

Graveley Primary School Newsletter

Newsletter - Autumn Term 1 2026

Welcome Back to a New School Year!

Dear Parents,

I hope you have all enjoyed a wonderful summer break and have had the opportunity to spend quality time together as a family. It has been a delight to welcome the children back to school and to see their enthusiasm, smiles and excitement as they begin another year of learning.

A particularly warm welcome goes to all of our new children and families joining our school community this year. We are delighted to have you with us and look forward to getting to know you. I would also like to extend a special welcome to **Mrs McNeilly**, who joins us as our new **SENCO and Deputy Headteacher**. Mrs McNeilly brings a wealth of experience and is already getting to know our children and families.

Uniform Reminder - As children settle into their new classes, please remember to ensure that **all uniform items are clearly named**. Named clothing makes it much easier for us to return lost items to their owners and helps reduce the amount of unclaimed uniform.

We recognise that some children may find certain aspects of school uniform difficult to wear due to sensory, medical or additional needs. If adaptations or adjustments are needed, please make an appointment with **Mrs McNeilly** so that we can discuss how best to support your child while maintaining a positive and inclusive approach.

Attendance and Punctuality - Good attendance and punctuality are vital to children's success and wellbeing in school. The school gates open at 8.50am for registration and the day begins promptly at **9.00am**. Children who arrive late often miss important settling-in activities and key learning opportunities.

We know that arriving after the class has started can sometimes cause children to feel anxious or dysregulated, particularly when routines and learning tasks are already underway. Thank you for your support in ensuring that children arrive on time each day, ready to learn.

Allergy Awareness and Nut-Free School - New statutory guidance regarding the management of **allergies and anaphylaxis** in schools has recently come into effect. As a school, we take our responsibility for keeping all children safe extremely seriously.

We would therefore like to reiterate the importance of ensuring that **all lunch boxes and snacks are nut-free**. Please check ingredients carefully, as even small amounts of nuts can pose a significant risk to some members of our school community.

We have also been advised to discontinue the practice of children bringing in sweets, cakes or other edible treats to celebrate birthdays. While we appreciate the generosity and kindness behind these gestures, reducing food sharing helps us to better manage allergy risks and support the wellbeing of all children.

If you would still like to mark your child's birthday, we would be delighted to receive a **birthday book donation** for their classroom. A special donation label will be placed inside the front cover, recording the name of the child who donated the book. This provides a lasting contribution that can be enjoyed by many children for years to come.

Curriculum Evening and FOG AGM - A reminder that next week we will be holding our **Curriculum Evening**, giving parents the opportunity to meet teachers and learn more about the curriculum, expectations and key information for the year ahead.

The evening will be preceded by our **Friends of Graveley (FOG) Annual General Meeting**, which will begin at **6.00pm on Tuesday 8th September**. We would be delighted to see as many parents as possible attend. Your involvement and support make a tremendous difference to our school community.

Looking Ahead - We are excited about the year ahead and the many opportunities it will bring for our children. As always, thank you for your continued support and partnership. By working together, we can ensure that every child enjoys a happy, successful and fulfilling year at school.

With best wishes,

Nicky Hand
Headteacher

Some Dates for the Diary

Date	EVENT
Tuesday 8 th September	6:00pm – Curriculum Evening (all welcome to attend).
Friday 11 th September	2:30pm – Booknic.
Monday 21 st September – Friday 25 th September	Bikeability (selected pupils from Badger Class).
Wednesday 30 th September	Badger Class trip to Mill Green (letters to go out).
Wednesday 14 th October	Parent Consultations (information will be provided nearer the time).
Friday 16 th October	Harvest Festival (information will be provided nearer the time).
Monday 26 th October – Friday 30 th October (inclusive)	HALF TERM (school closed).
Monday 2 nd November	Children return to school.

P.E. days

- Reception – bring P.E. kits into school. P.E. day Monday.
- Year 1 – Wear P.E. kits to school Monday and Thursday.
- Year 2 - Wear P.E. kits to school Tuesday and Friday.
- Year 3 and 4 - Wear P.E. kits to school Monday and Wednesday.
- Year 5 and 6 - Wear P.E. kits to school Tuesday and Friday.