

Friday 12th

Menu (w/c 15th Sep)

Week 3

Monday 15th September

Year 3 & 4 Swim

Year 6 children to Norfolk Lakes

Wednesday 17th September

Skylarks Forest School

Year 2 Swim

Friday 19th September

Year 6 children return from Norfolk Lakes

Just a reminder squads begin at 8.15am. Please be punctual.

Dear Parents,

This week in school:

Our new Early Years have been incredible this week, they have learnt their lunchtime routine so well and it has been lovely to see them enjoying their lunches. All Early Years children will be in full-time from next week. Year 5 had a great time this week launching their DT unit with investigating a healthy pizza dinner. They enjoyed tasting a variety of salad and pizzas, with many children trying something new and liking it! They then went on to investigating pizza sauces by adding different herbs to passata and exploring different tastes.



Cancellations of Clubs & squads due to staff being at Norfolk Lakes

The following clubs & squads will not take place next week as Mrs Eagleton/Mrs Gardiner are on the Year 6 residential trip:

- Monday – Dodgeball squad Y3/4 & Drama and Music Y1/2
- Tuesday – Hockey Club Y3/4
- Wednesday – Gymnastic Club Y1/2
- Thursday – Dodgeball squad Y5/6 & Tag Rugby Squad Y3/4
- Friday – Archery Squad Y5/6 & Hockey squad Y5/6, Junior Showchoir club

Snack-tember

We are taking part in Snack-tember, an initiative from the British Nutrition Foundation, which promotes healthier, more sustainable snacking for children and young people aged 5-16 years. We will be encouraging pupils to make healthier snack choices at breaktimes.

During Snack-tember, please encourage your child to try these things:

- EXPLORE better snacking
- TRY new snacks
- MAKE their own healthy snacks

Take a look at the Parent/carer snacking guide for more information about healthier snacking for your child:

https://www.nutrition.org.uk/media/jlchdiuj/parent_carer-snacking-guide.pdf

Just a reminder that children in the infant school do not need to bring a snack to school as they are provided with a daily snack from the government – junior children should bring in a healthy snack – ideally fruit or vegetables

School Lunches

We offer the option for parents to come in and have lunch with their child. It's a wonderful opportunity for parents to see how delicious of school lunches are. This will be available for parents with children in the Junior School from Monday 16th September. To book please call or email the office advising which day you would like to come and which meal option you would like (yellow or green). Once we have confirmed availability for your chosen day, we will add the cost to your SchoolMoney account. (The cost is £6 for a 2-course meal). **We will offer this for parents with children in the infant school in a few weeks once all the children are settled and used to the routine. We will pop a note on here when we are ready to take bookings for infants.** The lunch starts at 11.55am for infants & 12.05 for Juniors. Just a polite reminder that mobile phones should not be used whilst in the dinner hall and once you & your child have finished eating your child will go out to play with their friends – parents are unable to join them in the playground.



Items needed

If you have any unused/unwanted board games, we would love them in school. We would like to enhance our small world provision, at lunchtimes, with board games. Please hand any donations to the office.

INFANT SCHOOL

Reading Mornings in the infant school

Last school year parents and carers were welcomed into school each week to share a reading book with their child in the classroom. We are happy to announce that from Friday 12th September this will start for children in Year 1 & 2. **Each Friday**, parents and carers are welcome to come into their child’s classroom between **8.35am and 8.45am** to share a story book from our class collections. This is an opportunity for you and your child to enjoy sharing a book together before the start of the school day. If you are not able to stay and read with your child, you should drop them at the usual time of 8.40am.

If you have siblings in the infant school, then please choose one of their classrooms to go and read in, remembering to send your child to their own classroom for 8.45am. Please note, junior siblings should not join their infant siblings and be in their own classroom at the normal time. Staff will be on hand to read with any children whose parents are unable to attend a session from 8.40am. Reading mornings for children in Early Years will start in a few weeks when all the children are settled.

Play Equipment

Just a polite reminder that the play equipment in Early Years and in the infant playground should not be used when dropping off or collecting your children. The musical maze is available should the children wish to play after school. Please supervise your children in this area. Thank you for your cooperation.

JUNIOR SCHOOL

Year 6 Secondary Applications & Open Evenings

If your child is in year 6, you can apply for a secondary school (year 7) place between 12 September 2025 and 31 October 2025. You **MUST NOT** miss the application deadline! Here is the link to apply. [Secondary school places | Essex County Council](#)

Saffron Walden County High are holding their open evening on Thursday 2nd October 2025 from 4:30pm - 7:30pm. You do not need to book to attend but do need to book for the Headteacher presentation – please see their website for more details. [Saffron Walden County High School - Open Evenings](#)

Please speak to the office if you need assistance in applying for your place.

PE TIMETABLE

Please find below the timetable for PE for the first half of the autumn term

Autumn Term – first half	PE	Swimming	Forest School
EARLY YEARS	Tuesday & Thursday	n/a	n/a
YEAR 1	Tuesday	n/a	Skylarks – 10/17/24 September Red Squirrels – 1/8/15 October
YEAR 2	Friday	Wednesday	n/a
YEAR 3	Thursday	Monday	n/a
YEAR 4	Tuesday	Monday	n/a
YEAR 5	Monday & Wednesday	n/a	n/a
YEAR 6	Wednesday & Friday	n/a	n/a

- Children should come to school wearing their PE kit on their PE days.
- Year 2 children should also wear their PE kit to school with their swimming costume on underneath on swimming days.
- Year 3/4 children should wear their school uniform on Swimming days and bring their swimwear to change into at the pool.





Clubs and Squads

Please see below information relating to start dates for squads (Juniors) and after school clubs. There are some cancellations coming up due to the residential and staff training so please do check this table. Clubs run until 4.15pm.

SQUAD OR CLUB	DAY	DATE BEGINNING	NOTES:	Pick Up point
Football 5/6 Squad	Monday	Monday 15 th September	Trial is Monday 8th	n/a
Dodgeball 3/4 Squad	Monday	Monday 22 nd September	Trial is Monday 8th	n/a
Archery 3/4 squad (lunchtime)	Monday	Monday 22 nd September	Trial is Monday 8 th at lunchtime	n/a
Gymnastics 5/6 Club (first half term)	Monday	Monday 8 th September	First half term only	Junior Hall Doors
Drama and Music Y1/2 club	Monday	Monday 8 th September	No club on Monday 15 th Sep	Main Office Entrance
Art & Craft Club Y3/4 (first half term)	Monday	Monday 8 th September	First half term only	Main Office Entrance
Indoor Athletics 5/6 Squad	Tuesday	Tuesday 9 th September	Trial is Tuesday 2 nd Sep	n/a
Netball beginner group squad	Tuesday	Tuesday 9 th September	Trial is Tuesday 2 nd Sep (Y3-6 children not already in a netball squad)	n/a
Tag Rugby Squad Y5/6 (after school)	Tuesday	Tuesday 9 th September	Trials is Tue 2 nd Sep after school. No Club Tuesday 16 th Sep.	Junior Hall Doors
Hockey Club Y3/4	Tuesday	Tuesday 2 nd September	No club on Tuesday 16 th or 23 September.	Junior Hall Doors
Art Club Year 2	Tuesday	Tuesday 9 th September	First half term only	Main Office Entrance
Indoor Athletics 3/4 squad	Wednesday	Wednesday 10 th September	Trial is Wednesday 3 rd Sep	n/a
Netball Advanced squad	Wednesday	Wednesday 3 rd September		n/a
Knitting & Crochet Club	Wednesday	Wednesday 10 th September	First half term only	Main Office Entrance
Girls Football Club Y3-6	Wednesday	Wednesday 10 th September	No session on Wednesday 3 rd Sep	Old Junior Entrance door
Gymnastics Club Y1/2	Wednesday	Wednesday 3 rd September	No Club on Wednesday 17 th Sep	Junior Hall doors
Football 3/4 squad	Thursday	Thursday 11 th September	Trial is Thu 4 th September	n/a
Dodgeball 5/6 squad	Thursday	Thursday 25 th September	Y5 children trial on Thu 4 th September & Y6 children trial on Thu 11 th September. No club Thu 18 th Sep.	n/a
Urban Cheer Y3-6 Lunchtime club	Thursday	Thursday 11 th September		n/a
Choir 4/5/6 (during school afternoon)	Thursday	Thursday 11 th September		n/a
Tag Rugby 3/4 Squad (AFTER SCHOOL)	Thursday	Thursday 11 th September	Trial is Thu 4 th September. No club on Thu 18 th September	Junior Hall Doors
Orchestra Y3-6 Club (invite only)	Thursday	Thursday 11 th September		Main Office Entrance
Football Y1/2 Club	Thursday	Thursday 4 th September		Junior Hall Doors
Cross Country 3-6 squad	Friday	Friday 12 th September	Trial Friday 5 th September	n/a
Netball Intermediate squad	Friday	Friday 5 th September		n/a
Archery Y5/6 Squad	Friday	Friday 12 th September	Trial Fri 5 th September. No squad on Friday 19 th September	n/a
Hockey 5/6 Squad (after school)	Friday	Friday 12 th September	Trial is Friday 5 th September (after school). No squad on Friday 19 th September.	Old Junior Entrance Door
Gymnastics 3/4 Club (first half only)	Friday	Friday 5 th September		Junior Hall Doors
Show Choir Y3 Club	Friday	Friday 5 th September	No club on Friday 19 th September	Main office Entrance



REMINDERS

Wet Weather & Squads

If it is raining the following squad will not run:

- Monday – Football Y5/6
- Tuesday – Netball squad
- Wednesday – Netball squad
- Thursday – Football Y3/4
- Friday – Cross Country Squad

This is because these squads take place outside and we do not have space to move them inside on rainy days due to other squads already taking place in the hall. If it is raining please do not send your child to these squads – they should come to school at the normal time. **The office is not open early enough to send out an email informing you of the cancellation – however if you are unsure you can call the office from 8am.**

If we have to cancel any after school clubs due to bad weather, we will send an email out by 2pm informing you of the cancellation, please do check your inbox if the weather is bad.

Earrings

Just a reminder that if children do wear earrings to school, they must be small studs. Children must be able to remove them independently for swimming and PE lessons. – they cannot be taped. The school will not take responsibility for lost earrings.

SchoolMoney

A few helpful tips are listed below:

- If you have more than one child, you can view others by clicking on the arrow next to the name of the child you do see.
- Card details cannot be stored but Apple & Google pay should be an option.
- All payments can be viewed under the “payments” section. We do not use the “club” section – this is for schools that offer a drop-in facility.
- The date you see next to a payment item is the date a payment is due by – not the date of the event/club.
- In Juniors you can see what lunches you have been charged for by looking in “History/Dinner History on the app. Please note we only add lunches to the app 3 times per week so there may be in delay in seeing charges.
- Any items purchased in the shop selection by 5pm on a Thursday (Water bottles/badges etc) will be distributed on a Friday. We do not give out shop items at other times. The items will be taken to your child’s classroom. Those with children in Juniors should only purchase a house point badge when you have been advised that your child has achieved the number of points for the badge – we will check this with the teacher before giving out a badge. Lost house badges (red/blue/green and yellow) can also be purchased if required.

Medicines in School

If your child is prescribed any medication that needs to be taken in school you must bring the medicine into the school office and complete a medical consent form. We are only able to administer medication that has been prescribed by your GP.

If you think your child may need Calpol during the school day you need to come to school to administer this. Please do not put medicine in your child’s schoolbag.

FUNDRAISING

Pre-Loved Uniform

If you ever need any preloved uniform please contact preloved@katherinesemar.net.

Save the Date – Quiz night

Mr Aiken will be running his very popular quiz night on Friday 14th November. This will be an evening event for parents/carers. More information to follow but please do save the date!

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

Kind regards

Julie Puxley

Executive Headteacher

