



## BARTON BULLETIN NO.21— 13th February 2026

Our School's Theologically Rooted Christian Vision is based on Matthew 7 vs 12

**'Do to others as you would want them to do to you'**

Our vision is taken from Matthew 7:12 "Do to others whatever you would have them do to you", following Jesus' example. We work together to help and support each other to believe, nurture, grow and flourish together in our learning and in our relationships, exemplified in the Parable of the Sower. We do this through our six core values: love, respect, integrity, justice, thankfulness and determination. Inspired by our vision, we want our pupils to make good choices academically and socially, to become creative and independent thinkers, evidencing a love for learning and a thirst for knowledge.

We aspire to promote the skills needed to persevere with learning challenges and the curiosity to enquire further. Our Christian ethos and school values focus on developing children's moral, spiritual, social and cultural understanding. These are woven, like a golden thread, into every aspect of school life.

*Dear parents and carers,*

*'For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven...'* Ecclesiastes 3: 1-8

*With the perpetual rain and grey skies of January slowly giving way to the snowdrops and daffodils of early Spring, we welcome you to the final bulletin of the first half of Spring Term 2026. Next week (16<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup>) is the Spring half term break. School will reopen again on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February and the terms runs until Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March, Mrs. Martin's last half term as Headteacher. Mr. Lee Mayes, our Interim Head, will be joining us from time to time during this period in order to get to know the school community and to prepare for taking the reins after Easter.*

*Quick reminders that World Book Day falls on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March this year (costumes to the ready!) - please find more details in Mrs. Hedge's separate Parent Mail - and don't forget parent consultations on the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> March.*

*This has been another very busy week in school with lots of interesting events and activities to share with you below.*

*We wish you and your families a very happy and peaceful half term break.*

### Key Stage 2 Visit to Starlight Express

On Thursday, children from Swallow, Skylark and Owl class travelled to London to enjoy a fantastic afternoon watching the musical 'Starlight Express'. After an early lunch at school, we boarded the coach and arrived, in great excitement and anticipation at the Troubadour Theatre, Wembley. We were not disappointed!



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It was a truly immersive experience with members of the cast zooming up and down the aisles on roller skates at speeds of up to 40 mph – the children were astonished by their amazing skill and tricks. The special effects were very impressive and included a rainbow of LED and strobe lighting, glowing costumes and fabulous, catchy songs. The children were spellbound and the afternoon whizzed by in more ways than one. On the way back, the children were full of chatter about what they had experienced, commenting, “This is the best show I have ever seen!”, “I want to learn to roller skate!” and “This has been a great day! I loved it!” We all arrived back at school, tired, but safe, after a really wonderful trip. Thank you to all the adult helpers who gave up their time to help keep this trip safe and well organised and to all the parents who made sure the children came with everything they needed on the day. What a great way to enrich our curriculum and offer our children a glimpse of the performing arts world.

### Swallow Class

On Tuesday afternoon, the school hall was transformed into an art studio and gallery space for Swallow's Art Workshop. Children were joined by family members for an hour of creativity inspired by the Still Life unit we have been enjoying this half term. The tables were spread with a range of art materials and mini still life compositions.

We began with a warm up: a four-colour gestural drawing designed to encourage everyone to loosen up, draw freely, and focus on movement rather than perfection. Working with four colours, we created a series of quick sketches in response to short prompts. With each new prompt, we switched to another colour and let our lines overlap, building up energetic, expressive layers. The aim wasn't to produce a “finished” picture, but to explore mark-making, embrace spontaneity, and enjoy the process of drawing together.



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After all our energetic drawing, we shifted gears into creating still life collages and the room buzzed with just as much enthusiasm. As they are now experts on still life, the children took the reins and taught their visitors how to create a composition similar to the work we have been doing in class. Using a mix of coloured papers, textures, and cut-out shapes, families worked together to build bold, imaginative arrangements inspired by everyday objects.

There was energy, creativity and paper everywhere! Children were experimenting with scale and colour, parents were layering shapes with surprising results, and there was a joyful sense of play as ideas came to life. By the end, the tables were covered in snippets of paper, the floor sprinkled with off-cuts, and everyone was proudly holding up their vibrant collages. It was messy, expressive, and completely wonderful - a perfect celebration of shared making.

Some of Swallow's colourful work from this half term is displayed in the hall for all to enjoy. A huge thank you to those who were able to join us - it was a real joy to share such a creative, energising afternoon with you. We loved making art together and hope your wonderful drawings and collages are now on their way to being proudly framed and displayed at home!



### FOBS NEWS AND EVENTS

FOBS have a QR code for donations, just scan the code with your phone's camera and it will take you to the FOBs Just Giving Page.  
6<sup>th</sup> February - Swallow Class Cake Sale



### Amazon Wishlists

Garden Wishlist:

<https://amzn.eu/aekTeng>

Robin Class Wishlist:

<https://amzn.eu/jeA9hhv>

Kingfisher Class Wishlist:

<https://amzn.eu/iVJetZK>

Swallow Class Wishlist:

<https://amzn.eu/2ZoaTze>

Skylark Class Wishlist:

<https://amzn.eu/003PcpL>

Owl Class Wishlist:

<https://amzn.eu/8vE1QM>



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### Kingfisher Class

Kingfisher Class had a fantastic morning at the Cambridge Science Centre on Thursday, and class showed the CSC staff a brilliant example of our Barton Bs!

The class took part in some fascinating experiments linked to our 5 senses. We were encouraged to use every aspect of our taste sense, which proved extremely unpopular, until we got to the sweet part! Another test focused on 'touch', requiring the children to identify and describe objects that were hidden from sight. The children proved particularly adept at identifying a range of smells – excellent work from the group who realised one of the smells was mint toothpaste! We also tried our hand at mixing different coloured lights and explored the level of hertz required before a sound could no longer be heard by human ears – unsurprisingly, the children were able to hear the noise way beyond the capacity of the adults in the room. After these adult-led sessions, the children then had a chance to explore the displays and experiments on offer at their own pace in the Science Centre Gallery and had a lovely time being scientists with their friends for an hour. It was a wonderful, worthwhile trip and has made an invaluable contribution to our science learning.



### Safeguarding at Barton CofE (VA) Primary School

Mrs. Julie Martin and Ms. Wendy Bartlett are the designated safeguarding leads at Barton Primary School.

If you have a concern about a child, please inform any member of staff. If you think a child is at immediate risk of harm you can access further advice and guidance here: [Safeguarding children and child protection | Cambridgeshire County Council](#)



### Health and Safety



We are asking families to ensure that parents are clearly visible to the class teacher who is responsible for seeing out children at the end of the school day. Children will wait with the teacher behind the gate until the parent or nominated adult comes to request the handover of their child. Stepping Stones will now take responsibility for collecting children on their register directly from the classes. Any parents who come to collect their child from school on a Stepping Stones day, without previously notifying Stepping Stones and the school of a change of arrangements, will need to go to the Village Hall to collect their child.



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### PARENT REMINDERS

- **Bawdsey Manor**—a gentle reminder that the next payment for this trip is due by the end of February please.
- **World Book Day** is on March 5th and children are invited to dress up as a favourite book character.
- In case you are interested, CGP **SATS revision books** are now available on Parent Pay for all **Year 6** pupils.



### Dates for the Diary

#### February

16<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> Half term

#### March

2 <sup>nd</sup>	Pupils return to school
4 <sup>th</sup>	Welcome Wednesday
5 <sup>th</sup>	World Book Day (Dress up as a favourite book character)
6 <sup>th</sup>	Intergenerational Reading Event at 2.30pm
6 <sup>th</sup>	Bikeability Y3/Y4—Level 1
13 <sup>th</sup>	Mother's Day breakfast
16/17 <sup>th</sup>	Parent Consultations (all years)
27 <sup>th</sup>	Last day of term
<b>April</b>	
13 <sup>th</sup>	Inset day
14 <sup>th</sup>	First day of the summer term
28 <sup>th</sup>	Writing Week 3—whole school trip to Wimpole Hall (financed by Mayor's Day Out)

### School Term and Holiday Dates 2026/2027

Wednesday 2nd September 2026	All pupils return to school
Friday 23rd October 2026	Inset day (no pupils at school)
Monday 26th—Friday 30th October 2026	Half term
Friday 18th December 2026	Last day of term
Tuesday 5th January 2027	All pupils return to school
Monday 15th—Friday 19th February	Half term
Thursday 25th March	Last day of Spring Term
Friday 26th March to Friday 9th April	Easter break
Tuesday 13th April	All pupils return to school
Monday 3rd May	May Bank Holiday
Friday 28th May	Inset day (no pupils at school)
Monday 31st May to Friday 4th June	Half term
Wednesday 21st July	Last day of the Summer Term.

### WELCOME

### WEDNESDAY

Spring Term	Summer Term
7 <sup>th</sup> January	15 <sup>th</sup> April
4 <sup>th</sup> February	6 <sup>th</sup> May
4 <sup>th</sup> March	3 <sup>rd</sup> June
	1 <sup>st</sup> July

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**BOURNPLAYERS**  
production of

proudly sponsored by  
**BOURN QUARTER**

**BOURN AIRFIELD**

**Disney FROZEN**  
THE WEST END MUSICAL

**PERFORMANCE HALL - COMBERTON VILLAGE COLLEGE**  
THURSDAY 19th, FRIDAY 20th - 7:30pm  
SATURDAY 21st March 2026  
Matinee 1.30pm - Evening 6.30pm

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT [WWW.BOURNPLAYERS.ORG.UK](http://WWW.BOURNPLAYERS.ORG.UK)

Music and Lyrics by Kristen Anderson-Lopez & Robert Lopez  
Book by Jennifer Lee  
Originally directed on Broadway by Michael Grandage  
Based on the Disney film written by Jennifer Lee and directed by Chris Buck & Jennifer Lee

Originally produced on Broadway by Disney Theatrical Productions  
This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI)  
All authorised performance materials are also supplied by MTI

**THE OXFORD & CAMBRIDGE SINGING SCHOOL**

The Singing School was established in 2013 to provide children with the opportunity to sing great classical music with world class coaches in a relaxed and fun environment and to develop their confidence and ability in singing and performing.

This Easter, we will be learning some beautiful seasonal music and, as always on our courses, we will be giving sessions on vocal technique, music theory, music appreciation and history.

To join our mailing list and for more information on our courses, please see [www.oxbridgesingschool.com](http://www.oxbridgesingschool.com) or email [oxbridgess@gmail.com](mailto:oxbridgess@gmail.com)

**30, 31 March & 1st APRIL 2026**  
**ST CATHARINE'S COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE**

[www.oxbridgesingschool.com](http://www.oxbridgesingschool.com)

**Job Title: Casual Playworker**

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

**University of Cambridge Holiday Provision**

**Hours:** 08:00-18:00 (shifts are reduced for playworkers under 18, for example 08:45 – 17:15 or 09:00 – 17:30) during school holidays (excluding Christmas and Bank Holidays)

**Contract:** Casual/bank work (2-4 shifts per week, school holiday period only)

**Salary:** £13.45 per hour

**Start Date:** Easter School Holidays (Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March – Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April) 2026

Are you enthusiastic, creative, and passionate about working with children? We are looking for friendly and energetic Playworkers to join the University of Cambridge Holiday Provision Casual Playworker team. The University's Holiday Provision provides a safe, fun, and stimulating environment for children from Reception Class to 12 years old during the state school holidays. As a Playworker, you'll help deliver a wide range of exciting indoor and outdoor activities, support children's play and social development, and always ensure their safety and well-being.

**Key Responsibilities:**

- Engage children in creative, physical, and play-based activities
- Supervise children and maintain a safe, inclusive play environment
- Encourage positive behaviour and build supportive relationships with children
- Clean, set up and pack away equipment and materials
- Work as part of a team to deliver high-quality care and play opportunities

**Requirements:**

- Experience working with children (paid or voluntary)
- A positive and enthusiastic attitude
- Ability to work well as part of a team
- A relevant qualification in childcare or  **safeguarding**  (desirable but not essential)
- A current enhanced DBS check (or willingness to obtain one)

**What We Offer:**

- A fun and rewarding work environment
- On-the-job training and support
- An opportunity to engage children in an enriching holiday experience

**To apply:** Please complete an application form and return it to [playscheme@admin.cam.ac.uk](mailto:playscheme@admin.cam.ac.uk)

**\*Please note that applicants must be 17 years or older\***  
**Closing date:** Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February, 23:59  
**Interview date:** Week commencing Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2026  
You must be available to work for at least 2 between Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March – Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April (excluding Bank Holidays) which these will include training days.

We will also be recruiting Playworkers during May in preparation for the Summer holidays.

For more information and an application form, please email [playscheme@admin.cam.ac.uk](mailto:playscheme@admin.cam.ac.uk) or visit [www.childcare.admin.cam.ac.uk](http://www.childcare.admin.cam.ac.uk)

**The Chorister Experience**  
Sunday 1 March 2026, 2-5pm, at Great St Mary's

**Do you know a child age 6 to 8 who loves to sing?**

Warm-up and musical games with our Voice Coach

Observe a chorister singing lesson

Singing workshop with our choristers

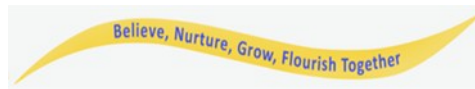
Take part in a real service of Choral Evensong

After the event, participants will be able to sign up for **Chorister Voice Trials** 14 & 21 March

scan to book

We also have chorister places for children currently in Y2, Y4 and Y6.

To arrange an audition please email us at [music@gsm.cam.ac.uk](mailto:music@gsm.cam.ac.uk)



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### Children’s Mental Health Week 2026: ‘This is My Place’

This year, Children's Mental Health Week 2026 is 5 - 11 February. The theme, “This is My Place,” focuses on the importance of *belonging*: helping children and young people feel safe, valued and supported in their everyday environments.

It’s a great opportunity for families and schools to take simple steps to help children talk about their feelings and feel more connected.

Good mental health in childhood is a foundation for wellbeing later in life. Everyone, including families, schools, communities and workplaces, has a role to play.

Since it began in 2015, Children’s Mental Health Week has amplified the voices of children and young people and raised awareness of the challenges they face. Place2Be has created free, easy to use activities and ideas to try at home, in class or in community groups. These are available on their [website](#).

Small, everyday habits can make a real difference:

- Keeping familiar routines like a steady bedtime, regular mealtimes or calm moments after school, can help children feel more secure and reduce stress.
- Predictable routines can be a simple way to support children’s emotional wellbeing. Talking openly about feelings helps too.
- Many children find it easier to talk when it’s linked to a story - rather than a direct question.

The Reading Agency’s [Reading Well for Children](#) collection has books- chosen by experts and families- to help children explore emotions in a gentle and age appropriate way. The booklist covers worries, sadness, anger, confidence and life changes and there are different reading levels available. They can be especially helpful for starting conversations! Check if these books are available in your local library.

Services in Cambridgeshire are ready to help if extra support is needed:

[YOUnited](#) Offers support to children and young people aged 5 to 17 with their emotional wellbeing and mental health.

[Centre 33](#) Offer free and confidential support for young people across Cambridgeshire. A safe, welcoming place to talk about anything that’s on their minds, whether it’s worries, feeling overwhelmed or needing someone to listen. People can just drop in to access the self-help resources, or speak with the counselling and support teams. Supporting young people up to 25 years old with emotional and practical needs, the centre helps navigate life’s challenges.

[How Are You Cambridgeshire and Peterborough | H.A.Y. Home](#) An easy place to find something children will enjoy; a great place to start for families wanting to involve children in positive, local activities.

The latest [Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Children and Young People Joint Strategic Needs Assessment \(2024\)](#) shows that early experiences strongly shape health and happiness and that many children face varying emotional needs. It also emphasizes the importance of families, schools and communities working together so that children get support early on.

Children’s Mental Health Week reminds us that every child deserves to feel they belong! Small steps at home, support from our schools and community, and extra help available when needed can help make sure children, across Peterborough, feel safe, supported and ready to thrive.