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Working together to be the best we can possibly be.

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. *Philippians 4.13*

19th December 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we head towards the Christmas holiday, from all the staff and Governors a message of sincere thanks to our parent and carer community for your support over the last term. We wish you all a peaceful Christmas holiday and every best wish for 2026. We also extend our thanks to Revd. Becky and Chris Warner for their visits this term for Harvest and Christmas celebrations.

St Andrew's Church:



Sunday 21st December 6 p.m.

9 Lessons and Carols in the church

Safeguarding:

If you think a child or an adult with care and support needs is in immediate danger, phone 999.

Make a referral to Children's Services:

[Make a referral to Cambridgeshire County Council Children's Services - Instructions and Data Protection - Cambridgeshire County Council website \(achieveservice.com\)](#)

NSPCC website:

[NSPCC | The UK children's charity | NSPCC](#)

NSPCC website for information about child protection:

[Child protection system in the UK | NSPCC Learning](#)

Reporting a crime:

[Contact us | Police.uk \(www.police.uk\)](#)

Wellbeing and Mental Health:

TIPS FOR MANAGING YOUR MENTAL HEALTH AT CHRISTMAS



Take a break



Look after yourself



Join the local community



Everything in moderation



Avoid social comparisons



Have realistic expectations



Don't look back

MiniMeMindfulness:



We are delighted that MiniMeMindfulness after school club will be continuing in the Spring Term. Bookings can be made directly on this link: cambridge.minimemindfulness.co.uk

Year 3 Parent meal:



We would like to invite Year 3 parents and carers to join us for school dinner on Thursday 29th January. The meal will be our extremely popular (and very delicious) roast dinner. Parents and carers are asked to purchase their school dinner through MCAS under the Products and Trips tab. The meal will cost

£3.80. **Meal choice and payment must be made by Thursday 22nd January.**

Please complete this form to book your meal or let us know that you will be bringing a packed lunch once payment has been made on MCAS:

Unfortunately, we can only offer for one parent or carer to attend on this occasion.

Children in Year 3 who prefer to have a home packed lunch will still have opportunity for their parent or carer to join them. Adults can still order a school dinner or bring a packed lunch from home to sit to eat with their child. Please note that we are not able to accommodate younger siblings at this event. Please would parents and carers of Year 3 children arrive for school dinner at 12.20pm.



A reminder about parking at drop off and pick up: We continue to experience some anti-social parking decisions including parents and carers parking on the zig zag lines near school. This is illegal. We politely request our parent and carer community make considerate parking decisions. Thank you so much in anticipation of your help.



Dance & Acro-gymnastics with The Lane Academy for Reception to Year 4 at The Rackham Primary in January:

We are excited to be able to offer spaces to new members at our Dance and Acro-gymnastics club for January. The club runs every Monday from 4.30 - 5.45pm and children take part in dance as well as gymnastics, where they will learn and build confidence in new skills.

We are also excited to be offering ISTD dance exams to the children attending and these will take place in March.

If you would like to book a place for next term, please use the link below:

[Dance & Acro-Gymnastics @ Rackham Primary School \(4 - 9yrs\) at Witchford Rackham Primary School, Witchford | Lane Academy | Powered by ClassForKids](#)

Primary School admissions

Applications for Primary School in September 2026:

If your child will be age 4 by 31st August 2026 you need to apply for a Primary School place by **15th January 2026**.

If you have not already submitted an application for your child for entry into primary/infant school in September 2026, please note that applications must be completed and returned to the Admissions Team by the closing date of **15th January 2026**.




There are two ways to make your application for your school place. It can be done either:

- Online via our website: [Click here.](#)
- On a paper application, available by calling **0345 045 1370**. Please note that if you apply on paper, you will need to wait for your postal offer and will not receive an email on the offer date.

Please note that if your child has a statement of Special Educational Needs, you should contact the Student Assessment Team (SAT team) on 01480 372600.

Any application made after **15 January 2026** will be considered as a late application. Any applications received after this time will be late and only considered in May 2026, after all “on-time” applications, so it is very important that you apply by the closing date.

If your application is late, it will likely mean that you will be much less likely to be offered a place at one of your preferred schools. If you have any questions about the Application or online process, please refer to the First Steps booklet or the frequently asked questions on our website.

	<u>Save the date!</u>	<u>FWR events:</u>
	Tuesday 6 th January 2026	FWR Meeting at 7.30pm – all welcome
	Friday 30 th January 2026	FWR Bingo – Postponed
	 <p>We would like to thank all those who kindly donated to FWR and our Daily Mile running track. Christmas performances raised £770. The Santa Run has raised over £1,900 so far. If you haven't sent in your child's sponsorship donation yet, please bring it into school as soon as possible in January 2026.</p> <p>Donations can still be made using the QR code.</p>	

Closure of the Department of Veterinary Medicine at Cambridge University:

As you may be aware, the closure of the Department of Veterinary Medicine at Cambridge University was announced this week. Please [click here](#) for more information and to add your comment if you wish.

Activities and Events:



Cambridgeshire
County Council

DECEMBER 2025

*The following Child and Family Centres
will remain open
(on days which are not Bank Holidays
10am to 3pm) to families over the Holiday period.*

- Ely Child and Family Centre, East Cambridgeshire
High Barns, Ely, CB7 4RB
- Cambourne Child and Family Centre, South Cambridgeshire
Sackville Way, Cambourne, CB23 6HL
- The Fields Child and Family Centre, Cambridge
Galfrid Road, Cambridge, CB5 8ND
- Oasis Child and Family Centre, Fenland
St. Michaels Avenue, Wisbech, PE13 3NR
- Eaton Socon Child and Family Centre, Huntingdonshire
Bushmead Road, St Neots, PE19 8BT

Cambridgeshire
**Child and Family
Centres**

Rockin' Around The Christmas Tree

**Saturday 20th
December
4pm - 6pm
Victoria Green**

Join us for a fun-filled
evening around
the Christmas Tree!

Father Christmas
Food Vans
Christmas Singalong!

Christmas Holiday Scheme Places

FULLY FUNDED

Your child can book onto a fully funded
holiday scheme this Christmas with
fun experiences and food offered.



Children in receipt of benefits-
related free school meals are
eligible and can attend for up
to 16 hours.

For details and the wider eligibility criteria
please scan the QR Code or visit:
www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/haf
Questions: HAF@cambridgeshire.gov.uk



Cambridgeshire
County Council

BEAT THE JANUARY BLUES

BINGO



Star
2026

» FWR «

Uniform orders:

Uniform items for school and pre-school pupils are now available from Sigma. Primary School: [Clubs & Groups - Sigma Embroidery & Printing](#) Pre-School: [Clubs & Groups - Sigma Embroidery & Printing](#)

Orders must be placed by parents and carers and will then be delivered to school and given to the children to bring home.

Attendance:

The Rackham has a policy on Attendance. Please follow this link to read the policy on the school website. [Policy Library | The Rackham C of E \(VC\) Primary School](#)

Thank you to all our parents and carers for supporting our drive for improved attendance. The Government has identified a child's attendance of 96% and above is the key figure to give best chance of academic progress. Please can we remind you that absence must be reported to the office by 9am on each day of absence.

This week's attendance: 92.8%

A very Happy Christmas to our school community and every best wish that 2026 will bring good things for us all.

Looking forward to seeing everyone on Monday 5th January 2026!

Best wishes,

Miss Turner

Dates for your diary:

22 nd December to 2 nd January	CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY
5 th January	Children return
15 th January	Y5/6 Wonder Dome experience – payments due by 5 th January please
19 th January	
29 th January	Year 3 Parent or carer school dinner invitation - booking now open.