities with parents and relatives.

School Council – Drawing Competition

The School Council have judged all the entries for the drawing competition they organised. The theme for the children's artwork was 'autumn' and we had lots of wonderful pieces of art to choose from. Well done to everyone who participated. The School Council announced the winners in an assembly this week.

	Winners	Runners-up
Unit 1 (Years 1 and 2)	Lillia (Squirrels Class)	Isaac (Squirrels Class)
Unit 2 (Years 3 and 4)	Lily-Rose (Hedgehogs Class)	Kyra (Polecats Class)
Unit 3 (Years 5 and 6)	Avery (Owls Class)	Poppy (Stoats Class)

Christmas Lunch

The Christmas lunch will be on Thursday 11th December – please look out for a separate letter. Please make sure you order in advance, by 21st November, so that the kitchen can order the right amount of food. Merry Christmas everyone!

Stone Age Day!

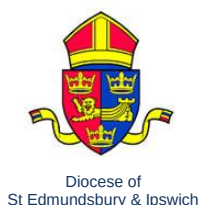
On Wednesday 26th November, the Unit 2 children will be having a 'Stone Age Day' full of themed activities to inspire and support their learning in history. Please make sure that they have warm clothes that day as there will be activities outside in the Forest School area. This will be followed by a 'museum' session on the afternoon of 1st December when you are very welcome to come into school to share the children's learning.

Thanks!

We would like to say a huge thank you to Leigh Banks of T & L Banks for helping us by building a structure for storing tools in the Forest School area and removing waster for us. Your help is much appreciated!

Picture News

Picture News is a great resource that we use across the school for class assemblies. Each week, a poster about a theme from the news is used to spark discussion and to help the children explore the world around them. They have chance to think and talk and the theme is linked to our Christian Values. This week, the theme was the United Nations Climate Change Conference, known as COP30, which will be held in Brazil. You may want to follow this up by discussing the 'Take Home' page with your child at home (see below!).



Suffolk County Council

Julia Grainger – Interim Assistant Director for
Education Skills and Learning

Capel Parish Nurses

We are really lucky to have the Capel Parish Nursing team supporting our village community. The team offer health advice, education and support, complementing the work of the NHS. They are interested in supporting the whole person – body, mind and spirit – and work for the benefit of all members of our community, regardless of age, background or beliefs. If you would like to contact the team to find out more about the support they can offer, they work in the community on Mondays and can be contacted via the email addresses below.

Our Parish Nurses are:

Caroline Ursell – specialist in family health, postnatal wellbeing, asthma, respiratory conditions and diabetes
caroline@capelparishnurses.org.uk

Tracey Paylor – specialist in the care of the elderly and dementia
tracey@capelparishnurses.org.uk

Headteacher Awards!

As always, the children have been delightful when sharing their good work with me. They are always keen to share and are so proud of their achievements. Well done to the following children, who have been given a Headteacher's Award since the last newsletter:

Rebecca – maths (Year 3)
Bertie – writing (Year 1)

School Car Park / Parking

The school car park can get really busy, particularly in the mornings. Please can parents and carers avoid parking in the car park unless you have a permit, available from the school office if you have particular needs or circumstances requiring close access to the school. Also, please ensure that the disabled parking space close to the front entrance is left available for people with a disability. May we also please remind you to be considerate of the residents surrounding the school and avoid blocking driveways and paths.

School Mental Health Team Coffee Morning

We have regular contact with the Mental Health School Team, who liaise with Mrs vanGameren to support children's mental health and emotional wellbeing. On the morning of Friday 5th December, from approximately 9:00am – 10:00am, they will be holding a coffee morning for our parents and carers in school. If you would like to find out more about their service or have any worries or concerns you would like to discuss, please do come along, have a cuppa and meet the team.

Christmas Fayre

The PFA Christmas Fayre is almost here! Do join us for Christmas fun on Tuesday 2nd December after school. There will be lots of activities and stalls, as well as the chance to visit Santa (please buy tickets for this in advance – look out for messages on Dojo). We would be delighted if anyone could bake homemade mince pies to serve at the event (no nuts due to allergies please). If you're able to provide any mince pies by the morning of the 2nd, please let the PFA know via the office, the PFA Facebook page or email:

capelstmarypfa@mail.com

Severe Weather

As we head into winter, it's worth being prepared for severe weather conditions. Sometimes, schools close to pupils for health and safety reasons. This may relate to the condition of the site or the ability of staff to get into school in sufficient numbers to supervise and teach the children. In the very unlikely event of school closure, we aim to make a decision early and the closure will be listed on Suffolk County council's school closure web page:

<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/children-families-and-learning/schools/school-closures>

Parents and carers are advised to listen to local radio stations and consult the website for updated information. We'll also try to get messages early out via our usual system messaging systems, Dojo and Arbor. Of course, this is rare and hasn't happened for a long time – but it is good to be prepared!

Remembrance

Many thanks to all the children who were involved in the Remembrance Service at the War Memorial last Sunday. It was a lovely event and an opportunity for reflection and thanks. A number of our children were involved with other organisations like the brownies and cubs. Eliza from Year 5 laid the wreath on behalf of

the school. We also observed a whole-school silence outside on the 11th and the children had an assembly that day to help them understand Remembrance.

Parent Forum

Just a reminder that we have a Parent Forum on Thursday 20th November at 2:45pm. This is just a chance to meet with me to discuss the school. If you intend to come along, please let the school office know via email, so we make sure we use a space that can accommodate those who come along.

Open classrooms

Another opportunity for parents to come into school will be Wednesday 19th November when the classrooms will be open after school for parents to pop in, see your child's learning environment and work and have an informal chat with the teacher if you wish.

Wellbeing Headquarters (WHQ)!

We are in the process of creating the WHQ in school! This is a calm, tranquil space where children can reflect, balance their emotions and feel supported. In developing this room, we'll have a space for mental health and wellbeing interventions to take place, such as one-to-one time with our Senior Mental Health Lead, Mrs vanGameren, who has recently been trained in 'Drawing and Talking' and counselling. Some of the children who use the space have named it and are helping with the decorations! To help decorate, furnish and resource the WHQ, we are raising money through the 21 Day Challenge. Please look out for a separate letter and sponsorship sheet for this. The idea is for everyone to support their general health and wellbeing by doing a short daily walk for 21 days. All entries will be entered into a prize draw as an added incentive! We hope lots of people will get involved and support this project!

'Rustle Up a Relative' Sessions

Many thanks to everyone who has been involved in the art and design sessions in Units 2 and 3 since the half term holiday. All the events have been brilliantly-supported and we were delighted to welcome so many parents, grandparents, aunties and uncles into the school. There was a lovely atmosphere and it was great to see so many adults sharing the children's learning and enjoying getting creative together! In Unit 2, children and their relatives were tasked with making a vessel using fabric and in Unit 3 there was some wonderful 3-colour printing going on. Thanks again to everyone who supported these activities – look out for more opportunities to get involved in the future!

Connecting Constable and Gainsborough Country Landscape Recovery Project

Natural Habitat, an environmental charity that uses creative and collaborative approaches to bring land and people together, is working on engaging the community in a project called 'Connecting Constable and Gainsborough Country Landscape Recovery.' They aim to restore natural habitats and foster stronger community connections with our natural environment. More information on the project can be found here: <https://www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org/connecting-constable-gainsborough>

They would be grateful if members of the community could complete a survey via the link below.

Link to Community Survey: <https://forms.gle/GxNc34ZyWEG6x97W9>

Rustle Up a Relative Work!

Unit 2 fabric vessels and Unit 3 printing (printing by Freya!)



Drawing Competition Winners!

Unit 3



Unit 2



Unit 1





Capel St Mary Primary School Christmas Fayre

02.12.2025

Please join us for an afternoon of
festive fun 3:30pm-6pm

Santas Grotto – Please purchase
tickets in advance

Face Painting

Hot Dogs

Mulled Wine

Festive Games

Crafts

Present Wrapping Room

Raffle

External Stalls





What would you tell the world
leaders if you were at COP30?



In the news this week

The 2025 United Nations Climate

Change Conference, known as COP30,

will be held in Belém, Brazil, from 10th to

21st November. At the meeting, country

leaders and experts will discuss how to

protect the planet by reducing pollution,

saving forests and working together.

After the meeting, countries will need to

share how they will keep the climate

promises they made, and stay on target

to meet their goals.

Things to talk about at home ...

- > Talk to someone at home about what they know about COP30.
- > What do you know about climate change?
- > If you could speak to the leaders at the COP30 summit, what would you say?

Please note any interesting thoughts or comments

Share your thoughts and read the opinions of others

www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss



Dates for Your Diary:

We have agreed dates for a number of events over the course of the year, which are listed below for your convenience. Any new dates on the list have been **highlighted**. Further details about individual events will be shared closer to the time. Also, look out for communication from your child's class teacher about 'Stay & Play' or 'Stay & Learn' sessions in November, when you'll be invited to join in the lessons and get involved in the activities to support children's learning.

<i>Date</i>	<i>Name of Event</i>
15 th October 2025	Early Years 'Stay and Play' 1.45pm – 3.15pm
17 th October 2025	Early Years 'Stay and Play' 9.15am – 10.45am
23 rd October 2025	Harvest service
23 rd October 2025	PFA – Disco Reception/KS1 4.30pm – 5.30pm KS2 5.45pm – 6.45pm
24 th October 2025	Professional Development Day for staff (no children in school)
W/B 27 th October 2025	Half Term week
27 th & 28 th October 2025	SCS Football Camp
28 th October 2025	Spud Club at St. Marys Church, Capel St Mary 10am – 3pm
29 th October 2025	Creation Station holiday activity club in school 9.00am – 5.00pm
3 rd November 2025	PFA – AGM at Capel Village Bar 8.00pm
7 th November 2025	Early Years open morning 9.30am – 11.30am
11 th November 2025	Flu vaccinations Reception – Year 6
14 th November 2025	Children in Need Day
18 th November 2025	Individual photos of children
19 th November 2025	Open Classrooms – an informal opportunity to visit your child's class after school
20 th November 2025	Parent Forum – a chance to meet myself and Governors to discuss school 2.45pm
20 th November 2025	Early Years open morning 9.30am – 11.30am
21 st November 2025	Early Years open morning 9.30am – 11.30am
26th November 2025	Unit 2 Stone Age day
28 th November 2025	PFA – Break the rules day! More details to follow
1st December 2025	Unit 2 Stone Age Museum – parents welcome from 2.30pm
2 nd December 2025	PFA – Christmas Fayre after school
2 nd December 2026	PFA – Christmas present wrapping activity – at the christmas Fayre
3 rd December 2025	Units 2 & 3 – Christmas pantomime trip 12.45pm – 4.30pm approx
9 th & 10 th December 2025	Early Years Christmas Nativity performances 10.00am
9 th & 11 th December 2025	Parent consultations 9 th 4pm – 7pm 11 th 4pm - 6pm
11 th December 2025	Christmas lunch day
12 th December 2025	Rocksteady Concert 2.30pm
W/B 15 th December	Christmas class parties
16 th December 2025	Christmas carols on the playground – parents and carers are invited to join us 3.00pm
17 th December 2025	Early Years and Unit 1 Travelling Panto coming to school!
19 th December 2025	Christmas Service
19 th December 2025	Last day of term – break up for Christmas
5 th January 2026	Professional Development Day for staff (no children in school)
6 th January 2026	Children return to school
13 th February 2026	PFA – Disco
W/B 16 th February 2026	Half Term week
9 th March 2026	PFA – Mother's Day present wrapping activity
17 th & 19 th March 2026	Parent consultations
W/B 23 rd March 2026	PGL residential trip – Year 6
27 th March 2026	Last day of term – break up for Easter
13 th April 2026	Back to school after Easter
W/B 11 th May 2026	Year 6 SATs week
W/B 25 th May 2026	Half Term week
W/B 1 st June 2026	2 week window for Year 4 Multiplication Check
W/B 8 th June 2026	Year 1 Phonics Screen week
9 th June 2026	Key Stage 2 Sports Day
15 th June 2026	PFA – Father's Day present wrapping activity
17 th June 2026	Early Years / Key Stage 1 Sports Day
3 rd July 2026	PFA – Summer Fayre
7 th July 2026	Summer Celebration event – parents and carers are invited to join us

13th July 2026

Annual reports out to parents