



FREEMAN COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

From tiny acorns mighty oaks grow.



Friday 3rd October 2025

Diary Dates

October

Thursday 2nd, Friday 3rd and Monday 6th October
Book Fair after school

Tuesday 7th October
Parent Consultations

Thursday 9th October
Parent Consultations

Wednesday 22nd October- Friday 24th October
Year 6 Residential

Friday 24th October
Break up for Half Term

November

Monday 3rd November
Children return to school

Friday 21st November
Willow Class Parent Workshop

Wednesday 26th November
Hazel Class Parent Workshop

December

Thursday 4th December
Beech Class Parent Workshop

Opening comment

I have walked around school this week as children have completed phonics and reading sessions. It has been brilliant to see the children progress during their time in Freeman, from some super segmenting and blending in Acorns, to providing excellent reasoning and understanding in Key Stage 2. Please remember to read 5 times a week with your child for them to receive a house point; reading regularly now to improve fluency and comprehension makes a huge difference to opportunities your child may have later in life!

Stars of the week



Attendance Week beginning 29th September 2025

Acorn: 97.6%
Cherry Tree: 97%
Maple: 96.6%
Beech: 94.8%
Hazel: 97 %
Willow: 95.2%
Oak: 98.2%
Well done **Oak Class** for being this week's winners!

House Points so far...

Brett: 913

Deben: 947

Orwell: 707

Gipping: 709

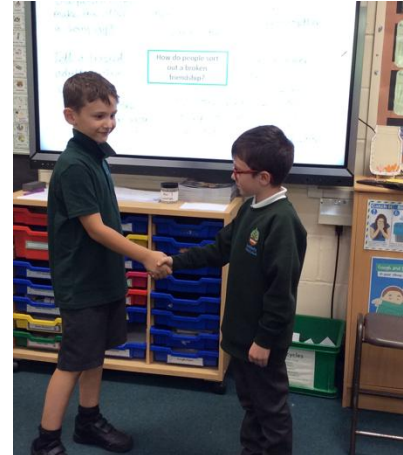
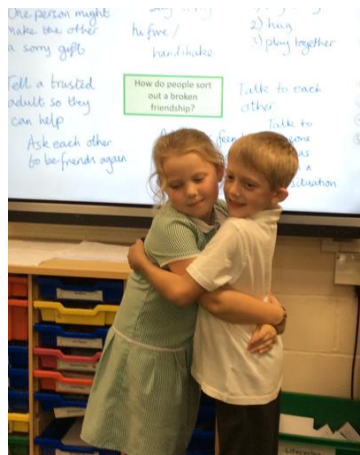
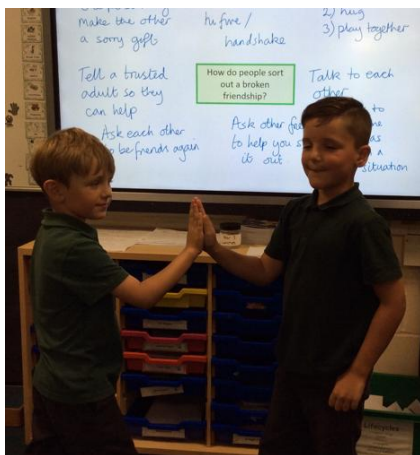
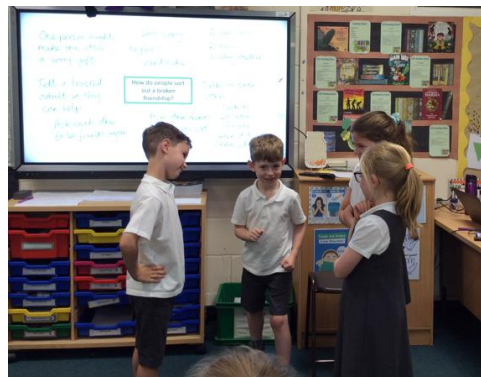
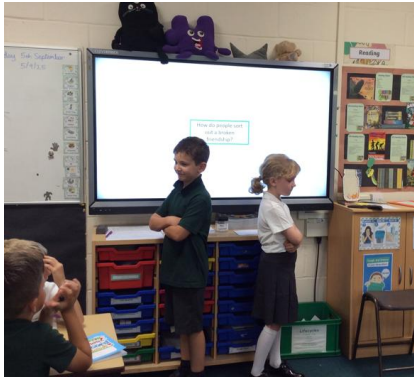
Lark: 832

Stour: 751

Beech Class

Year 3 have made a fantastic start to the new school year. They've settled in well and are beginning to feel confident with the new routines and expectations that come with moving up to Key Stage 2. It's been lovely to see their growing independence and enthusiasm for learning as they adjust to life in Year 3.

In RE, we've been exploring the theme of Reconciliation - what it means to make peace and restore relationships after a disagreement. The children have engaged thoughtfully in discussions about forgiveness and how we can show kindness and understanding to others. As part of this topic, we took photographs to illustrate different ways we might reconcile after an argument. These included gestures like saying sorry, offering a hug, or simply talking things through calmly. The children showed great empathy and creativity in their responses.



Winners!

We're incredibly proud to share that **Freeman** secured **Team Gold** in the cross-country competition held on Friday afternoon at **Thurston Community College**. The team delivered outstanding performances across the board, tackling a tough and hilly 2km course with determination and spirit.

Alongside the team victory, individual runners also brought home **silver and bronze medals**, highlighting the strength of our squad. Freeman placed **4th overall** in both the boys' and girls' races, which is a fantastic achievement. We're now eagerly awaiting confirmation to see if their times will qualify for the **finals** - fingers crossed! It was a brilliant afternoon filled with stamina, sportsmanship, and success - a truly fantastic start to this year's sporting calendar.



What is TTRockstars

TT Rockstars is a fun and engaging online platform that helps children build confidence and fluency in their times tables. Through fast-paced games and challenges, pupils practise multiplication and division facts while earning coins to personalise their rock star avatars. It's a great way to boost speed and accuracy in maths - especially helpful for KS2 and the Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check.

Next week, the battle begins!

Year 3 and Year 4 will go head-to-head in a week-long times tables competition. Who will come out on top? Let the challenge begin!

Battle of the Bands!

TIMES TABLES ROCK STARS

Year 3 vs Year 4

The next battle will commence on the 6th October - 12th October

2*2=

BBC 500 Words: an exciting opportunity

There's a fantastic writing competition you and your child might enjoy taking part in. The BBC's 500 Words contest is now open from 23rd September to Friday 7th November, and it's a great chance to get creative together!

Can your child write a story of up to 500 words?

There are two age categories: **5-7 and 8-11 year olds** and spelling, punctuation and grammar are not marked.

Further information can be found [here](#).



Bury Literacy Festival



This year's Festival runs from Sunday 5th October to Sunday 19th October.



Introducing Our New After-School Club name: The Den

Freeman Community Primary School's Wrap Around Care is now open!

"The Den" is now available every school day.

Session times: 3:15pm-4:15pm and 4:15pm-5:15pm

Cost: £5 per session

Tax Free Childcare Accounts can be used. Parents pay £4 a session, the Government tops up the rest!

Please ask the office for more information

Chocolate BINGO

Friday 17th October

3.30-5.00PM

A fun filled family event with a chance to win lots of sweets and chocolate goodies!

£3pp for 5 games! CASH ONLY pre sale of tickets the week before. 8th, 9th, 10th on the playground at 3pm



Update 2 - 2025

NEWS LETTER



Stowmarket Foodbank
Supporting Individuals and Families in Crisis in Stowmarket, Needham Market and Surrounding Areas.

Harvest Season

Is a great time of year filling the barns with Corn, and generating food supplies to take us through the coming winter. It's a time of celebrating, SEED - TIME - HARVEST

We need your Harvest donations to rebuild the Foodbank stocks ready for winter! 2024 Harvest a record for us, receiving 52 Harvest collections. #Wow.

Working with our 70 referral agents. To ensure integrity of Foodbank and all the local Supermarkets. (call us for your groups Harvest Presentation)



Top Up Shop

**Tuesday & Wednesdays
10.30 - 11.30 Each Week
Catholic Centre, Stowmarket**

Stowmarket Foodbank
Touching Lives, meeting needs
Tel: 01449 774000 E-mail: office@livingit.org.uk
Admin Red Gables, Stowmarket IP14 1BE
Charity No: 1074780

Acorn Class

Acorn Class photo will appear in the East Anglian Daily Times on **Wednesday 15th October*** as part of their First Class Supplement.

**Please note that this is a change from the original date advised.*



World Mental Health Day

To acknowledge World Mental Health Day on **Friday, 10th October**, we invite all children to come to school wearing yellow. This small gesture helps us raise awareness and show support for mental health and wellbeing. Whether it's a yellow t-shirt, socks, or even a hair accessory – every splash of yellow counts!

Thank you for your support 🧡

Attendance matters

Attendance %	Impact over 1 school year	Impact over 5 school years
100%	0 days missed	0 days missed
96%	8 days missed	¼ year learning lost
90%	19 days missed	½ year learning lost
85%	28 days missed	¾ year learning lost
80%	38 days missed	1 year learning lost
75%	47 days missed	1 ¼ years learning lost

Applying for a Secondary School

The admissions process is different for children and young people who already have EHC plans. However, if you have requested an EHC needs assessment, or this is underway, do still apply through admissions, as there is no guarantee the assessment will lead to an EHC plan.

[Apply for a secondary school place 2026/2027 - Suffolk County Council](#)

Our web information includes:

[Choosing a school for a child with SEND - Suffolk SENDIASS](#)

[Transition tips \(changing school or key stage\) - Suffolk SENDIASS](#)

[SEN Support - Suffolk SENDIASS](#)

[SEN Information Report - Suffolk SENDIASS](#)

[Preparing for the transition to secondary school for children with SEN – webinar recording](#)

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about EA SPORTS FC 26



Our guide looks at the risks surrounding EA Sports FC 26 and our top tips to minimise them. This marks the third year since EA left the FIFA licence, and the game is mostly unchanged from last year. While Kick-Off mode is great for playing with friends and Career Mode allows players to fulfill long-term ambitions as a manager or player, Ultimate Team remains the main draw for many players – and it can get out of hand in terms of how much money players can invest.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

AN ANNUAL RELEASE SCHEDULE

As was the case with the last two EA Sports FC games and the FIFA series before it, the franchise rolls out once a year with updated squads and new features. This can make it expensive to keep up with, particularly when so many dedicated players are keen to get their hands on the latest edition.

VOICE CHAT

Voice chat can be enabled across all platforms, meaning young people can speak to anyone they play with or against. While it can be switched off, some children will no doubt want to speak to their friends while they play. This also means they may encounter strangers much older than them, which can expose them to inappropriate language or behaviours.

IN-GAME PURCHASES THROUGH ULTIMATE TEAM

Ultimate Team is the big draw for EA Sports FC, letting players spend real money on packs that they can open to build a squad of the world's best players. They're not always easy to obtain, and new, improved versions of players will be regularly added as limited-time offerings. Young people could feel pressured into spending money and experience fear of missing out.

SCAMMERS IN ULTIMATE TEAM

Ultimate Team is managed by EA itself, but that hasn't stopped scammers from looking to dupe players out of money and in-game coins. Some scammers sell their accounts, which is a violation of EA's terms of service, while others will 'sell' coins – something the developer is still working to crack down on. Some try to gain access to others' accounts, potentially giving them access to payment information.

POTENTIAL FOR ADDICTION

While EA Sports FC is potentially addictive, thanks to its fast-paced gameplay and mirroring of the real-world skill and glamour of football, Ultimate Team's focus on limited-time rewards and the lottery of winning packs can make it feel closer to gambling than gaming, which may lead to addiction and impulsive spending of money.

Advice for Parents & Educators

PREPARE FOR ANOTHER GAME IN A YEAR

The annual-release cadence aligns with the return of the school year, and can be a great way to incentivise good behaviour at the start of term. If children are applying themselves and preparing for a new year of school, or were particularly well behaved in the summer, EA Sports FC 26 could make a great reward.

LIMIT SPENDING

If you're worried about children accidentally spending real money in Ultimate Team, whether in game or on the EA Sports FC companion app, don't link a payment card to their account. Reclaiming funds can be a mountain to climb, and the dopamine hit of opening flashy packs with slick animations means one purchase can lead to another very quickly. It's also worth adding a prepaid card if you'd prefer them to make their own choices with their budget.

MONITOR VOICE CHAT

As in-game chat is open, be sure to adjust the settings in EA Sports FC 26 to lock it down. If children want to chat with their friends while they play, consider setting up a safe space for them to call, to allow them to play without fear of outsiders.

BE VIGILANT

As with last year, there are ways to keep scammers at bay. Ensure passwords are locked down, and consider using a password manager application to keep them secure. EA will never contact players through the game itself, so be vigilant with incoming messages, and block and report suspected spam. EA will contact players by email if needed, but they will never ask for usernames or passwords. Players should also avoid buying in-game currency from unofficial websites – doing so can lead to accounts being banned and could cost players money in the process.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is an experienced freelance writer and has been working in the gaming and tech industry for seven years. A regular visitor to the App Store to try out new tools, he's also a parent and therefore understands the importance of online safety. He's also a tech and fitness writer and has been published at sites including IGN, TechRadar, and plenty more.

