Diocese of Norwich Education and Academies Trust

FLOURISH FEDERATION

Executive Headteacher: Carol Jeary

Newsletter: week beginning November 2nd 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the second half of the Autumn Term. It will be turning colder and potentially wetter in the coming weeks so please ensure that your child has a named coat with them even if the journey to school is fairly mild and dry.

Both schools took part in a football tournament at Little Snoring earlier in the term. The teams were complimented on their behaviour and sportsmanship. We also scored well and achieved 1st and 2nd place in the tournament. We have a cross country competition taking place at Colkirk next week so I look forward to letting you know how that goes.

Nativity dates: are on the right of the newsletter.

Some of you may be aware that Mrs Lawrence was involved in a serious car accident just before the half term break. She is making a good recovery from her injuries but will not be back at work for sometime. In her absence Mrs Pickhaver will be working across the Federation covering the classes Mrs Lawrence took for teachers PPA. Mrs Pickhaver will be at North Elmham on a Thursday and Stibbard on a Wednesday. Acorns class will now have PE on a Tuesday.

We say goodbye at the end of this week to Mrs Bourner who has worked as a Teaching Assistant at North Elmham since October last year. She moves to another DNEAT school as the school secretary. Mrs Catton also leaves us on Friday, she has worked in the Nursery at both Stibbard and North Elmham and has decided to spend more time at home. We wish them all the best.

Both roles have been advertised and we will be shortlisting this week.

DIARY DATES

Term dates - Autumn term 3rd September – 18th December.

Christmas Week

Wednesday 16th Dec - Christmas lunch and jumper day

North Elmham Nativity for Nursery and Acorn Class - Tuesday 15th December 2:30pm

Stibbard KS1 Nativity - Wednesday 16th December 2:15pm and

Thursday 17th 9:15am

New intake open afternoons/evenings (Reception 2026)

North Elmham

4th November 9:30- 10:30,

All Saints Stibbard

5th November 9:30 - 10:30

4 -5pm

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We have our new 2027 Reception intake open mornings this week. If you know of anyone in the area with children due to start school in September 2027 please do share the dates with them so they can come and have a look round. North Elmham - Wednesday 4th November 9:30 - 10:30. After school by appointment. Stibbard - Thursday 5th November 9:30 - 10:30 and 4 - 5pm.

Both Schools in the Federation have lower than expected pupil attendance rates. The target is for all children to attend school for 96% of the school year. We currently have some children who are significantly below this. Even occasional absences can lead to gaps in learning that become difficult to catch up. We understand that children may sometimes be unwell or have unavoidable reasons for missing school; however, we ask parents to work with us to make sure that children attend every day whenever possible. The following link has advice from the NHS around attendance for various child illnesses if in doubt.

https://attendancetoolkit.blob.core.windows.net/toolkit-resources/NHS%20guidance%20sheet.pdf?es_c=91E05C6E7B5AB315BE3B90DA98AA0056&es_cl=21D917702741F9FAB55588881C6DC799&es_id=ph7%c2%a3o1

I have sent a letter home this week highlighting some of the current concerns around the use of digital technology. Please do have a read. This is an ever evolving area so it's important to keep up to date with the latest developments to have a full understanding of the risks and benefits.

If you have any concerns about your children please speak to your child's class teacher in the first instance.

Thank you

Carol Jeary