Kendall Church of England
Primary School
'We Strive for a Bright and Wonderful Future!'

23rd May 2025

Newsletter 32 Summer Term 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Goodbye, Mrs Nicholson!

At the end of lunchtime today, the whole school gathered on the playground to say a warm and heartfelt goodbye to Mrs. Victoria Nicholson, marking the end of a truly special chapter. After nine dedicated years as our School Business Manager, Mrs. Nicholson is stepping away to enjoy more time with her family and a well-earned slower pace of life. Many of us will remember the day she first offered her support back in December 2015, quickly becoming an integral part of school life from January 2016 onwards. Her care, commitment, and behind-the-scenes hard work have left a lasting legacy, and she will be deeply missed by staff, parents, and children alike. We hope she looks back on her time here with pride and happiness, and we all wish her every joy and success in this exciting next chapter.

She Did It! Eleanor Conquered the Wild Swim!

Eleanor has officially *smashed* her wild swimming challenge to raise money for Kendall's PTA! Battling icy waters, gusty winds, and cheeky currents trying to push her off course, she kept going like a true champ. Just when things got really wild, the sun broke through and swifts swooped overhead, cheering her on (well… probably). A massive THANK YOU from Eleanor to everyone who has sponsored her so far – your support means the world! And from all of us: thank you, Eleanor, for diving headfirst into this test of grit and determination for our school.

Missed your chance to sponsor Eleanor? There's still time! Click here to show your support and give a big high-five in donation form, or you can copy and paste the following into your browser:
https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/kendall-eleanor-church?utm_medium=FA&utm_source=CL
Let's keep the momentum going and make a splash for Kendall's PTA!

Kendall SEND Support Group

Date: Wednesday 2nd July **Time:** 9:30 – 11:00 am **Location:** Kendall CE Primary School

We are delighted to invite all parents and carers to our SEND Support Group meeting at Kendall CE Primary School. We aim to build a supportive network where parents and carers can connect and learn from each other. **Everyone is welcome**, whether you have a child with a diagnosed need, a child on the SEND register, or simply an interest or expertise in this area. We are pleased to announce that **Autism Central Hub** will be attending this meeting and will give a short presentation about their work and ways in which they can support families followed by a Q&A session for all your questions regarding anything to do with ASD.

If you wish to attend this meeting, please email the school office on admin@Kendall.essex.sch.uk or call the school office on 01206 794634 to book your place. Refreshments will be provided – coffee, tea and cake!

Important Note:
This meeting is not intended for individual discussions about your child's specific needs with the SENCo. If you have concerns, please feel free to book an individual appointment with your child's class teacher or the SENCo at another time.

PTA Friday Bake Sales Are Back – starting tonight! 🍰

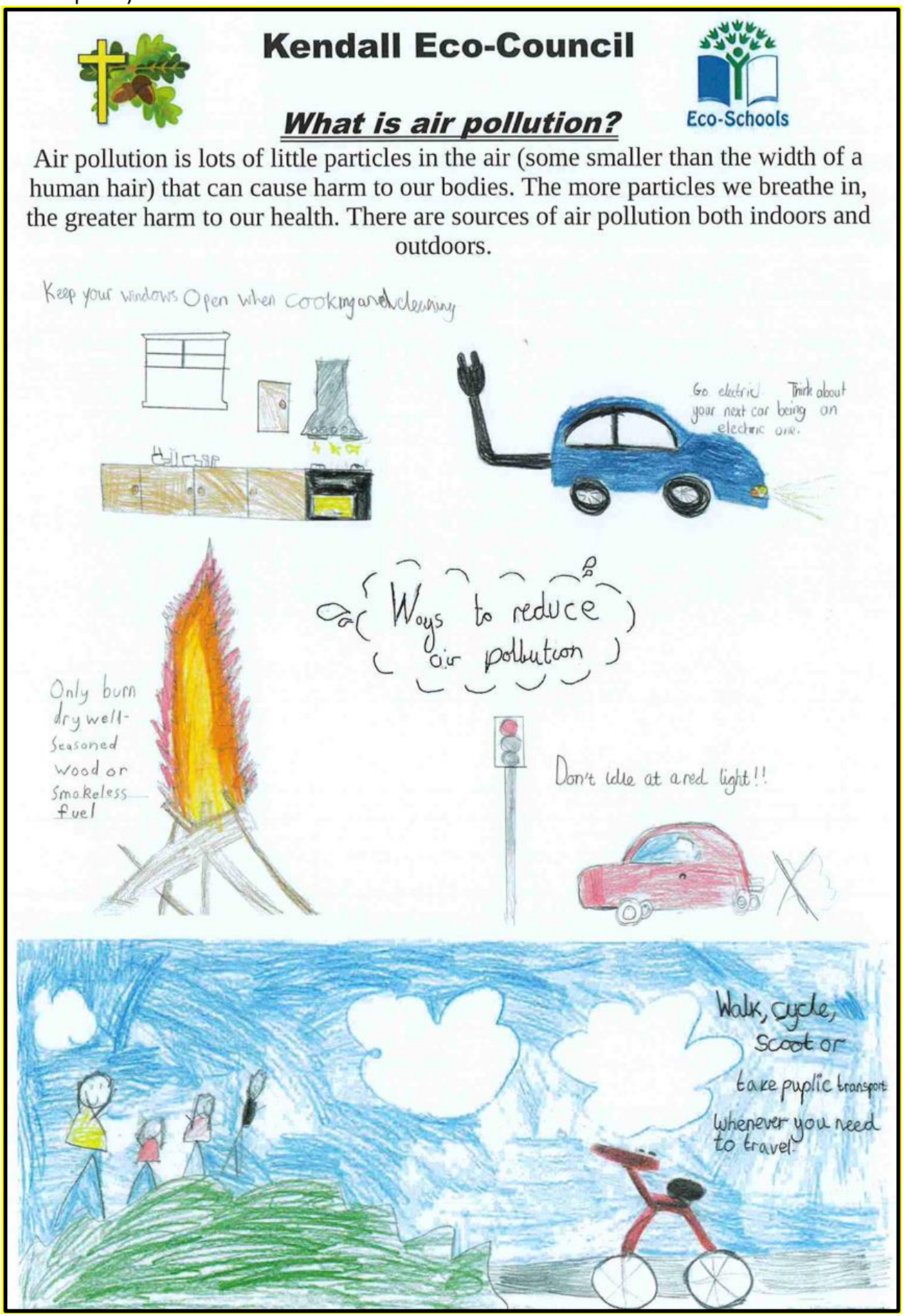
Our much-loved pop-up bake sales return this term—get ready for sweet treats and a great cause! Each Friday, a different class will take the lead by donating cakes or biscuits (homemade or shop-bought—just make sure ingredients/allergens are clearly labelled). Boxes and details will be sent home the week before your class's sale. To make it all run smoothly, we need **parent volunteers** to help at the stalls, and we're hoping some of our fabulous Year 6s will pitch in too. Cakes usually sell out in just 10–15 minutes, so it's a quick and easy way to support the school! **All funds go to exciting projects** like our new ICT suite and High Ropes equipment—so every slice counts!

The Challenge: Last year, we raised an amazing **£650.64**—let's beat it! If we do, the whole school earns **an extra 30 minutes of playtime** in the last week of term. We'll keep a running total in the newsletter so you can track our progress! Thanks for baking, buying, and being brilliant!

Year Group	Date of stall	Money raised so far…
EYFS	Friday 6th June 2025	£TBC
Yr 1	Thursday 11th July 2025	£TBC
Yr 2	Friday 4th July 2025	£TBC
Yr 3	Friday 27th June 2024	£TBC
Yr 4	Friday 20th June 2025	£TBC
Yr 5	Friday 13th June 2025	£TBC
Yr 6	Friday 23rd May 2025	£TBC
GRAND TOTAL SO FAR:		**£TBC**

Air Pollution

As promised in last week's newsletter, here are some helpful tips from our Eco-School council to improve the quality of our air…



Firstsite Holiday Fun May 2025

Supporting Local events

No waterproof? No Forest School!

To ensure all children can safely and fully take part in Forest School, they must come dressed appropriately, including a **waterproof coat**. We've recently reminded families—via the Q-Ahead newsletter, weekly school newsletter, and School Ping—of the importance of bringing waterproofs. Even on sunny days, children often engage in water play, and sudden downpours are common. **Children without a waterproof coat will not be able to attend Forest School**, as staff cannot return them to class mid-session. Thank you for your continued support.

Forest School Diary 23rd May 2025

The children in EYFS constructed fishing rods using sticks, string and pinecones for bait. Great fun was had fishing with them in the tuff trays full of water. Other activities enjoyed were bug hunting in the long grass and putting together a rickety old seesaw.

This week Year 1 tried another method of tie-dying by mixing turmeric added with salt and bringing the mixture to the boil over the fire. We hope this gives a better result than our previous method. With bridge building being part of the children's class topic, we decided to bring this out into the forest and the group constructed many different bridges using natural resources such as wooden planks, bricks and sticks.

Year 2 made 'feeling sticks' during their session. These were done using various colours of wool and ribbon wrapped around their stick. The colours used by the children represented their feelings, the children were able to reflect on different situations where they had felt happy, peaceful and at times a little sad or anxious.

This week Year 3 painted their comfort stones using colours such as yellow and green, both represent positivity and will hopefully give the children reassurance should they need it. Pond dipping in the sunshine was also enjoyed, the group were lucky enough to seek out many pond skaters, water boatmen and even a water scorpion!

This week Year 4 continued with their pinecone crafting, spiders were a popular choice of craft with many of the group choosing to make one. During the session we were greeted by a beautiful damselfly which we believed to be a female as it was striking green in colour.

Most of Year 5 finished their earthquake proof structures just in time for a massive Forest School Magnitude 7 quake to hit the woodland! Some structures fared better than others, but it was a lot of fun watching some of them rock and some of them roll! After the half term we will be continuing our geography focus and turning our hand to making magnificent magna-exploding volcanoes!

Year 6 were let loose with their creativity this week and started to design upcycled wooden crosses. There were many different ideas the group had such as using stones, leaves and small clusters of wool rolled up to resemble roses to decorate them. We look forward to sharing the finished results with you once complete.

For Parents (from e-Safety consultant, Alan MacKenzie) - Should Your Child Have a Smartphone?
It's the big question that's been around for years, but there's no single answer that will fit every age, there's no single piece of advice that will fit every family dynamic. Consultant Wayne Denner has put together a simple article which I think will help parents ask the right questions in order to come up with an informed decision. In his article, Wayne asks what is the appropriate age, he delves into the hidden impact of social media and filter bubbles, then gives some advice about ground rules and agreements. You can find Wayne's article HERE.

For Parents (from e-Safety consultant, Alan MacKenzie) - Pinterest Privacy and Safety Settings
Pinterest is an enormous and hugely popular platform. Known as a 'visual discovery engine' which basically means It is a user-to-user platform, meaning that individual users upload content for anyone else to see. You can use it for a variety of things to get ideas, create mood boards, scrapbooks and so much more. But because it is user to user there will be content that isn't suitable for everyone. Back in 2022, during the inquest into the death of a 14 year old, even Pinterest admitted the platform wasn't safe. Internet matters have an excellent page full of advice and guidance about filtering content, reporting tools and more which you can find HERE.

Online E-Safety Magazine for parents
#DITTO is a free online safety newsletter in PDF format to keep parents up to date with online safety risks, issues, advice and guidance related to keeping children safe online, enjoying and learning about technology. You can sign up for this newsletter at https://www.esafety-adviser.com/latest-newsletter/

Quick links to important policies!
We thought it would be useful to provide parents with quick links to some of our key policies in our weekly newsletter. Therefore, please find our **Attendance Policy** HERE. Please find our **Homework Policy** HERE. Please find our **Administering Medicines Policy** HERE. Please find our **Mobile Phone Policy** HERE. Please find our **Uniform Policy** HERE. Please find our **Food Policy** HERE. Please find our **Behaviour Policy** HERE and finally our **Parent Helper – School Trip Policy** HERE. A link to our school webpage that has all of our statutory policies uploaded can be found HERE. **Dressing for Forest School** HERE.

Safety on the School Road
Please be reminded that as per the road signage, parents should not be driving along the road that accesses Kendall, Scarlett's and ECL at any time. The landowner, other local establishments and the school have worked together to ensure that the traffic congestion and resulting danger to the children is, thanks to all our efforts, a thing of the past. Please be aware that stopping at any time along the private road can lead to a penalty notice being issued. If you would like a free parking pass for the Port Lane Recreation Ground car park that can be used at school drop off and pick up times, please speak to the school office.

Food Bank Vouchers
Please don't forget that the school is an agent for food bank vouchers. Please speak in confidence to a member of the school office or Mrs French if you need to use this service.

Happy Birthday!

Please join us in saying happy birthday to: Jaygo D, Makeda D, Imogen W, Orlagh-Rose T, Sylvie R, Albie R, Freddie B, Archie H and Leon K

Headteacher Cups

Congratulations to the following who were awarded a Headteacher Cup in assembly this week: Elowyn RR, Mirella S and Zakkary A

Golden Awards

Congratulations to the following who were awarded a Gold Award in assembly this week: Francis M, Quinlan MF, Perrie H, Lily T, Kaciee-May G, Alex W, Rory B, Naeto K, Peyton E, Elowyn RR, Alesha A, Millie H and Year 6 Whole Class

Maths Challenge

Congratulations to the following winners:

KS1: Martha G

KS2: Matthew L

New challenge after the half term break!

Writer of the Week

Congratulations to **Arlo** in **EYFS** who received our Writer of the Week award and took home a new stationery set and journal – keep up that good writing!

Vision Value Leaves

Congratulations to the following who were awarded a leaf for our 'Vision Values' Tree: Mason F, Bradley G and Jax W

Kendall Team Points

Congratulations to the joint Weekly Team Winners: **Birch**!

Elm	Ash	Birch	Yew
3rd	2nd	1st	4th

Amazing Attendance? Free Tuck Friday!

Free Tuck Friday – All classes who have achieved the required attendance of at least 96% are highlighted in green. Well done, **Year 6** for having the best attendance this week!

EYFS	**99.3%**	
Year 1	**96.37%**	
Year 2	**98.37%**	
Year 3	**98.7%**	
Year 4	**98%**	
Year 5	**93%**	
Year 6	**99.4%**	☆
Overall Attendance		**97.35%**

(*Week ending 16/05/2025*)

Reminder! No Chocolate Spread in Home Packed Lunches

Please remember that chocolate spread is not allowed in packed lunches due to the risk it poses to children with nut allergies. Details are in our prospectus and the School Dinner page of our website.

Have a lovely weekend!

Clare French
Headteacher

Schedule of Trips and Visits 2024/2025

Budgeting £20 a quarter (£80 a year – or approximately £2 a term-time week) should cover the cost of trips. Where a trip is more expensive, for example £40, we will always try to make sure that over the academic year, the cost for all 4 Quarters comes to no more than £80 for the trips and visits we organise. Sadly, with school funding being at an all-time low in real terms, the school is financially unable to subsidise trips and visits to the extent it has done in the past. If we do not receive enough contributions to cover the cost, we will reluctantly have to cancel trips or visitors to the school. As promised, to help you with budgeting, please see the schedule and the associated charge for each trip for the next quarter below

Quarter 4

Year Group	Trip/Visit	Cost per child
EYFS	Walton	TBC (approx.. £7)
Year 1	Chappel Railway Museum	£17
Year 2	St Stephen's	n/a
Year 3	Harwich Trip	£15
Year 4	River Walk	n/a
Year 5	Plants & Nature Workshop	£20 (TBC)
Year 6	Treat Trip	n/a

Dates for your Diary

May 2025	
Mon 26th–Fri 30th	Half Term Holiday
June	
Friday 6th	Rainbow Day
Friday 6th	EYFS Bake Sale 3:15pm
Tuesday 10th	Year 3 Harwich Boat Trip
Friday 13th	Year 5 Bake Sale 3:15pm
Monday 16th	Whole Class Photos
Friday 20th	Year 4 Bake Sale 3:15pm
Friday 27th	Year 3 Bake Sale
Monday 30th	Sports Day & Family Picnic
July	
Wednesday 2nd	Year 1 Trip to Chappel Railway Museum
Wednesday 2nd	Kendall SEND Support Group 9:30am-11am
Friday 4th	Dress Like a Hero Day (Raising funds for Help for Heroes)
Friday 4th	Year 2 Bake Sale 3:15pm
Thursday 10th	KS2 Production 7pm
Friday 11th	Music Festival 9:30am & 10:30am
Friday 11th	KS2 Production 1:30pm & 7pm
Friday 11th	Year 1 Bake Sale 3:15pm
Thursday 17th	Year 6 Treat Trip
Friday 18th	Leavers' Assembly
Friday 18th	PTA Summer Disco
Friday 18th	Last Day of Term

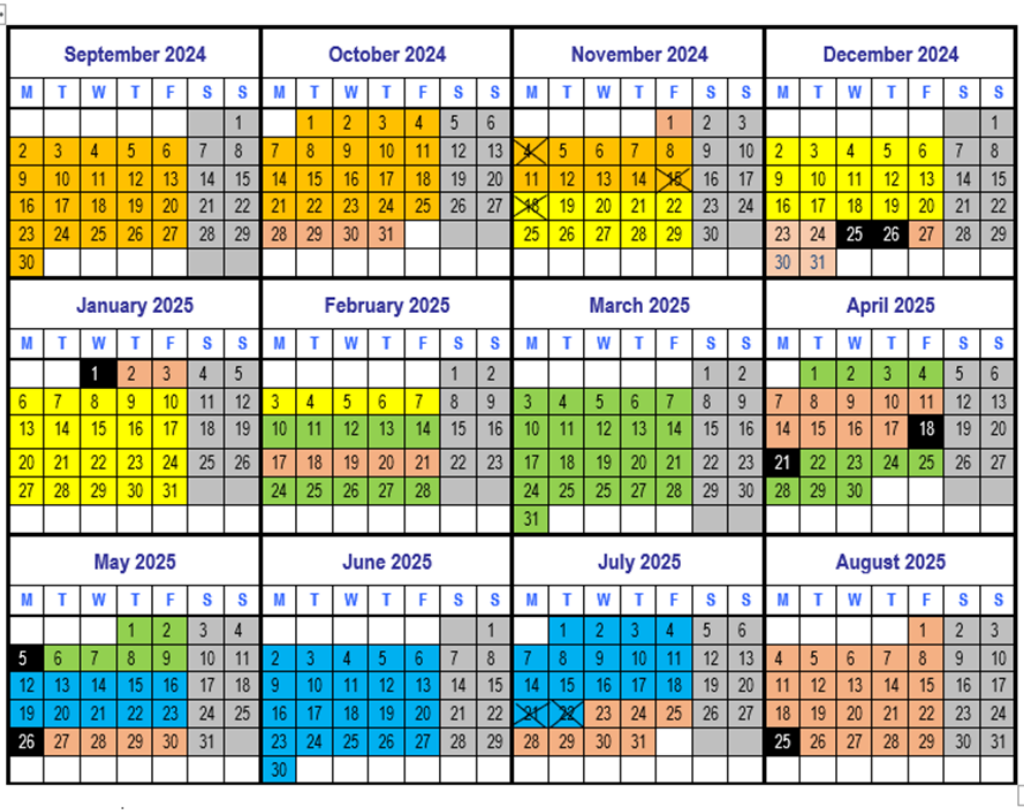
Week One

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Main	Thin crust cheese and tomato pizza (v)	Oven baked sausage rolls	Roast Chicken breast	Packed lunch Ham baguette	Birds Eye Omega 3 Fish Fingers
Vegetarian (v) Or Vegan (ve)	Ratatouille pasta bake (v/ve)	Oven baked vegan sausage rolls (ve)	Baked Quorn fillet (v/ve)	Cheddar Cheese baguette (v) Vegan cheese baguette (ve)	Crispy Quorn dippers (v) Vegetable fingers (Ve)
Sides	Vegan Coleslaw (ve) sweetcorn Freshly prepared salad bar – lettuce, cucumber, tomatoes, peppers	Creamy mashed potato Baked beans	Roast potatoes Stuffing Yorkshire pudding carrots, sweetcorn, peas Gravy (ve) (gf)	Vegetable sticks Tortilla chips Freshly prepared salad bar – lettuce, cucumber, tomatoes,	Chips Baked beans Tomato sauce
Dessert	Raspberry Angel delight or Fresh fruit	Chocolate oat cake (ve) or yoghurt	Fresh fruit salad-honeydew melon, pineapple, grapes or yoghurt	Lemon drizzle cake (v) or Fresh fruit	Raspberry ice cream sponge roll or yoghurt

Please let us know what you would like to see on our school dinner menu.
We would love to hear your ideas! Email us: **admin@kendall.essex.sch.uk**

Kendall Church of England Primary School Recreation Road Colchester, CO1 2HH
01206 794634 • admin@kendall.essex.sch.uk • www.kendallprimary.co.uk
Headteacher: Mrs. Clare French

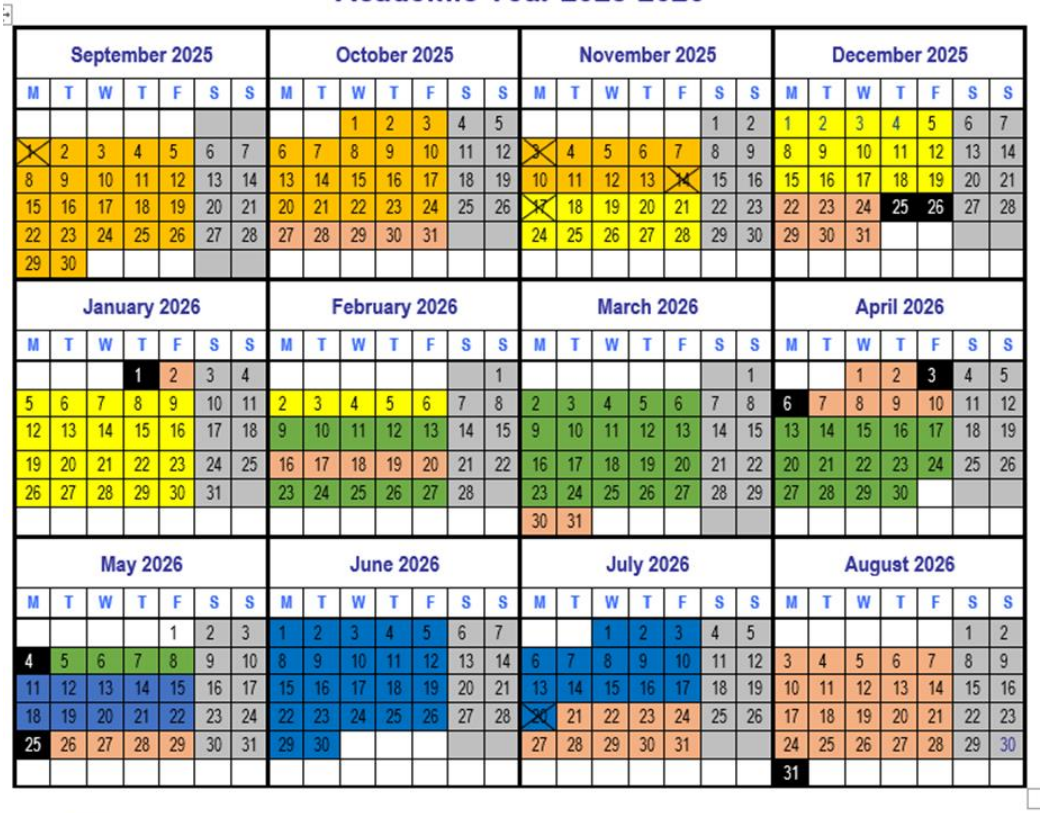
Academic Year 2024-2025



= Schooldays = School holidays = Bank holidays

= Weekends = Non Pupil Days

Academic Year 2025-2026



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