

Mendham Primary School & Nursery
Mendham
IP20 0NJ
Tel: 01379 852520



St. Edmund's Primary School
Hoxne
IP21 5AD
Tel: 01379 668283

Academy Head – Henry Huxtable
Email: head.wvp@consortiumtrust.org.uk

Dear Parents and Carers,

Friday 16th January 2026

I hope this newsletter finds you and your families well as we continue to move through what has already been a busy and productive couple of weeks at school. It has been a real pleasure to see classrooms full of purposeful learning, children proud of their work, and plenty of smile and laughter.

Attendance – Every Day Counts

We know that children achieve best when they are in school regularly. Every day in the classroom matters — not just for academic learning, but for friendships, routines, confidence, and wellbeing. Even small amounts of time missed can add up quickly and make learning feel harder for children. We completely understand that children will occasionally be unwell, and of course we ask that you keep your child at home if they are too ill to attend. However, we are seeing an increase nationally (and locally) in avoidable absences, and we are keen to work in partnership with families to keep attendance as high as possible.

We will continue to monitor attendance closely and will contact families if attendance becomes a concern. Please do talk to us if there are barriers to your child attending — we are always here to help and support.

Thank you for helping us to give your child the very best chance to succeed.

Autumn Assessment

Over the coming weeks, we will be sending out Autumn assessment information for all pupils.

These assessments will demonstrate:

- Understand how well children have grasped the Autumn curriculum.
- Identify strengths to build on
- Any gaps we have identified early so we can provide the right support

The information you receive is just one snapshot of your child's learning and should always be viewed alongside the wider picture: classwork, effort, attitude, and progress over time. That is why next week we will publish our first Learning Pi Newsletter to show a much wider part of our curriculum.

If, once you have received the information, you have any questions or would like to discuss your child's progress further, please don't hesitate to contact the class teacher via the school office. We value open and positive communication with parents and carers.



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<http://www.mendhamprimaryschool.org.uk/>

<http://www.stedmundsprimary.org.uk/>

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Parents evening

We are sharing this data now because our parents evening will be at the end of this term. This will allow us to have purposeful conversations with you then to discuss your child's progress between Spring and Autumn and any next steps in preparation for the Summer term. It will also replace our mid-term reports.

The school office will make appointments available from the 4th of February. There will be a two-week window where we are trying to have more slots available to meet with your class teacher instead of the usual two evenings. It is our intention to ensure that you are able to meet with the class teacher at a time that works for you. There will still be appointments available later in the evening to ensure there is an appointment available to everyone.

Celebrating Writing

It has been wonderful to see the enthusiasm for writing across the school recently. Children have been working hard to develop their ideas, vocabulary, and confidence as writers — and this has really shown in their work.

We are excited to be running a number of writing competitions, both in school and linked to external opportunities. These competitions are a fantastic way to celebrate creativity, encourage children to write for pleasure and build pride and confidence in their work. All children will be encouraged to take part, and there will be opportunities to share and celebrate entries in class and in assemblies in a variety of ways. Do encourage your child to talk about their writing at home — listening to their stories, poems, or ideas makes a huge difference and helps children see writing as something meaningful and enjoyable.

Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support, kindness, and engagement with school life. Working together makes a real difference, and it is a privilege to be part of your child's learning journey. If you have any questions, concerns, or ideas, please do get in touch — our door is always open.

With warmest wishes,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Henry Huxtable'.

Henry Huxtable
Academy Head - Waveney Valley Partnership of Schools



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