



***With friendship, trust and kindness, we fly!***

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# January 2026 Newsletter

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## Message from the Executive Head

Dear families

Happy New Year to you all!

We certainly had an eventful start, with the snow and ice. Thank you for all your support to ensure we managed those few days safely.

A warm welcome to Romany Womack who has joined the team at Catfield as our new EYFS teacher. We also see Emma Smithson stepping up to senior teacher, who is already showing to be an incredible leader in her new role.

This term is shorter than the last but with no less to fit in. Spring term is often when we find children really fly with their learning and make significant progress. At the end of the term teachers in our key stage 1 and key stage 2 classes will be writing your child's report which you will receive on the 1<sup>st</sup> May. The idea behind this is that targets will be set for children to work on in the summer term. EYFS reports are sent out later in the summer term, in line with statutory guidance.

*Kind Regards*

*Natalie Butcher*

*Executive Head, The Swallowtail Federation*

## Message from the Senior Teacher

Dear families,

We've only been back for 3 weeks, but we've already packed so much in. On the first Friday back, we held both our EYFS and KS1 federation days at Sutton and Hickling. All the children had a great time with their friends from Catfield and Hickling, it was lovely hearing all their giggles and chatter.

This week we have welcomed Miss Simpson into Dragonflies. Miss Simpson is with us from the UEA and will be with us until Easter. She has already shown to be a great asset to our school.

On Friday 6th February we will be having a federation day at Sutton with all pupils in the federation joining us. This is to celebrate world number day, and we invite pupils to dress up as anything related to this, e.g. a football shirt with a number on, tops covered in number or even dressed as a calculator. It can be as simple or elaborate as you like.

I would like to give a reminder that PE kits must be in school at the beginning of each half term and will be sent home at the end of that half. Forest school is on a Thursday, and pupils need to come into school dressed in clothes suitable for this session.

Mrs. S. Holmes

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### News

- Sutton Parish Charity Trust has funds available for residents of Sutton who may find themselves in difficult financial circumstances. At school we can help you apply for one of these grants, which covers areas such as financial, education, social or community support. If you would like an application form for the grant, please contact Miss Coleman in the school office.
- Don't forget our weekly cake raffle, entries can be made on Parent Mail. It costs £1.00 per entry.
- Wraparound Care- wraparound bookings must be at least week in advance and the office must be informed directly of your booking. This is to ensure transport arrangements are in place. Once booked please email the school office on [office@sutton.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:office@sutton.norfolk.sch.uk) with your booking dates.
- We have had a case of head lice in the school; can all families please check their children's hair and treat if needed.

- For World Book Day on Thursday 5th March Nourish will be hosting a special lunch, please see the attached flyer. You can make your booking on Parent Mail.
- Afterschool clubs next half term are:

**Mondays**-Book club, based at Sutton Infant Academy. Starting from 2nd March until 23rd March. 3.20pm-4.20pm, at £3.00 a session. Places can be booked on Parent Mail.

**Thursdays**- Painting club, based at Hickling Infant Academy. Starting from 5th March until 26th March 3.20pm-4.20pm. Children will be transported from Sutton to Hickling via the school minibus and need to be collected at 4.20pm from **Hickling Infant Academy**. Places can be booked on Parent Mail.

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## 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/>

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## FOSIS

- Our FOSIS team are looking for donations of any unwanted/duplicate small xmas presents for an event they are looking to run in the near future.

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## School attendance

Attendance to date for Sutton Infant Academy

Butterflies class: **92.98%**

Dragonflies class: **96.42%**

## Did You Know?

One full school year at 90% attendance is the equivalent of 4 weeks of learning missed!

Over 5 years of school, this adds up to half a school year missed.

This is known as persistent absence.



We are sensitive to the needs of the child and are there to help all pupils. If you are worried about your child's attendance, give the school a call, asking for Miss Blake.

You can also contact the Healthy Child Service team by calling Just One Number on [0300 300 0123](tel:03003000123) or texting Parentline on 07520 631590. Opening hours are 8am-6pm Monday-Friday (excluding bank holidays).

*Abby Blake*

*Assistant Head Teacher, Swallowtail Federation*

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## Diary Dates (all subject to change):

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 on Friday 27th March and return to school on Tuesday 14th April.

### **Summer term**

Thursday 23rd April- Community morning event 9-10am.

Friday 22nd May-Math's cafe 9.00-10.00am.

Tuesday 2nd June- KS1 trip to West Runton. KS1 Consultations.

Thursday 4th June- KS1 consultations.

Tuesday 9th June- Community afternoon event 2-3pm.

Thursday 12th June- Federation Day, Global awareness/around the world. Children will spend the day at Hickling Infant Academy.

Thursday 12th June- Bingo night 6-8pm.

Friday 19th June- Father's Day scavenger hunt 8.50am.

Friday 26th June- Sports day and picnic 12-3pm

Tuesday 30th June- Reception class trip to Wroxham Barns.

Friday 3rd July- Reserve sports day and picnic. 12-3pm.

Thursday 9th July- Swallowtail arts festival. More information to follow.

Wednesday 15th July- Reserve Swallowtail arts festival.

Children break up for summer break on Friday 17th July.

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### **This month's curriculum focus - English**

The Strong Foundations Framework highlight the significance of reading, writing, and maths. It emphasises on what high quality teaching looks like in the early years and Key Stage 1, and it helps schools make sure every child builds secure, confident skills from the beginning of their schooling journey.

## Securing strong foundations for all pupils



Word reading



Spelling



Handwriting



Early mathematics



High-quality interactions

Children who develop strong early foundations are more likely to: feel confident in reading, writing, and maths, maintain the curriculum as it becomes more challenging, developing an enjoyment for learning, rooted in a secure understanding and prevent gaps widening.

A deeper look into the application of Securing Strong Foundations to English:

<p><b>Word reading</b></p>	<p><b>Systematic, Synthetic Phonics (SSP)</b>            Little Wandle is a rigorous, well-sequenced phonics programme. Children are taught grapheme–phoneme correspondences (GPCs) in clear progression.            Daily phonics takes place, with opportunities to apply new knowledge in reading and writing.</p> <p><b>Decoding Accuracy</b>            Children learn to blend sounds and read words.</p> <p><b>Practice Through Decodable Texts</b>            Reading books match taught phonics.            Decodable books allow children to practise taught GPCs and build confidence.</p> <p><b>Rapid Identification of children requiring additional intervention</b>            Regular assessment identifies children who need additional support.            Interventions: Keep Up and Catch Up are delivered in line with our phonics scheme.</p> <p><b>Language and Vocabulary as Supporting Foundations</b>            Oral language development, vocabulary exposure and comprehension foundations</p>
<p><b>Spelling</b></p>	<p><b>Spelling is taught through systematic synthetic phonics</b>            Children learn to segment words into phonemes and record these as graphemes. Spelling instruction follows the Little Wandle Spelling progression.            Common Exception Words are taught explicitly.</p> <p><b>Sequencing matters</b>            Children are not expected to spell words containing GPCs they have not yet been taught.</p> <p><b>Rapid Identification of children requiring additional intervention</b>            Early assessment is essential to identify children who need extra support through intervention.</p>

<b>Handwriting</b>	<b>Letter formation including orientation and size is taught rigorously. Children are supporting in developing the correct pencil grip; Nip, Flip, Grip has been implemented to support this. Children are taught to leave spaces between words.</b>
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Abby Blake

English Subject Leader

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**Stay up to date...**

Website: [www.swallowtailfederation.co.uk](http://www.swallowtailfederation.co.uk)

Facebook page – Search for Sutton CEVC Infant School