

Head of School: Mrs Caroline Henry head@reephamprimary.org.uk

26th September 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

The new academic year is very much underway, and we appear to be roaring through to winter! The children have settled very well into their new classes, and all look a lot older when I visit their classrooms to see their learning.

I have included the list of dates again at the bottom of this Newsletter and I will continue to do this every month. I will also highlight the upcoming dates. I am sorry that we forgot to alert some parents re: the school photos. Despite a solution being found immediately, I realise this caused some people distress. Sorry. We try really hard to make sure that we communicate in advance, so we are sorry this happened. We have reflected and think highlighting each month should help. Please be kind if we do forget something though as children and school life are not always predictable and sometimes things don't go to plan!

The new Year 1 and 2 outdoor space

As many of you will have seen, the new outdoor space for Year 1 and 2 is complete. Thank you to you all for supporting the Friends events and making this possible and thank you to the Friends committee for supporting this project. The children are very excited to get out there and we are pleased to have a safe, secure environment that they can use daily to support their learning and well-being.

Clear Arbor accounts/ pre-payment for lunches

It has come to our attention that when we made the move over to Arbor, the system for paying lunches was not monitored in the same way. The current system allows children to order a school lunch and then the balance should be cleared at the end of the week. In the past, if the balance was not cleared, children were not allowed to continue to order a school lunch until payment was made. This is not happening and, in many cases, accounts are running very overdrawn. I am sure you can appreciate that this cannot happen. After October half term, you will need to upload money and pay for meals in advance. Any balance will need to be paid before this time. Thank you for your understanding.

Early closing

We will be following the High School and only having early closing in July. On December 19th, we will be closing at 3:10pm as usual.

Homework policy

Please find attached the homework expectations for each year group. Homework is layered as children move through the school to prepare for independent working later in life. As always, please come and discuss with us if you have any questions. Your child will benefit hugely if we all work together to support them to become independent learners as they grow.

Martyn's Law

Message from Alastair Ogle. Trust CEO



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We are aware that there is growing public awareness of a new Act of Parliament that was passed in April 2025, called Martyns Law.

In summary, the Act requires all schools in England to have specific procedures in place by September 2027. I have copied these from the government website for you: Settings will need to have appropriate procedures in place. This includes:

- evacuation (to get people out of the building)
- invacuation (moving people to a safe place)
- *lockdown (to secure the premises against attackers)*
- communication

We appreciate that due to the language used, this could sound alarming, However, we want to reassure you that the procedures that we are required to put in place will be implemented and communicated with you and your children in a way to avoid any undue concern. All schools already have evacuation procedures in place and some of the other procedures.

In order to support this approach, it may be helpful for your child, if you also discuss this with them, reassuring them that they are safe at school, that many schools in England, already have these in place, and that all schools in England have been told to implement these procedures.

We will of course keep you informed.

Thank you for your support in this matter.

Alastair Ogle. Trust CEO

Safeguarding/ Online safety

Please find attached a parent guide regarding AI. It is always hard for us to stay ahead of our children online and AI is, without doubt, a very difficult area for us to navigate. It is vital that we try and understand how this impacts our children and how we need to be even more aware of their safety online.

Thank you for continuing to support your children to have good attendance. I have attached the sickness guidance leaflet for you to refer to as we head into winter. Feedback is that people found this useful last year.

Keep dates for the next few weeks:

29th September – Harvest festival assembly. Children only. Donations for Mid Norfolk Foodbank. 9th October – Flu vaccination catch up day 17th October – Celebration assembly / Year 5 cake sale 20th and 23rd October – Open mornings for new Reception families 24th October – INSET day – school closed to pupils



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As Halloween falls in the middle of the school holiday, we will not be doing a dress up day in school. We will dress up for Children in Need Day on November 14th. School Council will give us more information nearer the time.

Certificates for September

Class	Inspire	Challenge	Succeed together
Nightingales	Harry	Eliza	Ben and Reuben
Kingfishers	Freddie	Gracie	Henry
Puffins	Jett	Jude	Morgan
Goldfinches	Sidney W	Levi	Matilda
Wrens	Elby	Monty	Aubree
Barn Owls	Chloe	Henry	Tilly
Tawny Owls	Honor	Jack	Emily

Thank you for your continued support.

Caroline Henry

Upcoming dates for your diaries (please be aware these may be subject to change)

October

T7th Celebration assembly/ Year 5 cake sale 20/23rd Reception New intake 2026 open mornings

24th INSET day- school closed to pupils

November

3rd French week 11th/13th Parents' evening

14th Children in Need- Dress up day 28th Celebration Assembly/ Cake sale Y4

December

5th Decorations day 5th/8th Santas grotto tbc 10th/11th KS1 play AM 9:30am

12th Celebration Assembly/ Cake sale Y3

16th Y3/4 play 2pm /6pm

18th Carol service at the church Y5/6 1:30pm. Families invited to the join.

18th Christmas lunch 19th Break up Normal time

<u>January 2026</u>

Weds 5th/6th INSET Days- School closed to pupils

7th Children return to school

30th Celebration Assembly/ open Pm English/ Cake sale Y2



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February

6th Feb Number day 23rd Japan Week

27th Celebration assembly/ Cake sale Y1

March

5th World Book day 10th/ 12th Parents' evening 21st Red Nose Day

20th Celebration Assembly/ Open PM – Internet Safety/ Cake sale R/N

27th Break up Normal time

<u>April</u>

13rd Return to school
22nd World Earth day
24th Celebration Assembly

<u>May</u>

11th KS2 SATs week

15th Celebration Assembly / Science Open PM

<u>June</u>

1st Malawi week

1st -12th Multiplication check for Year 4 8th Phonics screening week 19th Celebration Assembly

22nd Sports week

23rd Sports day- AM Years 3-6. PM Years N,R,1 and 2.

25/26th INSET Days – School closed to pupils

<u>July</u>

10th Celebration Assembly

14th Play y5/6 6pm 15th Play y5/6 6pm

17th Leavers assembly 10:30am- Year 6 parents welcome

17th School closed at 1:15pm