CAVENDISH WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

23rd October 2026



Message from Headteacher

What a wonderful way to round off our first half term of the school year!

Wednesday's Harvest Festival celebration was such a special occasion, and I couldn't have been prouder of our children. It was lovely to come together as a school community to celebrate and reflect on all that we have to be thankful for. A huge thank you to everyone who joined us, and to our children and staff for making the afternoon so memorable.

We have also been completely overwhelmed by the kindness and generosity of our families. From the fantastic donations of food and pet supplies to the delicious cakes contributed to our Harvest Bake Sale, your support has been incredible. Every contribution makes a difference, and it is wonderful to see our school values of *We Learn. We Love. We Belong.* shining through in such a meaningful way.

Our Shoebox Appeal has also been a lovely example of our community coming together to help others. Thank you to everyone who donated items and supported this worthwhile cause. Do take a look at our Facebook page to see more about what we have been collecting and the difference your kindness will make.

There are also some exciting plans bubbling away behind the scenes, including a few wonderful trips and experiences for the children over the coming months. We can't share everything just yet, but there is certainly plenty to look forward to... watch this space!

As we reach the end of our first half term, I would also like to say a heartfelt thank you to our staff for their continued hard work, care and dedication, and to our families for their ongoing support. It has been a busy few weeks, filled with learning, laughter, new friendships and lovely moments that remind us what makes Cavendish such a special little school.

We look forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday 2nd November, refreshed and ready for another exciting half term — and, dare I say it, the build-up to Christmas!

Wishing all our children and families a wonderful, restful and happy half-term break. Thank you, as always, for being such an important part of our Cavendish family.

We Learn. We Love. We Belong.

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Attendance Update

Weekly Attendance Update – 91.2%
Our whole-school attendance this week is **91.2%**, which is below our school target.

We know that children can sometimes be unwell or have unavoidable absences, but every day in school really does make a difference. Let's keep working together to help our attendance improve!

🌟 Arriving on Time 🌟
Being on time helps children start the school day calmly, settle quickly and avoid missing those important first minutes of learning.

How we can support you: If mornings are proving difficult, please speak to us. Small changes to routines can make a big difference, and we're always happy to help.

Why it matters: Arriving on time means children can make the most of their learning time, feel settled and be ready for the day ahead.

Let's keep striving to be **Cappy's Champions** by coming to school every day we can and arriving on time!

The Great Fire of London

Our pupils recently took part in the live stream *'The Great Fire of London'*, giving them the opportunity to learn more about this significant event in British history. We're delighted to have received a **Certificate of Participation** in recognition of our involvement!



LONDON MUSEUM

CERTIFICATE OF PARTICIPATION

Class name: Owls & Wrens Date: 21/10/26

Our class explored the story of the Great Fire in London Museum's GREAT FIRE OF LONDONlive stream.

- We looked at what London was like in 1666 and compared it to the city today.
- We investigated the different tools people used to fight the Great Fire and how effective they were.
- We asked our own questions to a museum expert about the Great Fire of London.

Meriel Jeater
Curator, London Museum

Fire squirt, c.1666

ROCKSTEADY ROCKSTARS – THE COUNTDOWN IS ON!

Our Rocksteady musicians have been working hard, practising their instruments, learning their songs and building their confidence as they get ready to take to the stage!

We're excited to announce that our **Rocksteady Christmas Concert will take place on Monday 14th December at 2pm!**

The children have been putting lots of time and effort into developing their musical skills, working together as a band and preparing to share their talents with us all. We can't wait for them to show off just how far they've come!

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💃 Spring Dance Workshop – Wednesday 4th November

We're delighted to welcome **Springs Dance Company** to Cavendish for a special interactive dance workshop called *PARABLE*!

Pupils in **Years 2–6** will explore three of Jesus' parables through dance, movement, theatre and creative activities. The children will have the opportunity to get involved, take on challenges and help bring these stories to life in a fun and memorable way.

Important reminder: PE kits

As the workshop involves movement and dance, **all children in Years 2–6 must come to school wearing their PE kits on Wednesday 4th November**,

We're looking forward to an exciting day of creativity, movement and learning!

Year 6 – Secondary School Applications

A reminder to all Year 6 parents/carers that the deadline to apply for your child's secondary school place is **Saturday 31st October 2026**.

If you have not yet submitted your application, please make sure you do so before the closing date to avoid any unnecessary delays or disappointment.

Applications can be made online via the Suffolk School Admissions Portal.

If you need any help or support with your application, please get in touch with the school office.

Exciting Christmas Performance Opportunity!

We are delighted to share an exciting opportunity for our **Year 5 and Year 6 pupils** to perform *What Christmas Means to Me* at the Ipswich Christmas Lights Switch-On on **Sunday 15th November 2026**!

The performance will take place between **4.00pm and 4.30pm**, before the Christmas lights are switched on at approximately 6.45pm.

There are limited spaces available, and children interested in taking part must register using the online registration form. Places will be selected at random, with confirmation sent to families after the selection process. 🎄

Important information for parents/carers:

- Children must arrive by **3.30pm** and meet on the steps of Ipswich Town Hall.
- Parents/carers are responsible for their children throughout the event.
- Children must know all the song lyrics and dance moves, as no lyric sheets will be provided.
- Children should wear a similar outfit to the one worn on their recording day.
- Only children with photo and video permission can be selected to perform.

Even if your child isn't performing, families are very welcome to attend and enjoy the free event, which will include a small market, food vans and other activities.

We would love to see some of our pupils representing our school at this special event!

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JRSO Road Safety Poster Competition

Our Junior Road Safety Officer, Billy, is inviting all children to take part in our **Road Safety Poster Competition!**

With the help of our school dog, Neo, we want to encourage everyone to think about how we can keep our school community safe. Children are invited to create a colourful poster promoting safe and considerate parking around Cavendish CE Primary School.

Your poster could remind drivers not to park on school zig-zags or double yellow lines, to keep driveways and dropped kerbs clear, and to consider parking a little further away and walking the last few minutes.

✨ **There are prizes to be won!** So get creative and help us spread the message.

✨ **Closing date: Friday 6th November.**

Please hand your poster to your class teacher or the school office.

Let's work together to make every journey to and from school safer for everyone!



Cavendish Bake Sale Update!

A huge thank you to everyone who has supported our school bake sales so far! We're delighted to share that our running total has now reached £100!

Thank you to all the families who have baked, donated and bought treats. Your support is very much appreciated!

Save the date! Our next bake sale will be on Friday 27th November. We look forward to seeing you there for more delicious treats!



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🌈 Discover the myHappymind Parent App!

A little reminder that we have access to the wonderful myHappymind Parent App – a treasure trove of resources to support your child's wellbeing, from mindfulness and understanding emotions to developing self-regulation skills. 💛
If you haven't signed up yet, you can activate your access using the link below:

🔗 Sign up here: https://www.learn.myhappymind.org/Customer-Parents-Resources-Activation-Code
Your unique authentication code is 124693. When signing up, you'll need to enter this code, which can also be found in your parent app letter and on the QR code poster.

🔒 Please note: This code is for our school community only. Please do not share it on social media or on the school website.
We hope you enjoy exploring the resources and discovering new ways to support your child's happiness and wellbeing! 🌟

Preloved Market – Long Melford

Looking for some bargains ready for winter and Christmas? Mumfit Suffolk is holding another preloved market in Long Melford on Sunday 1st November!

There will be lots of preloved Christmas outfits and jumpers, winter clothing and toys – a great opportunity to pick up some bargains and get ready for Christmas.

Why not pop along and see what's on offer while giving preloved items a new home!



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In case you missed it...

Cavendish CE Primary School
1d ·

💝 A HUGE Thank You! 💝

We have been absolutely blown away by the kindness and generosity shown by our wonderful school community over the last few weeks in support of our Link to Hope Shoebox Appeal! 🎁

Thank you so much to everyone who has donated items. Your generosity really will help to make a difference and bring a little joy to someone this Christmas. ❤️

📦 We have extended the final day to bring in any donations to Wednesday 21st October.

We have also received information about a special Sunday service linked to the Link to Hope appeal, offering families another lovely opportunity to come together and support this worthwhile cause.

Thank you once again for showing what a kind and caring community we have here at Cavendish. 💕



Cavendish CE Primary School
AI content · 17h ·

💛 A little change to our Facebook...

Our children's safety and wellbeing will always be at the heart of everything we do. With the growing use of AI and following safeguarding guidance, we have made the decision to no longer share clear, identifiable photographs of children's faces on our social media.

Instead, you'll see lots of lovely moments captured from a distance, from behind, or little details such as hands busy creating, exploring and learning. 📷✨

Please don't worry - there are still plenty of smiles, laughter, curiosity and wonderful moments happening every single day! We just want to share those moments in a way that puts safeguarding first.

We hope you'll continue to enjoy seeing a little glimpse into school life and all the wonderful things our children get up to. 💕







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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.

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 sug-
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

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 (Parents welcome to pay respects)
13th November	Children in Need – Wear something spotty! (£1 donation)
16th November	Odd Socks Day for Anti-Bullying Week
27th November	Bake Sale

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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

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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

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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