



With friendship, trust and kindness, we fly!

office@catfield.norfolk.sch.uk (01692 580568) office@hickling.norfolk.sch.uk (01692 598355)

office@sutton.norfolk.sch.uk (01692 580608)

December 2025 Newsletter

Message from the Executive Head

Dear families

Welcome to our December newsletter.

I am really looking forward to the coming days in schools where I will view the nativities and KS2 carol concert. Thank you to the staff who have been working incredibly hard to help our children shine. I look forward to seeing many of you at our events.

The end of a year, is always a time to reflect and think about what we are grateful for. I can honestly say I am truly grateful that I get to work in these three amazing schools. I could not be prouder of the pupils and staff who continue to flourish. Thank you for always finding time in your busy life's to support us and share a kind word. It really does make all the difference.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas.

Kind Regards

Natalie Butcher

Executive Head, The Swallowtail Federation

Message from the Senior Teacher

Dear Families,

It has been a very busy few weeks and the children have been absolutely amazing with all the different things that have been going on.

The school council would like to hold a Christmas party for their friends on **Thursday 18th**, this will be held in the afternoon. They would like to invite everyone to wear party clothes for the day (there will be no Forest school session) and have asked for help with donations of party food. There is a list that you can sign up to say what you are able to donate.

Keystage 1

Key stage one (Dragonflies) will be holding a federation day **at Hickling on Friday 9th January**. Please drop your child to Hickling at 9am and collect at 3pm. If you have any problems with transport please try to car share with a friend, if you still have a problem please speak to your class teacher.

EYFS

Early years (Caterpillars and Butterflies) will also be holding a federation day on **Friday 9th January** at Sutton. They will be joined by their friends from Catfield and Hickling. To support drop offs you are welcome to drop your child to Sutton between 8.30 to 9am and collect between 2.45 and 3.20pm.

Last day of term (Friday 19th December)

The children will be having their Christmas lunch and our Christmas church service will be held at 2.30pm at St.Michael's. Please let Miss Coleman know if your child will need to be returned to school to be collected.

All there is left for me to say is that we all wish you a very merry Christmas.

Kind Regards
Sabrina Holmes
Senior teacher

News

- Don't forget to enter your child into the weekly cake raffle. It is £1.00 a ticket and the prize is a yummy cake! If you would like to take part, it is drawn every Friday at family worship and tickets can be brought on Parent Mail.
- To help us with fundraising we have signed up to My Nametags, the company produces nametags, which can be used on children's clothes and school equipment. We will receive 24% of all sales. To order some nametags please click on the link www.mynametags.com. Our school ID **36297** please add this code when requested by Nametags, in the school name section, if you put Sutton Infant Academy the funds will not be allocated to us.
- Don't forget to book in your child's lunches and wraparound care for the New Year. The cut off point for wraparound care is **Friday 19th December**.
- Respiratory and flu-like cases are rapidly on the rise. We urge you to ensure your child receives the flu vaccination. **You have a choice between the quick and painless nasal spray or the Injection which is porcine & gelatine free.** This not only protects your children against being seriously but also protects vulnerable members of your family and community. We have several community catch-up clinics available. Please use the link <https://eastanglia.schoolvaccination.uk/flu/2025/book> to book an appointment. If you previously declined consent for your child when we visited the school, you **CAN CHANGE** your consent. Please call our office on 01603 576320, and we will book a clinic appointment for you. Kind Regards,
Norfolk Immunisation Team Tel: 01603 576320 | Norfolk Team: norfolk@v-uk.co.uk

Safeguarding

Some links for e-safety:

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/>

<https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/digital/5-a-day/>

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

Stay up to date...

Website: www.swallowtailfederation.co.uk

Facebook page – Search for Sutton CEVC Infant School

FOSIS

A big thank you to our wonderful FOSIS team who have worked tirelessly this Autumn term to raise funds for the school. In total they have managed to raise an amazing **£496.95**.

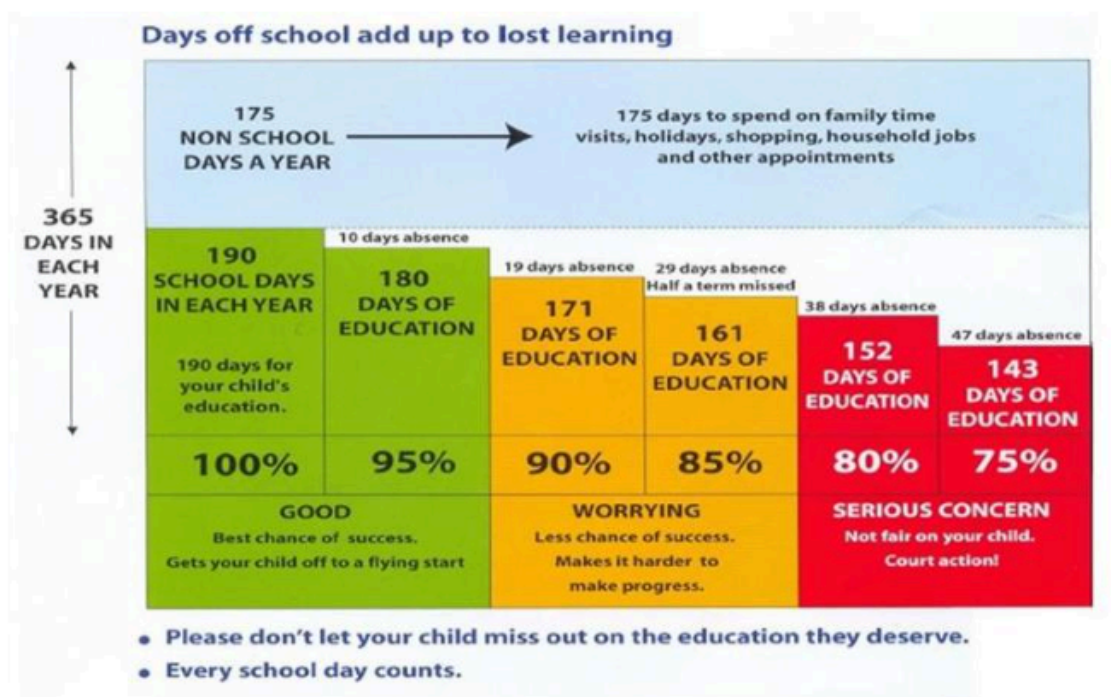
School attendance

Attendance to date for Sutton Infant Academy:

Butterflies Class- 92.96%

Dragonflies Class-97.06%

Well done to the [Dragonflies class](#) who have the highest attendance this term.



This month's curriculum focus- Music

Our Music curriculum is crafted to inspire our pupils to develop a love of music through exploration: accessing a range of interesting instruments; composing: having the time to learn to play tuned and untuned instruments creatively as well as accurately; and exposure: by expanding their musical palates through listening to music from around the world as well as throughout historical periods

On their musical journey at Swallowtail this year, children in Key Stage 1 will be using percussion and African djembes as their untuned instruments; using their voices expressively through singing in class; learning to play glockenspiels as their tuned instrument; and exploring high-quality music from the 1960s, 70s and 80s. The children in Key Stage 2 have an exciting year ahead where they will be learning/continuing to learn to play the ukulele, including reading musical notations. They will also be accessing Garage Band on the I pads to compose music digitally! They will learn to record and layer instruments and experiment with genres. They will sing before an audience in ensemble context. Finally, the Cheetahs will be listening to Early to Mid Twentieth Century musicians in their Music History unit, and the Panthers will focus on the Classical Music era.

Music work is recorded in samples by the teacher and kept in a digital file by the Music Subject Leader. Once a year, when the children study Music History and Theory, their recorded work is kept in a treasury tagged folder, that will be passed up through their years at school.

If children have musical experience outside of school, we would love for them to share this with us during their music lessons so that we can celebrate their learning and developing talents! Please speak with the teacher that delivers their music lessons for assistance with keeping a personal instrument safely stored at school, should you wish to send it in. Alternatively, you could record them playing their instrument at home for us to share at school.

-Mrs. Pell

This month's curriculum focus- Modern Foreign languages

Our Modern Foreign Languages (MFL) curriculum is personally crafted and delivered by our MFL Subject Leader. It follows the National Curriculum for Languages in Key Stage 2 with a view to provide engaging, varied and stimulating units of study over the course of their four years of learning at Swallowtail. The chosen language of study at Swallowtail is Spanish.

It is a passionate priority of the MFL leader that children enjoy learning about a range of practical topics in Spanish, such that they can begin to converse about ideas that are most likely to present themselves in day-to-day life, are important and appropriate to their age group. In each topic, we will undertake skills required to listen, speak, read and write. Woven through their years of learning, are Hispanic cultural units to enrich their understanding of the world and its citizens.

Spanish learning is recorded in their Spanish books, which the children take home at the end of each academic year. Spoken evidence may be recorded in samples and kept in a digital Subject Leader file. Children will also have the opportunity to take home small projects that they make in class at various points each year, be it an adapted story that they have written, a themed bilingual card or a hand-made vocabulary learning tool!

This year marks an exciting new learning endeavour in our Spanish lessons as we begin using our newest, shiny resource: Spanish readers! While this is a reading, listening and speaking exercise, the book titles will be evidenced in their workbooks. This endeavour builds upon our termly book studies that link directly to our topics of study.

This year, we will be studying: animals, colours, Christmas (including Hispanic Christmas culture) and the family. Our grammatical learning will link to our units of study wherever possible. Likewise, our writing pieces this year will link to our book studies on animals & colour and the family.

If you find that your child(ren) are particularly interested in learning Spanish or any second language for that matter, our MFL leader highly recommends the free App: Duolingo, as an engaging, motivating way of learning through digital play!

-Mrs. Pell

Diary Dates (all subject to change):

Tuesday 18th December- Carol signing in the village at 9.30am.

Friday 19th December- Christmas lunch

Friday 19th December- Christmas church service at 2.30pm. Children are to go home straight from the church. Children of families who don't attend will walk back to school, if you are not attending can you please inform your class teacher.

Children break up for Christmas on Friday 19th December and return to school on Tuesday 6th January 2026.

Friday 9th January- Federation Day. EYFS children will be based at Sutton for the day and KS1 children will be going to Hickling Infant Academy. More information to follow.

Wednesday 14th January- Community Event 9-10.00am, all families welcome to attend.

Friday 6th February- Federation Day at Sutton Infant Academy. NSPCC number day Math's Cafe 9.00-10.00am.

Monday 9th to Friday 13th February- Children's Mental Health week.

Half term- Monday 16th- Friday 20th February.

Friday 27th February- Quiz and chip night 6-8pm.

Thursday 5th March- World Book Day. Reading cafe in the morning, more information to follow.

Tuesday 10th March- EYFS parent consultations

Wednesday 11th March- EYFS parent consultations.

Friday 13th March- Mother's Day worship at 8.50am.

Tuesday 17th March- Reception class trip to Gressenhall. More information to follow.

Thursday 19th March- KS1 RE trip. More information to follow.

Friday 20th March- Community afternoon event 2-3pm.

Friday 27th March- Easter egg hunt, bonnet parade and egg decorating competition. Easter service at the church at 2.30pm.

Children break up for half term on Friday 27th March and return to school on Tuesday 14th April.

