

CAVENDISH WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



16th October 2026

Message from Headteacher:



Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been another busy and rewarding week at Cavendish, with lots of wonderful learning taking place across the school.

This week, our Robins children enjoyed a very special visit to the church for their Christening experience with Reverend Mark. It was a lovely opportunity for the children to deepen their understanding of Christian traditions and make meaningful connections between their RE learning and our local church community.

Across the school, we have continued to focus on developing children's confidence, independence and love of learning. It has been lovely to see the children embracing new challenges, supporting one another and showing our school values of **We Learn. We Love. We Belong.** in their everyday interactions.

We have also continued our *Flourish Friday* activities, encouraging the children to think about kindness, service and the positive difference they can make to their school and wider community. These opportunities are such an important part of what makes Cavendish special.

As we approach the final week of this half term, I would also like to thank our families for their continued support. Our partnership with you is incredibly important, and it is lovely to see the sense of community that makes our small school so special.

A few reminders:

- **Parent consultations** take place next week. We look forward to welcoming you into school to discuss your child's learning and progress.
- **Link to Hope Shoebox Appeal:** Thank you to everyone who has already donated items. We are still welcoming contributions, however small.
- **Midday Supervisor Vacancy:** A reminder that applications close on Monday 19th October at 12 noon. Please do share the opportunity with anyone who may be interested.

Finally, as the weather becomes cooler, please ensure children have a named coat in school each day. We continue to make the most of our wonderful outdoor spaces whenever possible!

Thank you, as always, for your support. Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

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Attendance Matters – A Fantastic Week!

What a brilliant week for attendance at Cavendish! A huge thank you to all our parents and carers for your continued support in ensuring children are in school and ready to learn.



Our attendance figures this week were:

- **Owls – 98.9%**
- **Robins – 99.4%**
- **Wrens – 100%! 🎉**

A special congratulations to **Wrens**, who achieved an incredible **100% attendance for the whole week!** Mrs Ruffell will be putting her thinking hat on over the weekend to come up with a very special reward for the class next week. Well, done, Wrens!

A Gentle Reminder About Term-Time Absence

While we celebrate our fantastic attendance, we would also like to remind families that holidays and planned absences during term time can only be authorised in exceptional circumstances.

Every school day matters, and regular attendance helps our children to learn, achieve and flourish.

Please remember that **10 sessions (equivalent to five school days) of unauthorised absence within a rolling 10-school-week period** may result in a referral to Suffolk County Council for consideration of a penalty notice. These absences do not need to be consecutive.

We fully appreciate the importance of family time and kindly ask that holidays are arranged outside of term time wherever possible.

Thank you for working with us to give every child the very best opportunities to learn, grow and flourish at Cavendish!

Collective Worship Prayer - A Little Thankfulness Goes a Long Way!

In today's Celebration Assembly, Erin, Elkie and Ava confidently shared a beautiful prayer all about **thankfulness**.

Our Prayer of Thankfulness

*Dear God,
Thank you for the gift of each new day,*

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For our school, our friends and the chance to learn and grow.

Thank you for the people who care for us,

For the kindness we receive and the love we share.

Help us to be thankful for the little things,

For the beauty of your world and the joy all around us.

Teach us to show our thanks through our words and actions,

By helping others, sharing what we have and showing kindness.

Help us to remember that every day is a gift,

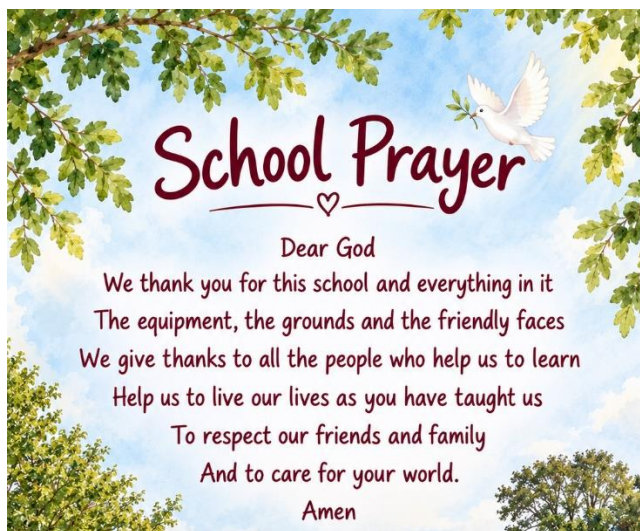
And to be grateful for all the blessings in our lives.

Amen.

Did you know we have our very own school prayer too?

Each Friday, we introduce a new prayer linked to our weekly Collective Worship theme, but we also have a special school prayer that stays with us throughout the year. We thought it would be lovely to share it with our new families, so you can see another little part of school life that brings us together.

Our Cavendish School Prayer



Our prayers are a lovely reminder of what makes Cavendish so special: the people, the friendships, the kindness and the sense of belonging.

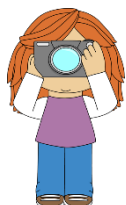
After all, **we learn, we love, we belong!** ❤️💬 **A little challenge for the weekend:** Why not ask your child what they are thankful for?

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School Photos



Sarah from Countless Captures will be taking individual/sibling school photos on 3rd November!

If your child has a younger sibling who does not attend our school and you would like them to have a sibling photograph together, please contact the school office to make arrangements.

Harvest Festival – Wednesday 21st October 2026



We are really looking forward to celebrating Harvest Festival next Wednesday, 21st! It's a wonderful time of year, and we can't wait to share the children's singing and all they have been learning with you.

If you are able to make a donation, we would be very grateful. As usual, we will be collecting food items to support those in need.

We would also love to give something back to the Pet Foodbank, who kindly visited our school last year dressed as a big yellow duck to spread some cheer following the Clare Duck Race! If you would like to make a donation of pet food, this would be a lovely way for us to show our appreciation and support the wonderful work they do.

Thank you, as always, for your kindness and generosity. ❤️

Uniform Discount Code!

🎃 Save 15% on School Uniform!

Our uniform partner, **Brigade Clothing Ltd**, is offering parents **15% off their entire online order** from **30th October to 2nd November 2026**.

Simply visit www.brigade.uk.com/parents and enter code **HALLOWEEN26** at checkout.

Happy shopping, and enjoy the savings! 🎃

Family Magazine

FamilyFirst is a magazine that proudly supports the Department for Education (DfE) and the NHS, with the aim of promoting the physical and mental wellbeing of families across England. We will therefore be sharing a link to the magazine regularly in our newsletter, giving families access to helpful information, advice and resources to support their wellbeing.

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Please note that all content within the magazine is selected and managed by FamilyFirst and is not populated or controlled by the school. Accessing the magazine is entirely optional, and parents can choose to read it if they wish.

<https://familyfirst.co.uk/magazines/family-first-issue-4-2026/>

Bishops Christmas Card

Children are invited to take part in the Bishop of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich's Christmas Card Competition! Pupils can create a design inspired by the Christmas story and the themes of **hope, joy, peace, love and light**.

Our school will select its three favourite designs to enter the diocesan-wide competition. The winning design will become the Bishop's official Christmas card for 2026, with other shortlisted designs also featured.

The deadline for entries into school is Friday 6 November at 5pm.

We look forward to seeing our pupils' creativity and wonderful Christmas artwork.

Special Menu – Thursday 5th November



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Christmas Dinner Day – Tuesday 15th December!



We are delighted to let you know that our **Christmas Dinner Day** has now been confirmed with the kitchen!

On **Tuesday 15th December**, children will have the opportunity to enjoy a delicious Christmas dinner together.

Christmas Dinner Day is always a really special occasion at Cavendish! We transform our dining area, rearranging the tables so that everyone can sit together **banquet-style**, with some of our school staff joining the children for lunch too!

There will be Christmas crackers, festive music, plenty of Christmas cheer and, of course, a few extra Christmas surprises along the way! 🎅 🎵

It's a lovely opportunity for our whole school family to come together, celebrate and enjoy a little festive magic.

We can't wait! Menu and pre-order forms will be released in due course. 🌲 ✨

Picture News

Next week in picture news the children will be discussing chess!

Let's look at this week's story

Eleven-year-old Bodhana Sivanandan from London has become the youngest person ever to earn the woman grandmaster title in chess. She achieved this while playing for England at an international competition in Uzbekistan. Bodhana said she was happy with her achievement and wanted to keep making history.



Learn more about this week's story [here](#).
Watch this week's useful video [here](#).
This week's Virtual Picture News [here](#).



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Cavendish Community Associations Children's Christmas Party!

The Cavendish Community Association is delighted to invite your child(ren) to the annual Cavendish Children's Christmas Party!

Date: Sunday 13th December 2026 **Time:** 11am - 1.30pm **Venue:** Memorial Hall, Melford Road, Cavendish CO10 8AG

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Date: Sunday 13th December 2026
Time: 11am - 1.30pm
Venue: Memorial Hall, Melford Road, Cavendish CO10 8AG

There will be an entertainer, a light lunch for the children and a visit from Father Christmas!

Once again, this party is open to all the children of Cavendish. This means those living in Cavendish, up to and including those in Year 4, as well as children who don't live in the village but attend Cavendish Church of England Primary School, again up to and including those in Year 4.

All children are to be accompanied by an adult please.

Numbers are limited, so it's 'first come, first served' with a planned waiting list.

Please RSVP by Sunday 22nd November
by e-mail to helengreenhow100@hotmail.com, sending the following details:

- ★ name of child(ren) and age(s)
- ★ any allergies
- ★ name of the accompanying adult
- ★ telephone number and e-mail
- ★ plus any extra information that the organisers should know relating to access/mobility needs.

This early reply date enables us to ensure Father Christmas has everything he needs before the day!

Unfortunately, we are unable to accept any replies after this date.

★ We hope you and your little one can join us! ★

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We hope you and your little one can join us next month!

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In case you missed it...

Cavendish CE Primary School
Published by Amy Martin · a day ago ·

A special visit to our beautiful village church! 🏰

This week, our Robins class had a lovely visit to our beautiful church in Cavendish, St Mary's, where together we recreated a christening! 🎉

The children had a wonderful opportunity to explore the church, learn about the special traditions and meaning behind a christening, and experience what happens during this important celebration. 🙏

It was a lovely, hands-on learning experience that brought our learning to life and helped the children make meaningful connections with our local community. ❤️

#RobinsClass #LearningThroughExperience #OurLocalCommunity #Christening #EarlyYearsLearning 🌟 See less



Cavendish CE Primary School
AI content · Published by Amy Martin · 3 days ago ·

3, 2, 1... BLAST OFF! 🚀

What started as a spacecraft, inspired by a space-themed story, soon became a fantastic construction project!

Our budding engineers used their creativity, imagination and problem-solving skills to bring their ideas to life. They even equipped their spacecraft with solar panels to charge the batteries! 🌞

We love seeing how stories can spark such imaginative play, encouraging children to think creatively, work together and explore their understanding of the world around them.

Who knows where their imagination will take them next? 🌟

#CavendishCEPrimary #LearningThroughPlay #CreativeThinking #FutureEngineers #WeLearnWeLoveWeBelong See less



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Dates for your diary....

October 2026

 Date	 Event
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

November 2026

 Date	 Event
3rd November (9:00–11:00am)	 School Photos
4 th November	Years 2 -6 Dance Workshop with Springs Dance – PE kits please.
11th November (11:00am)	 Remembrance Service (<i>Parents welcome to pay respects</i>)
13th November	Children in Need – Wear something spotty! (£1 donation)
16th November	 Odd Socks Day for Anti-Bullying Week
27th November	 Bake Sale

December 2026

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

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January 2027

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

February 2027

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

March 2027

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

April 2027

 Date	 Event
12th April	 Children return
30th April	 Bake Sale

May 2027

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

June 2027

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

July 2027

 Date	 Event
9th July (10:00–11:00am)	 Year 5/6 Production
Week commencing 12th July	 School Reports Sent Home
16 th July (13.30pm)	 Colour Run
21st July (2:00–3:00pm)	 End of Year Church Service
21st July	 Last Day of Term

★ Keep checking back for more important dates – any new dates will be highlighted in red.

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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