



# FREEMAN COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

*From tiny acorns mighty oaks grow.*



**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2026**

## Diary Dates

### May

**Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May**  
Bank Holiday

**Week beginning 11<sup>th</sup> May**  
Year 6 SATs week

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> May**  
Year 5 visit to Steeple View to play Ukuleles

**Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May**  
Year 5 visit to Cambridge Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology

**Week beginning 25<sup>th</sup> May**  
May Half term

### June

**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June**  
Children return to school

**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June-Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June**  
Year 4 Multiplication Check Window

**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June- Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June**  
Year 6 Bikeability Group 1

**Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June**  
Year 1 Parent Workshop @ 2pm

**Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June- Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> June**  
Year 6 Bikeability Group 2

## Opening comment

It has been lovely to see the sun shining this week; several classes are making use of the field in their PE lessons as well as in other learning. We hope that the good weather will continue so that the children can use the field at break times and lunch times too. We are very fortunate to have a cricket club starting in school this week on a Friday lunch time. Each week this will be open to different year groups, so that it is open to as many children as possible. Children can share their interest in the club on the day. As the weather is improving, please may I remind parents to ensure that your child has a named sun hat with them as well as a drinks bottle filled with water. Thank you for your continued support.

## Stars of the Week



## Attendance Week beginning 20<sup>th</sup> April 2026

Acorn: 97%  
Cherry Tree: 96.15%  
Maple: 95.6%  
Beech: 100%  
Hazel: 97.67%  
Willow: 95.52%  
Oak: 96.36%  
Well done **Beech Class** for being this week's winners!

## House Points so far...

**Brett: 380**  
**Deben: 313**  
**Orwell: 411**  
**Gipping: 252**  
**Lark: 350**  
**Stour: 313**

## Cherry Tree

We have been very busy with our learning! In maths, we've been exploring volume and capacity, learning what these words mean and experimenting with equipment to find out how many cups it takes to fill different containers. In computing, we have been learning about algorithms and how to follow instructions. The children followed simple instructions to dress a character and discovered how important precise language is, especially when there was more than one option to choose from! We practised using descriptions such as "the white top with three buttons" or "the black shoes with laces." In history, we've begun our exciting new topic on significant people from the past. This week we've looked at Neil Armstrong and have learnt about who he was and why he is a significant figure in history.



PARENTS AND CARERS TOGETHER

**"Supporting you,  
supporting your child"**

Suffolk Support for parents and carers of children and young people with mental health issues

[www.parentsandcarerstogether.co.uk](http://www.parentsandcarerstogether.co.uk)

Helpline number (07856) 038799 (not 24/7)

Support group for parents and carers of children and young people with mental health issues

✉ [parentsandcarerstogether@gmail.com](mailto:parentsandcarerstogether@gmail.com)



**OPEN  
TRIALS**

**TRIALS IN:**  
PETERBOROUGH  
CAMBRIDGESHIRE  
HERTFORDSHIRE  
SUFFOLK  
SURREY



SCAN  
HERE  
TO  
BOOK



**Suffolk Parent Carer Forum**

Invites parents and carers to our

**SEND Reforms Focus Group**

This focus group is an opportunity to share your thoughts and feelings on the SEND reforms with us.

**Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> April 10:30 – 12:00**

This is a virtual meeting hosted on Microsoft Teams and requires registration. If you would like to participate and share feedback, please email [info@suffolkpcf.co.uk](mailto:info@suffolkpcf.co.uk) to register your interest



Working towards a brighter future for Suffolk's children and young people

[suffolkpcf.co.uk](http://suffolkpcf.co.uk) 01473 760933 [info@suffolkpcf.co.uk](mailto:info@suffolkpcf.co.uk)



**Suffolk Parent Carer Forum**

Invites parents and carers to our

**Reasonable Adjustments  
Workshop for Parents and Carers**

Kindly provided by Unique Neuro Wellness Ltd.

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May 10:30 - 11:15**

This is a virtual meeting hosted on Microsoft Teams and requires registration. If you would like to participate and share feedback, please email [info@suffolkpcf.co.uk](mailto:info@suffolkpcf.co.uk) to register your interest



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**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 17<sup>th</sup> June 2026  
10AM – 1PM**

More information to follow nearer the time

01473 760933 [info@suffolkpcf.co.uk](mailto:info@suffolkpcf.co.uk) [www.suffolkpcf.co.uk](http://www.suffolkpcf.co.uk)

[FACEBOOK.COM/SUFFOLKPCF](https://www.facebook.com/suffolkpcf)

## Sports Day 2026

We have planned to hold sports day on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> June this year, with children completing their races in the morning.

We would like to invite parents to watch the children's races (times to be confirmed) and stay in school to have a picnic lunch with your children.

In the afternoon, the children will then complete a Sponsored Colour Run, please find more information about this below.

If sports day needs to be cancelled due to adverse weather, we have a back up date planned for Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> July.

## Book Recommendations

Looking for book recommendations for you child who has been hooked by a particular series or author and are now ready to branch out?

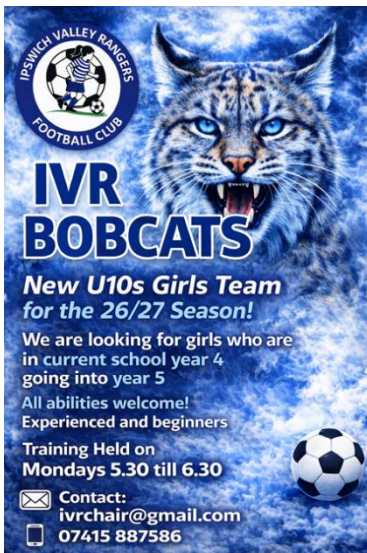
Follow the link below to the Books for Topics website who may be able to help! Books for Topics help readers of all ages discover new books or authors they will love.

<https://www.booksfortopics.com/booklists/branching-out/>

## My Clothing Discount

Use code **INTAKE26** at checkout to enjoy 10% off all orders until 31st July\*

## \*NEW\* Yr 4 and Yr 5 Girls Football Team



**IVR BOBCATS**  
New U10s Girls Team for the 26/27 Season!  
We are looking for girls who are in current school year 4 going into year 5  
All abilities welcome!  
Experienced and beginners  
Training Held on Mondays 5.30 till 6.30  
Contact: ivrchair@gmail.com  
07415 887586

## Friends of Freeman; Sponsored Colour Run



We're excited to welcome back our much-loved Sponsored Colour Run this summer! To help make the event even more successful, we're looking for local business sponsors who would be featured across our communications while supporting fundraising for our village school. If you work for, or know of, a company that might like to get involved, we'd love to hear from you.

We're also on the lookout for parent volunteers to help on the day - especially those who don't mind getting a little messy! Please get in touch if you'd like to be part of the fun.

Speak to Mrs Oxborrow at school or email

## Flatford Nature Day- May Half Term

### Flatford Nature Day Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2026

Visit Flatford for our May half-term Nature Day

Join in for free, nature-themed activities and crafts including:

- Pond dipping
  - Bug hunting
  - Tree trails
  - Making nature's colour palette
  - Using a solar telescope
- ...and much more!



Drop in activities 11am - 4pm



Enjoy the outdoors around Flatford for the day. There will be something for all the family!

River Stour Trust boat trips are free for children under 14 when accompanied by £8.00 per paying adult. There is a charge of £1.00 for adults for the National Trust car park for non-members. Gift Aid: Stour Council Ref: 00145818. 01206 207138 for more details.



## MENU CHANGE Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> April



**GET ACTIVE DAY**  
WEDNESDAY 29<sup>TH</sup> APRIL  
Energy Boost Chicken Wrap or Coronation Chickpea Wrap  
Served with Sprint Speed homemade sweet potato wedges, Crunchy Salad & Yoghurt Dip  
Followed by Fruit Smoothie Or Fresh Fruit pot  
LUNCHTIME CO

### Get Active Theme Day

Option 1: Chicken Wrap  
Option 2: Coronation Chickpea Wrap  
Served with Sweet Potato Wedges and a side salad / vegetable sticks.

Dessert options will be:  
Fruit Smoothie or Fresh Fruit Pot.

## Paired Reading

Did you know that once a fortnight, classes pair up in school and read together? The pairs change each term so that the children experience reading with a number of their peers and sometimes their siblings or other family members! Take a look below at children from Acorn and Willow Classes reading together.



## Premier Holiday Club- May Half Term

**HOLIDAY CLUBS**

**PREMIER HOLIDAY CLUBS**

**MORE fun, MORE friendships, MORE smiles during the MAY HALF-TERM!**

**Book today**  
premier-education.com

**Excellent**  
Trustpilot

### YOUR LOCAL MULTI-ACTIVITY CLUBS...

**Fairfield Infant School**  
Tuesday 26th - Friday 29th May 2026  
Reception - Year 6  
9:00am - 3:30pm ~~£34.50~~ £27.60  
8:00am - 5:30pm ~~£45.50~~ £36.40  
Automatic 20% discount until 12th May 2026

**St Peter & St Paul's CofE Primary School**  
Tuesday 26th - Friday 29th May 2026  
Reception - Year 6  
9:00am - 3:30pm ~~£34.50~~ £27.60  
8:00am - 5:30pm ~~£45.50~~ £36.40  
Automatic 20% discount until 12th May 2026

**Rushmere Hall Primary School**  
Tuesday 26th - Friday 29th May 2026  
Reception - Year 6  
9:00am - 3:30pm ~~£34.50~~ £27.60  
Automatic 20% discount until 12th May 2026

Venues marked with are CofE and accept children's vouchers

**Kyson Primary School**  
Tuesday 26th - Thursday 28th May 2026  
Reception - Year 6  
9:00am - 3:30pm ~~£34.50~~ £27.60  
8:00am - 5:30pm ~~£45.50~~ £36.40  
Automatic 20% discount until 12th May 2026



Looking for something exciting this May?

Whether your child enjoys energetic sports, exciting games, or hands-on arts and crafts inspired by their favourite cartoons - our Holiday Clubs are perfect for active minds and imagination this half term.

Premier Education South Suffolk  
 premedsuffolk

**Book now** for an unforgettable half-term!

**Excellent**  
Trustpilot

# **SCHOOL GOVERNOR VACANCY**

**Join Our Governing Body – Make a Difference at Freeman Community Primary School and for the future of Stowupland!**

**Are you passionate about education and eager to make a positive impact in your community?**

Freeman Community Primary School is looking for volunteers to join our governing body as Governors. As a Governor, you'll play a vital role in setting the school's strategic direction, supporting and challenging our leadership team, and ensuring the best outcomes for our pupils.

**This is a voluntary role, open to all individuals from all walks of life.**

## **What We Offer:**

- A chance to develop new skills and gain valuable experience in governance and education
- Ongoing training and support to help you fulfil your role
- The opportunity to work with a committed and friendly team
- The satisfaction of making a difference to children's lives and your local community

## **What We're Looking For:**

- Individuals who are committed, curious, and willing to learn
- Good communicators who are able to work as part of a team
- People who will bring enthusiasm, integrity, and a willingness to support our vision

No previous experience in education or governance is required – just a commitment to helping our school succeed!

**Location: Freeman Community Primary School**

## **Commitments: What we need from you is:**

- 6x evening meetings per year – one each half term
- 3x committee meetings per year – one each term
- Occasional visits to the school to find out more about the learning

**Safeguarding: Freeman Community Primary School** is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. All appointments will be subject to satisfactory safeguarding checks including a Disclosure and Barring check.

**How to Apply:** If you are interested in this exciting opportunity to support your local school and shape the future of our pupils, please contact our Office Manager, Jenny Fairburn for more information or to request an application pack.

**Freeman Community Primary School, Church Road, Stowupland, Stowmarket IP14 4BQ.  
T: 01449 612067 E: [admin@freemancpschool.co.uk](mailto:admin@freemancpschool.co.uk)**

*From tiny acorns do mighty oaks grow*

# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about YOUTUBE

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Almost anyone with an internet connection knows about YouTube. The Google-owned platform allows users to upload and share videos globally, making it a readily accessible resource with free content on almost any topic. However, with over 20 million videos uploaded each day, not all material is suitable for younger audiences.

## INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT



YouTube is free and can be accessed across multiple device types, even without an account. While some videos are marked as 'age restricted', this relies on uploader honesty and automated moderation, meaning children and young people may still encounter unsuitable content if these measures aren't taken.

## CONNECTING WITH STRANGERS



YouTube includes social features such as comments and direct messaging. This means young users can interact with people they don't know, potentially exposing them to inappropriate language, cyberbullying, or unwanted contact. Young content creators may be especially vulnerable.

## TRENDS AND CHALLENGES



Popular trends and challenges can be entertaining and widely shared. While many are harmless, some can be risky or harmful if copied. For example, the 'salt and ice challenge' has caused injuries when imitated.

## SUGGESTED CONTENT



YouTube recommends videos based on what a user has previously watched. While this can enhance the experience, it may also encourage binge-watching and excessive screen time, particularly when Autoplay is enabled. Without an account, users are shown trending videos, which are not always age appropriate.

## EXPOSURE TO EXTREME CONTENT



The platform's algorithm often promotes content that attracts high engagement, which can sometimes include videos containing extreme viewpoints, misinformation, or risky behaviour. As children and young people watch more of this content, similar videos are likely to be recommended by YouTube's algorithm, therefore reinforcing the exposure.

## SHORT-FORM CONTENT IMPACT



YouTube Shorts – short, fast-paced videos – are designed for continuous viewing. This style of content can be highly engaging but may also contribute to increased screen time and difficulties with maintaining focus over longer periods.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### CONSIDER YOUTUBE KIDS



YouTube Kids can help reduce young users' exposure to unsuitable content by filtering videos into age groups, such as preschool, younger, and older children. However, as moderation is automated, it should be used alongside active supervision.

### CHECK PRIVACY SETTINGS



If a child in your care uploads content, consider setting videos to Private or Unlisted so they are only shared with trusted viewers. Disabling comments can also help reduce unwanted interaction from strangers.

### USE PARENTAL CONTROLS



Google Family Link allows adults to filter content, monitor usage, and manage younger users' screen time. Supervised Accounts offer a gradual step up from YouTube Kids, enabling children to explore the platform with appropriate safeguards.

### WATCH TOGETHER



Spending time watching YouTube with the children and young people in your care can help you understand what they enjoy and guide your conversations about content. Tools like Downtime in Family Link can also help limit unsupervised viewing.

### Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for publications including Wired, TechRadar, Tom's Guide, The Evening Standard and The New Statesman.

