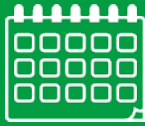




Dates for Your

DIARY



Month of the Military Child

Thursday 30th May—wear something purple with your uniform

Bank Holiday—School is closed.

Monday 4th May

Essential that Year 6 are in school for SATs

Monday 11th May—Thursday 14th May

Year 1 Victorian Day

Friday 8th May

Half term—School closed

Monday 25th May to Friday 29th May

Year 4 completing Multiplication Check

Monday 1st June—Friday 12th June

Year 6 Duxford Trip —Wednesday 3rd June

Year 1 completing Phonics check

Monday 8th June—Friday 12th June

Year 5 concert

Thursday 25th June

Culture Day for Great Heath, Beck Row Academy and Icen Primary

Thursday 25th June

PD days —school closed to pupils

Friday 26th and 29th June

Year 6 Residential—Bawdsey Manor

Wednesday 17th—Friday 19th June

The **2026 / 2027 calendar** is now available on our school website or by clicking [here](#).

NEWSLETTER

As we move well into the Summer Term, it has already been a wonderfully busy and enriching time for our pupils. From observing frogspawn grow into froglets, to exploring the history of World War II, practising multiplication facts, and preparing for SATs, there has been a real sense of curiosity and dedication across the school.

This term has also allowed us to make the most of the improving weather. Pupils have embraced outdoor learning opportunities, including taking part in an orienteering competition and enjoying adventurous activities such as the climbing wall and axe throwing at Brandon Country Park. Alongside this, many children have been developing their cricket skills with the support of a dedicated coach.

Our trips continue to inspire and excite. Reception had a fantastic visit to the farm, Year 4 enjoyed time with our partner school at Lakenheath Elementary on base, had a great day on their Lets make history trip to the Ancient House Museum in Thetford, and we look forward to upcoming visits including Duxford Air Museum for Year 6, and Banham Zoo for Year 2.

Amidst all this excitement, we recognise that this is also an important term for several year groups. Year 6 pupils will be taking their SATs next week, while Year 4 will complete the Multiplication Check and Year 1 will undertake the Phonics Screening Check. We would like to wish all of our pupils the very best—they have worked incredibly hard and we are proud of their efforts.

We are also beginning preparations for our annual Sports Day, which promises to be a fantastic event with a “Commonwealth Games” twist. We look forward to sharing more details with you soon.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Mrs Mitchinson

Mrs Brown

Assessments



As we approach the assessment window, we would like to take this opportunity to wish all our pupils in Years 1, 4 and 6 the very best of luck.

Our Year 6 pupils have been working incredibly hard as they prepare for their SATs, revising and consolidating all the knowledge and skills they have developed throughout Years 3, 4, 5 and 6. We are very proud of their effort and determination.

In Year 4, pupils are continuing to practise for the Multiplication Tables Check (MTC). Regular practice at home really does make a difference—every minute spent rehearsing helps to improve confidence and recall speed.

Year 1 pupils will soon be taking part in their Phonics Screening Check. Any additional practice at home with sounding out and blending sounds to read words would be extremely beneficial and greatly appreciated.

At this important time, we encourage all children to keep working hard, stay positive and try their very best. These assessments are an opportunity to show what they have learned, but just as importantly, to recognise the effort they have put in along the way. We look forward to celebrating their hard work, resilience and achievements.

More information for parents can be found on these links:

Year 6 parents [2026 key stage 2 national curriculum tests: information for parents:](#)

Year 4 parents [Multiplication tables check: information for parents](#)

Year 1 parents [Phonics screening check: information for](#)

How can I help my child prepare for the Year 6 SATs?

1. Focus on Encouragement, Not Pressure

- Remind them that tests are just a part of their learning journey.
- Celebrate effort, not just results.
- Reassure them that doing their best is more important than being perfect.



2. Keep Routines Calm and Consistent

- Make sure they get enough sleep, especially in the days leading up to tests
- Keep mornings stress-free with a good breakfast (join our Year 6 breakfast club, which starts at 8.25!) and everything ready to go.
- Keep evenings relaxed with downtime and no last-minute cramming.

3. Support Gentle Revision

- Use fun tools like flashcards, games, or short quizzes if they enjoy them.
- Help them focus on topics they find tricky—but keep sessions short and positive.
- Let them lead the pace so it doesn't feel like a chore.

4. Talk and Listen

- Ask how they're feeling and let them know it's okay to feel nervous.
- Share your own experiences of feeling nervous to help normalise it.
- Keep things light-hearted—laughter can ease tension!

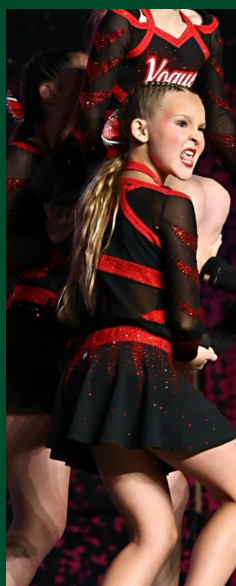
5. Plan Something to Look Forward To

- Plan a small reward or treat at the end of tests (end of SATs week) —like a movie night, a fun day out, or their favourite meal.

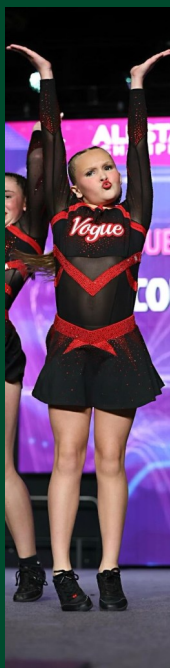


Achievements outside of school

We love celebrating our pupils' achievements beyond the classroom, and this term we are especially proud to share these inspiring cheer and twirling stories:



After only one year doing cheerleading, Meghan successfully tried out for a Level 3 Worlds team and earned her place to compete at the All Star Worlds in Florida. Travelling to America, Meghan and her team delivered a fantastic performance, securing their place in the finals with a flawless "hit zero" routine. Competing in a very strong and challenging division, they went on to finish 11th in the world, making them the highest-ranking UK team in their category.



Pixie's team, 'Storm', from Adrenaline All stars in Cambridge made it through to the finals placing 9th

out of 60 teams in the world! Also being the top UK team in their division! They did so well to come in the top 10 against the most prestigious teams in the world. Such a wonderful experience for her and her team.



We would love to continue sharing and celebrating our pupils' achievements outside of school. If your child has something they are proud of, please do send it in – we would be delighted to include it in a future newsletter or on dojo.

Quinn recently competed at the UTE National Individual Championships for Baton Twirling.



Not only did she place in all her events, in enormous sections... but she also won National Champion (Red sash) in artistic dance and then was awarded Overall National Champion in her age section (white sash.)

We are delighted to celebrate the hard work of these pupils and congratulate them on their well-deserved achievements.



Purple Up day



The school celebrated Military Month by wearing a purple accessory alongside school uniform. With many military families within our school community, we recognise the valuable contribution they make.

Some of our Year 4 pupils also visited Lakenheath Elementary School earlier this term. Pupils had the opportunity to experience American classroom environments, take part in board games, and enjoy social time with their peers. A particular highlight was the impressive adventure playground, which pupils are able to use during break and lunch times. The visit provided a valuable cultural



exchange experience and was thoroughly enjoyed by all involved.



We are pleased to announce that we have welcomed Mrs Nightingale-Roffe to our breakfast team.

A gentle reminder that the door to breakfast club will be closed at 8.25am so the team can prepare children for class.

It remains essential that you use our booking system when requesting a space each morning. This can be accessed via your MCAS link. If your child is attending the Early Bird session, there is no need to register on the other, free, breakfast club link.

Early Bird sessions will start at 8.00 am and will be charged at £1 per session.

Our free 30 minute breakfast club starts at 8.15 and will run until the start of the school day at 8.45am.

Please speak with Mrs MacDonald in the Office if you have any further questions.



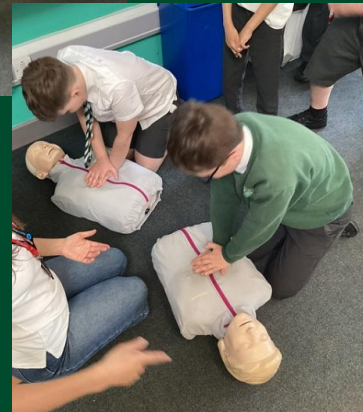
We will be holding another Parent Forum on Wednesday 3rd June. This is an opportunity for parents to come into school and discuss key themes as part of our ongoing partnership working together. During our last forum, we explored healthy eating, and this time we will be looking at how we can best support pupils through periods of change and transition.

Trips



Down on the farm with Reception

Reception had a wonderful visit to the farm, where they saw a wide range of animals and enjoyed lots of hands-on experiences, including feeding lambs, going on a tractor ride, and saying hello to the goats. The children were full of excitement and curiosity throughout the day, making it a truly memorable learning experience. A huge thank you to all the parent helpers whose support helped make the trip such a success.



Mini Medics

Year 5 had an exciting and informative day becoming 'Mini Medics'.

A special visitor led an engaging session, teaching the children essential first aid knowledge along with practical skills and techniques.

They explored:

- What first aid is and why it's important
- What belongs in a first aid kit

How to stay safe, communicate clearly, and contact the emergency services

- How to treat minor injuries
- The DR ABC approach
- Basic CPR techniques
- The recovery position
- How to respond to choking

It was a fantastic hands-on experience that helped build confidence and life-saving skills.

Moving on...



As we begin planning our staffing structure for the next academic year, we would be grateful if you could let the office know if your child/ren will definitely not be attending Great Heath Academy for the 2026/2027 school year (this does not apply to parents of our current Year 6 pupils).

We understand that some families may already know about upcoming relocations, deployments or other changes, and having this information as early as possible really helps us with our planning.

If this applies to your family, please email the office at gre-officeadmin@atrust.org.uk with the subject title "LEAVER", including the reason for leaving and, if known, the leaving date.

Thank you very much for your support and assistance with this.



Trust Magazine

Please see the latest edition of our Trust magazine, Transforming Lives, by [clicking here](#).

Transforming Lives is designed to help parents better understand the work of our Trust

and how they support their schools, staff and pupils.



Bowled over by cricket

A cricket coach has been coming into school to work directly with pupils, delivering high-quality cricket sessions that focus on skill development, teamwork and enjoyment of sport. Alongside this, the coach is also supporting staff CPD, sharing effective strategies and approaches for teaching cricket and embedding them within wider PE provision.



Action-Packed Visit to Brandon Country Park

A group of pupils enjoyed a fantastic visit to Brandon Country Park as part of our Forest Heath PE Partnership programme.

Throughout the afternoon, they challenged themselves with activities including axe throwing, wall climbing, and archery.





We continue to see improving attendance figures.

Our current whole school attendance is **95.8%**

We had a number of classes with 100% attendance last week, which is brilliant.

Congratulations to Year 1 for being our top achieving year group last week.

Regular attendance at school makes a significant difference to children's learning, confidence, and wellbeing. We appreciate your continued support in ensuring that your child arrives on time each day and is ready to make the most of every opportunity in school.

Culture Day

You may remember that this time last year we had to postpone our much-anticipated Culture Day. We are delighted to share that planning is now underway for this year's event—it seems to have come around so quickly! Further details will be shared with you shortly, and we are excited for what promises to be a vibrant and memorable celebration of culture across our school community.



Great Heath Newsletter

May 2026 | 7



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@GreatHeathAcad



Girton Close, Mildenhall, Suffolk, IP28 7PT

Summer 1 Clubs

MONDAY
KS1
*BUG CLUB
*SOCIAL TEAM BUILDING GAMES

KS2
*SPORTS CLUB
*ART & CRAFT CLUB
*WOOL CLUB

WEDNESDAY
EYFS
*FUNKY FINGERS

KS1
*STORY & ART CLUB

GHA Summer 1 Clubs
15:15 - 16:15
Sign up on MCAS

BOOSTERS

- Year 1 Phonics Tuesday 8.00-8.45
- Year 2 Phonics Thursday 15.15-16.00
- Year 3 Maths Tuesday 15.15-16.00
- Year 3 Reading Thursday 15.15-16.00
- Year 4 Maths Tuesday 15.15-16.00
- Year 4 Reading Tuesday 15.15-16.00
- Year 5 Writing Tuesday 15.15-16.00
- Year 6 Writing Tuesday 15.15-16.00
- Year 6 Reading Wednesday 8.00-8.45
- Year 6 Maths Tuesday 8.00-8.45
- Year 6 Maths Thursday 15.15-16.00

TUESDAY
KS1
*ART & CRAFT CLUB

KS2
*COOKING CLUB
*CHEER LEADING

THURSDAY
KS1
*SPORTS CLUB

KS2
*LEGO CLUB
*CHOIR

KEY DATES

SUMMER TERM 2026



Thursday 7th May

Year 3 Trip - 'Lets Make History'

Year 6
SATs

11TH-14TH
MAY

Year 6 SATs

It is essential that all Year 6 pupils are in school for their SATs. Year 6 can start each morning in our free Year 6 Breakfast Club.



Friday 8th May

Year 1 - Victorian day - Year 1 come in Victorian clothing



Tuesday 19th May

Class photos - the photographer is in school to take class photos



Thursday 21st
May @ 3.30

Year 6 Residential Information

Session for children and parents attending Bawdsey manor

Half term - 23rd - 31st May



MONDAY 1ST - 12TH
JUNE

Year 4 - Multiplication Check



Wednesday 3rd
June

Year 6 - Trip to Duxford Air Museum



Friday 5th June

PTA's - Summer Fayre - all welcome - 3.15 - 5.00 pm



MONDAY 8TH -
12TH JUNE

Year 1 - Phonics Screening Check

Tuesday 9th June

Year 4, 5 and 6 Sports Day

Tuesday 16th June

Year 1, 2 and 3 Sports Day

Tuesday 23rd June

Reception & Nursery Sports Day



Thursday 11th June

Year 3 experiencing VR sets in school

Thursday 25th June

Culture Day

Year 5 Music Performance

don't
forget

PD days - school closed to pupils Friday 26th and Monday 29th June