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CB6 2HQ

Working together to be the best we can possibly be.

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

27th February 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a joy to welcome our pupils, families and staff back to school this week. Spring promises to be moving ever closer with the lighter mornings and the first signs of blossom on the trees.

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. [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.

Safeguarding:



Parent Power session with CGL CYP service

Would you like to have a better understanding of substances use amongst young people . Do you feel like your young people have more knowledge than you? If so we have the session for you.

Join CGL CYP service to expand your knowledge on substances and what is trending among young people within Peterborough.

Join us for our online sessions: Tuesday 17th March @7pm or Wednesday 25th March @1.30pm

Use the links below to book onto one of our sessions:

[Eventbrite - Dashboard](#)

[Eventbrite - Dashboard](#)

We look forward to seeing you there

[Eventbrite - Log In and Sign In](#)



Wellbeing and mental health: online homework Please keep in mind that it is recommended for children (and adults) to try to avoid screens for 90 minutes before they go to bed for better quality sleep which, in turn, supports focus and positive mental health.



NHS Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Integrated Care Board has requested that the following information is shared with parents.

Dear parent or carer

The local NHS is reminding families of the extra urgent NHS dental care appointments that are available across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. These appointments help with common urgent problems such as severe dental pain, excessive bleeding of the gums and loose or broken crowns and bridges.

If you or your child needs urgent dental help, visit NHS 111 online or call 111. Symptoms will be checked and you'll be given details of the local dental practices that offer urgent dental care. If your family already sees a dentist, please contact them first. If they can't help, NHS 111 will explain what to do next.

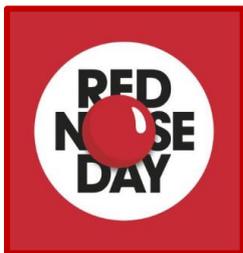
As patients are not linked or registered to one specific practice, those who need urgent NHS dental care can contact any practice offering NHS services across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough to see if urgent care appointments are available.

Urgent NHS dental care appointments are for anybody of any age who needs urgent dental care. Charges start from £27.40 unless you qualify for free NHS care or help with costs. NHS dental care is free for all children under 18, or those under 19 in eligible full-time education.

You can [find more information on urgency NHS dental appointments](#) on the NHS website.

Thank you,

NHS Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Integrated Care Board

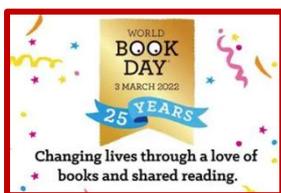


Red Nose Day: The School Council are thrilled to announce that they will be hosting 'The Rackham's Funniest Class Competition', to celebrate Red Nose Day. Each class will be holding a mini joke competition to find their funniest joke to bring to a very special Red Nose Day Joke Competition, where one of our classes will win the accolade of being 'The Rackham's Funniest Class!' We can't wait to laugh our socks off, so we would love your support at home to help your child prepare their funniest joke.

We will also be holding a non-uniform day on Friday 20th March, where every child is invited to 'dress as funny as you feel'! If you would like to make an online donation to Comic Relief, please follow this link: [Donate | Comic Relief](#)



School meal bookings: Please would you ensure that school meals are booked in advance via your child's MCAS account.



World Book Day at The Rackham: At The Rackham, we will celebrate World Book Day on Friday 6th March.

Dressing Up as a Book Character

On this day, we invite the children to dress up as one of their favourite book characters. We would encourage families to share ideas and previous costumes to reduce the stress of preparing something from scratch! A lot of book characters look just like regular children and so this may be an easy win, as long as your child brings into school the book that their character is from!

If your child has PE, please can they wear their PE kit under their costume.

Second Hand Book Sale Fundraiser

On World Book Day we will, once again, hold a second hand book sale fundraiser. We request that every child brings into school 3 or 4 books that they have read and enjoyed but would now be happy to part with. Good quality texts, please! We will collect all of the books and organise them.

On Friday 6th March, all of the children need to bring into school £2. During the afternoon, the children will be able to choose up to two books to take home. Hopefully this will mean that all of the children can take home a book that is new to them and we will raise much needed funds to enable school to buy new titles for our class and school libraries. Last year, we raised over £400, which was used to restock non-fiction in our school library.

Please could you bring book donations into school from Monday 2nd March until Thursday 5th March.

Thank you in advance for your support with this fundraiser!



Year 2 Parent meal: We would like to invite Year 2 parents and carers to join us for school dinner on Thursday 26th March. 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 19th March.**

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:

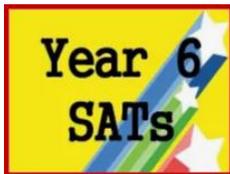
Unfortunately, we can only offer for one parent or carer to attend on this occasion. Children in Year 2 who prefer to have a home packed lunch will still have opportunity for their parent or carer to join them. Adults can still order a school dinner or bring a packed lunch from home to sit to eat with their child. Please note that we are not able to accommodate younger siblings at this event.

Please would parents and carers of Year 2 children arrive for school dinner at 11.50am.

	Save the date!	FWR events:
	27 th March	Doughnut Day – more information available soon.



East Cambs Child and Family Centre: See The Rackham website for further information. [Community Notice Board](#) | [The Rackham C of E \(VC\) Primary School](#)



Year 6 SATs parent information evening (online): We will be holding an online information evening about SATs for Year 6 parents on Wednesday 18th March at 6pm. Please complete this form if you would like the link to attend:



Pre-School Craft and Cake: To mark Mother's Day, we would like to invite **one** special person, from each child's family to join us for 'Craft and Cake' on Friday 13th March or Tuesday 17th March between 11am and 12pm or the afternoon session on Wednesday 18th March between 2 – 3pm depending on when your child is in session. During this time, we plan to have a class story and some time to join in with some craft

activities.

To book your place for this wonderful opportunity, please login to the Products and Trips page of your MCAS account. Bookings will close today, Friday 27th February 2026.

Unfortunately, we will be unable to accommodate siblings as we do not have the space within our Pre-School to do this safely.



Reception Craft and Cake sessions: To mark Mother's Day, we would like to invite **one** special person, from each child's family to join us for a 'Craft and Cake' session on Wednesday 11th March from 2pm to 3pm. During this time, we plan to have a class story and some time to join in with some craft activities.

To book your place for this wonderful opportunity, please login to the Products and Trips page of your MCAS account. Bookings will close today, Friday 27th February 2026.

Unfortunately, we will be unable to accommodate siblings as we do not have the space within our classrooms to do this safely.



Year 1 Phonics Screening Information Evening (online) Please use this link to book for the online Year 1 Phonics Screening Information Evening on Wednesday 11th March at 6pm:

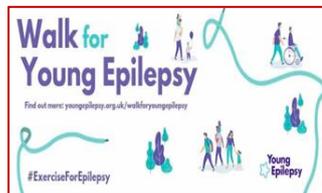
Do you have a moment to support a local charity?

One of our parents, Edd Hancock, is about to start a series of fundraising events throughout March this year to raise funds for a couple of charities close to his family. One being Addenbrookes and the other a smaller local one set up in name of his wife. The Katy Hancock foundation. [Katy Hancock Foundation](#)
Mr Hancock is also trying to raise funds for a running track for The Rackham and has made this part of his fundraising. Mr Hancock is devising a separate page for these donations. Mr Hancock aims to run a total of 262 miles throughout the month of March including organised half marathon events as well as local runs around the village.



Young Epilepsy awareness fundraiser:

Help Shaan, one of our pupils at The Rackham, raise awareness and life-changing funds by supporting him in walking 50 miles in February and donating to young epilepsy. Nearly every hour, a child or young person is diagnosed with epilepsy in the UK.
[#EpilepsySupport](#) [#EpilepsyAwareness](#)



Bonnie Johnson is running the Cambridge Half Marathon on Sunday 8 March 2026 to raise money for patients and staff at Royal Papworth Hospital – the UK's leading centre for heart and lung disease.

Please show your support by donating to their fundraising page.

In aid of
Royal Papworth Charity

Royal Papworth Charity
CAMBRIDGE OPERATION
FR
Registered with FUNDRAISING REGULATOR
Registered Charity No: 1046224 (England & Wales)

Please click on this link to sponsor Bonnie:

[Bonnie Johnson is fundraising for Royal Papworth Hospital Charity](#)

CONTACT US

Contacting staff at The Rackham C of E Primary School and Pre-School: Where parents and carers wish to contact staff to update or pass on a message, please email office@rackham.cambs.sch.uk or speak to a member of the Office Team.

Activities and Events:



WADSY
PERFORMING ARTS

NEW CLASSES STARTING JAN
MONDAYS 4:30 - 5:45
AGES 6-12
ARKENSTALL CENTRE
HADDENHAM
Book at: Wadsyouth.com/workshops



Free Healthy Relationship courses for parents

All relationships have their ups and downs, but if parents are regularly arguing in front of their children, it can have negative and lasting consequences. Help to establish the parents who want to communicate in a healthier way. Family Hubs can arrange to support parents who would like to improve the relationship with their partner or ex-partner. Courses available directly via the QR code.

2024 workshop booking form

****SPRING TERM 2026****

Improve the communication with your partner to support your children

Face to Face Littleport: Littleport Child and Family Centre, Littleport, Ely, Cambridgeshire CB6 1JL, Monday 2nd March, 9:30 - 11:30am

Online via Teams: Monday 26th January and Monday 2nd of February, Midday - 1pm

Improve the communication with your ex-partner to support your children

Face to Face Soham: Soham Child and Family Centre, The Washlands Primary School, Pratt Street, Soham, Ely, CB7 5BH, Friday 20th March, 12:45pm - 2:45pm

Online via Teams: Wednesday 20th January and Wednesday 4th February, Midday - 1pm

Family Hubs logo, Child and Family Centres logo

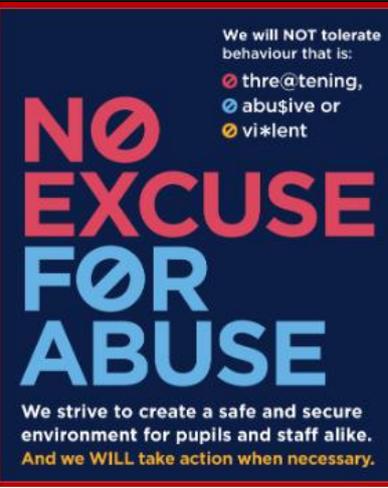


Education Inclusion Family Advisor Team Countywide Online Workshop Offer

The EIFA team would like to present our newly updated workshops on a variety of parenting and family issues for **February**.

Please ensure you book onto each workshop individually by clicking on the link or scanning the QR code and completing the registration form.

Supporting Your Child with Anxiety - Evening session	Monday, 2 February 2026, 18:30-19:30	Book onto this workshop at: Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams or
Supporting Your Child with Twinges of Worry - Evening session	Thursday, 5 February 2026, 18:30-19:30	Book onto this workshop at: Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams or
An Introduction to Family Wellbeing	Tuesday, 18 February 2026, 12:30-13:30	Book onto this workshop at: Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams or
Managing Children's Behaviour	Tuesday, 17 February 2026, 12:30-13:30	Book onto this workshop at: Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams or
Managing Stress in the Family	Thursday, 19 February 2026, 12:30-13:30	Book onto this workshop at: Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams or



We will NOT tolerate behaviour that is:

- ☹️ threatening,
- ☹️ abusive or
- ☹️ violent

NO EXCUSE FOR ABUSE

We strive to create a safe and secure environment for pupils and staff alike. And we WILL take action when necessary.



BARRACUDAS
ACTIVITY DAY CAMPS

HIGHLY RATED School Holiday Camps!!

AT A SCHOOL 2025!
NEAR YOU IN EXCLUSIVE PARENT DISCOUNT

USE CODE SCHOOL20 FOR AN EXTRA £20 OFF YOUR BOOKING!

- 4 to 14 year olds!
- 80+ Activities!
- Choice each session!
- Specialist Courses!
- Flexible bookings!

barracudas.co.uk
01480 467 567

OFSTED REGISTERED



Easter 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!

Children who receive benefits-related free school meals are eligible and can book for up to 16 hours of holiday fun this Easter.

Find out more: Scan the QR Code or visit www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/haf
Questions: HAF@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

FULLY FUNDED

Department for Education, Cambridge County Council

Looking forward to seeing everyone on Monday.
Best wishes,
Miss Turner

Dates for your diary:

4 th March	Parent's Evening 3.30pm - 7pm
5 th March	Parent's Evening 3.30pm - 5.30pm
6 th March	World Book Day at The Rackham
11 th March	Reception Craft and Cake session – 2pm – 3pm – booking now open via MCAS
11 th March	Year 1 Phonics screening - online parent information evening – booking required
13 th March	Pre-School Craft and Cake session – 11am – 12pm – booking now open via MCAS
17 th March	Pre-School Craft and Cake session – 11am – 12pm - booking now open via MCAS
18 th March	Pre-School Craft and Cake session – 2pm – 3pm - booking now open via MCAS
18 th March	Year 6 SATs - online parent information evening – booking now open
20 th March	Comic Relief
25 th March	Overture and Piano concert (Mr Wheatley) - booking required nearer the time
26 th March	Year 2 Parent meal – booking now open via MCAS and form
27 th March	Doughnut Day – more information coming soon
27 th March	Last day of term
Easter holiday	