



At Barton, our vision is to engage and to inspire our pupils 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.

All members of the Barton School community are supported by our Christian ethos: implicitly in our core values and personal relationships; explicitly in the Religious and Worldviews Education, Collective Worship, PSHE and Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development opportunities that are a part of our everyday life. Our Christian ethos and school values focus on developing children’s moral, spiritual, social and cultural understanding so that they can achieve their full potential. These are woven, like a golden thread, into every aspect of school life. We base this vision on the parable of The Sower (Matthew 13 vs 1-23) which supports us to make good choices so that we can grow and flourish in our learning and in our relationships.

As we reach the end of this week, I would like to take a moment to reflect on what has been a truly wonderful first half term for me as Headteacher. It has been an absolute privilege and joy to lead our school community over these past few weeks, and I could not be prouder of everything our children and staff have achieved together.

From seeing the children settle so brilliantly into their learning routines, to watching them live out our half term core value of thankfulness each day, it has been a half term filled with growth, enthusiasm, and community spirit. I am constantly inspired by our pupils' curiosity, kindness, and determination, and it has been a delight getting to know so many of our families at the gate and around the school.

A heartfelt thank you to our dedicated staff team for their hard work and passion, and to all our parents and carers for your warm support, encouragement, and partnership as I have stepped into this role. You have made my very first half term incredibly special and memorable.

I hope you all have a happy, relaxing, and enjoyable half-term break with family and loved ones. I look forward to welcoming everyone back refreshed and ready for another exciting half term ahead!

Best wishes,

Mrs. Dias-Patel

Well done everyone for doing so well with our thankfulness value this half term!

Congratulations on a wonderful half term of learning. You have all shown enthusiasm, resilience and a positive attitude towards your learning.

Attendance

School Target – 96%
Current – 95.2%

PE Days

Robin – Thursday and Friday
Kingfisher – Monday and Tuesday
Swallow – Wednesday and Thursday
Owl – Monday and Wednesday (swimming)

This week, our school celebrated Black History Week, exploring how faith and culture unite communities globally in line with our vision to “Do to others, whatever you would have them do to you” (Matthew 7:12).

Highlights of the Week

- **Global Worship:** We sang Swahili songs to learn how East African Christian traditions express worship through music.
- **Living Heritage:** We watched an interview with Sunky about the Nigerian Christian community, learning about vibrant traditions in Lagos and diverse expressions of faith.
- **Faith in Action:** Classes investigated inspiring Black figures and movements:
 - Robin Class: Learnt how Mary Seacole’s faith inspired her to heal and care for others.
 - Kingfisher Class: Explored Desmond Tutu’s life as a peacemaker and advocate for justice.
 - Swallow Class: Explored how the arrival of the Windrush Generation led to the growth of new Christian churches and worship traditions in the UK.
 - Owl Class: Learnt about Mahalia Jackson, exploring how gospel music uses faith to bring hope and unity worldwide.

Coming Up After Half Term

Join us for a special Black History Assembly on our first Friday back after half term! Keep an eye out in the hall for a brand-new work display being created by Mrs Tarring.



Winter Menu 2026 - 2027

Essex County Council
Essex School Meals Advisory Service

Week 1

Autumn & Winter 2026

Monday

Creamy Macaroni Cheese (v)

Creamy Leek and Mushroom Pasta(v)

Homemade Wholemeal Bread (ve)
Broccoli (ve)

Fresh Fruit (ve)

Tuesday

Homemade Chicken Korma (P)

Homemade Vegetable Samosa (v)
with Sweet Chilli Sauce (v) (P)

50/50 Savoury Rice (ve)
Green Beans (ve)

Homemade Carrot Cake (v)

Wednesday

Big Bite Sausage Roll

Garden Vegetable Fajita (ve) NEW (P)

Diced Potatoes (ve) Baked Beans (ve)
or
Carrots (ve) Optional Gravy (v)

Fresh Fruit (ve)

Thursday

Classic Margherita Pizza (v)

Pizza Beans Served with Oven Baked
Slices of Bread (v) NEW (P)

Hot Pasta Salad (ve)
Sweetcorn Cobs (ve)

Oaty Toffee Apple
Crumble and Custard

Friday

Oven Baked Fish Fillet

Omelette Muffin (v)

Crispy Chips (v)
Peas (ve)

Chocolate Milk Pudding with
Mandarins (v)
or Yoghurt (v)

Also available daily - fresh bread, salad bar, fresh fruit, yoghurt, fresh milk and water.
(P) = Contains pulses.

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Essex County Council
Essex School Meals Advisory Service

Week 2

Autumn & Winter 2026

Monday

Crispy Dippers (v) served with
Oodles of Noodles

Vegetable Chow Mein (v)

Peas (ve)

Fresh Fruit (ve)

Tuesday

Fill your own Pork Burger in a Bun

Boston Bean Burger in a Bun (v) (P)

Lettuce (ve) Sliced Tomatoes (ve)
Oil Free Oven Roasted New Potatoes
(ve) Mayo

Creamy Milk Pudding and
Peach Slices or Yoghurt

Wednesday

Roast Chicken and Yorkshire Pudding

Roasted Vegetable Crumble (v) (P)

Roast Potatoes (ve) Cauliflower (ve)
Green Beans (ve) Optional Gravy

Sticky Toffee
Pudding Muffins (v)

Thursday

Pasta Bolognese (v) (P)

Cheese and Broccoli
Pasta Bake (v) NEW

Homemade Wholemeal Bread (v)
Broccoli (ve)

Fruit (ve)

Friday

Fish Bites / Flipper Dipper

Vegetable Quesadilla (v) (P)

Chips (ve)
Baked Beans (ve)
or Sweetcorn (ve)

Shortbread (v)
Served with Fruit

Also available daily - fresh bread, salad bar, fresh fruit, yoghurt, fresh milk and water.
(P) = Contains pulses.

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Week 1

Day	Lighter Meal Option
Monday	Jacket potato with beans
Tuesday	Tuna Wrap Ham Wrap
Wednesday	Jacket potato with beans
Thursday	Egg Wrap Cheese Wrap
Friday	Jacket potato with cheese

Week 2

Day	Lighter Meal Option
Monday	Egg Wrap Cheese Wrap
Tuesday	Tuna Wrap Ham Wrap
Wednesday	Jacket potato with beans
Thursday	Egg Wrap Cheese Wrap
Friday	Jacket potato with cheese



Goodbye, Mrs Lightfoot!

This week we've bid farewell to Mrs Lightfoot, who has been part of the Robin Class team since September 2025. She is going to be starting a new job where she will be supporting SEND children and families, which is something we know she is going to be brilliant at! This new adventure marks the end of a long and successful career in education, Liz had been a KS1 and Early Years teacher and leader before coming to join us, so her knowledge and experience has been such a great support to the Robin Class team. Since being at Barton, we've been so grateful to have Liz working in Robin Class where she has provided specialist support to one of the Robins, led many an engaging whole class story time and also stepped in to teach phonics last year after a staffing reshuffle. Mrs Lightfoot, you will be very much missed by us all and we wish you all the best!

This half term our fantastic Year 6s have given one lunchtime each week as Play Leaders for the Key Stage One children. The younger children have loved having the chance each day to play a range of different games and activities to play with the leaders. Following the training with Mrs Osbourne in the summer term, they have really developed some fantastic leadership skills, and it's been so lovely to see the grow in confidence themselves over the half term. They are now half-way to achieving their Bronze Play Leader certificate. Well done Year 6's – we're very proud of you!



Panda Meander

Take a Gander at a Panda – It Will Be Pandatastic!

Cambridge is set to come alive with a wild burst of colour, creativity and community spirit as the Panda Meander art trail takes over the city in spring 2027.

For ten spectacular weeks, Cambridge will be transformed into a vibrant outdoor gallery, with 30 to 40 beautifully decorated panda sculptures appearing across the city, its parks and hidden corners. Each panda will be uniquely designed by talented artists, helping to raise money for Addenbrooke's Charity and supporting projects that transform the lives of children treated at Addenbrooke's and The Rosie hospitals.

What makes this even more exciting for us is that Barton Primary School will have its very own panda cub to decorate!

The trail will run from 20th March to 29th May 2027 and has been designed to be accessible and inclusive for everyone. Families will be able to download a free app and follow the trail across Cambridge, discovering each unique panda along the way.

All the panda cub sculptures will be decorated by local schools, while the larger panda sculptures will be created by local businesses and sponsors. At the end of the trail, the large pandas will be auctioned to raise even more money for charity. Funds raised through Panda Meander will support Addenbrooke's Charitable Trust, helping to fund the new Cambridge Children's Hospital. This exciting project will be the first specialist children's hospital in the East of England, transforming care and treatment for children and young people across the region.

You can find out more about the event by visiting the official Panda Meander website or by following their social media channels:

- Facebook: facebook.com/pandameander2027
- Instagram: [@panda.meander](https://instagram.com/panda.meander)

We are looking forward to sharing updates and revealing the progress of our very own panda cub over the coming months. Keep an eye on future newsletters for more information!



Reminders

- **Parent Governor Elections** – please note that you can cast your two votes using the link here: [Election of Parent Governor, October 2026, Ballot Paper – Fill in form](#). We would encourage all parents to vote, and all votes must be in by 3.30pm TODAY, Thursday October 22nd.
- A gentle reminder that it's so helpful to have all **school uniform labelled** with your child's name, we are getting a building collection of unnamed lost property again, largely jumpers and cardigans but also one t-shirt and one coat. We also find it useful to have **lunchboxes** named as again, we have some unnamed lunchboxes that we would love to reunite with their owners. Thank you.
- A reminder that the **Wild Robot book payment for Owl Class** is now live on ParentPay. We would really appreciate payments being made before half term, as this helps us recover the cost of the books that have already been purchased for the children. Thank you for your support.
- Please note that the deadline for parents to submit your child's **Christmas card design** is **Sunday 25th October** – just scan the QR code below and follow the instructions to upload a photo of your child's drawing. Please use the code MCP5DG which ties them you back to the school and earns us the money, thank you.



Safeguarding

Mrs. Esther Dias-Patel, Mrs. Hedges and Ms. Wendy Bartlett are designated safeguarding leads at Barton Primary School. If you have concerns about a child, please inform a member of staff. If you think a child is immediately at risk of harm you can access further advice and guidance here: [Safeguarding children and child protection | Cambridgeshire County Council](#)

Diary Dates

Friday 23 rd October	Inset day (no pupils at school)
Monday 26 th October - Friday 30 th October	Half Term
Wednesday 4 th November	Welcome Wednesday
9 th , 10 th , 11 th November	Parent Consultations
Thursday 3 rd December	Grantchester Christingle Service (5:30-6:30pm)
Wednesday 9 th December	Welcome Wednesday
Tuesday 15 th December	Christmas Lunch
Wednesday 16 th December	Nativity 9.30am
Thursday 17 th December	Nativity 2.00pm
Friday 18 th December	Last day of term
Monday 4 th January	Staff training day
Tuesday 5 th January	All pupils return to school
15 th – 19 th February	Half term
26 th March to 9 th April	Easter holiday
Monday 12 th April	Staff training day
Tuesday 13 th April	All pupils return to school
Friday 28 th May	Staff training day
31 st May to 4 th June	Half term
14 – 16 June	Year 5/6 Residential
Wednesday 21 st July	Last day of the summer term

Community Activities and Events



Wildlife Trust for
Beds, Cambs
& Northants



The Wildlife Trust for Beds,
Cambs and Northants

Cambourne and Trumpington Meadows Family Events Oct-Dec 2026

Community volunteering sessions

- For adults, and families with children aged 7+
- Practical tasks to help wildlife and people
- All sessions are FREE and run 9.30am-12.30
 - Wed 28th Oct, Cambourne Church Community Garden
 - Thurs 29th Oct, Nightingale Community Garden, Cambridge
 - Sat 28th Nov, Clay Farm Community Garden, Trumpington
 - Sat 12th Dec, Cambourne Nature Reserve



Families around the fire, 5.30-7.30pm

- Wildlife Trust BCN members £5+ booking fee, non-members £7.50+
- For families with children aged 7+
 - Fri 30th Oct, Cambourne Nature Reserve
 - Sat 31st Oct, Trumpington Meadows Nature Reserve

Booking is essential, visit [wildlifetrustbcn.org/events](https://www.wildlifetrustbcn.org/events)



The Wildlife Trust for Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Northamptonshire, The Manor, 100, Broad Street,
Cambridge, CB2 1JH. Tel: 01223 736000 Email: cambridgeshire@wildlifetrustbcn.org Registered charity No: 1033492

Cambridge
MUSEUM OF
TECHNOLOGY



What's
on at



HALF TERM

@ Cambridge Museum of Technology

For more information, please visit our website: www.museumoftechnology.com

Poo Trail

Wednesday 28th October - Sunday 1st November

Why not come and get HANDS-ON with all things poo related?

- Find a poo
- Identify the poo
- Touch - yes - touch the poo!



HALLOWEEN CRAFT DROP-IN

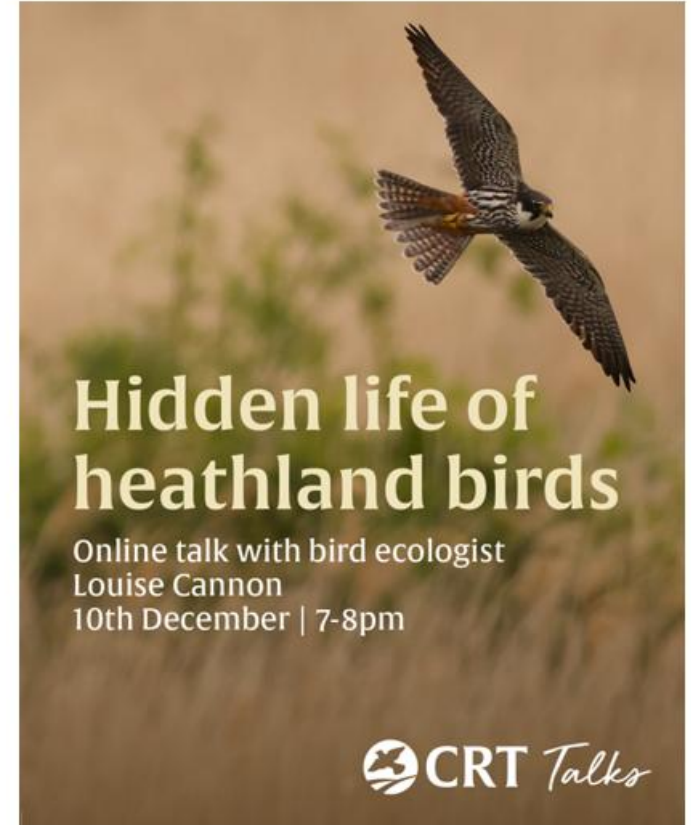
Friday 30th October

10.30am - 3.00pm

Make your own spooky crafts.
Spooky costumes welcome!

Suitable for all ages. Booking not necessary. Free with normal museum admission.

Louise Cannon is a bird ecologist and field surveyor for the CRT, National Trust and Hampshire Ornithological Society. Booking is essential to receive the link. Please sign up here: <https://www.thecrt.co.uk/Event/hidden-life-of-heathland-birds> Donations are welcomed to support the work of the Countryside Regeneration Trust. A recording of the talk will be made available afterwards to those who have registered in advance for the talk.



Hidden life of heathland birds

Online talk with bird ecologist

Louise Cannon

10th December | 7-8pm

