



Yaxham Church of England Primary Academy  
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Headteacher: Mrs Jennie Müller  
Chair of Governors: Mr Leroy Burrell

23rd February 2026

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the second half of the Spring Term, fingers crossed we have some drier and brighter days to look forward to. I hope that you all managed a lovely week despite the rain!

We have a busy half term ahead, the children have already made a great start today.

I was really pleased to be able to take a group of our Year 5 and 6 children to the West Norwich and Dereham School Sports Partnership Swimming Gala just before the holiday. The children represented the school brilliantly with their sportsmanship and sheer determination. We were incredibly proud to come 4th overall. Of the 12 schools, we were the smallest school represented which makes this an even greater achievement.

### **World Book Day**

Just a reminder that we will be celebrating this event in school on **Friday 6th March**. Children can come dressed as a character from a book. Please don't feel you have to buy something special, there are lots of simple ideas online which involve things you would already have at home. We have a selection of costumes that have been donated to our Pre-Loved Clothing so please do take a look.

<https://www.mumsnet.com/articles/world-book-day-costume-ideas>

### **Parent Surgery**

Do you have SEND concerns for your child? This includes worries around behaviour or anxiety. We will be hosting sessions with the School and Community Team and our SENCO from 1.15 pm on Tuesday 3rd March. Please contact the school office asap to book an appointment..

<https://www.schools.norfolk.gov.uk/article/57442/How-do-they-help>

## **Household Support Fund (HSF) to be replaced by a new Crisis Resilience Fund (CRF)**

The Government's Household Support Fund (HSF) comes to an end on 31 March and will be replaced by a new Crisis Resilience Fund (CRF).

This change means that families who currently receive Edenred vouchers, through the HSF scheme, will receive their last vouchers in March. The council's [Client Hardship Service \(CHS\)](#) will continue and there will also be support for families in crisis as part of the new scheme. However, eligibility for free school meals will not lead to automatic entitlement.

We understand that this will be difficult news for some families and we wanted to let you know that there is support available through other avenues.

### **Why is this happening?**

Since 2021, the County Council has been providing vouchers of about £15 per month per child to families who have children who are eligible for free school meals. This has been possible because of funding provided by the government called the HSF. This fund comes to an end on 31 March.

The government is putting a new Crisis and Resilience Fund in place that will start on 1 April. The government's rules for this new fund are different; the Local Authority cannot use this money to pay for voucher schemes like this.

### **What happens next?**

The council is currently planning for the introduction of the CRF and we will update you when we have more information.

The Government is clear that the future scheme must be needs tested and include wraparound support. This means that the current eligibility criteria cannot apply.

- Although HSF is coming to an end, there will be ongoing support for families in crisis. We would encourage people to visit [www.norfolk.gov.uk/costofliving](http://www.norfolk.gov.uk/costofliving) which will be kept up to date with any help on offer.
- If families have any unspent vouchers, we would encourage them to redeem them as soon as possible and for the March vouchers to be redeemed within the three-month timeframe to ensure they do not expire.
- If families are in difficulty, we would encourage them to contact our Family Hubs services [www.norfolk.gov.uk/familyhubs](http://www.norfolk.gov.uk/familyhubs) where there is broader support on debt and welfare rights.
- The Big Norfolk Holiday Fun programme is continuing, and the Easter programme will launch in the coming weeks. Families can visit [www.norfolk.gov.uk/bignorfolkholidayfun](http://www.norfolk.gov.uk/bignorfolkholidayfun) to sign up.

- Changes to HSF are outside the council's control, they will continue to do all they can to support families in crisis.

More information

Further information on the national schemes to support families can be found at:

- [Cost of living support: Overview - GOV.UK](#)
- [Universal Credit: What Universal Credit is - GOV.UK](#)
- [Child Benefit: How it works - GOV.UK](#)
- [Free Childcare for Working Parents: Check if you're eligible - GOV.UK](#)

## Friends of Yaxham School

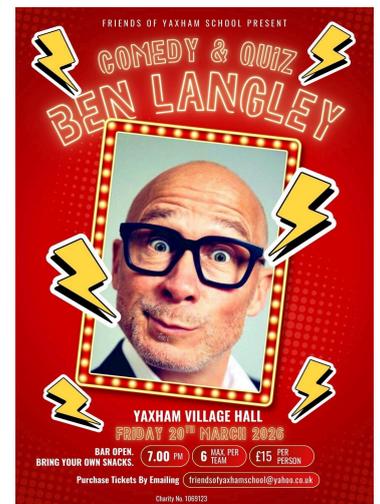
We are excited to announce our upcoming Spring & Summer Term Fundraising Events!

Every penny raised goes directly towards supporting our children and enhancing our school – helping to provide valuable resources, enriching experiences, and memorable opportunities for all our pupils.

These events don't just happen on their own...

💛 A huge amount of time, planning, and effort goes on behind the scenes to make each fundraiser special.

We would be incredibly grateful for the support of our whole school community – whether that's by attending events, volunteering, donating, or simply spreading the word.



Best wishes for the rest of the term ahead, we look forward to sharing what is happening in school with you in the coming weeks.

Jennie Müller

Headteacher

## **Diary Dates**

Wednesday 25th February 3.30pm - Residential Meeting for Badger Class  
Parents

Tuesday 3rd March - Parent Surgery with School and Communities Team  
appointments between 1.15-3.30pm

Friday 6th March - World Book Day celebrations

Wednesday 11th-Friday 13th March - Badger Class Residential Trip  
w/c 16th March - Parent/teacher meetings - details to follow

Friday 20th March - Comic Relief - details to follow

Friday 27th March - Easter Assembly 2.45pm Families welcome

Monday 13th April - School closed to children - Trustwide INSET Day

Tuesday 14th April - Children return to school

