



ALL SAINTS CONNECT



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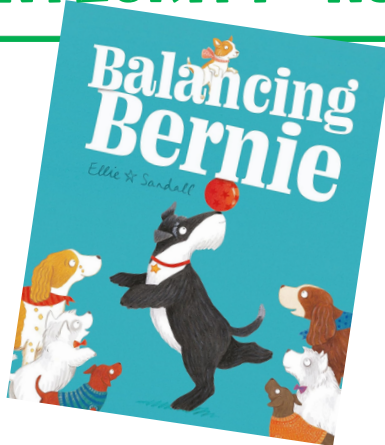


the DIOCESE of **20TH MARCH 2026**
EAST ANGLIA

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SERVICE HOPE INTEGRITY NURTURE EXCELLENCE

YEAR 1 BALANCE BOOKS, BERNIE... AND TOY DOGS!



KEY DIARY DATES



On Friday 20th March, Year 1 enjoyed a wonderful trip to March Library and the town hall, where we had the exciting opportunity to meet Ellie Sandall, the talented author of Balancing Bernie.

At the library, the children loved exploring the shelves and discovering new books, and some had the chance to check one out using their library card. They also let their imaginations run wild by creating their own characters, complete with unique personalities and fun quirks.

At the town hall, Ellie read her story to us. We then played a game inspired by the book, seeing how many little toy dogs we could balance. Thank you to 20 Twenty Productions for organising the event, and the fantastic parent volunteers who came with us to support, we all had a great time!



23.3.26	Rocksteady Concert
23 & 24.3.26	Parent's Evening
26.3.26	School Choir @ Neale-Wade
27.3.26	Netball Tournament @ Kings School, Ely
27.3.26	Last day of Spring Term
13.4.26	Start of Summer Term
11.5.26	Y6 SATs Week

attendance **MATTERS**

Our Year 5 Junior Travel Ambassadors (JTAs) are excited to announce this year's Big Walk and Wheel, taking place from 16th–27th March 2026.

The JTAs play an important role in helping keep children safe near roads and encouraging everyone to stay active on their journeys to and from school. This year, they are supporting Sustrans, a national organisation that promotes active travel, by raising awareness of the Big Walk & Wheel campaign.

During assembly this week, the JTAs spoke to the children about how to stay safe when using bikes and scooters. They also highlighted the many benefits of walking, cycling, and scooting — not only are these activities fun, but they are also great for our health and the environment.

Golden Lock Competition

During Big Walk and Wheel Week, the JTAs will be running the popular Golden Lock Competition.

How it works:

- Come to school on your bike or scooter.
- Park it in the bike sheds.
- Each day, the JTAs will choose one winner.
- The lucky winner will find a golden lock on their bike or scooter.
- Winners can visit a member of the JTA team to collect their prize: a special JTA bell.



We hope everyone will join in and enjoy travelling to school in a healthy, fun, and environmentally friendly way!

Year Group	This Week	This Year to Date
Rec	97.3%	93.7%
1	89.2%	91.3%
2	95.6%	94.1%
3	89.1%	94.3%
4	92.7%	93.7%
5	91.0%	92.4%
6	93.0%	95.0%

H O U S E

P O I N T S



ATTENDANCE MATTERS: EVERY DAY COUNTS

We talk regularly about attendance in our school, and there is a simple reason for this: attendance has a direct impact on how well children achieve and how confident they feel in their learning.

When children miss school, even occasionally, they miss key teaching, explanations, and opportunities to practise new learning. Over time, this can make lessons feel harder and can affect both progress and confidence.

The national picture is clear. Research from the Department for Education shows that pupils who attend school regularly are far more likely to reach expected standards and go on to secure strong qualifications. Missing just one day a fortnight across the year adds up to around four weeks of lost learning.

We are particularly mindful of this for pupils eligible for Pupil Premium and those with SEND. Nationally, these pupils are more likely to have lower attendance, and this can make it harder for them to keep up with their peers. Improving attendance is one of the most effective ways we can support their progress and ensure they have the same opportunities as everyone else.

Attendance also matters beyond academic outcomes. Being in school consistently helps children build friendships, feel part of the school community, and develop positive routines. These all contribute to children feeling secure and ready to learn.

We understand that there are times when attendance can be challenging. Illness, anxiety, and family circumstances can all play a part. Our priority is always to work with you where this is the case, so that we can support both you and your child.

At the same time, it is important that, wherever possible, children attend school every day. Small amounts of absence can quickly add up, and patterns can develop that become harder to change over time.

By working together and prioritising attendance, we can ensure that every child has the best possible chance to succeed, both now and in the future.

Every day really does count.

This week, Adams secured the highest number of house points, followed by Hazel, Gimbert, and Peerson. These points are already reflected in the overall totals, which remain incredibly close across all four houses.

With such a tight competition, every single point really does count, and there is still plenty of time for any house to take a clear lead.

Children earn house points by demonstrating our SHINE values through positive learning behaviours, producing their best work, and taking responsibility for their learning, including reading regularly at home and completing home learning tasks.

It is very much still all to play for. Let's see who pulls ahead next week.



TEACHER BOOK RECOMMENDATION OF THE WEEK



Each week, one of our teachers will be sharing a favourite book to inspire and encourage a love of reading across the school.

This week's recommendation comes from Mrs Johnson!

The Boy Who Made Everyone Laugh by Helen Rutter

Imagine having a dream so big it scares you... and a voice that won't always let you say the words you want.

That's the world of Billy Plimpton, an eleven-year-old boy who is absolutely certain about one thing: He wants to be a stand-up comedian. Billy dreams of cracking jokes onstage, delivering perfect punchlines, and hearing whole rooms roar with laughter.

There's just one problem — Billy has a stammer, and becoming a comedian when getting words out can feel like climbing a mountain.

But Billy isn't the kind of boy who gives up. His story is packed with laugh-out-loud moments, brave choices, and the kind of warm, heartfelt scenes that stay with you long after the final page.

This book was recommended to me by one of our brilliant Year 6 pupils, and I loved it so much that I shared it with my own son — who now recommends it too!

If you're looking for a story full of humour, heart, and hope, this is the one to read next.

