



Attleborough Primary School Newsletter

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*Achieve
Collaborate
Flourish*

Friday 17th July 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

It has been a very busy final half-term at APS!

Year 2 and 6 enjoyed their day at the Royal Norfolk Show, Year 3 had a great time at Pensthorpe, Year 4 visited West Stow, Year 1 had a lovely time at the beach and Year 2 had a fantastic time on their first residential this week.

A big thank you to the Friends for organising this year's Year 6 prom. The children had a great time!

We sadly say goodbye to some members of staff this week. We would like to thank Mrs Barker, Mr Howard, Mr Kiddy, Mrs Paulson, Miss Watkinson and Miss Woodrow for all they have done for the school and we wish them all the best for the future. We will miss them all. In September, we welcome our new SENCO, Mrs Wells. We will also welcome Bumblebees' new teacher, Miss Davy.

We hope parents enjoyed the Year 6 Leavers' Assembly on Tuesday. We are going to miss Year 6 very much. They took on the Year 6 pupil leader responsibilities brilliantly: sports captains, prefects, peer mediators and reading champions. They have helped the younger children, given out awards in assemblies and have even run the office at lunchtime! We wish every child all the best as they move on to their new schools. We are very proud of them all and look forward to hearing about the great things they will go on to achieve. Well done to all of Year 6 – and a massive thank you to you all!

We would like to invite parents to welcome meetings, led by the Phase Leads, during the second week back in September. This is a good opportunity to meet your child's new teacher. Meetings will be held at 3.40pm in the hall.

- **Monday 7th September: Year 3 and Year 4**
- **Tuesday 8th September: Year 1 and Year 2**
- **Wednesday 9th September: Year 5 and Year 6**

A huge thank you to all our children and staff for their hard work this year. Thank you to parents for your continued support. We hope all our children and families have a lovely summer holiday. We look forward to welcoming all the children back on **Thursday 3rd September**.

Best wishes

Fiona Milne
Headteacher

Year 3 Pensthorpe Trip

Year 3 - Plants and Pollinators at Pensthorpe

As part of our science learning, Year 3 recently enjoyed a fantastic trip to Pensthorpe Nature Reserve in Fakenham. Our visit focused on 'Plants and Pollinators' but we also got to meet some curious geese, adorable baby ducklings and a flamboyance of flamingos in a beautiful and inspiring outdoor setting.

Blessed with warm, sunny weather, we made the most of the shady forest areas as we carried out our search for pollinators. Armed with a magnifying pot and soft brush, the children explored carefully, looking for insects and observing them up close.

They showed great curiosity and enthusiasm, spotting a variety of fascinating creatures, including some beautiful blue dragonflies and even a toad!

The children also explored the gardens, identifying different plants, learning how to spot a deciduous tree and picked up some other fascinating facts along the way. It was wonderful to see them applying their knowledge so confidently in a real-world environment.

The day was filled with discovery, excitement, and plenty of memorable moments. The children represented the school brilliantly, showing respect for the environment and great teamwork throughout. A huge thank you to everyone who helped make the trip such a success—we had an amazing day of learning, exploring, and enjoying the outdoors together!



Reception Gressenhall Trip

The Reception children had an amazing trip to Gressenhall. The children met various fairy tale characters - Cinderella, the Ugly sister, Jack from Jack and the Beanstalk and a witch. They had to help these characters with various tasks - painting the walls of the house, milking the cows, scrubbing the tables, dusting and doing the washing. They made a magic potion with the witch and helped Jack on his quest to find the Golden egg.

They had a tractor ride around the farm and saw lots of different animals. The piglets and the turkeys were the favourite. All the time they were looking for artefacts from the fairy tales that had been stolen by the witch. I am pleased to say they found them and Cinderella was able to go to the ball. And like all good fairy tales they lived happily ever after.



Year 1 Beach Trip

On Tuesday 7th July, Year One visited Lowestoft Beach as part of our Seaside topic. The weather was glorious and we had a fun and sunny day on the coast!

We started our day travelling to Lowestoft on the coach, and it was straight to the beach when we arrived. Lots of us had brought buckets and spades, so we very quickly got to the task of building in the sand. We also went down to the water and paddled in the sea! The water was cold at first but quickly warmed up the more we got used to it. We really enjoyed hunting for interesting coloured and shaped rocks, as well as some shells and sea glass.

At lunch time, we were lucky enough to have chips on the beach! It was lovely to sit outside and enjoy our food with our friends. We finished our day with an ice cream which was very much needed after a busy day by the sea.

From the Year One team



Summer Reading Challenge

Last year APS achieved the title of 'highest number of children signing up for the summer reading challenge in the area'. We really hope to hold onto this title in 2026. With your support, we can!

Please take your children along to the local library to sign up and support them to complete the challenge over the summer. Children can read, or be read to, in order to achieve stamps on their challenge sheet. Good luck! I can't wait to hold our champion's tea party in September!



Sign up from 4th July



National
Year of
Reading
2026



Supported by grants from
ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND

Delivered in partnership with libraries
summerreadingchallenge.org.uk

Illustrations © Harry Woodgate 2026. Read to the Beat © The Reading Agency 2026, registered charity number 1065443 England and Wales.

Sports Day

This half-term, the children participated in sports day. They competed in a variety of races including sprinting, relays and egg spoon all in hope of scoring valuable points for their houses. The day ended with a thrilling tug of war between the houses.

We even offered the chance for parents to compete in a race too! The weather was perfect for both days, and the children had a wonderful time. We would like to thank all of the parents who attended for their support.



Castaway Day

Year 5 attended Attleborough Academy on Wednesday 1st July for a 'Castaway Day' alongside other cluster schools. Each group had a focus task for the day based on being a 'cast away', an excerpt from The Tempest and centered around a curriculum subject. Otter Class were in the art rooms and learnt how to use paint and other media to create a whole-class painting around the theme of looking after the oceans.

They produced a powerful presentation, set to music, in the afternoon where they each took a piece of plastic waste from the large backdrop they had created and replaced it with a fish. It clearly demonstrated the impact we can have on our world if we all work towards a common goal. Barn Owl Class spent the day in the science labs learning about flight. After some instructions on how to make three different types of paper aeroplane, there was time to test and adapt designs before a competition to see whose plane would fly the furthest out on the school field.

The second part of the session required pupils to design and make their own parachutes to safely land an egg. Children had access to limited resources and worked enthusiastically to create their parachutes. Despite some 'egg-cellent' designs, we only managed to save one egg... There was one final group which was a mixture of some children from Barn Owl Class, Otter Class and children from smaller primaries. This group had a fantastic time in the D.T. workshops using saws, drills and glue to build model boats. In the afternoon, they then demonstrated these skills in front of a live audience, modelling how to use different tools and explaining the process - very Blue Peter style!

It was a great day for the Year 5s to begin to get to know their way around the high school and get a taste for 'High School Life'. We can't wait to go back in Year 6!

Royal Norfolk Show Trip

Year 6 enjoyed a fun filled day at the Norfolk Show. They spent time looking at the interactive exhibits in the sciences and STEM area where they were able to look through microscopes. They watched science experiments and learnt how different chemicals react together.

Although it was a very hot and sunny day, we were able to find lots of shade and the children coped really well. The fire services were there with a fan blowing cold water which was very cooling in the heat.

At the end of the day, we got to look around the livestock and saw cows, sheep, pigs and horses.



House Treat

The last term has been busy collecting lots of house points. The children have worked hard, tried their best, helped others and been kind earning lots of house points! There has been over 10,000 house points earned this year for great behaviour and effort!

The winning team this term was Earth! They have been out in the outdoor area in the reception and year 1 playground. They have been on a treasure hunt finding jars. After collecting as many as they can, they have used torches to reveal the hidden images. Different images are worth different amounts of points (some even negative!). They have counted up after each go to see who has the highest score. Winning pairs have then won a prize. The children have had a great time! Thank you to Mr Howard for running it with the help of sports captains.



Year 3 Walk About Town

On Tuesday, year 3 went on a walk around town as part of their geography unit - 'My Local Area'. They were looking at the kinds of builds, vehicles and nature as well as the litter, noise and safety. They had a great time completing their checklist. The children greeted - and were greeted by - lots of local people and even saw a train and tractor cutting the recreation ground! A great morning!



Year 2 Hautbois Residential

Our Year 2 residential was a wonderful experience and a fantastic way to spend some of our final days together before the end of the school year. On our first evening, we gathered around a campfire where we sang campfire songs together and enjoyed spending time with our friends. Throughout the trip, the children embraced every activity with enthusiasm and determination, taking part in bushcraft, low ropes, ziplining and orienteering.

It was lovely to see the children growing in confidence, working as a team and supporting one another as they tried new challenges. Most importantly, everyone had so much fun! The residential provided a wonderful opportunity to make special memories together outside of the classroom, and we are incredibly proud of how brilliantly the children represented our school throughout the trip.



Head bumps

We are now following a new procedure. If you are notified that your child has bumped their head however small, you will receive an email with an attachment called 'Head Injury Advice Sheet'.

Medical Appointments

Ideally, we would appreciate any medical appointments to be made outside of school hours, however, we appreciate this is not always possible.

Optician's appointments are not classed as medical and will therefore be an unauthorised absence.

School uniform

Please can parents ensure that children come to school in the correct school uniform and correct PE kit. Please click on the link to our uniform page:

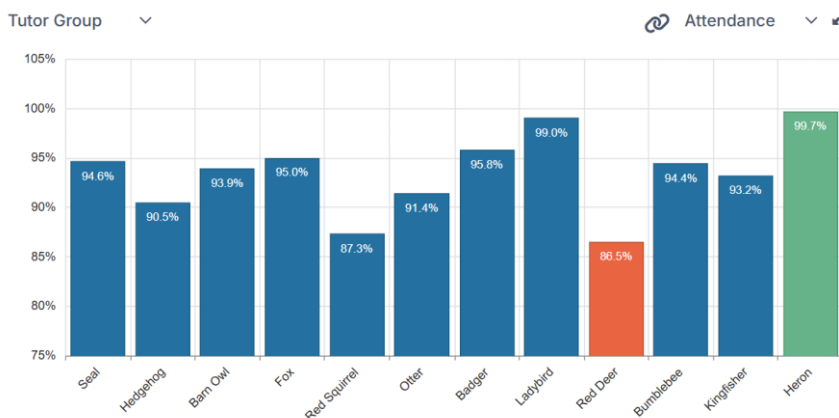
[Uniform - Attleborough Primary School](#)

We have seen a recent rise in the amount of make-up, fake nails and jewellery in school. This isn't appropriate for school. Children should not wear jewellery (apart from a watch - not a Smartwatch), make-up or nail varnish at school. Those with piercings should only wear plain studs in the interests of safety. These should be removed for PE and Games. Many thanks for your support with this.

Attendance

A reminder that the gates open at **8.40am** and close at **8.50am**. Children who arrive after **8.50am** need to go through the office and will be marked as late. If your child is absent from school, please let the school office know as soon as possible on the morning of the absence. If we do not hear from parents by **G.20am**, we will start our first day calling procedures. If we cannot contact parents, we will make a home visit. Please also collect children on time at **3.25pm**. Teachers often have meetings to go to as soon as school finishes.

Attendance Ted now spends the week with the class with the highest attendance. This week's attendance:



House Points

AIR	FIRE	WATER	EARTH
1428	1410	1374	1392

Gold Awards

A child from each class is awarded a Gold Award every Friday in Celebration Assembly. The certificates are awarded for good work or behaviour. Congratulations to the following children who have received a certificate recently:

Tion, Darcy, Harper, Caitlin P, Dimitar, Roman, Maddie, Chyna, Rowan, Tianita, Oscar, Daniella, Logan, Ebony, Eden, Tilly, Ezra M, Kayla-Mae, Ellie, Ezra C, Poppy F, Noah, Elenia, Jake S, Ethan, Isla N-M, George, Freddie S, Sofia, Elina, Adam M, Austin, Frank, Anna, Sienna, Aron, Alexia, Matilda P, Faun, Oliver M, Isabella, Spencer, Myles, Maisie M, Charlie D, Evan, Anna, Hanna, Simeon, Henry L, Isaac F, Lily D, Amanda J, Lilly T, Oliver, Carter, Eva, Alexander, Arya, Leia, Callie, Dawson, Eleanor, Leon, Craig, Ethan M, Dexter, William

Top Table Awards

Each week, the MSAs choose one child who has shown excellent behaviour to have lunch at the special Top Table. Congratulations to Top Table children:

Daisy, Juliet, Maddison, Jacob M, Valetzia, Sara, William
Carter, Sienna O'S, Renato, Thea, Jessica, David M, Dexter
Olivia, Alfie B, Daniella, Ruby La, Evie J, Isla B, Lyle
Forest, Eva, Amelia J, Ronnie, Mustafa, Ruby S, Faun
Matteo, Arthur H, Evelyn, Renesmae, Ruby C, Ivy, Lorelei
Forest, Eva, Amelia, Ronnie, Mustafa, Ruby, Faun

Safeguarding

If you have any concerns for the safety or welfare of a child at any time, but particularly during the holidays, please share your concern by calling either of the following numbers: NSPCC – 0808 800 5000 Child Advice and Duty Service: 0344 800 8020
Calls can be anonymous.

Online payments

We are now a cashless school and we ask that all parents pay online via the My Child At School app. If you are experiencing any difficulties, please contact the office.



GENERAL REMINDERS

Toys and cards

Please do not allow your child to bring in toys or cards to school (e.g. football/Pokémon cards). They cause arguments and children get upset if they are lost or broken. If they are brought in to school, teachers will keep hold of them until the end of the school day and return them to parents. Thank you for your support with this. The only exception is for children who have an SEN plan and a fidget toy is listed as a strategy.

Scooters and bikes

It is very busy at the school gates, and on the school site, during drop off and pick up. Children have been reminded that they are not to ride their bikes and scooters in the school grounds. We ask that parents support us with this. If children repeatedly ignore reminders, then they will not be able to bring their bike or scooter into school.

Concerns or queries

If you have a concern or query, please speak to your child's class teacher in the first instance. The next step is to speak to the Phase Leader:

EYFS: Mrs Wisken, **Key Stage 1:** Mrs Shingfield, **Year 3 and 4:** Mrs Faulkner **Year 5 and 6:** Mrs Bartram If you still feel your concern has not been addressed, then please arrange a time, via the school office, to speak to a member of the Senior Leadership Team.

Club attendance

If your child is not attending a club that they are normally booked into, please let the office know. This is so our records can be updated. A register is taken at each club, and we do need to know in advance if children are not attending.

Uniform

Please ensure children come to school in the correct uniform. Long hair needs to be tied back. The only jewellery children should be wearing are earring studs and a watch. However, smart watches are not allowed in school. Children need to be able to take their earrings out for PE.

Smoking/Vaping

We are a non-smoking site. We also request that parents move away from the gates if they wish to smoke or vape, while waiting for the gates to open. This is to prevent other parents and children from being affected by smoking in the queue. We would really appreciate parents' support with this.

School Term Dates: 2026/2027

Autumn Term:

- **Starts:** Thursday 3rd September 2026
- **Half-term:** 19th October - 30th October 2026
- **Last day:** Friday 18th December 2026

Spring Term:

- **Starts:** Tuesday 5th January 2027
- **Half-term:** 15th February- 19th February 2027
- **Last Day:** Thursday 25th March 2027

Summer Term:

- **Starts:** Monday 12th April 2027
- **Bank holiday/ school closed:** 3rd May
- **Half-term:** 31st May - 4th June 2027
- **Last Day -** Thursday 22nd July 2027