



St. Felix RC Primary School

July - 2026 Newsletter



Pope Leo XIV prayer intention for the month of July, invites Catholics to pray 'for respect for human life,' so all may 'recognize and protect the unique and unrepeatable value of every human being.'



We had a lovely Mass in school to celebrate all of our First Holy Communicants. During the Mass, Father John reminded the children that when we receive Holy Communion, we are nourished by God's love. The children chose their favourite hymns and read the Prayers of Intercession, while our three Year 6 chaplains proudly delivered the reading and the Responsorial Psalm. It was a joyous occasion, and it was so important for us, as a school community, to come together and celebrate such a momentous milestone in the children's faith journey.



The Diocese has begun holding an end-of-term Mass to celebrate and thank staff who are leaving Catholic schools. This year, we have several members of staff moving on to new adventures.

As many of you know, Michelle Murray is getting married this summer and will be enjoying an extended honeymoon with her new husband. Mrs Teixeira has decided to take a career break to spend more time with her family. We are also saying farewell to two much loved members of staff who are retiring, Mrs Start and Mrs Shrimpton. As sisters, they are looking forward to spending more time together and enjoying some shared hobbies in their retirement.

Although not pictured, we are also bidding farewell to Mrs Costa, who will be retiring at the end of term. She is looking forward to having more time to spend with her family.

We would like to thank all of these staff members for their dedication, commitment and service to our school community. They have each made a valued contribution to the lives of our children and families, and we wish them every happiness and success for the future.

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The children thoroughly enjoyed a visit from an archaeologist, who shared fascinating insights into her role and the excavation sites she has worked on throughout her career. She explained the importance of learning about the past and how understanding the successes and mistakes of previous generations can help us make informed decisions in the world today.

During the workshop, the children had the exciting opportunity to become archaeologists themselves. Using specialist archaeological tools, they carefully excavated artefacts hidden in clay, brushing away the surrounding material with great care. They then used clues and classification charts to identify their discoveries and learn more about their historical significance.

The hands-on experience captivated the children, and every pupil was fully engaged throughout the session. It was a wonderful learning opportunity that brought history to life and inspired curiosity and lots of discussion about the world around them.



On Wednesday, 8th July, 14 children from Lower Key Stage 2 took part in a Multi-Skills Event at the New Croft. The pupils enjoyed participating in a variety of activities, including a baton relay, speed bounce, pop and try, vortex throwing, and throwing and catching challenges. They had a fantastic time competing against other schools in the local area.

During the morning the children demonstrated great enthusiasm, teamwork and determination throughout. The children were especially delighted to be crowned winners of the baton relay competition, a wonderful achievement and a credit to our school.

Current whole school attendance is 95%. This has fallen due to the weather. Please ensure children are in school everyday and holidays are not taken in term time.



At the Sports Day picnic lunch, the school was delighted to receive a generous gift from the Keralan community: a cheque for £300 to be spent on resources for the children.

The Anto and Matthews' families expressed their appreciation for their long association with St Felix, which comes to an end this year as their sons move on to the next stage of their education. Mrs Anto also shared the wonderful news that her eldest child is completing A Levels and hopes to study pharmaceuticals at university. It is always a pleasure to hear about the achievements of our former pupils and to know that families continue to value the role that St Felix has played in their children's journeys.

The community sharing picnic has become a much-loved addition to the end of Sports Day. Staff thoroughly enjoyed the delicious biryani, breads and dips, all of which disappeared very quickly and were washed down with the drinks kindly provided. We are incredibly grateful for the generosity and hospitality shown to us.

Our thanks also extend to the HSA, who provided ice creams and drinks for the children on the day. The generous donation from the Keralan community will be used to purchase resources for the new Book Nook, a project supported by the HSA.

This is a wonderful example of our school community working together in unison for the benefit of all our children.

Thank you to everyone who contributed and helped make the day so special.



Well done to all the children who took part in Sports Day with such determination, enthusiasm and team spirit. I was incredibly proud of the way everyone participated and supported one another throughout the event. I also appreciated how responsibly the children kept score, which helped the whole morning run so smoothly.

Congratulations to **St Francis House**, who were this year's winners with 1,858 points. In second place was **St Catherine's House** with 1,646 points, followed by **St Elizabeth House** with 1,592 points. **St Peter House** finished in fourth place with 1,584 points.

Key Stage 1 had a fantastic trip to Linton Zoo. It proved to be the perfect size for the children, allowing them to explore the zoo comfortably and spend plenty of time observing the animals. With very few other visitors, the children had an excellent opportunity to see a wide variety of animals up close, including lions, tigers, zebras, kangaroos, a tortoise, and many smaller creatures.

The children were a credit to the school throughout the day. Staff and parent volunteers were extremely impressed by how well they listened, behaved, and engaged with the visit. Their curiosity and enthusiasm for learning about the animals made the trip both enjoyable and educational for everyone involved



The Haverhill Arts Centre was packed to capacity on Friday evening for Year 6's wonderful production of *Robin Hood and the Sherwood Hoodies*. The journey to performance night was not without its challenges, as an outbreak of chicken pox delayed the audition process and the allocation of roles. However, thanks to the determination and resilience of everyone involved, the show was an outstanding success.

The production was a true community effort. Parents generously provided costumes, while teams of family volunteers worked tirelessly behind the scenes to create the impressive props. Special thanks go to Mrs Missen and family, Mrs Ruthven and family, and Mrs Ketteridge and family for their invaluable support and creativity. Our dedicated staff also played a huge part in bringing the show to life. Miss Murray, Mrs Shrimpton, Mrs Graham and Mrs Turner worked together to help the children learn their lines, perfect their performances and master the songs. Most importantly, the Year 6 pupils rose magnificently to the occasion, entertaining the audience with their confidence, talent and enthusiasm. It was a truly memorable evening that will remain in the hearts and minds of all who attended for many years to come.

We have had an enormous amount of fun this half term too, particularly at our two school discos. To everyone's delight, the children actually danced! There was very little running or skidding and plenty of enthusiastic dancing, laughter and enjoyment. Countless sweets were consumed, tattoos were proudly applied, and groups of children filled the hall with energy and excitement. The children all looked fantastic in their disco outfits and clearly enjoyed every minute of the evening. A special thank you goes to Atiyah's dad, who did a superb job selecting the music and ensuring there was something for everyone to dance to.

Thank you to all the staff who attended and gave up their time, to the office team for preparing registers and medical information, and to our dedicated HSA volunteers for running the ever-popular sweet stall.

A particular thank you must go to Mrs Pannell and Mrs Prior, who kept the hydration station running smoothly throughout the evening, supplying copious jugs of water and even tackling the washing up.





We were delighted to celebrate our Year 6 pupils with a special Leavers' Assembly and then a Movie Night. The children enjoyed an evening together with popcorn, treats and a visit from an ice cream van. Tomorrow, we will gather for our Leavers' Mass before saying our final farewells with the traditional clap-out. Parents, please join in! From Wednesday many pupils will then begin transition visits to their secondary schools. We are incredibly proud of all they have achieved during their time at St Felix and wish them every success and happiness as they begin the next stage of their educational journey. We know they will be a credit to their new schools.

Happy Holidays!

Other highlights of this busy half term included our World Cup Celebration Day and the HSA's *Dare to be Different* fundraising event, both of which were hugely enjoyed by the children.

Year 6 also attended the Crucial Crew event in Bury St Edmunds, where they took part in a range of activities designed to help them develop important life skills as they prepare for the transition to secondary school. Another special highlight for our Year 6 pupils was their Forest School morning. It gave them the opportunity to relive many of the experiences they had enjoyed when they were younger, and they enthusiastically threw themselves into den building, mud pie making and spending time outdoors together. Today, we shared a moving Leavers' Assembly as we reflected on the many achievements and memories of our Year 6 pupils. Tomorrow, we will gather for our Leavers' Mass before saying our final farewells with the traditional clap-out. It has certainly been a very busy term. We have worked incredibly hard, achieved so much and, most importantly, had a great deal of fun along the way.

Thank you for your continued support throughout the year. I wish all our children and families a safe, happy and restful summer holiday, and I look forward to welcoming you back in the new academic year.
With love and God's blessings,
Mrs Price

[Free Summer activities in Haverhill announced as part of the Holiday Activities and Food \(HAF\) programme - Haverhill Town Council](#)

[What's on in Suffolk this summer \(2026 guide\)](#)
[| Stay in Suffolk](#)



Up and Coming Events

- 14th Leavers Mass 9.00am Year 6 parents' welcome
- 15th-16th-17th 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

Term dates 2025-26

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

Wild Summer Sessions

GREEN LIGHT TRUST



WHEN:
starting week
commencing
20th July.
9.30 am -
2.30pm
Mondays at
Castan Woods,
Martlesham and
Thursdays at
Frithy Woods,
Lawshall

Our 'Wild Summer' sessions are running over the school holidays. A chance to make new friends, enjoy games, nature crafts, woodland adventures and campfire fun. For children with a love of the outdoors. Prepare to get muddy!

Cost- £37 per child (£30 for siblings) (includes small breakfast and snacks)

All of our sessions will be held entirely outside, so please ensure your child/children are dressed appropriately.

To book a place, scan the QR code or email
pecsupport@greenlighttrust.org



www.greenlighttrust.org



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Hope Support Services

help@hopesupport.org.uk

FREE & CONFIDENTIAL ADVICE

All our support is confidential and completely FREE

ONE TO ONE SUPPORT

Get one to one support when it is needed and for as long as it is needed

PEER TO PEER SUPPORT

Talk with other young people who have gone through a similar experience

A FULLY DIGITAL SERVICE

You can access the service using text, audio or video.



If you're aged 5-25, live in the UK and have a loved one who is seriously ill, we're here for you!

To find out more call 01989 566317 or visit
www.hopesupport.org.uk/support



HOPE
Support Services

Reg Charity: 1130680 | Registered in England No: 1104198

Hope Support Services
Over Ross House
Ross on Wye
HR9 7US



BILL GLADDEN INCLUSIVE SPORTS DAY

August 23rd

THE NEW CROFT
10AM-2PM

Our sports day is open to all individuals with disabilities, providing an opportunity to participate in competitive games and various fun activities.

To register your attendance email
hello@thrivehubhaverhill.com or scan the QR Code

THREE AGE CATEGORIES:

- 6-15 years
- 16-24 years
- 25+ years

HIGHLIGHTED BENEFITS:

- Competitive & Non-competitive Games
- 1st, 2nd & 3rd prize Medals
- Free Event
- Lots of activities to experience & enjoy
- Lunch and Refreshments included

NEW U9 GIRLS TEAM
JOIN THE ADVENTURE!

Trials: 7th & 14th JULY
Time: 6pm - 7pm
WHO: Open to all U9 Girls!

OPEN TRIALS

SECURE YOUR SPOT! REGISTER NOW

Contact TONY WELLER:
✉ tonyweller88@googlemail.com
☎ +44 7969 025565

The free school meals programme is expanding.

PLEASE read the information on the next page and if you think you may be eligible please let us know this week and apply. If you need any additional support or guidance please come to the school office and we will do our best to assist you.

GYM & JUICE CLUB AND HAVERHILL ROVERS PRESENT

HYROX SIM

25TH - ADULTS DOUBLES
26TH - KIDS + PARENTS DOUBLES

THE NEW CROFT, HAVERHILL

INFLATABLES
BAR OPEN
HOT FOOD
JUICE BAR
AXE THROWING
SPECTATOR COMPS

HYROX

TICKETS AVAILABLE:
THENEWCROFT.CO.UK | SHOP@THENEWCROFT.CO.UK

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

Safeguarding
0808 800 4005



EXPANDING FREE SCHOOL MEALS: WHAT PARENTS NEED TO KNOW

Over half a million additional pupils will become eligible for Free School Meals under the new eligibility criteria. The change means that all households receiving [Universal Credit](#), above the current £7,400 income cap, will qualify for this support.

This expansion builds upon the existing provision which already covers:

- 2.1 million disadvantaged children
- 90,000 low-income students in Further Education
- Around 1.3 million infants under the Universal Infant Free School Meals programme

When will these changes take effect? The new eligibility will take effect in September 2026. **Families receiving Universal Credit will be able to access free school meals starting from the 2026/27 school year.** This will give schools time to prepare for the increased number of meals they'll need to provide.

How will this help families financially? This expansion will provide significant financial relief for families. If your household receives Universal Credit, you could save up to £495 per year per child on school lunches. For families with multiple children, these savings can make a substantial difference to household budgets.

How will children benefit? Beyond the financial benefits, this programme ensures children receive nutritious meals during school hours, which supports their learning and concentration in the classroom, physical health and development and overall wellbeing. The government is also acting quickly to revise the School Food Standards, so every school is supported with the latest nutrition guidance.

How do I apply for free school meals? We expect the majority of schools will allow parents to apply before the start of the school year 2026, by providing their National Insurance Number to check their eligibility.

It's important to note that while eligibility will be automatically granted to all Universal Credit recipients, families will still need to actually apply to receive the benefit.

Tags: [free school meal expansion](#), [free school meals](#), [free school meals rashford](#), [how can i get free school meals](#), [who gets free school meals](#), [who qualifies for free school meals](#)