



# The Rackham NEWSLETTER



Therefore encourage one another and build each other up.  
1 Thessalonians 5.11

Working together to be the best we can possibly be.

## Message from Miss Turner

19<sup>th</sup> June 2026

*What a busy week in school! Three school trips, two to Duxford and one to the theatre along with our incredible Year 6 pupils delivering their enterprise fundraising stalls. Thank you to everyone for bringing in pocket money to enable our Year 6 to enjoy a superb end of year celebration.*

*Fundraising of a different sort at Funday Sunday produced a grand total over £5,000! Wow! Thank you to everyone who played a part in achieving such a magnificent figure.*

*Don't miss out on the FWR theatre visit on Saturday 27th June. Please follow [this link](#) to book tickets for your family and friends.*

## Attendance

**This week's attendance: 94.1%**

The Rackham has a policy on Attendance. Please follow [this link](#) to read the policy on the school website.

## Safeguarding

This week the UK Government announced their intention to ban access to social media for children under the age of 16. Link here to find out more: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/fact-sheet-new-rules-to-protect-children-online/fact-sheet-new-rules-to-protect-children-online>

## Wellbeing & Mental Health



Our universal offer for all pupils including pre-school includes access from home for parents and carers. When logging in, use this code **110807** to access the resource. There are so many things to use to support parents and children including stories to help with bedtime and relaxation.

[https://courses.myhappymind.org/users/sign\\_in](https://courses.myhappymind.org/users/sign_in)

We would like to say a huge 'Thank You' to everyone who supported Funday Sunday. FWR are delighted to announce that they raised over £5,000 !

# Funday Sunday

GRAND  
TOTAL  
£5,058.38

# Thank You EVERYONE!

## Saturday 27th June



Please follow [this link](#) to book tickets

## FWR Disco - Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> July

Summer Disco– booking open via MCAS

Our FWR Summer disco will be taking place on Wednesday 1st July. This event is for Reception to Year 6.

The Reception and KS1 (Year 1&2) disco will be held from 3.25 – 4.00pm. If you would like your child to get changed in their classroom, please send in their disco clothes in a named bag. Children will be collected from the red gates as usual at the 4pm.

The KS2 disco (Years 3, 4, 5 and 6) will be held from 4.15 – 5.00pm. Year 3 and 4 will be collected from the KS1 red gates and year 5 and 6 from the hall door at 5pm.

The disco cost is £3.50 per child and includes entry, a drink and a glo-stick.

To book a place for your child at the disco, please login to your MCAS account where you will find the payment option under Products and Trips.

**Bookings must be made by 3pm on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> June please. We will not be able to take payment after this time.**

## Move up day - Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> July

Teachers will advise children and all pupils will bring home new class information on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July.

Current Year 6 pupils who are starting at Witchford Village College (WVC) in September will go straight to WVC and not come to The Rackham on Wednesday. Year 6 pupils who are not going to WVC will be in school as usual.

Reception to Year 5 will spend the day in their new class with their new teacher.

Current Pre-School pupils who are due to commence Reception in September will attend school with a parent or carer from 1.30 - 2.30pm.

Children who are due to start at The Rackham Pre-School in September will be invited to a taster session on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> July.

**Please note that Pre-School will close at 12.00 for current pupils on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> July.**

If you have any questions, please contact the office in the first instance. Thank you.

## Relationships Education (including Sex Education) Policy consultation

Please follow [this link](#) to our updated draft Relationships Education policy (including Sex Education). If you have any comments regarding the updated document please complete [this form](#) or email the office with your views - thank you. The consultation will be open until 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2026

## Hot weather guidance

We would like to advise you that our normal school uniform will be suspended next week due to the predicted heat.

Children are welcome to wear their PE kit instead of their usual uniform. Footwear should protect feet and toes, so trainers or sandals are appropriate as they do not slide off feet; however flip flops, cloggies/crocs or sliders are not suitable footwear. Please ensure your child has a water bottle, sunhat and has had sun cream applied before school.

We will provide further updates via email in response to the forecast as necessary.

If you are unsure, do please contact the office in the first instance for guidance.

## Pre-School

Please could we request that all Pre-School children have a spare change of clothes in their bag. As the weather gets warmer we will be inegaging in more water play.

We would also be very grateful for the return of any spare clothes or wellies that children may have borrowed as our stock is running low. Thank you

Please can we also remind you that Pre-School will be closed to current pupils from 12.00 on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> July for Move Up day (see Move Up day section above)

## 2026 - 2027 Year 6 Sweatshirt

2026 – 2027 Year 6 sweatshirts (**for current year 5 pupils**):

Orders can be placed now ready for the first day of term in September 2026. Year 6 sweatshirts can be ordered via Sigma directly: [Clubs & Groups - Sigma Embroidery & Printing](#).

Orders must be placed by parents or carers. Orders placed by 3<sup>rd</sup> July will be delivered to school for collection before the end of term. Orders placed after 3<sup>rd</sup> July can be collected from Sigma Embroidery on Sedgeway Business Park, Witchford but may not be ready for the start of term.



## Year 6 Leavers events

Booking is now open for the Leaver's BBQ on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> July. The event will take place straight after school and finish at 5.30pm. Children will be able to swim so please provide swimming kit and towel. Please complete **this form** to book. Bookings must be made by Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July

The Year 6 Leaver's assembly will take place at 10.30am on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July followed by a buffet lunch. We expect the event to finish by 12.30pm. Please book your child's meal via MCAS and complete **this form** to book for up to two adults (adults are free of charge)



## Parents and Carers! We Need You!

We are thrilled to let you know that we are applying to become a myHappyMind Accredited School. The accreditation recognises schools that are embedding the myHappyMind curriculum into their whole-school culture and taking real action to improve the mental health and wellbeing of the school community.

If we are successful, we will become a Bronze Accredited myHappyMind School and receive some amazing resources for the children to use.

As part of the application, we are asked to provide feedback from parents, so we would really appreciate your support.

**Please click the link below before Friday 3rd July**, to provide myHappyMind with feedback on the programme. We would be very grateful for your time.

**[Click Here for the Bronze Parent Feedback Form](#)**

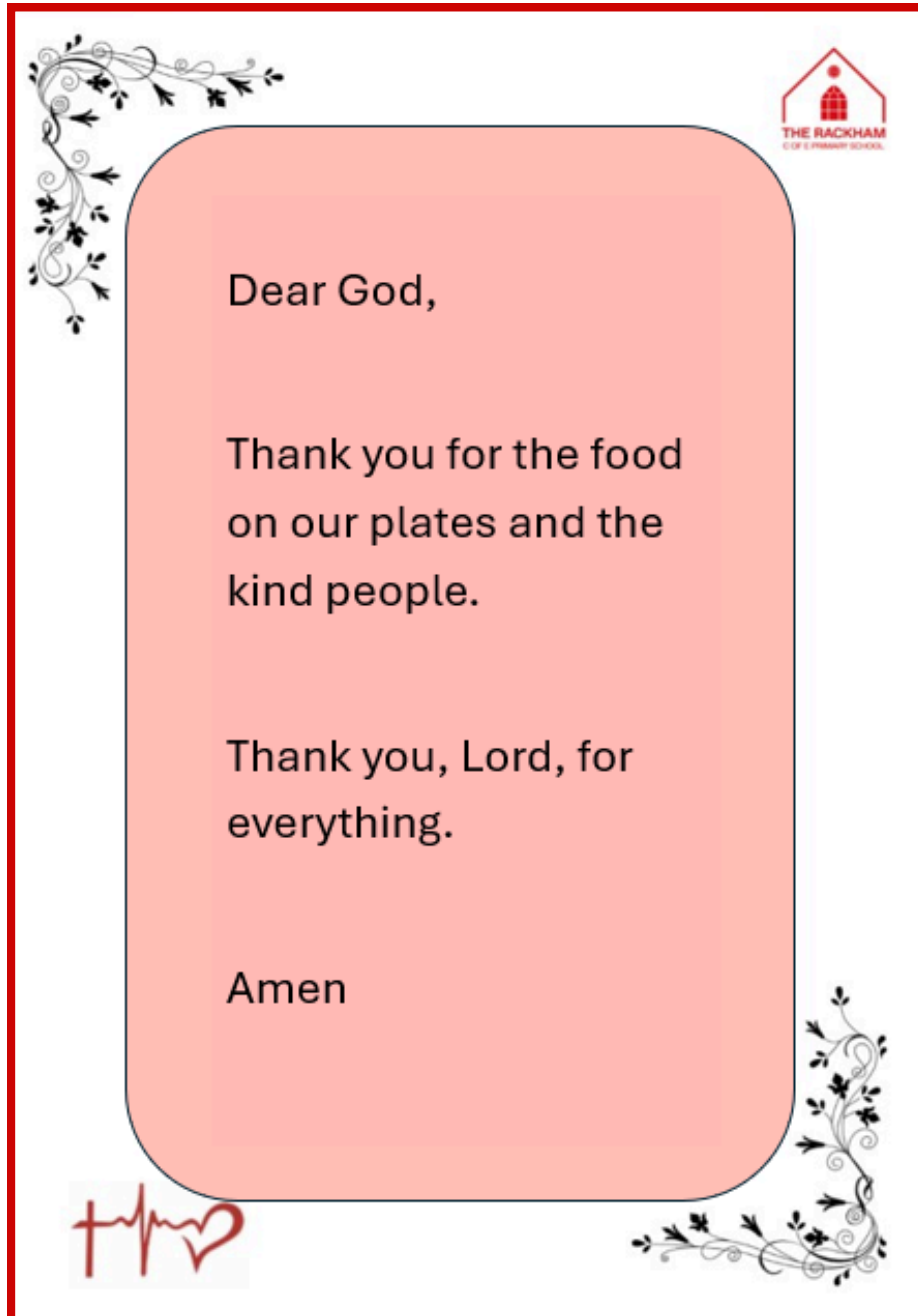
Want to learn more? Take a look at myHappyMind founder Laura Earnshaw's best-selling book on [Amazon](#).

Thank you for your continued support!



# Prayer For This Week

As a school, we are currently taking part in the Diocese Green Guardians challenge. The challenge for this week is to write a prayer one of which we share below.



Looking forward to seeing you all on Monday.

Best wishes,

Miss Turner

# Activities and Events



## Thank You to FWR for Our New Electronic Notice Board

We are thrilled to extend our heartfelt thanks to FWR for their generous contribution of a new electronic notice board. This incredible addition to our community is a testament to our ongoing commitment to enhancing communication and connectivity.

GRAB YOUR CHANCE TO LEARN AND PERFORM ON A REAL STAGE IN A REAL THEATRE!

viva!

**PADDINGTON**  
THE MUSICAL

HALF-TERM WORKSHOP  
AT THE VIVA THEATRE

BASED ON THE WEST END MUSICAL

MON 26 - TUE 27 OCTOBER 2026

FOR AGES 5 AND UPWARDS

The Viva Workshop is open to everyone, places will be allocated on a first come basis. The workshop will take place at the Viva Theatre in Soham from 10am - 3pm daily.

The cost of the workshop is £55 per student; this includes a personalised T-Shirt!

TO RESERVE A PLACE PLEASE CONTACT  
E: jessicabea76@gmail.com T: 07407 062 961

**THINK BEFORE YOU PARK**

YOU COULD ENDANGER A CHILD'S LIFE  
BE CONSIDERATE TO OUR NEIGHBOURS

**BARRACUDAS**  
ACTIVITY DAY CAMPS

HIGHLY RATED School Holiday Camps!

AT A SCHOOL NEAR YOU IN 2026!  
EXCLUSIVE PARENT DISCOUNT

USE CODE **SCHOOL26** FOR AN EXTRA £20 OFF YOUR BOOKING!

- 4 to 14 year olds!
- 80+ Activities!
- Choice each session!
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The 53rd World PEASHOOTING CHAMPIONSHIP

Saturday 11th July 2026

from 11:30am, Witcham Village Green, Ely CB6 2LB

Competitions include:

- The Open - for customised peashooters
- Traditional Peashooter
- Teams - up to 4 people in a team
- Petits Pois - Under 11s
- Youth - Ages 12-16
- Junior Teams - Ages 5-16
- NEW This Year - Best Dressed Team

Plus: BBQ, Bar, Gin Tent, Stalls, Raffle, Teas & Cakes, Ice Cream, Kids Entertainment, Crafts and much more!

Register to compete on the day or online at [www.worldpeashoot.com](http://www.worldpeashoot.com)

Summer HAF  
Holiday Activities and Food Programme

Your child could enjoy fun, exciting activities, make new friends, and receive a tasty meal and snacks - all completely free.

Find out more  
Scan the QR Code or visit: [www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/haf](http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/haf)

FOOTBALL DEVELOPMENT

**OPEN TRIALS**

TRIALS IN:

- PETERBOROUGH
- CAMBRIDGESHIRE
- HERTFORDSHIRE
- SUFFOLK
- SURREY

SCAN HERE TO BOOK

Girls trials for Norwich City

←←←←←

11th July 2026 | 7.30pm  
St Mary's Church, Ely

13th July 2026 | 7.30pm  
Haddenham Methodist Church, Haddenham

**CONCERT FOR UKRAINE**  
AN EVENING OF MUSIC & FRIENDSHIP

Your paragraph text

Witchford Voices and Vyshyvanka Voices invite you to join them for a performance of English and Ukrainian songs, plus instrumental pieces performed by our choirs and special guests. In partnership with Convo4Ukraine, this concert raises funds to send another ambulance to Ukraine.

Гурт Witchford Voices та спеціальні гості Vyshyvanka Voices запрошують вас приєднатися до нас на вечір музики та дружби.

For more information and tickets visit [www.ticketsource.com/witchford-voices](http://www.ticketsource.com/witchford-voices) or scan the QR code below

SEAHORSE SWIMMING

5 DAY INTENSIVE COURSE

**SPLASH INTO SUMMER Swimming Lessons**

SESSION DATES

SUMMER INTENSIVE COURSES

- WEEK 1 20<sup>TH</sup> - 24<sup>TH</sup> JULY
- WEEK 2 27<sup>TH</sup> - 31<sup>ST</sup> JULY
- WEEK 3 3<sup>RD</sup> - 7<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST

LESSONS TAILORED TO THE INDIVIDUAL SWIMMER

FAST TRACK YOUR SWIMMERS PROGRESS

KING'S ELY POOL

FUN SWIMMING LESSONS FOR ALL AGES AND ABILITIES

AT THE KING'S ELY HEATED OUTDOOR POOL

£120 PER SWIMMER 2:1 CLASS RATIO (45 MINUTE ADVANCED LESSON 4:1 £135 PER SWIMMER)

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Open trials for Norwich City

→→→→→

CAMBRIDGESHIRE  
HERTFORDSHIRE  
SUFFOLK  
SURREY

SCAN HERE TO BOOK

## WITCHFORD COMMUNITY SAFETY FORUM YOUR CHANCE TO HAVE YOUR QUESTIONS HEARD

Do you have concerns about anti-social behaviour, disrespectful driving, or any other issues relating to community safety in Witchford?

Would you like to speak face-to-face with representatives from local agencies?

We are working with the East Cambs. Community Safety Partnership to give you this chance in Witchford.

We have scheduled a meeting of the [Witchford Community Safety Forum](#) for:

**Monday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2026 at 7 pm**  
**St Andrews Hall, Main Street, Witchford**  
**Doors open 6:30 pm**

Representatives from the **police**, community safety teams, youth team, Witchford Village College, Parish, District and County Councillors will be there in person to take your questions. If you do not want to speak, you can leave a written question too.

The panellists will try to answer your questions at the meeting, but can also take questions away. The Community Safety Partnership will prepare an **action plan for Witchford** based on the key issues arising from the evening, which will be shared with the Parish Council within three months.

Come along to St Andrews Hall on  
Monday 13<sup>th</sup> July – your community,  
your questions, your chance to be heard.

## St. Andrew's Church



**NEWS from the Parish church of St. Andrew Witchford for the community  
June, July 2026**

**Church wardens:**

**Dr Rosemary Westwell, (01353) 663918 [rjwestwell@hotmail.com](mailto:rjwestwell@hotmail.com); mobile: 07432342845  
email@ [rjwestwell@hotmail.com](mailto:rjwestwell@hotmail.com)**

**2nd church warden: Mr Freddie Lawes, tel (01353) 665369 mob: 07799596697 email:  
[hemlocks42@btinternet.com](mailto:hemlocks42@btinternet.com)**

**Rector: Rev. Chris Hollingshurst 07534970127**

**SERVICES:** Unless stated otherwise, services take place in the church at 10.00 on Sunday mornings every week. Occasionally, there may be changes to services. These will be on our Facebook page ('St. Andrew's Church Witchford') and on the church notice board. Coffee/tea and biscuits are served at the end of services. All welcome.

If you wish to arrange a baptism, wedding, funeral or home communion please contact the church warden.

### **SERVICES**

June 21st Morning Prayer

June 28th Communion

July 5th Morning Prayer

July 12th Morning Prayer

July 19th Morning Prayer

July 26th Communion

### **VACANCIES:**

The Friends of St Andrew's Church Witchford are seeking new members, Why not join them for fun activities while helping our church stay open and upright? They are also seeking a secretary. Contact Rosemary Westwell

### **EVENTS:**

Sunday 14th June 3-5 afternoon tea with musician the church

Tuesday 23rd June 7 p.m. An Evening of Music and Poetry in the church If you would like to read your favourite poem, please contact Rosemary Westwell

### **COFFEE MORNINGS**

are held on the first and third Wednesdays of the month at 1000 -1130 in St Andrew's Hall Witchford. Cost: minimum £5 for coffee, cake and a raffle strip.

### **CRAFT MORNINGS:**

on the second Thursday of the month.

10.30 -12. a.m. in St Andrew's Hall. contact: susanmaud.sm@gmail.com 07954 178560

### **VILLAGE LUNCH CLUB**

takes place on the first Friday of the month at 12.30 p.m. in the Village Inn. Contact Rosemary Westwell (see above) or Gill Brand (01353) 662073 mobile: 07770932 to pay in advance.

### **FREE FOOD**

is available at the FOODSWAP on the first and third Wednesdays of the month from 11.30 a.m. overnight in St Andrew's Hall porch in Witchford. Please feel welcome to bring or take in-date and sealed food. Rosemary Westwell and Susan Maud can be approached for applying to use using Ely Foodbank too.

### **ST. ANDREW'S HALL**

may be hired at £12 per hour for locals, £15 per hour for others. Please contact the Church Hall caretaker, Jan King (01353) 658621 M:07761341325 rule.king.uk@gmail.com

### **200 CLUB**

The Friend's 200 club welcomes new members. It costs £12 a year and you can win £20 a month (£100 in December) while supporting a good cause. In addition, if you would like to join the Friends, contact Dr Westwell 07432342845 or 01363 663918 rjwestwell@hotmail.com