



St. Felix RC Primary School

April - 2026 Newsletter



“Do not abandon yourselves to despair. We are the Easter people and hallelujah is our song.” – Pope John Paul II

Dear Parents,

It's hard to believe that the summer term is already here and as you know, it is one of the busiest and most exciting times in the school year! I hope that the joy and hope of Easter are still very much alive in our hearts. As Christians, we are still celebrating Eastertide lasting 50 days, of joy that leads us to Pentecost and the coming of the Holy Spirit.

In his first Easter message as Pope, Pope Leo XIV shared a powerful call for: **peace, kindness, and hope in our world**. Speaking from St. Peter's Basilica on Easter Sunday, he reminded us that Easter celebrates love overcoming hatred and life overcoming death.

He encouraged people everywhere and especially leaders, to choose dialogue over violence, to care for those who are suffering, and not to be indifferent to injustice. He reminded us that building a peaceful and caring world is everyone's responsibility, not just those in power.

The Pope highlighted that true strength comes from forgiveness, compassion, and non-violence, using simple images such as a seed quietly growing or a heart willing to forgive. He also announced a prayer vigil for peace later in April to support this message.

Overall, Pope Leo XIV's Easter message reminds us that small acts of kindness, understanding, and hope shown in our families, schools, and communities can truly help make the world a better place.

This week St Peter's House received a response from the school in Sudan where they sent the £137.50 to help run and grow the school. This is an extract from a longer letter.

In Aweil, we are currently building a second school site based on the Rumbek model. The construction of the first dormitory and classrooms has started. The first kindergarten class will start in the next few weeks. 35 girls from Aweil started their secondary education last week in Rumbek, to then move in once the construction work is complete. **Your donation helps to make all of this possible. Therefore, on behalf of our students, their parents and our staff, we would like to express our sincere thanks.**

Best wishes from all of us in Loreto, South Sudan. Stay blessed. <http://www.loretorumbek.ie/>

All the projects taught the children valuable lessons about effort, commitment, and compassion, helping them to understand the importance of supporting others. It was a truly rewarding experience and a powerful reminder of our shared Christian calling to serve those in need.

Thank you to all the parents and children who brought plants into school on 20th March to help create the Easter gardens for the older residents at Meadow care home. The children took great joy in preparing these gardens, and they were very warmly received. The remaining plants were planted near Father Michael's memorial bench, where they will continue to be enjoyed by our whole school community.

We would be very grateful for any further donations of **bedding plants or bulbs** that you may have in excess. We can also make good use of **compost or manure** to help bed in the bulbs and seeds we have already planted. Creating a welcoming and beautiful school environment supports both learning and wellbeing, and we truly appreciate your continued support.



Year 6 representatives from St Catherine's House delivered the gardens to the residents and were rewarded with sweet treats.

Parish Priest: Fr. JOHN WARRINGTON: Tel: 01440 702156 (Parish Office) Tel: 01440 704142 (Presbytery) Email: john.warrington@rcdea.org.uk <https://stfelixfelixstowe.uk/news-letter> Parish Newsletters | St Felix RC Church

Friday 24th April SEED SALE by St Francis House and the Mini Vinnies outside the music studio after school. All money to be spent on more plants and compost.

This week we received our **anaphylaxis kit**. All staff will receive appropriate training, and the kit will be wall-mounted in a locked case in the corridor by the school office. While we hope never to need to use it, having the kit in place ensures that everyone in school has immediate access to life-saving medication in the event of a severe allergic reaction.

Suffolk Farm Show A Big Well Done to Spencer!

Spencer's brilliant estimation skills have won the school a **sapling tree!** Children were invited to take part in a competition to guess how many sticks were in a container, with all guesses needing to be registered by an adult. Mrs Anderson kindly registered Spencer's guess. At the end of the show, one of the stewards sought out our teaching staff to present the school with the tree and generously included **two more** as well! The children are now busy deciding on the perfect places to plant them around the school grounds.

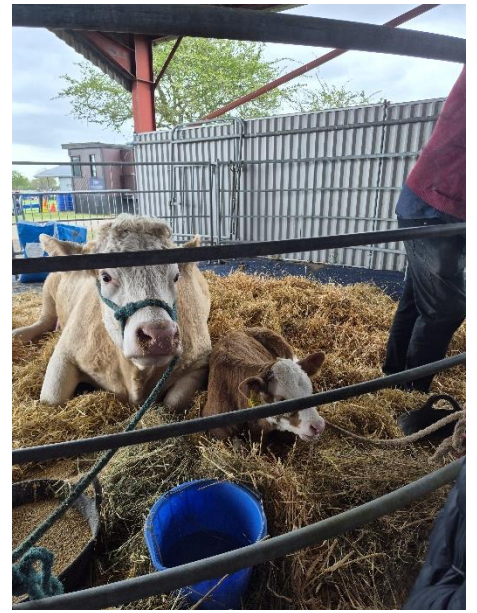


HAVERHILL SCIENCE FESTIVAL

Year 4 were excited to participate in the Haverhill Science Festival, where they took part in a hands-on Kitchen Chemistry workshop. The session began with creating "traffic lights" inside a test tube! The children were full of thoughtful questions right from the start, showing brilliant scientific curiosity. As they explored, they discovered the secret behind the colourful layers. Each liquid red, yellow, and green was made using water and food colouring, but with different amounts of sugar added. The green solution had eight teaspoons of sugar, the yellow had four, and the red just two. This meant each liquid had a different density, allowing them to stack perfectly without mixing. With careful and precise pipetting, the children successfully created their own mini traffic lights a fantastic demonstration of science in action!

Next, the excitement bubbled over (quite literally!) as the children created their very own volcanoes. By mixing sodium bicarbonate (an alkali) with vinegar (an acid), they triggered a fizzy reaction that released carbon dioxide gas. The result? An eruption of foamy bubbles that had everyone amazed! The Year 5 pupils attended the second session; their focus was on the human body. The children took part in a carousel of four activities, each designed to develop their understanding of how different bodily systems function. During the session, pupils measured their lung capacity using a peak-flow device and compared their pulse rates before and after exercise. They also assessed their reaction times by attempting to catch a falling ruler, and finally, they tested their balance by walking a short distance while blindfolded. They considered the conditions under which each test was carried out, reflected on the reliability of their results, and discussed what the outcomes might indicate about their health and wellbeing.





The Suffolk Farm Show

We were delighted to receive a bursary to support the cost of transport, allowing us to keep expenses low and take the children to the Suffolk Farm Show this year. The visit offered a wealth of opportunities for learning and exploration, and the pupils made the most of every moment. They visited a range of informative stands, discovering more about the history of the local area, including past invasions and the armoury used throughout different periods. They also met a variety of farm animals and listened to experts explain the care, welfare, and husbandry involved in modern farming.

One of the most memorable stops was the llama barn, where the animals' expressive and rather superior personalities provided plenty of amusement. In the horse barn, a blacksmith demonstrated his craft, giving the children a fascinating insight into this traditional and highly skilled profession. The food marquee proved to be the clear favourite, with pupils enthusiastically sampling a selection of delicious local produce and learning more about Suffolk's rich food heritage.

The Suffolk Show, a two-day celebration of the county's agriculture, food, and countryside traditions, offered an engaging and hands-on experience for all. The children returned to school full of enthusiasm, having gained a deeper understanding of rural life and the industries that shape our local community.

We would like to thank all the volunteers who have recently supported our activities, including walking with the children to church, accompanying classes on trips, and helping supervise the visit to the science fair. These experiences simply wouldn't be possible without your time, commitment, and willingness to help.



East Anglian 50th Anniversary Celebrations

In 1976, Pope Paul VI issued a bull dividing the Diocese of Northampton and establishing the Diocese of East Anglia, bringing together more than fifty parishes across Norfolk, Suffolk and Cambridgeshire. At that time, Mass attendance in the new Diocese had risen to over twenty-five thousand. In that memorable year, on **13th March 1976**, the first Bishop of East Anglia, Rt Rev Alan Clark (1976–1995), was appointed, and the large parish church of St John's in Norwich—built between 1882 and 1910—was consecrated as the Cathedral of East Anglia in June 1976.

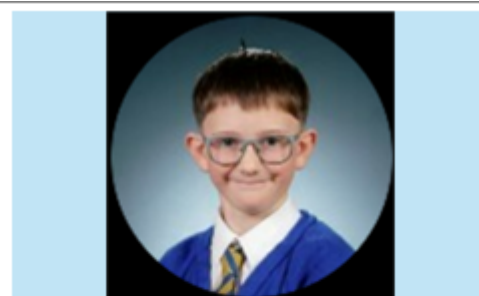
This milestone is one, the whole Diocese is invited to celebrate. Bishop Peter has designated this year as a Jubilee Year to mark the 50th anniversary of our Diocese, with celebrations planned at Diocesan, Deanery and Parish levels. Several Diocesan Commissions will also be organising events. All Catholic schools have been encouraged to plan and deliver their own celebrations. In school we will be marking the occasion with a whole day of activities themed around the 70s and the Golden Anniversary. **We will have a 70s dress up day. Our Year 6 pupils will attend Mass in the Parish and view the display they have collated to as part of the Jubilee commemorations.** At lunchtime the children will experience a 70s street party, with 70s themed food. In the afternoon we will do a range of activities learning about the diocese formation and what it does now, by celebrating its golden jubilee and creating a collage of St Felix. Finally, we will perform dance routines using music from 1976 at the end of the day.

Up and Coming Events

- 10th May First Holy Communion
- SATs week WB 11th May-14th – The Year 6 children
- are invited into school from 8.15am for breakfast
- 14th May- School disco for KS2 children 5-6.30pm
- 15th May- Celebrating the Diocese 50th anniversary- 70s dress up day and activities
- 17th May First Holy Communion Sunday
- 22nd May- Come to school in fire coloured clothing to celebrate Pentecost

25th May- Half Term

- WB- 1st June & 8th June- Y4 MTC Testing
 - 18th June- PHONICS WEEK Y1
 - 12th June dress up different- Dare to be different day
 - 18th June First Holy Communion Mass in school- Whole school to attend and parents of First Holy Communion pupils
 - 22nd June Reception and Nursery New Parents Evening 6pm
 - 1st July- SPORTS morning and picnic lunch- Parents welcome
 - 6th July New to Reception children 9.30-10.30
 - 7th July SATs results
 - 8th July New EYFS children and parents Forest School Morning 9.30-11.00
 - 8th & 9th July Linton Transition
 - 10th July Year 6 End of Year Production 6pm
 - 10th July End of Year Reports go out
 - 13th July Forest School Year 6
 - 13th July Leavers Assembly
 - 13th July Year 6 Movie Night 5.30pm
 - 14th July Leavers Mass 9.00am Year 6 parents' welcome
 - 15th-16th-17th July Year 6 transition Unity and St Benedict's
 - 16th Change around Day- Children visit their new class
 - 17th End of term Mass in hall 2pm- pupils only
- SUMMER HOLIDAY



Match Report from our Match Reporter

The team started brightly after a solid warm-up and stretch, despite only having one substitute available because two players forgot their shin pads. From a goal kick, Brandon reacted quickest, connected beautifully with the ball, and sent it flying past the keeper an unstoppable strike that put us 1–0 up and lit a fire in our bellies. Westfield tried to respond, but their efforts were broken down by Brandon, who fed Hugo. He slipped the ball to Reggi, who finished clinically to make it 2–0. Westfield restarted sharply and managed to pull one back, reminding us that there was no room for complacency. We tightened up our passing, and once again Brandon found Reggi, who powered another shot into the back of the net for 3–1. Filip made way for Francesco, who made an immediate impact by scoring our fourth goal from the edge of the box. From there, the team dug deep, defended with determination, and protected the lead until the final whistle. The match ended 4–1, with **Reggi deservedly earning Man of the Match.**

School Uniform

Please uphold our school uniform guidance so all children feel smart and part of our community. Summer uniform can be worn by all students from now until October. Hoop earrings of any kind are not to be worn by children only studs for their safety in school.

Term dates 2025-26

Spring term

PD days **Monday 5th January 2026**
Pupils In **Tuesday 6th January**
Half term **Monday 16th February to Friday 20th February**
Ends **Friday 27th March**

Summer term

Pupils In **Monday 13th April 2026**
Half term **Monday 25th May to Friday 29th May**
Ends **Friday 17th July**
PD Day **Monday 20th July 2026**

Autumn Term 2026

3rd September – children return to school
Autumn half term – 26th-30th October

Safeguarding

0808 800 4005



Suffolk Local Offer
Support and services for children and young people with SEND
Contact the Local Offer Advisor for help on 0345 606 1490
www.suffolklocaloffer.org.uk @Suffolk_LO

Community Science Day this Saturday 11am – 3pm on the Market Square, Haverhill.

This is their opportunity to drag their parents and grandparents along to try out many of the things the children have been doing in school, visit the Curiosity Cube plus take part in a wide range of other STEM-based fun activities, including a planetarium in St Mary's Church.



CLARE DUCK RACE
BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY
4th MAY
Clare Country Park
A QUACKING DAY OUT!
£2 a duck available from **Stars & Jars** or online from www.boomerangspetfoodbank.co.uk
Boomerang's Pet Foodbank Reg. Charity No. 1200695



Suffolk Hockey
Summer Skills Series
Small group training to develop skills, confidence & Game understanding
Open to all players, whether or not you're currently part of Suffolk Hockey

Rushmere Sports Centre **£30** **School years 6-9**
(2 Sessions - Sat & Sun)

3 WEEKEND BLOCKS
-Saturday 13th & Sunday 14th June
-Saturday 25th & Sunday 26th July
-Saturday 15th & Sunday 16th August
Players attend both days and stay in the same time slot.

To book, please use the links attached

Session times	Session Focus
Session length: 1 hour	Players will be encouraged to share areas of their game they would like to work on, allowing sessions to be tailored where possible to suit the needs and interests of the group. Sessions may cover the following:
9:00 - 10:00 Years 6-8	• Ball control and elimination skills
10:15 - 11:15 Years 6-8	• Attacking skills and circle entries
11:30 - 12:30 Years 6-9	• Training and decision making in the circle
	• Defensive tackling and positioning
	• Small-sided games to apply skills in match situations

Limited to 18 players per session, Minimum 6 players required to run.
For enquires Email suffolkcountyhockey@gmail.com

CRAFT FAIR 11 12

10am to 5pm **Saturday & Sunday**
FREE PARK & RIDE
CLARE, SUFFOLK,
off A1092

Adults £6 **Seniors £5** **U16 FREE**
(unaccompanied)

Registered Assistance Dogs Only
The Historic House and Grounds of Clare Priory
www.clarepriory.org.uk



Suffolk Parent Carer Forum

SAVE THE DATE
MID SUFFOLK OPEN EVENT
An opportunity to meet professionals and find out about services, voluntary and support groups.

Stowmarket
United Reformed Church
Wednesday 17th June 2026
10AM – 1PM
More information to follow nearer the time

01473 760933 info@suffolkpcf.co.uk www.suffolkpcf.co.uk