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

12th November 2026

Newsletter 10 Autumn Term 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

A little reminder that tomorrow, Friday 13th and Monday 16th are both non-pupil days, so children should not attend school on either day as the school is closed. We appreciate that diary dates can sometimes creep up on us, but these have been included in our school newsletter 'Dates for your Diary' since September and featured on the academic calendar at the end of every newsletter since last academic year. We hope this advance notice has helped families to plan ahead and wish everyone a lovely long weekend!

Monday's Celebration Assemblies

We love welcoming parents and carers to our Celebration Assemblies and sharing in those special moments when children's achievements are recognised and celebrated. We have, however, noticed recently that a number of adults have been arriving after the assembly has begun, sometimes missing their child receiving their award. Late arrivals can also be quite disruptive, distracting both the person leading the assembly and the children who are listening carefully as their classmates' achievements are shared. To ensure that these special occasions remain calm, respectful and enjoyable for everyone, we kindly ask that parents and carers arrive promptly and are seated before the assembly begins. **Regrettably, with immediate effect, we will not be able to admit anyone who arrives once the assembly has started**. We appreciate your understanding and support in helping us make Celebration Assemblies a positive experience for all our children.

Kendall Parent Choir

Calling all parents and carers! It's that time of year when we need to get rehearsing a song to sing at the Christmas service. You don't have to be an amazing singer to come along, and we can guarantee you will have a great time! Rehearsals will be on Mondays between 2:30pm and 2:55pm at school. Here is the schedule:

Rehearsal 1: 30th November 2:30-2:55pm
Rehearsal 2: 7th December 2:30-2:55pm
Rehearsal 3: 14th December 2:30-2:55pm
Make your child proud and come along!
From Mrs Mulvey



5 Reads

Children will need to have completed 5 reads from this Friday to next Friday 20th November.

Give Your Nativity Costumes or Christmas Jumper a Second Life!

As we get ready for Christmas, we are hoping to give pre-loved Nativity costumes and Christmas jumpers a new lease of life! In the spirit of looking after our environment, reducing waste and reusing where we can, we are inviting families to donate any unwanted or outgrown Nativity costumes and Christmas jumpers that may be tucked away at home. We will collect donated items in a box outside the school office and then hold a Pre-Loved Nativity Costume/Christmas jumper Sale after school on Wednesday 25th November (date to be confirmed), with costumes/jumpers available for just £1 each! It's a lovely opportunity to pass on items that are no longer needed, help another family, save a little money and raise some funds for our wonderful PTA at the same time. So, before buying anything new this year, why not have a rummage at home? One family's outgrown costume or Christmas jumper could be just what another family needs! Thank you for helping us make a little difference through reusing, recycling and sharing.

EYFS/Reception Admissions September 2027

As you may be aware, the primary school (Reception) admission round opened on **9th November 2026**, for parents of children to apply for a Reception/EYFS school place for the academic year that starts in September 2027. The statutory national closing date for applications is **15th January 2027**.

Reminder! Pupil Contact and Permission Records

Reminder! Don't forget to check all the details on your child's contact and permission forms, amend if necessary, sign, date (anywhere on the sheet) and return to the class teacher by **Friday 27th November 2026**. If all the details are correct, we would still like you to sign and date the sheet and return to the class teacher.

Wrap-around Care Update - Kendall After School Club Information

Please collect a leaflet from the school office if you are interested in this child care provision.

PTA Class Bake Sales

This year, the PTA would like to spread our class bake sales more evenly throughout the school year, rather than squeezing them all into the summer term. We think this is a great idea and, with this in mind, class teachers have signed up for Friday after-school pop-up cake shops throughout the year, as shown in the table below. We will need parent/carer helpers from each class on their bake sale day – please let us know if you are able to help.

Date	Year Group Bake Sale	Money raised so far
Friday 2nd October 2026	Year 4	£82
Friday 16th October 2026	Year 6	£111.10
Friday 11th December 2026	Year 1	
Friday 12th February 2027	Year 2	
Friday 19th March 2027	Year 5	
Friday 30th April 2027	EYFS	
Friday 21st May 2027	Year 3	
GRAND TOTAL SO FAR:		£193.10

As usual, cake boxes will be sent home with the children the week before each sale. We would be very grateful if you could fill them with cakes, biscuits or other sweet treats to be sold at the end of the school day. These can be homemade or shop bought – every donation is very much appreciated! Thank you, as always, for your generosity and support. Every cake, biscuit and sweet treat donated helps the PTA raise valuable funds for your child's school – and we are very grateful for your continued support.

Colchester United Christmas Holiday Camps – 2026!

Please see the end of the newsletter for all details of the Colchester United Christmas Holiday Camps – 2026!

Online E-Safety Magazine for parents

Alan Mackenzie produces a free online safety newsletter via email 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/

For Parents - Should You Upload Photos of Children Into AI? By Alan MacKenzie (online safety)

AI image tools are becoming increasingly popular, allowing people to change backgrounds, enhance photographs or create entirely new images. But what happens when we upload photographs of our children into these tools?

SWGfL has published some useful advice encouraging parents and carers to think about what happens to an image once it has been uploaded. Some questions worth considering include:

- Where will the photograph be stored?
- Could it be used to train an AI system?
- Can the image be permanently deleted?
- Does it contain identifying information, such as a school uniform or location?
- Could the image be copied, altered or misused?

This doesn't mean that every AI image tool is unsafe, but it is worth understanding how a service uses photographs before uploading them, particularly when those photographs are of children.

The SWGfL guidance provides some practical advice to help parents make more informed decisions.

Link: SWGfL – Should I Upload Photos of Children Into AI?

Key Policies for Parents

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.

Easy Fundraising

Easy Fundraising is a simple way to raise FREE money for our school every time you shop online!

- **Register**: for free at: https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/kendall-primary-school/ or download the app above. Remember to enable the donations reminder.
- **Get the app** now and choose to support **Kendall Primary School Colchester** once installed.
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Reminder: Forest School Clothing

Our guide, ***How to Dress for Forest School***, can be found here and it is also available on our website. Remember – no waterproof coat/jacket – no Forest School!

Forest School Diary 12th November 2026

The children in EYFS created their very own firework pictures, they were created by rolling pine cones around in paint to create the firework effect on paper. Meanwhile in the woodland many of the children had fun playing in the leaves.






Year 1's Forest School session today will be on next week's newsletter.

Year 2 did not have their Forest School Session last week, due to their walk to the cemetery.

The children in Year 3 have each made themselves an arrow head mould this week using clay. Over the next couple of weeks, they will use these moulds to make arrow heads with smelted pewter. The children will have the opportunity to purchase their individual arrow heads if they wish to do so. A few of the children also found some time to enjoy a spot of tree climbing.






Year 4 continued working on their Viking long boats this week. The children are starting to make good progress and the boats are taking good shape.






This week Year 5 took to the high ropes once more, not only taking on the Crate Stack challenge but also the Leap of Faith. All of the children gave it their very best and were amazing - well done to everyone for being so brave!






This week, Year 6 worked together to build the shelters started previously. They added the last logs and sticks to fill in any gaps that might allow the rain to leak through. The children have worked very hard over the last few weeks and all of the shelters are looking great! We hope to complete them over the next couple of weeks and put them to the test!






Safety on the School Road

Please note that, as indicated by road signs, parents must not drive on the road accessing Kendall, Scarlett's, and ECL at any time. The landowner, local businesses, and the school have worked together to reduce congestion and improve safety for children. Stopping on the private road may result in a penalty notice. To request a free parking pass for the Port Lane Recreation Ground car park (usable at drop-off and pick-up times), please contact 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.

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.

Happy Birthday!

Please join us in saying happy birthday to: Eleanor T and Ivy B



Maths Awards

Congratulations to all the children who received a Maths Award in this week's Celebration Assembly!

Maths Challenge

Congratulations to the following winners:

KS1: Liam G

KS2: Belle S

New challenge attached!

Vision Value Leaves

Congratulations to the following who were awarded a leaf for our 'Vision Values' Tree:
Teddy D, Teddy L, Martha G and Jack H

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 2** for having the best attendance this week!

EYFS	**97.85%**	
Year 1	**99%**	
Year 2	**99.3%**	☆
Year 3	**98.6%**	
Year 4	**96.65%**	
Year 5	**97.65%**	
Year 6	**97.65%**	
Overall Attendance		**97.85%**

(*Week ending 06/11/2026*)

Have a lovely weekend!



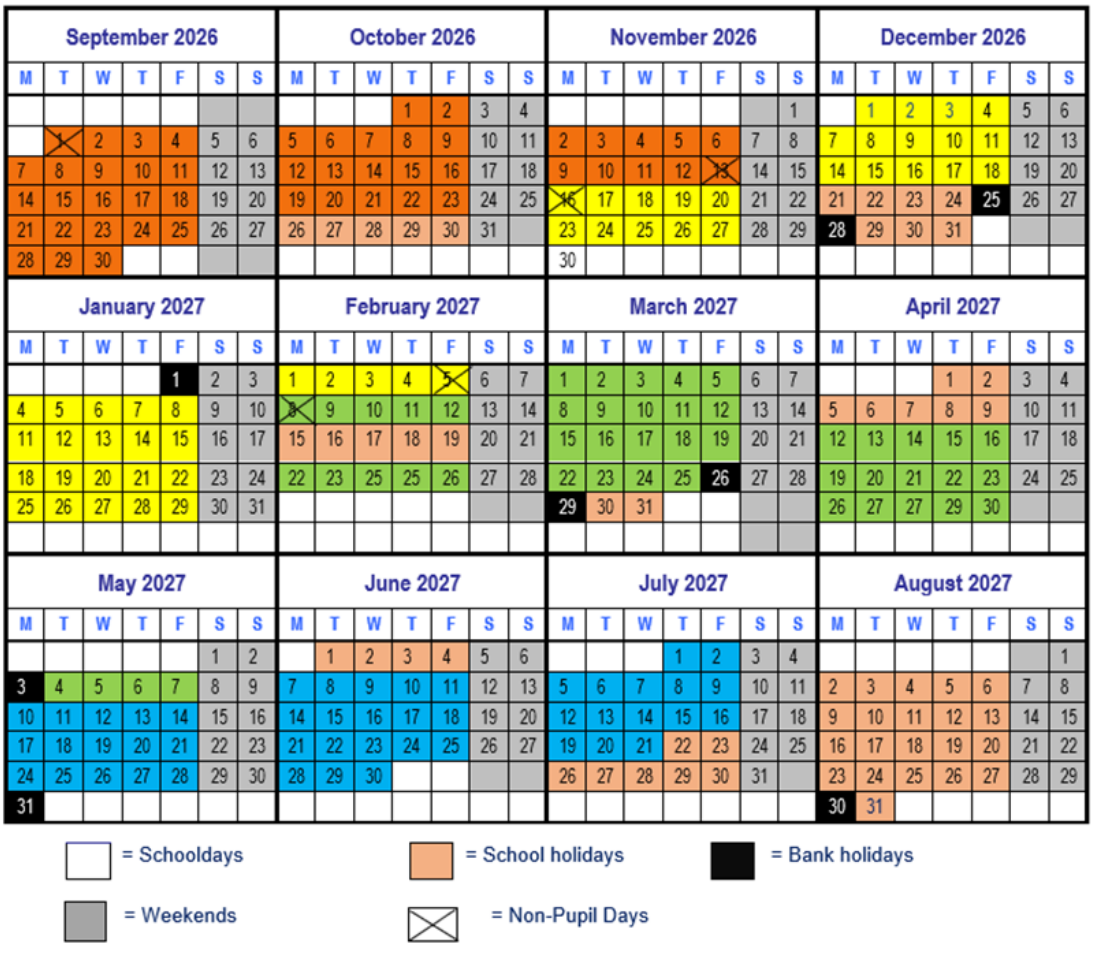
Clare French
Headteacher

Dates for your Diary

Autumn Term 2026	
Friday 13th	Non-Pupil Day
Monday 16th	Non-Pupil Day
Thursday 19th	Year 1 Arctic Explorer
Friday 20th	Year 3 Colchester Castle
Monday 23rd	Maths Day with The Problem Solving Company
Tuesday 24th	Maths Parent Information Event (PIE) 9am-10:15am
Tuesday 24th	Parent Consultations 3:30pm-6pm
Wednesday 25th	Pre-Loved Nativity Costume & Christmas Jumper Sale
Wednesday 25th	Parent Consultations 5:30pm-8pm
Thursday 26th	Year 4 PGL Parent Information Event (PIE) 3:30pm-4pm
Friday 27th	Year 5 Greek Day
December	
Thursday 3rd	PTA Secret Santa Gift Shop
Friday 4th	PTA Secret Santa Gift Shop
Thursday 10th	EYFS/KS1 Nativity 2:20pm
Friday 11th	EYFS/KS1 Nativity 9:30pm & 2:20pm
Friday 11th	Year 1 Bake Sale
Friday 18th	PTA Christmas Jumper Day (£1 donation)
Friday 18th	Christmas Service at C3 Church
Friday 11th	PTA Christmas Discos (EYFS/KS1: 5pm-6:15pm KS2: 6:30pm-8pm)
Friday 18th	Christmas Dinner
Friday 18th	Last Day of Term

January	
Monday 4th	First day of Spring Term
Thursday 7th	Year 4 Swimming Session 1
Thursday 14th	Year 4 Swimming Session 2
Thursday 21st	Year 4 Swimming Session 3
Thursday 28th	Year 4 Swimming Session 4
February	
Thursday 4th	Year 4 Swimming Session 5
Friday 5th	Non-Pupil Day
Thursday 11th	Year 4 Swimming Session 6
Friday 12th	Year 2 Bake Sale
Thursday 25th	Year 4 Swimming Session 7
March	
Tuesday 2nd	Parent Consultations 3:30pm- 6pm
Wednesday 3rd	Parent Consultations 5:30pm-8pm
Thursday 4th	Year 4 Swimming Session 8
Thursday 11th	Year 4 Swimming Session 9
Thursday 18th	Year 4 Swimming Session 10 (Final Session)
Friday 19th	Year 5 Bake Sale
Friday 19th	PTA Discos (EYFS/KS1: 5pm-6:15pm KS2: 6:30pm-8pm)
Thursday 25th	Easter Service at C3 Church 10am
Friday 26th March – Friday 9th April	Easter Holidays
April	
Monday 12th	First Day of Summer Term

Academic Year 2026-2027



Allergen Check List Last Updated November 2026

Allergen	Currently allowed in school
Nuts	No ✖
Peanuts	No ✖
Sesame seeds	Yes ✓
Celery	Yes ✓
Cereals Containing Gluten	Yes ✓
Crustaceans	Yes ✓
Eggs	Yes ✓
Fish	Yes ✓
Lupin	Yes ✓
Milk	Yes ✓
Molluscs	Yes ✓
Mustard	Yes ✓
Soya	Yes ✓
Sulphur dioxide	Yes ✓

Week 3	MONDAY (meat free)	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Main	Italian style tomato spaghetti	BBQ chicken wrap	Oven roasted gammon	Beef lasagne	Chicken nuggets
Vegetarian (V) Or Vegan (Ve)	Quesadilla stuffed with cheese and vegetables	BBQ quorn wrap	Vegetable casserole (ve)	Vegetable lasagne (ve)	Quorn dippers (v) Vegetable fingers (ve)
Sides	Sweetcorn Freshly prepared salad: tomatoes, iceberg lettuce, cucumber.	Savoury rice Tortilla chips Freshly prepared salad: tomatoes, iceberg lettuce, cucumber.	Mashed potatoes, peas, carrots, vegan gravy (ve)	Garlic bread Freshly prepared salad: tomatoes, iceberg lettuce, cucumber.	Chips Baked Beans Tomato sauce Freshly prepared salad: tomatoes, iceberg lettuce, cucumber.
Jacket potatoes	Served daily with a choice of cheese, vegan cheese, baked beans or tuna mayonnaise.				
Dessert	Peaches and cream or fresh fruit	Chocolate brownie or fresh fruit	Honeydew melon, pineapple and grapes or yogurt	Oaty jam crunch or fresh fruit	Iced sponge cake or fresh fruit

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

Schedule of Trips and Visits 2026/2027

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. We are hoping to run the following trips next year, but these are subject to provider availability:

Year Group	Quarter 1 Sept-Nov	Quarter 2 Nov-Feb	Quarter 3 Feb-May	Quarter 4 May-July
EYFS	NA	NA	Farm Visit	Seaside Visit
Year 1	Musical Workshop	Arctic Explorer	Hyde Hall - all about plants!	Colne Valley Railway
Year 2	Local Geography Walk	Colchester Cemetery – Colchester as an Army Town	Library Visit and Synagogue Visit	St Stephen's Church
Year 3	Stone Age to Iron Age History Day	Colchester Castle – Roman History	Colchester Zoo - Rainforest	Harwich and Felixstowe Docks - Geography Field Trip
Year 4	West Stow – Anglo-Saxons	Swimming & French Feast Day	Siege of Colchester – Historic Walk	River Colne – Geography Field Trip
Year 5	Henry Moore Foundation Art Trip	Life in Ancient Greece Day – History Experience	Life in Ancient Egypt Day – History Experience	Explore Nature Day (Beth Chatto depending on availability)
Year 6	PGL Bawdsey Manor (residential) London Aquarium/Houses of Parliament	Mayan History Day	Local Geographical Field Trip – OS mapping	Crucial Crew and Treat Trip

Quarter 1 Trips and Visits and Associated Costs

Year Group	Trip/Visit	Cost per child
EYFS	No Visit	N/A
Year 1	Music Workshop	TBC
Year 2	Local Geography Walk	Free
Year 3	Stone Age Day	£19.43
Year 4	West Stow	£26
Year 5	Henry Moore Studios & Gardens	£19.50
Year 6	London Aquarium/Houses of Parliament	TBC

Kendall KS1 Fortnightly Maths Challenge



This is an electric kettle. It can boil water in 2 minutes.

This is a kettle that goes onto a hob or fire. It takes 12 minutes to boil.



How many minutes faster is the electric kettle?

If you think you know, write your name and answer on a slip of paper and post it into the correct box on the table. The winner will be announced in two weeks. Good luck!

Kendall KS2 Fortnightly Maths Challenge

In August our solar panels generated 2900KWh.

In September our solar panels generated 2100KWh.



Make a prediction about how much energy (KWh) our solar panels will generate in November.

If you think you know, write your name and answer on a slip of paper and post it into the correct box on the table. The winner will be announced in two weeks. Good luck!

Colchester United Christmas Holiday Camps – 2026!

We are excited to announce that, once again, we will be partnering with Active Essex to offer FREE ActivAte Camps during the Christmas holidays for Primary school children and children up to 14 years for our SEN provision. These camps will take place in Colchester (Shrub End Community & Sports Centre & Highwoods Primary School), Maldon (All Saints Primary School) and Clacton (St Clares Primary School). The camps are open to children on Free School Meals and families with low income. We've lined up a variety of fun activities for all participants to enjoy!

What's Included in Our Christmas Activate Camps:

- Gifts and prizes to be awarded
- High-quality, safe facilities and equipment
- Possible appearances from Colchester United 1st team players or our club mascot, 'Eddie The Eagle'
- Special activities provided by external providers to enrich the camp experience

Camp Information:

Shrub End Community & Sports Centre, CO2 9BG – PRIMARY – FOOTBALL SPECIFIC CAMP
Booking link: Shrub End, Active Christmas Holiday - BOOK HERE
Dates: 21st December 2026 and 22nd December 2026
Time: 9.30am-4:30pm
Age Range: 5-11 years old

Highwoods Primary School, Colchester CO4 9SN – PRIMARY – FOOTBALL CAMP
Booking link: Highwoods Active Christmas Holiday - BOOK HERE
Dates: Monday 21st December 2026 and Tuesday 22nd December 2026
Time: 9:30am – 1:30pm
Age Range: 5-11 years old

Highwoods Primary School, Colchester CO4 9SN – SEND ONLY – FOOTBALL SPECIFIC CAMP
Booking link: Inclusive U's Active Christmas Holiday - BOOK HERE
Dates: Monday 21st December 2026 and Tuesday 22nd December 2026
Time: 9.30am-4:30pm
Age Range: 5-14 years old

Limebrook Sports Pavilion, Maldon, Sunderland Avenue, CM9 6GJ – FOOTBALL SPECIFIC CAMP
Booking link: Limebrook Sports Pavilion, Maldon Active Christmas Holiday - BOOK HERE
Dates: Tuesday 22nd December 2026 and Wednesday 23rd December 2026
Time: 9.30am-3pm
Age Range: 5-11 years old

St Clares Primary School, Clacton, Cloe's Lane, CO16 8AG – FOOTBALL SPECIFIC CAMP
Booking link: St Clares Primary, Clacton Active Christmas Holiday - BOOK HERE
Dates: Monday 21st December 2026 and Tuesday 22nd December 2026
Time: 9.30am-3pm
Age Range: 5-11 years old

How To Book –

- If booking via the Free School Meals section, please select the booking link above or CLICK HERE to see further instructions on how to claim your space via the holiday activities website. (Codes will be sent out via your child's school)
- If registering via the Low Income section, please email haf@activeessex.org to request a referral, and claim your code.

If you have any questions, please feel free to email Cucf@colchesterunited.net

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