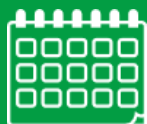




Dates for Your

DIARY



Tuesday 21st October 2025

Open morning for prospective
Reception parents (Sept 26)

Friday 24th October 2025

Pupils last day before half term

Monday 3rd November 2025

School closed to pupils —PD day

Tuesday 4th November 2025

Pupils return to School

Monday 10th November 2025

Odd socks day—children can wear
odd socks to kick start Anti-Bullying
week

Wednesday 19th November 2025

Individual pupil photos

Monday 24th November 2025

Year 1 trip to Gressinghall

Wednesday 26th November 2025

Open morning for prospective Re-
ception parents (Sept 26)

[Events](#) in Autumn 2025

School Calendar can be found [here](#).

NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents and Carers,

Autumn has arrived, bringing colourful leaves and crisp mornings. Thank you for your continued support in getting children to school on time — we've noticed a real improvement, and it makes a big difference to your child's learning and the smooth running of our school day.

The last couple of weeks have been full of sporting achievements. We hosted the Forest Heath Sports Partnership Football Tournament, welcoming 22 teams to our school field. Our team did a brilliant job, coming runners up and showed great skill, teamwork, and resilience.

In addition, we took a cross country team to Ipswich, where our runners gave their all and represented the school with determination and enthusiasm. One of our Year 6s is through to regionals—what an achievement. Well done to all our pupils for their fantastic effort and sportsmanship!

The children have voted for their new ambassadors and school council representatives. Well done to all those who applied — your speeches were fabulous and showed great confidence. Congratulations to those who were elected! We're excited to see you represent your classmates and make a positive difference in our school community.

We're looking forward to seeing parents on Tuesday 21st and Wednesday 22nd October. Please ensure you have signed up for your 10 minute parents evening appointment on MCAS. Please enter school via the office. All appointments will be held in the main school hall.

We've included some local events in this newsletter that we hope you'll find useful as we approach the half term break.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Emily Mitchinson and Mrs Naomi Brown





Poppy Power

As Remembrance Day approaches, we're inviting our school community to take part in a special creative project — knitting and crocheting poppies to decorate our Bike of Remembrance.

The bike serves as a powerful symbol of movement, journey, and resilience — much like the journeys taken by those who served during times of war. By covering the bike in handmade poppies, we honour the soldiers, nurses, and civilians who travelled difficult roads in the pursuit of peace.

How you can take part:

- Knit or crochet red poppies (any pattern or size).
- Bring your poppies to the office by Monday 3rd November

We'll use them to decorate our Bike of Remembrance before Remembrance day.

Each poppy added to the bike is a reminder of the sacrifices made, and a shared promise to keep their stories rolling forward.

Let's come together as a community to create something beautiful and meaningful — a tribute of respect, remembrance, and hope for peace.



A huge thank you to everyone who joined in and supported Hello Yellow Day! It was wonderful to see our school community come together, dressed in yellow, to raise awareness for mental health and wellbeing.



Our staff also got involved, enjoying yellow treats in the staff room throughout the day, making the atmosphere even brighter and more cheerful!

Thank you for helping us show our pupils that it's okay to talk about mental health — and that no one is ever alone.

For many parents and carers, life is full of challenges - juggling family and work - particularly in the last couple of years. So, it's important to check in on our own wellbeing, as well as that of our children.

BBC bitesize have created a toolkit for parents, which you may find useful:

[Bitesize Parents' Toolkit - advice for parents from BBC Bitesize](#)



Young Voices

We are excited to announce that Mrs Harwood, Miss Hornsby, and Mrs Ashford have signed Great Heath Academy up for Young Voices 2026!

Our choir will join primary schools from across the UK at the O2 Arena in January, giving children the chance to; discover their voices, grow in confidence, be part of something truly extraordinary and inspire a lifelong love of music.

Choir parents: please confirm your child's place as soon as possible to secure their spot for this unforgettable experience.



Free school meals

The HAF (Holiday Activities and Food) program provides free meals and activities for children from low-income families during school holidays.

HAF enables children and young people to access enriching and fun activities who receive benefit related free school meals or have support needs.

The Holiday Activity & Food (HAF) Programme is funded through The Department for Education.

Please find our bookings listed here; <https://eequ.org/suffolkhaf> THE WINTER HOLIDAY BOOKINGS OPENS AT MIDNIGHT 28th NOVEMBER 2025

If you think that your child may be eligible for benefit related free school meals please check and apply here: [Apply for free](#)



We warmly invite all parents and carers to join our Parent/Carer Forum, a great opportunity to share your ideas, ask questions, and help shape the school experience for all our children.

Your voice matters, and we'd love to hear your thoughts. Come along, meet other parents, and be part of making our school community even stronger.

Our first meeting will be on Friday 14th November at 9.30 am with a healthy eating agenda.

Please sign in at the school office.

What's on locally?

With half term just around the corner, we thought it might be helpful to share some of the local events and activities happening nearby for children and families to enjoy.

Whether you're looking for a fun day out, something creative to do indoors, or an outdoor adventure, there's plenty to explore this half term! Click on the links below.

[Lackford Lakes](#)



Holiday Club at Lackford Lakes

Tuesday 28 October 2025
9am-3:30pm

Location: Lackford Lakes Nature Reserve & Visitor Centre, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk

[Family fun](#) in Suffolk



Wild Halloween at Lackford Lakes

Tuesday 28 October 2025 -
Wednesday 29 October 2025
4.30-7.30pm Booked time-slot tickets
Location: Lackford Lakes Nature Reserve & Visitor Centre, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk



Undley Pumpkin Patch & Maize Maze



Location

Undley Farm, Undley Road, Beck Row, Lakenheath, Bury St Edmunds IP28 8BX

[October Half Term | Bury St Edmunds & Beyond](#)

Halloween Indoor Adventure Golf at Ickworth

Halloween Golf!

Be on time, ready to shine

Thank you for helping your children start the day in the best possible way by arriving at school on time.

School gates open at 8.35

Classroom doors open at 8.40

Lessons start at 8.45

Gates close at 8.50

Even being a few minutes late can mean important learning is missed and can make it harder for children to feel settled and prepared for the day ahead.

Please ensure your child is not arriving late for school.



Boosters

Booster sessions will continue after the half term break. Teachers will let children know if there are changes to their individual groups.

Sometimes, boosters help a child catch up with a concept they've found tricky. Other times, they provide an opportunity to consolidate learning or stretch skills further. Either way, boosters are a positive step — not a sign of being "behind," but a way to make sure every child feels confident and ready to succeed.

Our aim is simple: to help each child feel secure in their learning, celebrate their progress, and move forward with confidence.



Learning at home

Our class newsletters are now out and share this term's learning, PE days and homework expectations. A little bit of support at home—like reading together, practising spellings or chatting about the day—really helps children feel confident and make great progress.

Please click on our useful learning links below

[Times Tables Rock Stars: Play](#)



[Purple Mash by 2Simple](#)



[Nessy Games](#)



Reminder: PE Kits in School

We have noticed that some children are coming to school **without their PE kit**. Please remember that **PE kits should be kept in school from Monday to Friday**, as PE days can sometimes change. Having their kit in school ensures that children are always ready to participate.

A full PE kit includes:

- Great Heath green T-shirt
- Black shorts or jogging bottoms
- Trainers



The PE T-shirt with the school logo can be purchased from [Corporate Tiger, Mildenhall](#).

Thank you for helping us ensure all children are prepared and can fully enjoy their PE lessons.



On September 26th, we joined in National Teaching Assistant Day to celebrate all the brilliant work our support staff do.

Teachers brought in sweet treats to show their appreciation, and from the teachers and pupils at Great Heath Academy, we want to say another huge thank you for everything you do — your dedication, hard work, and support make a real difference every day!

Thank you for being such an important part of our school community!

EAST ANGLIAN DAILY TIMES

The EADT newspaper have invited us to share photos of children in Kiwi and Mango as part of a First Class supplement. Our Reception classes will appear in the paper on Tuesday 14th October.

PTA

The PTA is a wonderful way to get involved in school life, meet other parents, and help support our children's learning and activities. Everyone is welcome — no experience needed, just enthusiasm!

Our next PTA event is the school DISCO on Friday 7th November—more information on the poster at the end of the Newsletter.

If you're interested in joining the PTA or helping out at this event, please get in touch at greatheathpta@gmail.com

Come along, have fun, and help make it a fantastic event for the children!



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