Nightingale Infant and Nursery School Weekly Newsletter 19.10.2026

Fair, **F**riendly and **I**nclusive
Listen and Learn and Be Curious
Open, Honest and Respectful
Courageous, Confident and Caring
Keep safe and Be Kind

Our **FLOCK** Value this week is:
Fair, **F**riendly and **I**nclusive

Dear Families,

It has been lovely walking around the school this week and seeing the wonderful interventions taking place. The range of support we offer our children, the positive relationships that have been developed between staff and pupils, and the progress children are making have all been fantastic to see.

Thank you to everyone for your hard work and commitment. The care, expertise and dedication you show every day make a real difference to our children and their outcomes.

If you would like to find out more about the interventions and support available to our pupils, please visit our SEND page on the school website:

🔗 **https://www.nightingaleinfant.co.uk/information/send-inclusion-equalities/**

Thank you again for all that you do to help our children thrive.

Please see important information below regarding change to our attendance and absence reporting procedures.

We hope you have a lovely week and a fantastic half term. Please be reminded that our last day is Thursday, finishing at the usual time of 3.15pm. We look forward to welcoming all of the children back on Monday 2nd November.

Sarah Hutt and Sarah Findlay and the NIANS Team

Attendance



Attendance – Reception/Year 1/Year 2

Attendance last week	Attendance this term
96.2 %	**96.5 %**

Our aim is to maintain the attendance above 96%

Safeguarding or Welfare Concerns – Where to contact

If you have safeguarding or welfare concerns about a child in Norfolk when outside of school and want to speak to someone:

The Norfolk Children's Advice and Duty Service (CADS)

Public Line: **0344 800 8020** (Connects via Norfolk County Council Customer Services, available 24/7 for urgent concerns or the Emergency Duty Team out-of-hours)

If you consider the incident to be an emergency, **call 999**.

REMINDER - Road Safety

Please do not park on zig-zag markings, double yellow lines, pavements, or across residents' driveways. These restrictions are in place to ensure clear visibility for children crossing the road and to allow safe access for pedestrians, emergency vehicles, and local residents.

We would also encourage parents and carers to make use of the **library car park** when dropping off or collecting children.

When walking to and from school, **children must remain with their parent or carer at all times**. Please ensure children stay close to you, hold hands where appropriate, and use designated crossing points.

Thank you for your continued support and cooperation.

School photos Order

The online cut-off date for orders to be placed for free postage back to the school is **20th October 2026 midnight.**

New School Meals Menu

We will be changing our school meals provider from Norse to Nourish after half term. We will share the new menu with parents as soon as it becomes available.

Dear Parents and Carers,

A warm welcome to the Nourish family!

We are delighted to introduce Nourish Contract Catering as your new school catering provider. We know a good lunch makes a big difference to a child's day, and we look forward to making lunchtime a happy, welcoming, and tasty experience.

Since 2003, Nourish Contract Catering has been bringing freshly prepared food to school communities. Our approach is shaped by four pillars that sit at the heart of the Nourish family:

Food First – Preparing fresh, nutritious meals that children enjoy, with menus that balance familiar favourites and new flavours, meet the School Food Standards and use seasonal ingredients wherever possible.

Customer – Getting to know your school community and listening to children, parents and staff. Your feedback helps us develop a service that works for you.

Family Led – Putting people and relationships at the heart of our approach, supporting our catering teams and working closely with your school so children see friendly faces who care about their lunchtime experience.

Responsible – Taking care in how we source, prepare and serve our food, supporting individual dietary needs and finding ways to reduce waste and care for the environment.

There will be plenty to look forward to, from colourful menus and themed lunches to food activities that encourage children to explore new tastes. Our mascots, Chef Nourish and Gardener Nourish, may also make an appearance!

We understand that starting a new meal service can bring questions, particularly if your child has an allergy or special dietary requirement. Please let the school know before your child begins taking meals so we can work together to discuss their needs and agree suitable arrangements.

Menus and further details will be shared before we begin. We look forward to meeting your children, hearing their ideas and helping them build a positive relationship with food.

Warm wishes,

The Nourish Team
Nourish Contract Catering Limited

New procedures – How to Report Absence and Leave of Absence Requests

Absence Reporting

With immediate effect, absences can no longer be reported using the school voicemail system.

We ask that all absences are reported through Weduc wherever possible.

If you are unable to access Weduc, you may report your child's absence by emailing the school office or by telephoning the school and speaking directly with a member of the office team.

Please be aware that absence notifications can only be accepted from a parent/carer or other authorised contact whose details are recorded on the child's file. If an email or telephone call is received from

someone who is not listed as an authorised contact, we will need to contact the child's parent(s)/carer(s) to verify the absence before it can be recorded.

Our IT team are currently removing the voicemail option from the school's telephone system. As a result, absence messages left on voicemail will not be monitored and may result in your child's absence not being recorded.

Leave of Absence Request Form

Leave of Absence requests can now only be made using a Leave of Absence Request Form.

Paper copies of the form are available from the school office. If you are unable to collect a form in person, you may contact the office and request that a copy is sent home in your child's book bag. Alternatively, the form can be downloaded from the school website, printed and completed at home (Attendance – Nightingale Infant & Nursery School)

Completed forms can be returned to the school office or handed directly to a member of staff on the gate at the start of the school day.

Please note that requests made by email, telephone or conversation cannot be accepted and must be submitted using the official Leave of Absence Request Form.

Thank you for your cooperation in helping us maintain accurate attendance records and ensure the safety and welfare of all pupils.

Reception- Local visit

Taverham Mill Visits

As part of our learning about the seasons, habitats and our local environment, Reception children will be visiting **Taverham Mill on 11th November**. This exciting opportunity will allow children to explore the natural environment, observe seasonal changes and learn more about local wildlife and their habitats. The visit is fully funded by the school and there will be no cost to families.

It would be wonderful if some parents and carers were able to join us and support the children during the session. If you are interested in volunteering, please complete the form using the link below:

Parent Volunteer Form for **Reception parents only**: **Taverham Mill Visit Parents/Carers Volunteers – Fill in form**

Robin A- 9:10- 10:50 (these are estimated times the session at the mill will run from 9:30-10:30)

Robin B- 10:10- 11:50 (these are estimated times the session at the mill will run from 10:30-11:30)

Please note that this visit is weather dependent. If there is torrential rain or severe weather forecast, we may need to postpone the visit and will inform families of any changes as soon as possible.

As part of our commitment to providing children with meaningful outdoor learning experiences, these visits will take place each term throughout the year. By revisiting the same environment across different seasons, children will be able to observe and compare changes over time, developing a deeper understanding of the local environment, habitats and seasonal patterns.

Key Stage 1 children visiting Taverham Mill – 2nd December 2026

Swallow 9:10am

Raven 10:10am

Chaffinch 1:10pm

More information and parent will follow, and Nursery children will begin their visits during the Spring Term.

We are looking forward to sharing these exciting learning experiences with our children and families.

Message to Parents - Play Leaders

Our Play Leaders are beginning to plan some exciting games and activities for lunchtime. As part of their role, we would like them to think about a game that they could organise and lead for other children to enjoy.

Please encourage your child to spend some time over the coming week thinking about:

- A game they would like to run at lunchtime
- The equipment they might need
- The rules of the game
- How they can make sure everyone is included and has fun

We look forward to hearing their fantastic ideas and seeing them develop their leadership skills by creating enjoyable play opportunities for others.

Thank you for your support.

The Play Leader Team

Barn Owls

We are looking for some of our enthusiastic Barn Owl children to support us at our upcoming Open Evening on Wednesday 11th November from 5pm to 6:00pm. Can the children arrive via the school office and meet Mrs Findlay at 4:45pm.

This is a wonderful opportunity for the children to act as ambassadors for our school by showing prospective parents around, talking about their experiences, and sharing what makes our school such a special place to learn and grow.

If your child would like to help, please ensure they attend in their full school uniform. We know they will do a fantastic job of representing our school and helping visitors feel welcome.

If your child is available and would like to take part, please let us know.

Thank you for your continued support.

Barn Owls Supporting Nursery

Our Barn Owls have had their first week supporting the Nursery children at lunchtime, and it has been wonderful to see. The children have really embraced their new responsibilities, showing kindness, confidence and maturity as they help and encourage the younger children.

It has been lovely to watch both the Barn Owls and the Nursery children flourish through these interactions. The positive relationships that are already developing are a credit to our children, and the feedback from both staff and pupils has been fantastic.

We are incredibly proud of our Barn Owls for being such excellent role models and look forward to seeing this initiative continue to grow over the coming weeks.

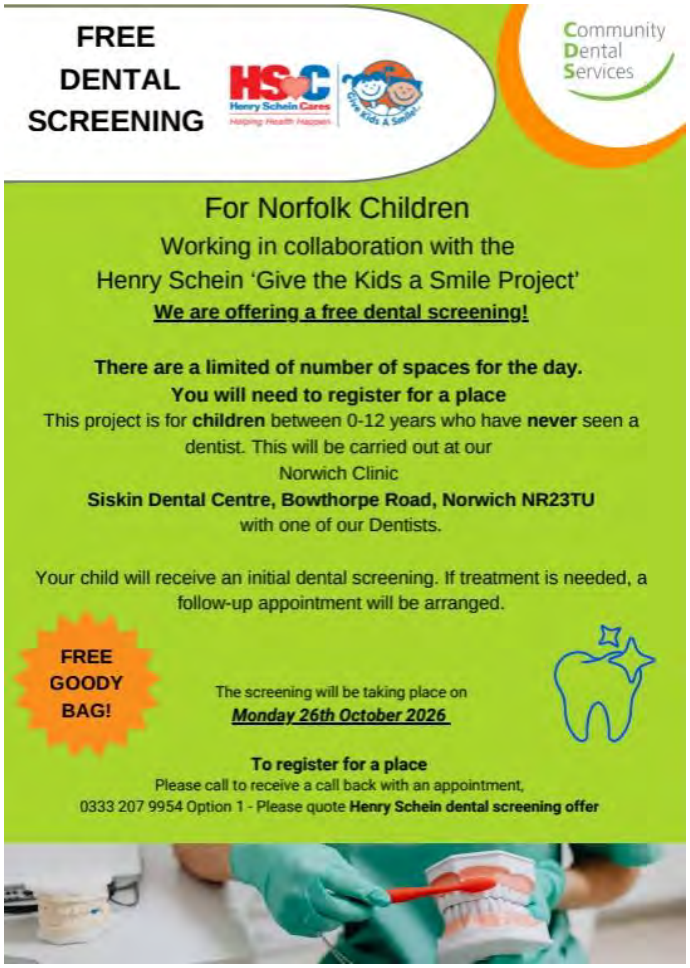
Eco Schools

There are still places available for your children to become a member of the school's Eco Committee. We will be working towards gaining our school a Green Flag.

Our club will meet to plan helpful projects to help our school and community. If your child wants to be a part of this, please speak to Mrs Turner on Thursday.

Thank you.

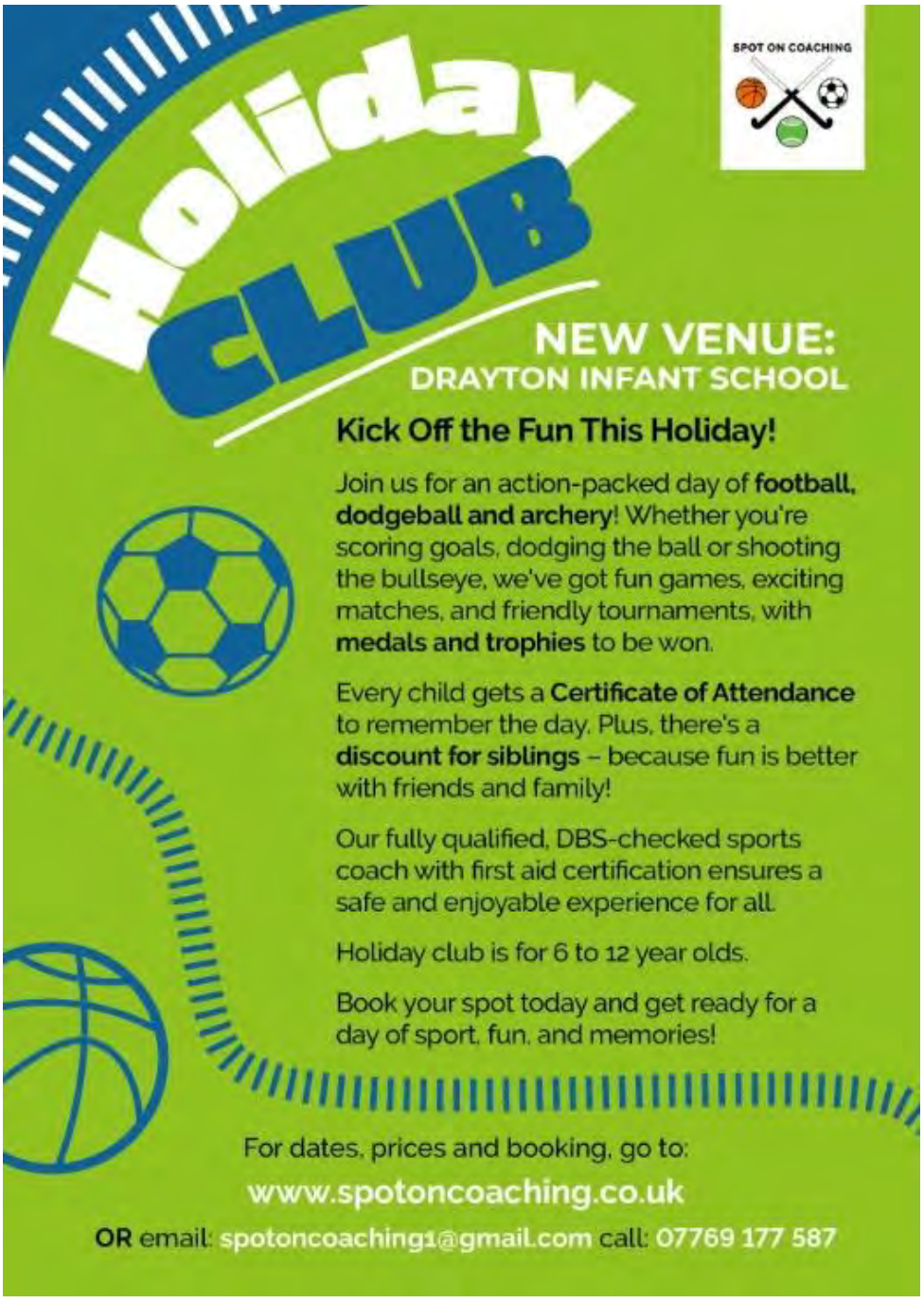
Free Dental Screening



Autism Anglia



October Half Term Sports Activities



SESMA Martial Arts Open Day

For booking: www.sesma.co.uk





https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/2003169846936?aff=oddtdtcreator

Open Day for Reception September 2027



Dates for the diary

More information to follow on some events.

October 2026		
21.10.2026	Wednesday	Reception The National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP)
22.10.2026	Thursday	School closes 3.15pm for Half Term

November 2026		
02.11.2026	Monday	School re-opens for Autumn 2 term
04.11.2026	Wednesday	YR/Y1/Y2 flu vaccination
05.11.2026	Thursday	Fire safety assembly with the fire brigade
11.11.2026	Wednesday	YR visiting Taverham Mill
13.11.2026	Friday	Children in Need- wear something spotty or brightly coloured
16.11.2026	Monday	Children wear odd socks (with normal uniform) to launch antibullying week.
17.11.2026	Tuesday	YR/Y1/Y2 flu vaccination (catch up in needed)
18.11.2026	Wednesday	9-9.40am KS1 Phonics Cafe for parents – Please go to your child's class when drop off
24.11.2026	Tuesday	Parents Evening - Wagtail/Reception/Y1/Y2
26.11.2026	Thursday	Parents Evening – Wren/Wagtail/Reception/Y1/Y2

December 2026		
02.12.2026	Wednesday	KS1 visiting Taverham Mill
08.12.2026	Tuesday	Reception Nativity
09.12.2026	Wednesday	Reception Nativity
11.12.2026	Friday	Nursery Crafts and Carols in afternoon
14.12.2026	Monday	Story with Santa – Raven and Reception
15.12.2026	Tuesday	Story with Santa – Chaffinch and Swallow
15.12.2026	Tuesday	KS1 Carol Concert at the church
16.12.2026	Wednesday	Story with Santa - Nursery

16.12.2026	Wednesday	Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Lunch
18.12.2026	Friday	Last day of Autumn 2 term

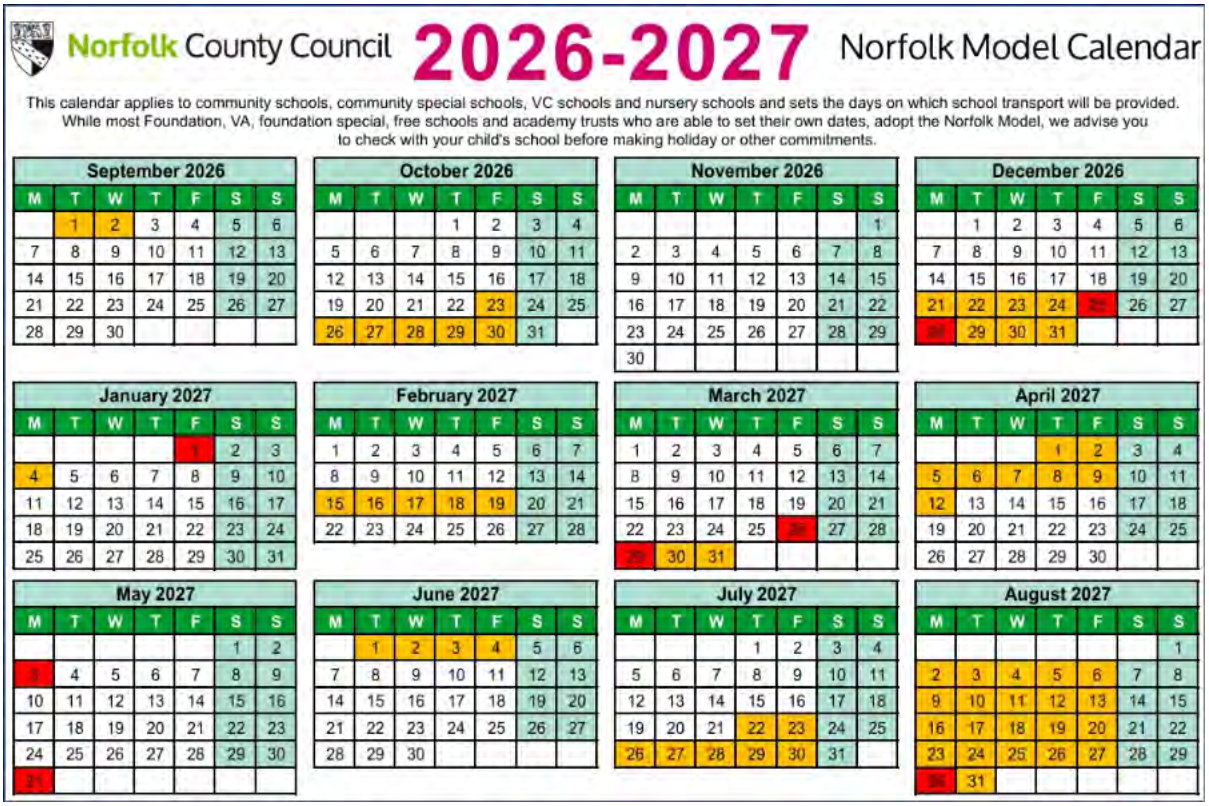
January 2027		
28.01.2027	Thursday	Reception- Visit to Taverham Mill

February 2027		
25.01.2026	Thursday	KS1- Visit to Taverham Mill

More dates 2027 to come once confirmed.

Term dates

Key : White dates - schools open to pupils
Yellow dates - pupil holiday
Red dates - bank holiday



Norfolk County Council **2026-2027** Norfolk Model Calendar

This calendar applies to community schools, community special schools, VC schools and nursery schools and sets the days on which school transport will be provided. While most Foundation, VA, foundation special, free schools and academy trusts who are able to set their own dates, adopt the Norfolk Model, we advise you to check with your child's school before making holiday or other commitments.

September 2026

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October 2026

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January 2027

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February 2027

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November 2027

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December 2027

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January 2028

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February 2028

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March 2028

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April 2028

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May 2028

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June 2028

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July 2028

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