

October Newsletter

I can't quite believe we've been back at school for a month already! It has been a busy start. Many children have settled well, while others are still finding their feet with new routines and expectations. Our staff are working hard to help every child feel secure and understand what is expected of them. You can help at home by talking about the school day, keeping morning and bedtime routines as predictable as possible, and encouraging your child to ask an adult for help when something feels difficult. Using our shared language of **Safe, Brave and Kind** can help too: "What would be a safe choice?" or "How could you be brave and put that right?" If your child is finding school difficult, please speak to their teacher so that we can work together.

Year 1 and 2 have also begun their first **Inquiry** of the term. As we shared at the Parent Curriculum Meetings, Inquiry is central to the way we teach much of the curriculum at Lodge Lane. Each Inquiry begins with a problem, often involving a character who needs the children's help. This gives children a reason to find things out, practise new skills and use what they have learned. They become investigators, thinkers and creators, while learning the knowledge and skills set out in the curriculum. When children can see a purpose for their learning, they are eager to take part and more likely to remember what they have discovered.

In Year 1, the children were so excited to tell me that there were leaves all over their classroom. They wondered how on earth they got there and were very busy looking for clues! In Year 2, the children had a message in a bottle arrive in their classroom. They found out it was for Henry Blogg and have already been learning some facts about the Cromer lifeboatman. Reception children have been excitedly exploring all of their provision, particularly outside and have also been very engaged in learning their first few sounds. Butterfly Class have loved making cheese straws and were very good at rubbing the butter into the flour.

What a lot of lovely learning!

Sarah Spears

Head of School

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MSA VACANCY

Sarah Yallop, one of our Midday Supervisory Assistants, will be leaving Lodge Lane on 9 October after five years with us. Lunchtime can be a busy part of the school day, and Sarah has helped countless children navigate it with her calm, reassuring manner. She has been there to offer a kind word, help children through tricky moments and make sure they feel cared for.

We are very grateful for the hard work and care Sarah has given to our school community and wish her every success in whatever she chooses to do next.

If you would like to become a member of our MSA team, the vacancy is advertised here: <https://mynewterm.com/jobs/143988/EDV-2026-LLIS-44324> Please do take a look – we'd love to hear from you.

IN-SCHOOL THEATRE VISIT

We're looking forward to welcoming M&M Productions to school for a performance of *The Wizard of Oz* on the 6th October. It will be lovely for all of the children to experience live theatre together without having to travel, and we're sure they'll enjoy meeting Dorothy and her friends along the way.



The visit has been funded by the Friends of Lodge Lane. A huge thank you to everyone involved in fundraising and supporting the Friends. Your efforts make experiences like this possible for all our children.

GATES AND PARKING

A huge thank you to everyone for the way that you are all walking around the site and keeping the car park gate closed. This is great news and I feel so much happier that children are safe whilst on the site. This is a big reflection on what a great community we have that everyone has responded in such a positive way to our requests. Keep it up!



Unfortunately, the same cannot be said for parking outside school at drop off and pick up times. Parents and carers **must not** park opposite the school at drop-off or collection time. Cars parked there block the view for drivers and pedestrians, making it much harder to see children and families crossing the road. I am seriously concerned that someone could be hurt. Children are so difficult to see when crossing between cars.

There was a near miss at White Woman Lane Junior School last week and we really do not want this to happen here.

Please park on a nearby side road where it is safe and permitted to do so, then walk the short distance to school. Keeping Lodge Lane as clear as possible helps everyone see and be seen. A convenient parking space is never worth putting a child at risk.

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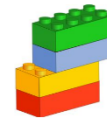
LUNCHTIMES

We are always working on ways to improve our offer for children. Whilst we have some lovely spaces outside with a trim trail, climbing trail, boat, mystical meadow and basketball court for children to play on, we would like to provide some other activities too. To start with, we would love to be able to have a Lego building area at lunchtime as well as some larger items for children to make obstacle courses with and build their own creations. We are therefore looking for donations of the following items:



Lego

Pallets



Planks of wood (smooth with no splinters or nails in)



Plastic Crates

Tyres



If anyone has any of these items, or knows of a contact who could provide these for us, please let your class teacher know or speak to the office to arrange bringing them in. We would be very grateful and we are sure the children will love it!

VOLUNTEERS

We would still love to have more volunteer help in school. There are lots of ways you can get involved, including listening to children read, playing games and helping them practise different skills.

We're particularly keen to welcome volunteers who would enjoy getting involved with our garden area. Some green-fingered grandparents would be really wonderful! If you, or a member of the family, are able to help please contact Belinda or Clare in the office.

RARING2GO! NORWICH AUTUMN MAGAZINE

[PLEASE CLICK HERE TO OPEN MAGAZINE](#)



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BLACK HISTORY MONTH

October is Black History Month and year groups will be discussing this with the children in different ways, appropriate to their age.

In Reception, children will read the book 'My Hair'. In Y1, children will learn about Mae Jemison, the American engineer and former astronaut. In Year 2, children will learn about Katherine Johnson whose calculations as the human computer, enabled the Mercury and Apollo space missions. In assembly, children will learn about Laurie Cunningham, the first black footballer to play for England. Maybe you would like to find out some more about these people at home with your child and let them bring in what they have learned to share with the rest of the class or in Assembly?

MENU CHANGE – 5TH NOVEMBER 2026



SCHOOL POLICIES

Our revised policies are available to read on our website:

<https://www.wensumtrust.org.uk/lodgelane/information/school-policies>

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FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES



READING RECORD BOOKS

Each child will have a Reading Record book. This is primarily for you to record the reading that you have done together at home of their school book. Please write a comment, or simply sign the book each time you have read with your child at home. It is very important to read regularly with your child at home. 10 minutes a day makes all the difference to their progress and skills with reading. Staff will acknowledge the reading you have done at home together although they won't write about the Guided Reading session they have done in school as we find it more useful to be working with the children. We also have our own records we keep in school. Reception children will receive a Reading Record when they take their first reading book home, which will be when they know some more of the sounds we have been teaching and when they can blend sounds together to make words. You can find out more about this at the Reception Phonics Meeting on the 16th of October which you will already have received an email about.



CHILDREN STARTING SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER 2027

If you know anyone whose child is due to start school next September, please encourage them to come and have a look round at our Open Events. Even if they don't live in the local area, they still have a chance of a getting a place.

Monday 12th October - 1:15pm

Thursday 22nd October - 9:30am

Monday 2nd November - 1:15pm

Monday 16th November - 9:30am

Tuesday 1st December - 11:30am

Thursday 17th December 1:15pm

Friday 8th January 1:15pm

Thursday 14th January - 9:30am

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Spooky Specimen Jar Competition

- 💧 **£1 per entry**
- 👻 Create your own **spooky specimen jar** at home.
- 🧴 Your jar can be **filled with a spooky specimen OR simply decorated** — it's completely up to you!
- 🕷 Be as **creative, creepy and imaginative** as you like.
- 🚫 **No real animals, insects, food or anything unsafe.**
- 👨👩 Children can have help from an adult, but we encourage children to get involved in creating their jar.
- 🏷 Please put your **child's name and class** clearly on the jar.
- 📅 **Bring entries into school by Thursday 22nd October.**



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PUPIL PREMIUM AND FREE SCHOOL MEALS ELIGIBILITY

All children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 receive free school meals automatically. However, **if your family receives Universal Credit or another qualifying benefit, please also apply for benefits-related free school meals.** Your application could unlock extra funding and support for your child, even though their lunch is already free.

From September 2026, there are two types of benefits-related entitlement:

- **Targeted:** families receiving Universal Credit with annual earnings below £7,400, or another qualifying benefit. This entitlement also allows the school to receive extra funding called **Pupil Premium**.
- **Expanded:** families receiving Universal Credit with annual earnings above £7,400. This provides free school meals but does not, by itself, qualify a child for Pupil Premium.

Pupil Premium helps us provide additional teaching and support in school. At Lodge Lane, when we receive confirmation that your child is eligible for Pupil Premium, we also pay for **some of their school uniform, all school trips and one after-school club each half term.**

Every eligible application makes a difference, helping us give children the best education and support we can. Please apply through Norfolk County Council using the link below:

www.norfolk.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals

If your child already receives benefits-related free school meals, you do not need to reapply. Norfolk County Council will check eligibility before the start of each school year. Please let the council or school know if your circumstances change.

PARENT/TEACHER MEETINGS

You will soon be able to sign up via Scopay to attend a meeting with your child's teacher after half term. You can sign up for a 10-minute slot with your child's teacher and we offer morning, afternoon and evening appointments. It is an opportunity for you to find out how your child has settled this year and how they are getting on with their learning. You will be sent an email to tell you once these go live to book.

HALF TERM

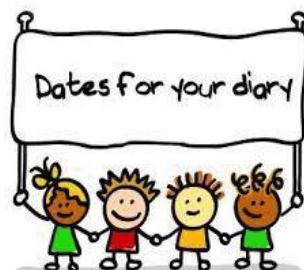


Our last day before the school closes for Half Term is **Thursday 22nd October**

The children come back on **Monday 2nd November.**

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OCTOBER		
7 th	Butterfly Class Curriculum meeting	2.15-2.45pm
8 th	Flu immunisations	Please find up via Vaccination UK email
22 nd	Last day – <u>THIS IS A THURSDAY!</u> School re-opens 2nd November	
NOVEMBER		
2 nd	School reopens	
3 rd	Individual school photos	
9 th	Hedgehog Class parent/teacher meetings	08.40-11.40am
9 th	Owl Class parent/teacher meetings	08.40-11.40am
10 th	Panda Class parent/teacher meetings	08.40-11.40am
11 th	Leopard Class parent/teacher meetings	08.40-11.40am
12 th	Turtle Class parent/teacher meetings	08.40-11.40am
13 th	Tiger Class parent/teacher meetings	08.40-11.40am
19 th	All classes parents/teacher meetings	3.30-6.30pm
20 th	Children in Need	
24 th	YR Screening – National Measurement Programme	
26 th	Dental survey	
27 th	Free dress day	Tombola/raffle donations please

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DECEMBER		
4 th	Friends of Winter Fair	After school
7 th	Y1 Christmas Play	2-3pm
8 th	YR Nativity	2-3pm
9 th	Y1 Christmas Play	2-3pm
10 th	YR Nativity	2-3pm
11 th	Butterfly Class Christmas songs and party	2-3pm
11 th	Christmas Jumper Day	
15 th	Y2 Christmas Carols for parents	2-3pm
16 th	Christmas lunch	
18 th	Last day of term	
JANUARY		
5 th	School reopens	

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KINSALE JUNIOR SCHOOL

Small footprints. Big impact.

OPEN EVENING
Monday 28th September 2026
3:30 – 5:45 PM

We would be delighted to welcome you to take a look around our fabulous school. We look forward to you meeting some of our fantastic staff, who will share valuable insights into why we are the perfect setting to be your child's junior school.

Guided Tours
Please click [here](#) to book a place on one of our guided tours, which will be taking place at the following times:

3:30 – 4:15
4:15 – 5:00
5:00 – 5:45

Contact Us
Tel: 01603 425662
Email: office@kinsalejunior.norfolk.sch.uk

Find out more ...
Visit our school website for more information:
www.wensumtrust.org.uk/kinsalejunior

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FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES



White Woman Lane Junior School

A School Full of Smiles

Open Days Weds 4th & Thurs 5th Nov @ 4pm
email office@whitewomanlane.norfolk.sch.uk
to book a place

Norfolk Schools Of Sanctuary

Ofsted Outstanding

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QR Code

OLD CATTON JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB

Raising funds for the Clubhouse development

GRAND FIREWORKS Night

@LAVARE PARK
Buxton Road, Norwich, NR6 7GD

THURSDAY 5TH NOV
5PM - 10PM

FIREWORKS AT 7:45
LIVE DJ BEFORE & AFTER • FUNFAIR
LICENSED BAR • FOOD

TICKETS FROM TICKET SOURCE
www.ticketsource.co.uk/lavare-park-fc

★ TICKETS ALSO AVAILABLE AT PARISH COUNCIL OFFICE ★

Norfolk Healthy Child Service
Supporting every child, young person and family in Norfolk to flourish

NHS

Are you interested in Volunteering?

We are recruiting Infant Feeding Peer Support Volunteers in Norfolk!

Our Infant feeding peer support volunteers will give valuable emotional and practical infant feeding support.

If you are passionate about Infant Feeding and would like to support Norfolk families on their feeding journey – get in touch.

For more details and to apply:
<https://bttr.im/0dlzo>

Questions? Contact:
eec.volunteers@nhs.net

QR Code

To apply, scan the QR Code

Offering classes in Ballet, Tap, Modern, Acro, Latin & Ballroom, Adult Ballet, Adult Tap

Classes held in Norwich (Vulcan Road), Barford & Barnham Broom

First Class is FREE!

Qualified Teachers in ISTD RAD & Acrobatic Arts

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ACROBATIC ARTS

Perfect Performers School of Dance

For more information please contact Miss Amie & Miss Lara on 07845758957 or 07732628803 or at perfectperformersschoolofdance@gmail.com

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