

Ranelagh Newsletter



November /
December 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of this busy term, I want to reflect on what a wonderful time it has been. Our school has been full of learning and exciting activities, with the children showing great energy and enthusiasm in everything they do. A particular highlight was our **seasonal performances**. They were truly one of our best, and it was a joy to see every child play their part so well.

I hope you had a fantastic festive season and a wonderful New Year. I look forward to seeing all the children back in January, refreshed and eager to learn.

Happy New Year!

Warmest wishes,

Mrs Hopper

Teaching and Learning
EYFS and KS1

Owl Visit – A Hoot of a Day for Our Young Learners!



This half term we have been exploring seasonal changes linked to autumn. We looked at different Types of leaves and noticed the colours and shapes. We matched them and sorted them too. In Reception we learnt some new vocabulary, 'veins' as we saw there were lines on the leaves and Wondered what these were for.

We all had a fantastic morning when the owls came to visit. The children listened carefully to the Story of Owl Babies and played a listening game where different actions represented Mummy Owl, Daddy Owl and the Hawk. We looked at some owl feathers and used vocabulary to describe them. Reception extended their learning back in class and found out that owls cannot move their eyes, this is why they can turn their heads so far round.

KS1 were so excited to meet our owl visitors! We learnt lots of interesting facts, got to feel some feathers and also had a chance to hold one of our feathery friends. We used this learning experience to write a recount of our day with the owls. Some fabulous writing was produced!



Was your child born between 1st September 2021 and 31st August 2022? They will be due to start in Reception in 2026. You need to fill in an online application form. Please use the following link;

<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/children-families-and-learning/schools/school-places/apply-for-a-Primary-school-place-2026-2027>

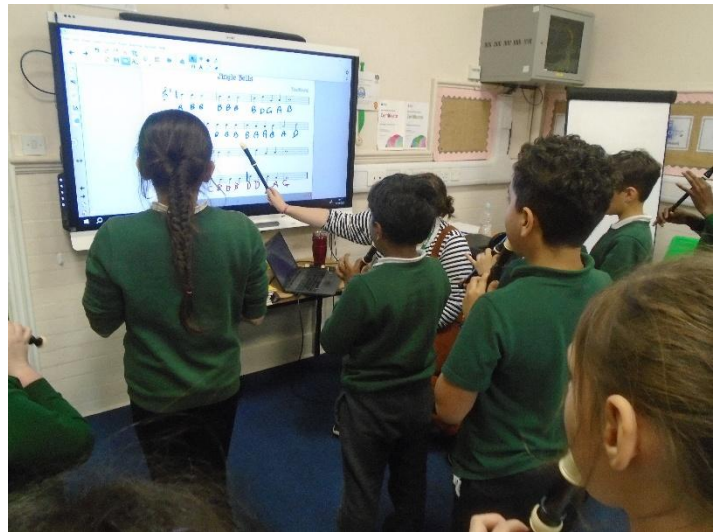
LKS2

This half term, Years 3 and 4 have been working extremely hard! In maths, they have been learning and embedding new skills using addition and subtraction and for some most recently, learning how to calculate and compare the areas of shapes. In English, we have been focussing on accurate sentence composition and the Dolphins class have thoroughly enjoyed researching information about the Amazon rainforest and writing their own non-chronological reports. Our Science topic this half term is 'Living things and their habitats' and the children are learning how living things can be grouped and identified, according to their characteristics, also how environments may change. Topic lessons this half term are geography based, with children using maps to locate countries and to learn aspects of physical geography, such as climate zones and biomes. In art lessons, the classes have been extending their observational skills and have produced some impressive tonal drawings and watercolour paintings of autumn leaves.



UKS2

In UKS2, we have been exploring and testing materials to reveal their scientific properties we tested their magnetism, permeability, flexibility, hardness and transparency. We enjoyed discovering that not all metals are magnetic! Our recorders have been busy practising for our upcoming musical performance, which we are sure will be a fantastic kick off to the festive season. The pupils have also been engaging in some historical learning about the Anglo-Saxons in Britain by writing secret messages in runes, discovering Pagan gods and exploring the etymology of the names of towns and cities in England. We are looking forward to an upcoming Anglo-Saxon workshop in a couple of weeks.



Remembrance Day

Remembrance Day at Ranelagh Primary



On November 11th, our school community came together to honour and remember the brave men and women who have served, and continue to serve, in the armed forces. Students and staff gathered for a thoughtful Remembrance Day ceremony, which included, poems, music, and a moment of silence to reflect on the sacrifices made for our freedom.

Our classrooms also spent time learning about the importance of Remembrance Day through stories, art projects, and discussions about peace and gratitude.

We would like to extend a heartfelt **thank you** to everyone who contributed to our poppy donation drive. Your generosity helped support the Royal British Legion and the important work they do for veterans and their families. We raised an amazing £250

Lest we forget.



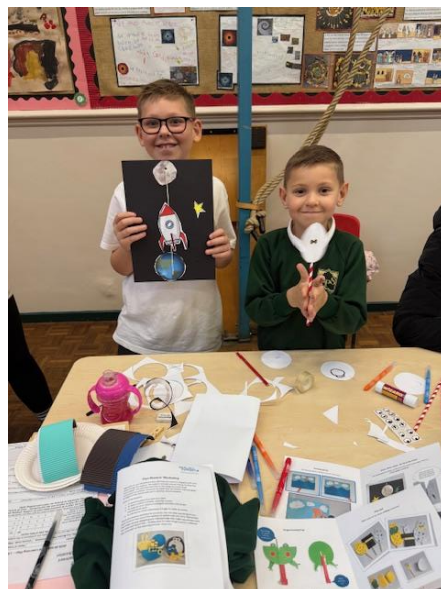
Fun Movers Workshop with Realise Futures!

We were delighted to welcome *Realise Futures* to our school for a **Parent and Child Fun Movers Workshop**! Families joined in a fantastic session filled with energy, laughter, and movement.

The workshop encouraged children and parents to be active together through fun games, crafting and story telling that helped develop coordination and teamwork. It was wonderful to see so many smiles as they enjoyed quality time together. A big **thank you to Realise Futures** for leading such an engaging and inclusive session, and to all the parents who came along to take part — your enthusiasm made the event extra special!







Campaigns

Showing Racism the Red Card!



Our students and staff came together to take a stand against racism by **wearing red** as part of the national **Show Racism the Red Card** campaign. The day was a powerful reminder that our school community is united in promoting equality, respect, and kindness for all.

Classrooms were filled with bright shades of red as everyone showed their support for this important cause. Through discussions, activities, and reflection, students learned more about the importance of standing up against discrimination and celebrating diversity.

We are proud of our pupils and staff for showing that our school is a place where **everyone is valued and included**. Together, we continue to say a big, bold “NO” to racism — and we’ll keep showing it the red card!

Odd Socks Day – Celebrating What Makes Us Unique!



On the 10th November our school kicked off **Anti-Bullying Week** with a fun and colourful **Odd Socks Day**! Pupils and staff proudly wore their most mismatched socks to celebrate what makes each of us unique and to spread the message that **it’s great to be different**.

Odd Socks Day is a simple but powerful reminder that we should all be kind, respectful, and accepting of others. Throughout the day, classes took part in discussions about friendship, kindness, and standing up to bullying.

It was wonderful to see everyone showing off their odd socks and smiling together — a perfect start to a week focused on **kindness, inclusion, and respect**.



Children in Need!



Our school proudly took part in **Children in Need** by holding a **Non-School Uniform Day**. Pupils and staff were invited to come to school in their own clothes in exchange for a donation to this wonderful cause. The day was a great success, with everyone showing fantastic enthusiasm and generosity. Thanks to the support of our school community, we were able to raise valuable funds that will help Children in Need continue their important work supporting children and families across the UK.

We raised an incredible £152.20

Thank you to all pupils, parents and carers for your kindness and participation. Together, we are making a real difference!

Ranelagh Primary Featured in “Keep Suffolk Smiling” Video!



We were delighted to welcome **Keep Suffolk Smiling** into our school to film an educational video with our wonderful children from **Ranelagh Primary**. The pupils did a fantastic job sharing their smiles and learning about the importance of good oral health.

We are **incredibly proud** of all the children who took part — they represented our school beautifully!

Watch the video here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GAucRBody3U>

Road Safety Week – Poster Competition.

As part of **Road Safety Week**, our school took part in a brand-new road safety poster competition organised by **Suffolk County Council**.

We are delighted to announce that our pupils were among the winning entries!

The winning designs from selected schools will be transformed into **lamp post bollards**, to be installed near our school. These eye-catching displays will help share important road safety messages with the whole local community.

In addition to seeing their artwork featured publicly, the pupils with the winning designs have also received a **special goodie bag** from the Council.

A huge **well done to our talented winners** – Diana, Theo, Asmita and Oliwer your creativity is helping to keep our roads safer for everyone!



Sports

Dodgeball Tournament Success!

Last Friday, a group of Year 3/4 pupils took part in an exciting dodgeball tournament. They all had a fantastic time and demonstrated excellent sportsmanship and teamwork throughout the event. The team put in a tremendous effort, winning a third of their games and representing our school brilliantly. Well done to everyone involved!



Special Thank you!!

A Huge Thank You to B&Q!

We would like to give a heartfelt thank you to **B&Q** and their store manager, **Kirsty**, for generously donating a beautiful Christmas tree to our school. Your kindness has helped make our festive season even more special, and our pupils are already enjoying the wonderful Christmas spirit it brings to our school community.

Thank you again for your support and generosity!



Thank You to Our Local Church!

We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to our local church for their generous donation of children's toys to our school. Your kindness and support mean so much to our pupils and families, and your thoughtful contribution will bring joy to many children this season. Thank you Revd Kiran Lotay for helping us make our school community an even brighter and more caring place.

Thank you Accelerate Facilities!

We would like to extend our warmest thanks to **Accelerate Facilities** for kindly donating this year's Christmas tree decorations. Their generosity has brought extra sparkle and festive cheer to our school community, and our students have loved seeing the tree come to life with such beautiful ornaments.

We truly appreciate their support and commitment to helping make this season special for everyone at our school.



Fisk Shield Winner!

Well done to Jasper for winning our **Fisk Shield**, presented for **kindness, a caring nature, and consideration towards others**. Jasper consistently shows thoughtfulness and compassion in everything he does, and this award is a well-deserved recognition of the positive impact he has on our school community. We are very proud of you, Jasper! ★



Christmas Dinner

To celebrate the end of term, our school community came together to enjoy a festive Christmas dinner. The hall was filled with cheerful decorations, seasonal music, and plenty of smiles as students and staff shared a delicious meal together.

The dinner provided a wonderful opportunity to reflect on a busy and successful term, celebrate achievements, and enjoy time with friends and teachers in a relaxed and joyful atmosphere. It was a lovely way to mark the countdown to the holidays and bring everyone together before the end of term.

We would like to thank the catering team and staff who helped make the event so special. It was a memorable and festive occasion enjoyed by all.

Key Dates

6th January 2026 First day of term

Half term: Monday 16 February to Friday 20 February 2026

Want to be the first to know what's happening? To keep up to date with school news and events, please make sure you have signed up for emails and do visit the school website <http://www.ranelaghprimary.co.uk/>

and follow our Twitter page [@RanelaghPri](https://twitter.com/RanelaghPri) Ranelagh Primary School, Paul's Road, IP2 0AN 01473 251608/
admin@ranelagh.suffolk.sch.uk Chair of Governors: Mr Gary Morgan



At The National College, our digital cybersecurity guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to better informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formally delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, links and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about AI-GENERATED VIDEOS

AI-generated videos are increasingly difficult to spot and easy to share. From fake news clips to deepfake abuse, children and young people face new risks every day online. These videos can imitate real people, spread false narratives or even generate harmful content from scratch. Understanding these dangers is crucial for schools and families who want to protect children in a fast-evolving digital world.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

DEEPAKE ABUSE CONTENT

Shockingly, artificial intelligence is now being exploited to create child sexual abuse material (CSAM). These synthetic images and videos use a form of digital watermarking, often generated by manipulating real children's photos, including even shared innocently online. Worse, the AI-generated content can be used to create realistic-looking images of children in compromising positions, which can be used to blackmail or extort. If you suspect you've seen such content, report it to the police.

EMOTIONAL MANIPULATION

AI-generated videos can be used to produce strong emotions, including fear, anger or guilt. Fake footage of crying children, injured animals or burning buildings may be created purely for clicks, donations or political influence. Children may feel upset or persuaded, unaware that what they are watching has been digitally invented to manipulate their emotions.

BLURRED REALITY

Regular exposure to false content can make it hard to trust in real-world evidence. If everything can be faked, they may begin to question genuine videos – including school abuse or injustice. This is known as the 'liar's dividend', where real truth is dismissed as false news. It can discourage victims from coming forward or speaking up.

DISINFORMATION

AI-generated videos can spread false news, making it harder for children to separate fact from fiction. Fake clips may become deepfake headlines, news stories or fabricated health claims. AI is already being used to produce misleading or persuasive content that appears authentic. If they don't develop media literacy, children may accept false content as truth.

USED FOR BULLYING

Deepfake technology is already being used by peers to create embarrassing or explicit clips of classmates. These videos can be edited to appear as though a child said or did something they never did. Once shared, they are almost impossible to delete completely. AI-generated bullying could be a new layer of harm that is deeply personal and difficult to prove.

IMPERSONATION AND SCAMS

With just a few photos or voice clips, AI tools can imitate someone's appearance or speech. This makes it easier for scammers or bullies to create fake videos of children, teachers or celebrities. These impersonations can be used for fraud, harassment or extortion – and can spread quickly through social media or group chats, due to the viral potential of video. In particular, on social media.

Advice for Parents & Educators

TEACH HOW IT WORKS

Explain to children that videos can be faked – and show them how. Demonstrate how AI-generated videos are made by using examples of real vs AI-generated clips. Help to build awareness. Discuss how faces, voices and even movements can be copied by machines. Understanding the technology reduces fear and builds confidence in navigating digital content safely.

TALK ABOUT TRUST

Always keep lines of communication open. If a child sees something upsetting or uncomfortable, they should feel safe discussing it without judgement. Create an environment where they know they will not get in trouble for asking questions. This also helps you step in quickly if harmful content has been shared. Trust is vital and needs to be nurtured.

ENCOURAGE CRITICAL QUESTIONS

Help children question what they watch. Who made it? Why was it made? Is it trying to persuade me? These habits encourage digital thinking, especially when videos seem too shocking or convenient. Teach them not everything they see by friends or influencers is true, even if it looks convincing at first, and that their initial approach should always be one of suspicion.

STRENGTHEN PRIVACY SETTINGS

Advise children not to share voice notes, selfies or personal videos on public platforms. AI tools often scrape content from social media to create deepfakes. The primary message is to limit who can see their content and turn off facial recognition where possible. Fewer public images means fewer opportunities for misuse.

Meet Our Expert
 Brandon O'Keefe is a headteacher and digital education consultant

#WakeUp The National