

Weekly Newsletter

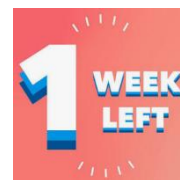


Autumn Term Week 7: Friday 16th October 2026

School Website: <https://www.westgatecp.co.uk/>

Message from Mrs Kidd

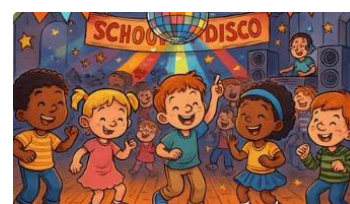
It has been another busy week in school and we now have only one more week of this half term to go. It is hard to believe that 6 weeks have already passed.



On Monday, we celebrated The Big Draw in school with a day dedicated to Art. Lots of exciting activities were planned, giving the children the opportunity to explore their creativity, experiment with different techniques and express themselves through art. The children produced some wonderful pieces of work, and it was lovely to see their imagination, enthusiasm and artistic talents shine through!



On Wednesday, we held our first PTA disco of the school year. The Autumn Disco was a great success, and the children had a wonderful time dancing and having fun with their friends. A huge thank you to our fantastic PTA for all their hard work in organising and running the event, and to the staff members who gave up their time to support.



Next week, we will be celebrating Harvest Week and will once again be collecting donations to go to a local foodbank. For those of you wishing to donate, please send non-perishable items into school next week.

Food banks take longer life products that they can store for those in need - fresh food can spoil quickly and not all banks have chiller facilities. As such, we will be asking for donations of cereals, rice and pasta, and tinned food (soup, beans, vegetables, tuna, meat, fruit etc).



Thank you for your support.

The Autumn Term Parents Evenings take place next week (Tuesday 20th and Thursday 22nd October). We look forward to welcoming you into school for these appointments. If you have not yet booked an appointment to meet your child's class teacher, please contact the School Office to arrange an appointment.

Don't forget
parents'
evening!

DRB – a message from Mrs Dalgoutte, our Teacher of the Deaf (ToD)

This afternoon, 5 of our older DRB students met with another amazing deaf role model via Zoom. We all worked with Ruth during an exciting project in December 2023, so it was really special to see her again.



Ruth was born profoundly deaf and is a well-known deaf musician and flautist. She shared with us all about her passion for music, which she got from her parents and how hard she has worked to achieve her dreams of being a musician. Ruth even played us the Harry Potter theme on her flute- which was wonderful.

Ruth set up her charity @audiovisability in 2016. Audiovisability is passionate in its belief that deaf people can, and do, engage with and make music. Their work demonstrates that deaf people are quite able to realise their music potential on an equal footing with hearing people when given the right opportunities and resources.

Today, as well as running Audiovisability, Ruth also teaches in London - teaching music in a deaf primary school and at the Royal College of Music where she helps people understand how best to teach music to deaf people.

We loved our time this with Ruth and thank her for her time talking to us.

World Mental Health Day

Our sponsored afternoon was also a great success, and the children had a wonderful time taking part in their class and year group challenges! Thank you to those of you who have already sent in your sponsor money.

Please could all sponsorship money be sent in by Thursday 22nd October.

Thank you again for your generosity and support!



DfE Breakfast Club Survey

Parents and carers are invited to take part in a short survey about your family's morning routine. You could win £100 for up to 10 minutes of your time

It's parent-approved: researchers at Ipsos worked with parents to make sure it's quick, relevant and easy to complete.

What to do:

- Complete the 5-10-minute survey: Click here



<https://insights.ipsosinteractive.com/mrlWeb/mrlWeb.dll?l.Project=S26048194&Id=&i.user1=94FH2W>

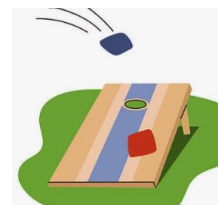
- Be in with a chance of a £100 voucher as a thank you.

Please complete by 23rd October 2026. Every response helps.

Westgate Shout Out

This week's shout out goes to Robin E, Charlie B and Sebastian B, who are all members of the Bury Baggers Cornhole club.

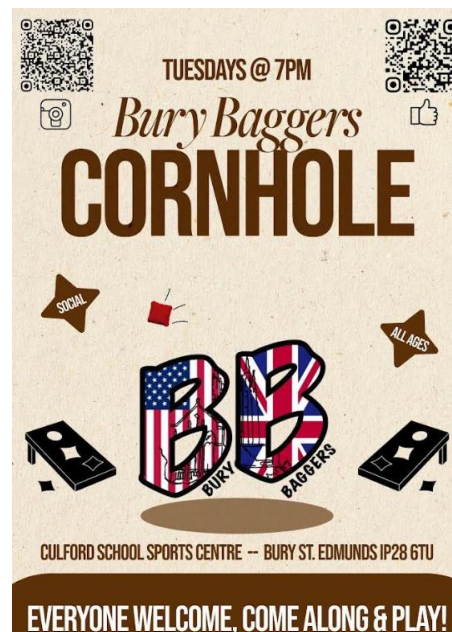
Cornhole is a fun throwing game where players take turns throwing small bean bags towards a raised board with a hole in it. The aim is to get the bags through the hole or land them on the board to score points. It's a great game for practising aiming and coordination!



Over the past 2 months, Robin has played in the national league tournaments and made the top division in the open division against adults in both tournaments, as there aren't enough juniors to have a separate division. Robin is now the top junior in the country by rankings after the first 2 tournaments. He was the only under 16 to make the top division on Saturday.

In our Celebration Assembly today, they told us a little about Cornhole and we watched a video showing Robin in a recent match – he made a huge ending to it where he won with all 4 bags in the hole!

We are looking forward to hearing about more successes from the boys throughout the year.



Applications for a primary school place (September 2027)

It is now time to apply for a primary school place for September 2027. If your child was born between 1st September 2022 and 31st August 2023, you must apply for a full-time Reception Year school place by **15th January 2027**. You must make an application even if your child already has a sibling at the school or is attending a pre-school next to the school site.

For more information, contact the School Office or visit the Suffolk County Council Admissions page: <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/children-families-and-learning/schools/school-places/apply-for-a-primary-school-place-2027-2028>

Our next school tours for prospective parents are on the following dates:

- Wednesday 4th November at 9.30am
- Tuesday 1st December at 1.30pm
- Wednesday 6th January at 9.30am

If you know anyone who has a child due to start Reception in September 2027, please share the dates with them.

Year 6 – Applications for a secondary school place (September 2027)

Applications for a secondary school place for September 2027 are open but those of you with a child in Year 6 who has not yet applied must do so by **Saturday 31st October 2026**.

All of the information you need to help you make your decision is available via this link:

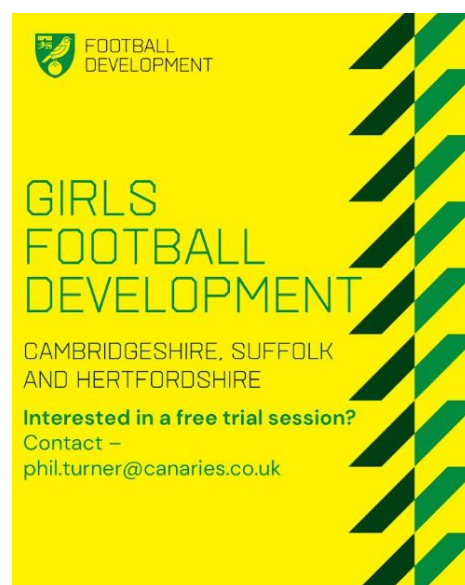
<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/children-families-and-learning/schools/school-places/apply-for-a-secondary-school-place-2027-2028>

If you require any support in completing the form, please contact the School Office.

May be of interest - A message from Phil Turner, Head of Girls Football at Norwich FC.

We have a great opportunity for female students in **Year 3 to 6** and **Year 7-11** to attend a **free trial training session** at our Bury St Edmunds Development Centre. If offered a place, players join our programme under a modest participation fee, which grants them the following benefits:

- Weekly training sessions delivered by UEFA-qualified coaches — educational, fun, and skill-focused
- Training alongside talented peers to push development
- Access to the club's full development pathway
- Full NCFC training kit
- Opportunities to travel on residential training retreats
- Competitive fixtures against other development programmes and local clubs



Suffolk - Bury St Edmunds Girls Development Centre

Address: Bury St Edmunds Leisure Centre, Beetons Way, Bury Saint Edmunds IP33 3TT

Date: Friday 23rd of October 2026 **Time:** 6:00 - 7:30 pm or 7:30 - 9:00 pm

Age group: U9 - U12's (Year 4 - Year 7)

If your daughter would like to attend a free trial session, please sign up via our trial form or please contact me at Phil.turner@canaries.co.uk to arrange a free trial session.

Sign-up trial link: <https://forms.gle/n6Wu5f1RskpVgD3q6>

We look forward to welcoming any new players to the centre!

Dates for the Diary (new dates added / dates to be confirmed are shown in red)

26th – 30th = Half Term

3rd and 4th Nov = Indian Dance Workshops

3rd Nov = Y5/6 trip to Gressenhall Farm & Workhouse

13th Nov = Children in Need

19th Nov = Open Classroom Session (3.30pm – 4pm)

27th Nov = Non-Uniform Day for Chocolate Tombola

4th Dec = Christmas Fair

8th Dec = Rocksteady Concert

10th Dec = Christmas Jumper Day

10th Dec = Christmas Dinner Day

11th Dec = Young Carers / Service Children session in school

15th Dec = Reception Christmas Performance (9.30am)

15th Dec = KS1 Christmas Performance (2.15pm)

16th Dec = KS1 Christmas Performance (9.30am)

17th Dec = KS2 Christmas Carols (2.45pm) – hot drinks served from 2.15pm

18th Dec = Carols at St Peters

18th Dec = last day of term – children are invited to bring in toys/games from home

20st Dec – 4th Jan = Christmas Holidays

5th Jan – children back to school

21st Jan = Young Voices at the O2

27th Jan = Open Classroom session

1st and 2nd Feb = Chinese Lion Dance workshops

9th Feb = Safer Internet Day

12th Feb = Young Carers / Service Children session in school

15th – 19th Feb = Half Term