

Nacton Church of England Primary School Friday round up



10th October 2025

Attendance headline:

Whole school: 95.9%			
Hedgehogs	Hares	Stoats	Foxes
96%	96.4%	95.6%	95.8%

Thank you

This week we said a fond farewell to Mrs Byland who has been a valued member of our lunchtime team as an MDSA. We thank her warmly for all her care and dedication to the children and wish her every success in the future.

Staffing update – Hedgehog class

Mrs Devereux, Hedgehog class teaching assistant, will be leaving us in November to spend more time with her family particularly her grandson. Miss Jackson, Hedgehog class teacher, will also be moving on and leaving us at the end of the autumn term as her family are relocating out of the area. Both have been excellent and very much valued members of the team and will be greatly missed. Please be assured that we are already putting plans in place to recruit new team members to ensure a smooth transition for the children, with continuity and support remaining our top priority. Please do feel free to share this news with your children over the weekend.

Change of footwear

We kindly ask that you send in a change of outdoor footwear so your child can use the field. This helps keep our learning spaces clean and comfortable, especially during wet or muddy weather. Please ensure footwear is named and comes into school in a named bag.

Attendance

The school day starts at 8.55am. Any child arriving after this time is late. Being late means missing the start of the lesson, missing the most important information, disturbing the other children and feeling uncomfortable walking into the classroom. It is therefore important that your child arrives on time.

Mobile phones

A reminder that we are a **smartphone free school**. Therefore no smart phones should be brought into school. We feel strongly that while smartphones (phones with internet access) can be a very helpful piece of technology for adults, they can equally expose children to a number of negative risks. Smartphones:

- Are highly addictive, with the lasting effects on young and developing brains being similar to that of gambling.

- Have been linked to poor mental health, depression and low self-esteem, especially in young teenagers.
- Expose children to harmful content including pornography, grooming, bullying and material that is not age appropriate.
- Reduce attention spans – they are changing the way children’s brains develop and fundamentally affecting their ability to concentrate.
- Rob children of their childhood. Time spent on a device reduces time spent playing, interacting and developing vital social skills.
- Therefore, we are continuing to ask all children not to bring in a smartphone to school.

If you feel your child is an exception due to a mobile phone playing a part in securing your child’s personal safety on their unaccompanied journey to and/or from school, do contact Mrs Taylor directly to discuss.

Based on current research, we encourage all parents to delay giving children a smartphone until they reach **the age of 14**, opting instead for a text/call phone alternative if necessary. We would also encourage our parents to read the book ‘The Anxious Generation - How the Great Rewiring of Childhood is Causing an Epidemic of Mental Illness’ by Jonathan Haidt and/or explore the following websites:

<https://smartphonefreechildhood.co.uk/>

<https://delaysmartphones.org.uk/>

Important Safeguarding Notice: Children’s “Spy” Books

We want to make you aware of a recent issue affecting some popular children’s books by Andrew Cope, including the Spy Dogs, Spy Cats, and Spy Pups series.

Some editions of these books include a printed web address at the back. This link used to go to the author’s website, but the domain is no longer under his control. It has since been taken over by another party and now leads to inappropriate adult content.

The publisher, Puffin, has paused sales and distribution of the books and is working with schools, libraries, and retailers to remove copies from circulation. They have stressed that the website has no connection to the author or publisher.

What this means for you:

- If your child has any Spy Dog, Spy Cat or Spy Pups books at home, please check the back for website links and make sure they do not try to visit the site.
- It is safe for children to continue reading the stories themselves — the concern is only with the outdated link.
- We recommend talking with your child about the importance of not following web addresses in books without checking with an adult first.

We will continue to share updates from the publisher as more information becomes available.

Website: www.nacton.suffolk.sch.uk

Diary dates 2025-26

Event	Date
Parent consultations	Monday 13 th October 3.30-5.30 Wednesday 15 th October 3.30-5.30
Year 5 & 6 trip to Hampton Court Palace London	Tuesday 14 th October
Individual school photos	Thursday 16 th October
Flu immunisation – all year groups	Tuesday 21 st October
Year 6 trip to Crucial Crew	Thursday 23 rd October
Menu change for last day of term	Thursday 23 rd October
PD Day -school closed to pupils	Friday 24th October
October half term	Week commencing 27th October
Menu change – Sparkle Spectacular	Wednesday 5 th November
Children in Need	Friday 14 th November
Christmas decoration making – parents invited	Friday 28 th November from 1.15pm
Christmas Pantomime visiting for children	Monday 8 th December pm
Open classroom (Y1-Y6)	Wednesday 10 th December after school
Nativity performance YR and Y1 and Y2	Thursday 11 th December 9:30am
Christmas jumper day 2	Thursday 11 th December
Christmas Service at the church 10am followed by Christmas lunch	Wednesday 17 th December
End of Autumn term reports home	Friday 19 th December
Last day of term	Friday 19th December
PD day	Monday 5th January 2026
Pupils return for the spring term	Tuesday 6th January 2026
Y3/4 swimming	Every Tuesday until the end of Spring term
Parent consultations	Monday 9 th February 3.30-5.30 Wednesday 11 th February 3.30-5.30
Half term	Week commencing 16th February 2026
World Book Day – dress up as your favourite character	Thursday 5 th March 2026
Red Nose Day	Friday 20 th March
Open classroom (Y1-Y6)	Friday 20 th March

Easter service at the church 10am all welcome	Friday 27 th March 2026
End of spring term reports home	Friday 27 th March 2026
Last day of Spring term	Friday 27th March 2026
Easter holidays	Week commencing 30th March 2026
Pupils return for summer term	Monday 13th April 2026
Book fair	Wednesday 15 th – Friday 17 th April after school
Bank Holiday	Monday 4th May
DT subject workshop	7 th or 19 th May TBC
Year 6 SATS week	Monday 11 th May
Year 6 celebration (post SATs)	Friday 15 th May
Pentecost celebration – pupils wear red	Friday 22 nd May
Half term	Week commencing Monday 25th May
Year 4 Multiplication Times Table Check	Two weeks commencing 1 st June
Year 1 Phonics Screening Week	Week commencing 8 th June
Open classroom (Y1-Y6)	Thursday 25 th June
Sports day (10am start) followed by family picnic	Wednesday 1 st July
Y5/6 performance	Monday 6 th July 2pm
Y5/6 performance	Wednesday 8 th July 6pm
Sports day (10am start) back up date	Wednesday 8 th July
Leavers Service 10am at St Martin's Church Year 6 parents welcome	Friday 17 th July 2026
Last day of term	Friday 17th July 2026
PD day	Monday 20th July 2026