



King Edward VI School

Weekly Parent Newsletter

Today's Prayer

Listen or read the Prayer for the Day and join in with thousands of others saying these words.

[Today's Prayer | The Church of England](#)

26/27 Issue No 6

Friday 16 October 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

The extra-curricular life of our school continues to go from strength to strength, with large numbers of students taking advantage of the wide range of clubs, activities and enrichment opportunities available before school, at lunchtime and after school. Whether through sport, performing arts, subject-based activities or special interest clubs, students are demonstrating enthusiasm, commitment and a willingness to get involved in school life beyond the classroom. These opportunities help students to develop confidence, resilience, teamwork and leadership skills, while also providing valuable opportunities to build friendships and pursue personal interests. For those students who have not yet joined a club or activity, I would encourage them to take a look at what is available and consider trying something new. Stepping outside of our comfort zone is often where we discover new interests, talents and experiences.

Supporting learning beyond the school day remains equally important. Regular completion of homework helps students to consolidate their learning, practise key skills and develop the independent study habits that underpin academic success. Parents and carers can make a significant difference by encouraging positive routines at home and taking an interest in the work their child is completing. The Haldor Education App provides families with an easy way to view homework tasks and deadlines, helping students to stay organised and meet expectations. Information on accessing and downloading the app can be found here: **Haldor Homework - King Edward VI School:** <https://www.king-ed.suffolk.sch.uk/essentials/parents/homework-connect/>.

By working together, we can ensure that students benefit fully from both the academic and enrichment opportunities available to them.

Parent Governor Elections:

We have two candidates for the role of Parent Governor; therefore an election will be held. [CLICK HERE](#) to find out more and place your vote!

Old Burians Association Photography Competition 2027

We are really very excited to launch the OBA Photography competition for all our budding student photographers.

Each year the OBA run this wonderful competition and this year's theme is 'My Favourite Walk'

Full details are on the poster below, and in addition, we have posters up around school. Closing date for this competition is 28 February 2027. Good Luck!



Old Burians' Association
Former Students of King Edward VI School, Bury St Edmunds



PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION
2027

"My Favourite Walk"

PRIZES	
Fourth Prize	£10
Third Prize	£20
Second Prize	£30
FIRST PRIZE	£50

The winning entries will be published in the 2027 "Old Burian" Magazine and on the www.oldburians.org website

ONE ENTRY PER PERSON

HOW TO ENTER

Send your photo as an attachment (any common picture format, but at least 1600x1200 pixels, please) to: OBphotocomp@mail.com by 28 February 2027

Don't forget - Please include:
Your full name
Your date of birth
Your college

The date your photo was taken (must be between 1 March 2026 and 28 February 2027)

IMPORTANT: You can use your artistic skills to manipulate your photo with Photoshop™ or your favourite program, but the entry **MUST** be based on a photograph taken by you. We reserve the right to ask to see the original, un-manipulated image with proof of the date taken, camera used, etc., in cases of doubt.

Congratulations – fantastic job



Sports News update

The U14 Netball team produced some excellent performances last Thursday, winning 3 of their 4 league fixtures. The girls played some high-quality netball throughout the afternoon and demonstrated great teamwork and determination. They currently sit 2nd in the league table, just behind TGS.

GCSE Drama Theatre Trip to Norwich

On Wednesday, 19 GCSE Drama students enjoyed a theatre trip to Norwich to see *Mean Girls: The Musical*. Travelling by train, students experienced a fantastic live performance that will support their GCSE studies, as they are required to analyse and evaluate a live theatre production as part of the course. Throughout the trip, students were exceptionally well behaved and represented the school impeccably. And despite what *Mean Girls* might suggest, it turns out that on Wednesdays, we don't always wear pink! 💖



Year 11 mock exam individual timetables

The year 11 mock exam timetables will be sent to student school email addresses at the start of next week, as well as Parent/Carer email addresses. Please ensure that your son/daughter checks these timetables very carefully for their subjects, tiers (where applicable), rooming, start times and seating. If they have any questions, please encourage them to come to the Exams office before half term. We will also be holding an Exams assembly on Tuesday 3 November after half term to go through the guidance for exam time.

Yr 8 HPV vaccinations 23 October

Yr 8 HPV Vaccinations are taking place in school on 23 October. Please be aware that the vaccination team will attend school for the whole school day and see the full Year 8 cohort. Please can you ensure you fill out the Consent information provided by the NHS team via MAVIS. This is particularly important if you do not want your child to be vaccinated. It is also important your child comes into school wearing a short sleeve shirt and has had something to eat before they arrive at school.

Reminder Points please:

Footwear in school

Please be reminded that the shoes that we allow for school are to be plain black and polishable. For clarification this does not include crocs. Students are not allowed to wear crocs to school or for PE and will be directed to change them to acceptable footwear

Allowable Fidget toys in school

Only the authorised fidgets on our approved list may be used in school; NeeDoh-style fidgets are not permitted. If this item is brought into school, it will be confiscated.



Year 10 Spoken Language Assessments

Year 10 Spoken Language Assessments are taking place after half term. Please ensure your child knows their time and is prepared with their

speech. If you have any questions please contact RD@king-ed.suffolk.sch.uk

Sixth Form Open Evening – St Benedicts



St Benedict's Catholic School
Sixth Form

What makes St Benedict's Exceptional?

A Level Results 2026
31% of grades awarded were A - A*

- Small class sizes
- 10 hours teaching per subject over two weeks
- Expert team of advisers to guide students through the UCAS procedure
- Over 85% of our students achieve their first choice university
- A high proportion of our students go to Russell Group Universities, including Oxbridge

Sixth Form Open Evening
20 October 2026 18:30–20:00

The evening will start with talks from the Headteacher and Head of Sixth Form, after which there is an opportunity to meet the subject teachers and current students.

*Wisdom **Compassion** Resilience*

Duke Of Edinburgh Bronze and Silver 26/27

Applications are now open for the Bronze and Silver Duke of Edinburgh's Award for 2026/27. The deadline for applications is **Friday 23 October 2026**.

Please see the key dates below:

Bronze

- Introduction Day: 6 March 2027
- Training Expedition: 10–11 April 2027
- Assessment Expedition: 12–13 June 2027

Silver

- Introduction Day: 6 March 2027
- Training Expedition: 21–23 May 2027
- Assessment Expedition: 2–4 July 2027

Further information regarding funding, activity ideas, recording evidence and assessor reports can be found on the [school website](#).

If you have any questions, please see **Miss Doxon**.

A little help

We are very aware that the rise in the cost of living affects us all in different ways and as such, wanted to highlight two services you may not be aware of.

As a school, we have a wealth of period products that are available free of charge to use and take home. These are accessible outside the PE fitness suite and students do not have to ask, they can just help themselves, to however many packs they need for them and family members at home, to help reduce period poverty. Please remind your child to stock up on supplies as needed.



In addition to this, we work closely with The Vineyard Church, to provide food and toiletry parcels to families in need. If you are struggling to make ends meet, please contact your Pastoral Support Manager so they can arrange a parcel to help you through these tough times.



Free Level 3 Bikeability courses during the school holidays

Is your child preparing to cycle to secondary school, or would they like to become a safer and more confident cyclist? Our free holiday Bikeability courses can help them develop the skills they need.

Suffolk Bikeability is offering FREE cycle training during the school holidays to help young riders build the skills and confidence to cycle safely and independently on real roads. Bikeability Level 3 helps riders become more confident and better able to identify and manage risks when cycling in traffic. Courses are taking place at King Edward VI High School in Bury St Edmunds, Northgate High School in Ipswich and Felixstowe High School. Bikeability Level 3 – For Confident Young Cyclists Level 3 is the final stage of the national Bikeability programme. It is ideal for children who have already completed Level 2 and are ready to develop more advanced cycling skills, including:

- Riding safely and confidently on real roads
- Handling busier traffic and junctions
- Making safe decisions around other road users
- Preparing for independent journeys, including cycling to secondary school

Each course lasts three hours and is delivered in a small group by fully qualified Bikeability instructors. Sessions are practical, supportive and designed to help young riders enjoy developing their skills.

Missed Bikeability at School?

Level 3 is designed for Year 7 students who completed Level 2 at primary school. If your child has not yet had the opportunity to take part in Bikeability, they can still join us: we are also offering Level 2 courses during the school holidays.

Book Your FREE Place Places are free but limited, and courses are available throughout the school holidays. Book early to give your child the best choice of dates and locations.

· Book online here:

<https://suffolk.cycleready.co.uk/publicbooking>

New course dates are added regularly, so please check the booking site for the latest availability. We would love your child to take advantage of this free opportunity to build confidence, independence and cycling skills for life.

Suffolk Bikeability team

Bikeability@suffolk.gov.uk

(See next page for Flyers and further info)

Free School Meals

Please see the attached letter regarding Free School Meals:

[Letter regarding free school meals](#)





Bikeability Level 3 Parent & Guardian Information



Helping Young Riders Become Safer, More Confident Cyclists

Bikeability Level 3 is the highest level of the national cycle training programme. It helps children develop the confidence and skills needed to ride independently on real roads, including more challenging traffic situations.

The course is ideal preparation for cycling to secondary school and beyond.

Why Take Bikeability Level 3?

Children who complete Level 3:

- Become safer, more confident independent cyclists
- Learn how to cope calmly with real-world traffic situations
- Improve decision-making skills that support road safety
- Develop lifelong healthy and sustainable travel habits
- Gain confidence riding on busier roads and at more complex junctions

Level 3

During Bikeability Level 3, riders will learn how to:

- Ride confidently in busier traffic environments
- Deal with more complex junctions
- Navigate multilane roads and roundabouts (where appropriate)
- Improve road positioning to stay visible and safe
- Make safe decisions when cycling independently
- Understand the behaviour of other road users and anticipate risks
- Plan and complete short journeys safely, including routes to secondary school



Training takes place on real roads with fully qualified instructors providing guidance and support throughout.

Important:

Bikeability Level 3 is designed for children who already ride confidently and have successfully completed Bikeability Level 2 *



Course Length 3 Hours

Group Size Small groups

Instructors 2 fully qualified Suffolk County Council Bikeability instructors

Training Style Practical, on-road and confidence-building

What to Bring on the Day

Children should arrive with:

- A roadworthy bicycle - working brakes, correctly inflated tyres, working chain
- A well-fitting helmet
- Comfortable clothing suitable for cycling and weather conditions
- Closed-toe shoes (e.g. trainers)
- A drink bottle
- Sun protection or a lightweight waterproof coat depending on the forecast
- High-visibility vests are usually provided.

Questions?

If you have any questions about Bikeability Level 3 or whether the course is suitable for your child, please contact:
Bikeability@suffolk.gov.uk



Scan to book your course!

<https://suffolk.cycleready.co.uk/publicbook>



* What Pupils Will Already Know from Level 2

By the end of Bikeability Level 2, pupils will already have learned how to: Check their bike and helmet for safety. Start a stop safely, look behind and signal clearly. Make left and right turns at simple junctions. Ride safely on quiet roads and manage basic traffic situations. Understand key Highway Code rules for cyclists.

More Sports News

Football!



Newmarket Town FC are holding open trials for U15 Girls footballers:



NEWMARKET TOWN FC

U15 GIRLS OPEN TRIALS

Newmarket Town FC U15 Girls are holding two open trial sessions to identify new players to strengthen their squad for the remainder of the **2026/27 season and beyond!**

WEDNESDAY 14TH & 21ST OCTOBER

TIME 18:15 - 19:30

ALL ABILITIES WELCOME

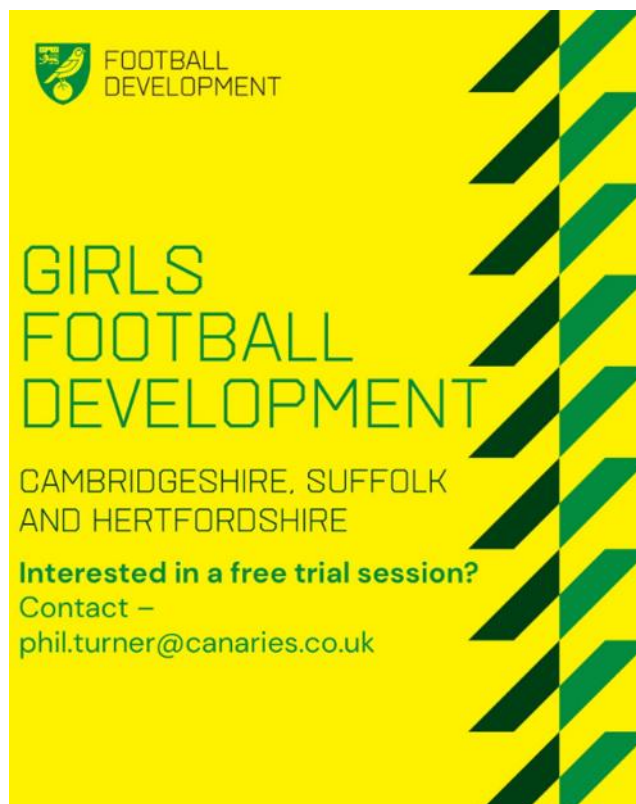
CONTACT

Jess - 07799 387708
Jess.linger@outlook.com

PLAY DEVELOP BELONG

RESPECT

Norwich City FC have also been in contact with the following opportunity for young female footballers:



FOOTBALL DEVELOPMENT

GIRLS FOOTBALL DEVELOPMENT

CAMBRIDGESHIRE, SUFFOLK AND HERTFORDSHIRE

Interested in a free trial session?
Contact –
phil.turner@canaries.co.uk

We have a great opportunity for female students in **Year 3–6** and **Year 7-11** to attend a **free trial training session** at our Bury St Edmunds Development Centre. If offered a place, players join our programme under a modest participation fee, which grants them the following benefits:

- Weekly training sessions delivered by UEFA-qualified coaches — educational, fun, and skill-focused
- Training alongside talented peers to push development
- Access to the club's full development pathway
- Full NCFC training kit
- Opportunities to travel on residential training retreats
- Competitive fixtures against other development programmes and local clubs

Training schedule:

Suffolk - Bury St Edmunds Girls Development Centre

Address: Bury St Edmunds Leisure Centre, Beetons Way, Bury Saint Edmunds IP33 3TT

Date: Friday 23rd of October 2026

Time: 6:00 - 7:30 pm or 7:30 - 9:00 pm

Age group: U9 - U12's (Year 4 - Year 7) or U13

- U16's (Year 8 - Year 11)
Outfield centre only

We also have a centre at Whitton in the heart of Ipswich. If you are interested in this session, please do let me know.

If your daughter would like to attend a free trial session, please sign up via our trial form or please contact me at

Phil.turner@canaries.co.uk to arrange a free trial session.

Please follow link to Sign-up

<https://forms.gle/n6Wu5f1RskpVgD3q6>

New Aerial Fitness Studio Thetford



Pisces Pole Studio in Thetford have been in touch with us to offer a fun, welcoming and slightly different approach to children's fitness,

combining movement, creativity and exciting aerial equipment in a supportive studio environment.

Our sessions include a warm-up, games, strength and conditioning, followed by either pole fitness or aerial hoop and silks. We alternate the equipment weekly, giving children the opportunity to explore different skills and challenges.

As well as being a fantastic way to keep active, our classes aim to help children develop:

- Strength, flexibility, balance and coordination.
- Confidence, self-esteem and body awareness.
- Focus, perseverance and discipline.
- Teamwork, social skills and friendships.
- A positive relationship with movement and physical activity.

We welcome children across different age groups, with sessions running every Monday and Thursday, as well as a mixed-age class on Saturday mornings.

Our current class timetable is:

- Mini Pisces: Mondays and Thursdays, 4–5pm.
- Junior Pisces: Mondays and Thursdays, 5–6pm.
- Teen Pisces: Mondays and Thursdays, 6–7pm.
- Mixed-age class: Saturdays, 11.30am–12.30pm.

We understand that trying a new activity can sometimes feel daunting, so we offer a free taster session to allow children to experience the classes, meet us and discover whether aerial fitness is something they enjoy.

We would be very grateful if you could display our attached poster, include it in a newsletter, share it on your social media pages or pass the information on to any families who may be interested.

We believe every child deserves the opportunity to discover new interests, develop their confidence and enjoy being active in a way that feels exciting and rewarding.

Thank you for your time and for supporting opportunities for children in our local community.

If you or any of your families would like further information or wish to arrange a free taster session, please get in touch.

Leanne & Krystle
The Pisces Pole Studio Team
Pisces Pole Studio Thetford

www.piscespolestudio.co.uk

piscespolestudio@gmail.com

Instagram & TikTok: @Piscespolestudio

Facebook: Pisces Pole Studio Thetford

djn@king-ed.suffolk.sch.uk



Are you, or your child, a family carer?



A family carer is anybody, of any age, who looks after someone with a long-term illness, mental health difficulty or disability who could not cope day to day without this help.

Becoming an unpaid family carer is often a gradual process, like the changes affecting person you care for. The work of caring gradually impacts your daily life, restricting your ability to get time for yourself. Because of this most people see themselves as a 'wife', 'husband', 'daughter', 'son', 'brother', 'sister' or 'friend', rather than as a family carer.

Not recognising you or your child are a family carer can be a real barrier to accessing the vital support available to you. Find out more about what a Family Carer is and if you are one [here](#).

Or check out the support for Young Carers in Suffolk here. [Young Carers | Suffolk Family Carers](#)

In school, our Young Carer Lead, David Nichols, is also available to support our young carers. If you feel your child may be classed as a young carer and would like to discuss this further, please email him using:

Please see the latest news and events from Sendiass:

[See here for autumn sessions](#)

[See here for news and events October 2026](#)

The big Future



With less than two weeks until the Big Future closes, Dame Rachel de Souza, Children's Commissioner for England has asked us as to have a final push and ask as many children and young people to take part in a survey and have their say on what matters to them and what they want for their futures and what they believe needs to change.

The survey takes just a short time to complete, and we have made it as easy as possible for

schools to get involved. You can access the survey following the link below:

<https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/the-big-future/>.

Thank you!

St Nicholas Hospice Care

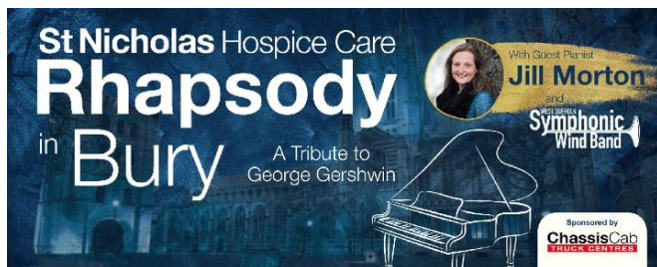


Join us on 7 November for a magical evening beneath the historic skyline of the Abbey Gardens.

With spectacular fireworks, food and drink, fairground rides and family entertainment, it's set to be another fantastic community event. We're delighted to be working alongside St Edmundsbury Theatre Services and Bury St Edmunds Town Council to bring the evening to life.

Advance booking is recommended as numbers are limited.

[Abbey Gardens Fireworks 2026 | St Nicholas Hospice Care](#)



Join us on 14 November for Rhapsody in Bury, an unforgettable evening of music in the stunning surroundings of St Edmundsbury Cathedral.

Featuring the West Suffolk Symphonic Wind Band and acclaimed pianist Jill Morton, the programme includes Gershwin's iconic Rhapsody

in Blue, alongside music from Broadway, jazz and Latin America.

Every ticket sold helps support St Nicholas Hospice Care, and we're grateful to Chassis Cab for sponsoring this special event.

[Rhapsody In Bury 2026 | St Nicholas Hospice Care](#)

Christmas Cards



Our Christmas range is now available online and in our shops, making it the perfect time to start planning for the festive season.

Choose from a selection of Christmas cards, including contemporary designs and local scenes that celebrate the places we know and love. We're also stocking our popular diaries for the year ahead.

Every purchase helps support St Nicholas Hospice Care, so whether you're sending festive greetings or organising your year, you'll be helping make a difference to local people and their families.

[Order Christmas cards and diaries - St Nicholas Hospice Care website](#)

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Follow us on Instagram

[King Edward VI School Instagram](#)

Follow our SEND Instagram page

[KEVI Learning Support Instagram](#)

Everyone at King Edwards would like to wish
you a magical weekend.



Mr T Grey
Interim Headteacher

Dates for your Diary	
Term Dates 2026-2027	
Additional information can be found on the calendar page of the website.	
GCSE Mean Girls Trip	14 October 2026
Food and Nutrition NEA Food Investigations	12-16 October 2026
Year 8 HPV Vaccinations	Friday 23 October
Year 11 PSHE Day	22 October 2026
Autumn Half Term	Monday 26 October 2026 – Friday 30 October 2026
Start of Autumn Term	2 November 2026
Whole School Flu Vaccination	5 November 2026
Remembrance Service	6 November 2026

Question of the Week:

Harvest and Gratitude: Why does gratitude matter?

All past issues of this Newsletter are available [on our website.](#)