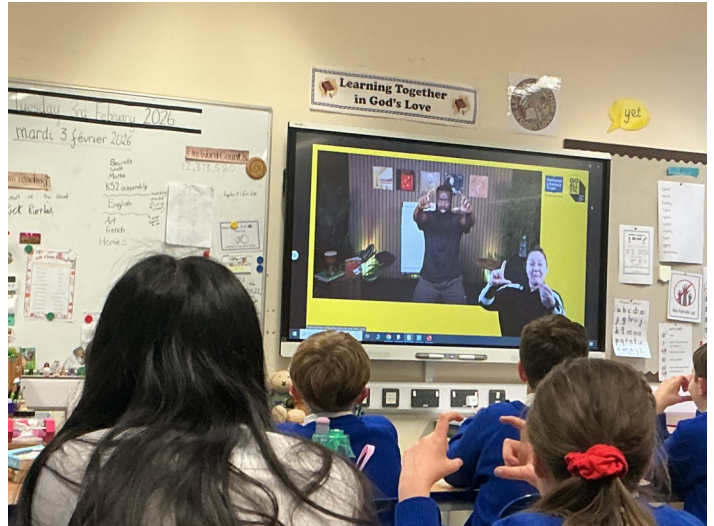




## National Storytelling Week

This week has been National Storytelling Week and, across the school, the children have engaged in various activities with a storytelling theme. Earlier in the week, the children in KS2 took part in a live workshop with Alim Kamara. The webinar explored the magic of storytelling through sound and rhythm. The children in KS1 enjoyed a live workshop with Annemarie Anang who wrote the text, 'I am Nefertiti'.



We have also paired up classes to enable the children to enjoy some mixed age reading opportunities this week.



The children in Early Years visited the public library and had a talk from Tracey the library manager about all the different things you can do in the library. They then had a quiz about different book characters and the children answered the questions really confidently and with lots of knowledge about the stories. They enjoyed exploring all the different reading zones to listen to stories and spent some time choosing their own books to look at too.



## Year 5 Greek Day

Last week, the Year 5 children had a great day consolidating the knowledge they had learnt in their most recent history topic with a visiting 'Ancient Greek' from 'Portals of the Past'. They spent the morning talking through key events from the period.



They also took part in a Greek quiz and tried out some traditional games before moving on to reenact battles in the afternoon, where they were shown different types of armour and weapons. The day ended with a mini Olympic Games, which everyone threw themselves into with great

energy and volume! The children asked thoughtful questions throughout the day, and looked brilliant in their ancient Greek outfits.

## Lent Fundraising project 2026

In half term, we enter the season of Lent, a time where we are asked to remember the needs of others and to grow closer to God, as Jesus did when he dedicated time to spend alone fasting in the desert. During Lent we are asked to repent and take time to change the way we think and behave. We spend more time in prayer, doing good for charity, almsgiving and making sacrifices.

This year the school council have decided that as a school community, we are going to raise money for the charity ShelterBox. ShelterBox helps people to rebuild their homes after disaster or conflict. They believe that recovery starts with shelter. Having somewhere dry and warm to sleep, to prepare meals and be with your family is vital for starting the long process of rebuilding your life. Emergency shelter offers privacy and helps to preserve your dignity. It offers protection from the elements, animals and disease. It helps keep communities together and it can help to bring back a sense of normality, allowing children to go back to school.

Our Catholic Social Teaching principles, remind us all of our responsibility to help look after those most in need and our fundraising efforts throughout Lent are just one way we can do this.

As a Rights Respecting school we talk about the importance of having a safe place to live (UNCRC Article 27) and during Lent, Shelterbox run a 'Tent for Lent' campaign.

We are setting ourselves the challenge to see if as a school community we can work together to raise £500 to help make a difference to those in need.



Can your child help to set the table, make their bed or sacrifice a treat in exchange for a few pennies to add to their class fundraising pot?

Throughout Lent, the school councillors will help count up the class fundraising totals so that we can see how close we are to our target.





# St Edmunds, get ready to play... OPAL BINGO!

Get your bingo dabbers ready! We're launching our own OPAL bingo game starting today. As a whole school community, the challenge is on to see if we can get a 'full house' and collect a donation from each of the categories on our bingo board. All donations will be used by the children in their play. Each class will have a copy of the bingo board on display in their classroom as a reminder of what we're trying to collect.

Laundry basket 	Suitcase 	Wooden spoons 	Pans 	Roller deodorant bottles 
Sunglasses/glasses (plastic) 	Plastic or metal funnels and bowls 	Blankets/duvet covers 	Doctors kit 	Plastic or metal jugs 
Cable spools 	Brooms & paint brushes 	Pogo ball or pogo stick 	Plastic bottle crates 	Tarpaulin or plastic sheeting 
Plastic spades 	Buckets 	Trowels 	Magazines/comics 	Cardboard tubes 
Guttering & pipes 	Crutches & Zimmers 	Old Electronics 	Baking tins/trays 	Chalk 

Large items can be placed straight into our donation station crates at the side of ramp as you head towards the playground. Smaller items can be handed to class teachers or the office via your child. **Extra playtime for everyone is the reward if we can manage to achieve a full house of donations.**



## Save the date! Park Run Primary School - Sunday 8th March 2026

Exciting news... St Edmund's is becoming a Parkrun Primary School! On Sunday 8th March, St Edmund's will be hosting its very own junior parkrun event. We are encouraging all students, teachers, and families to come along and get involved. It will be a fantastic opportunity to walk, jog, run, or volunteer alongside friends and members of our school community at junior parkrun.



### What is junior parkrun?

Junior parkrun is a free, community event where participants can walk, jog, run, volunteer, or spectate. It is a 2km course designed for 4–14-year-olds. The event is positive, welcoming, and inclusive, with no time limit and no last finisher — everyone is welcome.

### Our local junior parkrun

Our local junior parkrun takes place every Sunday morning at 9am. It is held at Ten Acre Field, Moreton Hall, IP32 7DA (the gate entrance opposite Raedwald Drive).

More information will follow soon. For now, please save the date and plan to join us!  
Mrs Murray



### Diary Dates

Wed 11th Feb	4BF to attend Parish Mass at 10am HALF TERM (Mon 16th—Fri 20th Feb)
Mon 23rd Feb	Children return to school
Mon 23rd/Tue 24th	Visit from Sisters of Our Lady of Walsingham
Wed 25th Feb	Year 6 Science workshop (led by Mr Gregory from St Benedicts)
Wk beg 2nd, 9th and 16th Mar	Learning Conversations
Wed 4th Mar	4C to attend Parish Mass at 10am
Fri 6th Mar	Year 4, 5 and 6 Reconciliation
Tue 10th Mar	Annie and Sue from OM Health and Wellbeing back in school
Thur 12th Mar	Young Carers group session in school
Fri 13th Mar	Whole School Mass 9am
Thur 26th Mar	Rocksteady gig 9am



**WE CAN CONFIRM THE  
NEW YEAR NEON DISCO  
RAISED £1,562.71!**

Thank you to everyone for making it such a  
bright & wonderful atmosphere!

The Friends Committee give special thanks to  
all those who volunteered to set up, run stalls  
and clear up after the event - you made the  
world of difference!



**OUR NEXT EVENT...**

**AFTER SCHOOL SWEET STALL  
FRIDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY  
3:15-3:45PM**



There will be a small sweet and refreshment stall taking place on the  
playground after school.

This will be **CASH ONLY**, and specifically **SMALL CHANGE PREFERRED**  
with items costing 50p-£1

Don't forget to follow our Facebook page!  
"Friends of St Edmunds Primary School BSE"



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!**  
**TOTAL RAISED THIS ACADEMIC YEAR: £3,520.23**

Helping to raise funds to support learning experiences, school trips & equipment

[thefriends@st-edmunds.suffolk.sch.uk](mailto:thefriends@st-edmunds.suffolk.sch.uk)