

CAVENDISH WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



2nd October 2026



Message from Headteacher

What a busy and positive week it has been at Cavendish!

There has been so much happening across school, and I have loved seeing the children throwing themselves into everything on offer. If you follow our Facebook page, you may already have spotted some of the wonderful learning taking place.

At the end of last week, we experienced some fantastic mathematical thinking from our Robins. While exploring 2D shapes, the children were making connections, spotting patterns and, most importantly, challenging ideas rather than simply accepting them. These are exactly the kinds of mathematical conversations we want to encourage at Cavendish.

We have also loved having the wonderful Ian from Maxim Sports working with our children. He brings such enthusiasm and energy to his sessions and it has been great to see the children developing their skills, being active and having such fun along the way.

A huge thank you must also go to everyone who supported our recent bake sale. The cakes certainly disappeared quickly, and the money raised will go directly back to our classes. It is amazing what these small fundraising events can add up to across a year, so thank you to everyone who baked, bought or helped.

You should also see the children's Christmas card designs arriving home. There are some wonderfully creative designs, and information about ordering professionally printed cards and gifts is included with the artwork. As an added bonus, every order also raises a little extra money for our school.

Perhaps one of the loveliest things at the moment is seeing our Cavendish family continue to grow. We have welcomed several new children and families recently, and I would like to give them all a huge, warm Cavendish welcome. We are delighted that you have chosen to join us and hope that you already feel very much part of our school community.

Do keep checking our Facebook page throughout the week, as we love sharing little snapshots of school life and celebrating the learning, achievements and experiences of our children.

Have a wonderful weekend.

HEALTHY SNACKS AT BREAK TIME

A little reminder that only healthy snacks should be brought in for break time, with fruit being our preferred choice.

Please remember that children in Key Stage 1 receive free fruit at break time, so there is no need to send in an additional snack for them. However, if your child would prefer to bring their own healthy snack, they are welcome to do so. 

Thank you for helping us encourage healthy choices and support our children's wellbeing! 

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2nd October 2026

Collective Worship Prayer of the Week

Dear God,

Thank you for our friends,
for the fun we share,
and for the kindness we give to one another.

Help us to be good friends,
to listen, to share,
and to help anyone who feels lonely.

May our classroom be full of friendship,
kindness and smiles.

Amen.



Attendance Update

This week, our whole-school attendance is **95.4%**. While we'd love to see this figure a little higher, we know that every day at school makes a difference to children's learning, friendships and routines.

Good morning routines help children arrive at school ready to learn, and regular attendance helps these routines become positive habits.

We understand that mornings can sometimes be challenging. Simple routines, such as preparing bags and clothes the night before, can help make the start of the day calmer and easier.

How we can support you: If you're finding mornings or attendance difficult, please speak to us. We're always happy to work with families to find practical ways to make things easier.

Let's work together to improve our attendance next week — every day really does count! 🧡

Source: DfE Attendance Toolkit

MOLLY'S AMAZING HANDMADE MASKS

Molly has shared some photos of her amazingly handmade masks, and we were so impressed by the creativity and attention to detail!

Molly told us that each mask can take 1–2 hours to make. She uses a template and a variety of materials, including card, fur and paint. She even mixes the paint herself to create the correct colours and carefully shapes the different snouts to give each mask its own character.

What a fantastic creative hobby, Molly! We love seeing the wonderful things our children make and the skills they develop through their own interests.



CAVENDISH WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

2nd October 2026



Wilf's Sunflower Success!



Wilf has lovingly nurtured his sunflower since bringing it home from school, making sure it was watered every day – especially during the heatwaves!

He is incredibly proud of how it has grown, and we think his little face says it all!



Look Out for Our Reception Children in First Class!



For those who consented to their child in Reception having their photo taken, the East Anglian Daily Times' much-loved First Class supplement is out on Wednesday 14th October.

The supplement features first-year students from across the community. From big smiles to big milestones, it's a lovely keepsake that families will treasure for years to come.

If anyone buys a copy, we would love to have a photocopy for our school archives. Thank you!

Keep an Eye Out for LEGO® Tokens!

We're taking part in the **LEGO® Education Token Collect Competition** and we need your help!

From 26th September to 5th November, competition tokens will be printed in local newspapers. We're asking our wonderful parents, grandparents and village community to keep an eye out for the tokens, cut them out and send them into school.

Every token we collect brings us one step closer to winning up to £1,000 worth of LEGO® Education resources for our school!

If you spot a token, please send it into school!

Let's work together as a community and see how many we can collect!



CAVENDISH WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



2nd October 2026

Book in a Box Competition

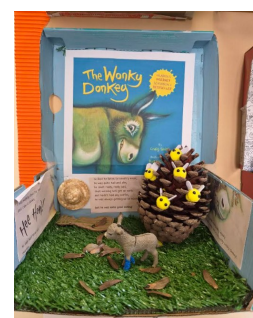
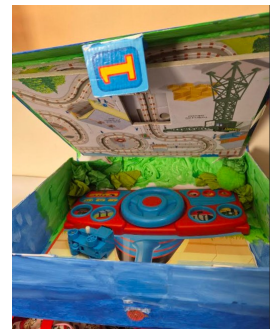
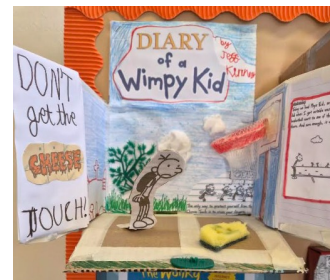
Wow! The creativity and effort that went into our Book in a Box competition really blew us away!

We were so impressed by the imagination, creativity and hard work that went into every single entry, we wanted to share them all with you!

A huge well done and congratulations to everyone who took part — you should all be incredibly proud of your wonderful creations!

A very special congratulations to our Book in a Box competition winner, Harrison!

Take a look at all of our amazing entries!



CAVENDISH WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



2nd October 2026

Picture of the week

Next week, as part of our Picture News Pupil Voice, the children will be discussing an important question:

Who should decide what we have for school lunch?

The UK Government has announced plans to make food served in schools across England healthier from September 2027. This will give our children the opportunity to share their views, listen to different opinions and think about who should have a say in what is served at lunchtime.



Something Exciting Is Coming to Our School!

We're delighted to share some exciting news with our families!

Our school has been accepted to take part in the brand-new, fully funded Pokémon Level-Up! programme and Pokémon Club!

This fantastic opportunity will form part of our after-school club provision, as well as being incorporated into our ELSA (Emotional Literacy Support Assistant) provision.

Through the fun and engaging world of Pokémon, children will have opportunities to develop important skills such as confidence, resilience, communication, teamwork and positive relationships, all while having lots of fun!



What can the children look forward to?



Pokémon-themed activities and challenges designed to build confidence and resilience.



Teamwork and friendship activities to support positive social skills.



Pokémon Battle Academy games to develop strategy, problem-solving and turn-taking.



Activities that complement our ELSA provision, supporting children's emotional and social development.



Fun opportunities within our after-school club, giving children something exciting to look forward to!

The programme has been created by experienced educators and is designed to support children's personal, social and emotional development alongside their learning.



When will it start?

We're currently finalising the details, and the date is still to be confirmed. However, we wanted to give our families a little sneak peek at what's coming!

We're so excited to bring Pokémon Level-Up! to our school and can't wait to share more details with you soon. Watch this space... something very exciting is coming!



CAVENDISH WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

2nd October 2026



In case you missed it...



Cavendish CE Primary School

6d · 🌐



🌟 The power of exploring ideas in maths... 🌟

Today in Robins, we were exploring the properties of 2D shapes when one of our Year 2 children noticed:

💡 "This shape has 4 sides and 4 vertices, but it isn't a square or a rectangle."

That led us into a brilliant discussion.

As we compared different shapes, the children began noticing a relationship: polygons have the same number of sides as vertices.

▲ 3 sides – 3 vertices

◆ 4 sides – 4 vertices

◆ 5 sides – 5 vertices

○ 6 sides – 6 vertices



Then one of our Year 1 children looked at the circle and said:

💡 "But what about a circle? So that can't be true for every 2D shape!"

Exactly.

And that is where the really interesting maths happens.

The children had spotted a pattern, suggested a rule, tested it against another example and then refined their thinking: the relationship works for polygons – shapes made from straight sides – while a circle is different.

This is what we want mathematics to look like:

- 💡 noticing patterns
- 🔗 making connections
- 💡 questioning ideas
- 💬 explaining and refining our thinking

Not simply learning the names of shapes, but understanding the relationships between them.

🌟 Did you know?

Our Headteacher is also a Teaching for Mastery Maths Specialist, and developing children who are confident to notice, question, explain and explore mathematical ideas is a huge part of maths at Cavendish.

We Learn. We Love. We Belong.



CAVENDISH WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



2nd October 2026

School Calendar 2026–2027

Welcome to another exciting school year ahead! Below you'll find all of our key dates to help you plan ahead. We'll add more events throughout the year, so please keep an eye on our newsletters and website for updates.

Please note: Dates may occasionally change due to circumstances beyond our control.

September 2026

1st & 2nd September	PD Days – School closed to pupils
3rd September	Children return to school
15th September (2:30–3:00pm)	myHappyMind Parent Session
21st September	Flu Vaccinations (more information to follow)
22nd September	Book in a Box Competition entries close (more information to follow)
24th–29th September	Book Fair after school each day
25th September	Bake Sale – raising money for our end-of-year celebrations
26th September (9:30–11:00am)	Reception Discovery Morning for September 2027 starters

October 2026

6th October (10:00–11:30am)	Reception Discovery Morning for September 2027 starters
7th October (11:00am–12:00pm)	Save the Children Christmas Song Recording with Chris Warren (£2 suggested donation – Christmas jumpers or bright clothing encouraged!)
Week commencing 19th October	Parent-Teacher Consultations
21st October	Harvest Festival supporting Boomerang Pet Food Bank
21st October	Harvest Bake Sale at Church
23rd October	PD Day – School closed to pupils
26th–30th October	Half Term

CAVENDISH WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



2nd October 2026

December 2026

4th December	Whole School Trip – Dick Whittington
10th December	Christmas Jumper Day
Date TBC	Year 5/6 Christmas Carols at Devonshire House
Date TBC	Christmas Dinner
14th & 15th December	Nativity Rehearsals at Church
16th December (9:15am)	EYFS/KS1 Nativity
16th December (2:00–3:00pm)	Christingle Service
16th December (5:30pm)	Evening Nativity Performance
18th December	Christmas Bake Sale
18th December	Last Day of Term

January 2027

4th January	PD Day
5th January	Children return to school
29th January	Bake Sale

February 2027

w.c. 8th February	Parent-Teacher Consultations
15th–19th February	Half Term
26th February	Bake Sale

March 2027

4th March	World Book Day
8th March (2:00pm)	Mother's Day Event
19th March	Red Nose Day (£1 donation – theme to be confirmed)
23rd March (2:00–3:00pm)	Easter Church Service
23rd March	Easter Bake Sale
25th March	Last Day of Term

CAVENDISH WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



2nd October 2026

April 2027

12th April	Children return
30th April	Bake Sale

May 2027

3rd May	Bank Holiday
10th–13th May	SATs Week
14th May	End of SATs week surprise!
27th May	Bake Sale
28th May	PD Day
31st May–4th June	Half Term

June 2027

7th June	PD Day
9th–11th June	Year 5/6 Residential – Bawdsey Manor
21st June	Father's Day Event
23rd June (9:30am–1:00pm)	Sports Day & Family Picnic
25th June	Final Bake Sale

July 2027

9th July (10:00–11:00am)	Year 5/6 Production
Week commencing 12th July	School Reports Sent Home
16th July (1:30pm)	Colour Run
21st July (2:00–3:00pm)	End of Year Church Service
21st July	Last Day of Term

CAVENDISH WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



2nd October 2026

Term Dates

Autumn Term 2026	Tuesday 1st & Wednesday 2nd September	PD Days
	Thursday 3rd September	Children back in school
	Friday 23rd October	PD Day
	Monday 26th—Friday 30th October	Half term
	Friday 18th December	Last day of term
Spring Term 2027	Monday 4th January	PD Day
	Tuesday 5th January	Children back in school
	Monday 15th February—Friday 19th February	Half term
	Thursday 25th March	Last day of term
Summer Term 2027	Monday 12th April	Children back in school
	Monday 3rd May	Early May bank holiday
	Friday 28th May	PD Day
	Monday 7th June	PD Day
	Wednesday 21st July	Last day of term

CAVENDISH WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



2nd October 2026



BUMBLEBEES
PLAY SPACE

Welcome to our cosy new play space at Kersey Mill, created for children aged 0-5 and their grown-ups. With dedicated areas for messy play, role play, wooden toys and books, it's a warm and welcoming place to play, explore and connect. Founded by a former teacher and early years practitioner with over 20 years of combined experience, we're passionate about creating a relaxed space where children can learn through play and parents can enjoy a hot drink, a sweet treat and a sense of community.

www.bookwhen.com/bumblebeessuffolk

SCAN ME

Bumblebees Sensory and Messy Play @bumblebeessuffolk

The flyer is a vertical rectangle with a light yellow background and a border of small, multi-colored dots. At the top, there are three hexagonal images: a play area with shelves, a cartoon bee, and a person pouring a drink. Below these is the title 'BUMBLEBEES PLAY SPACE' in bold, dark letters. A paragraph of text describes the play space. Below the text is a QR code with a yellow arrow pointing to it and the words 'SCAN ME'. At the bottom, there are three more hexagonal images: a wooden toy structure, a play area with toys, and a sign that says 'BUMBLE HIRE'. At the very bottom, there are social media icons for Facebook, TikTok, and Instagram, followed by the text 'Bumblebees Sensory and Messy Play' and '@bumblebeessuffolk'.