

# Cedars Park Primary School School Bulletin

Friday 23rd January 2026

## Notable Dates

**Wed 28th Jan**—Year 1  
Hollytrees Museum

**Mon 2nd—Fri 6th Feb**—  
Book Fair in School

**Tues 3rd Feb**—Parent Consul-  
tations 3.30pm—6pm

**Thurs 5th Feb**—Parent Con-  
sultations 3.30pm—6pm

**Wed 11th Feb**—Year 4 West  
Stow Anglo-Saxon Village

**Wed 11th Feb**—Year 3 Stone  
Age Workshop

**Thurs 12th Feb**—PTA Cake &  
Uniform Sale

**Fri 13th Feb**—End of Half  
Term

**Mon 16th—Fri 20th Feb**—  
Half Term

**Mon 23rd Feb**—Pupils return  
to school

**Thurs 26th Feb**—Year 2  
Traffic Survey (Local walk)

## Lunch Menu w/c 26th January 2026

**Monday**  
Macaroni Cheese & Garlic  
Bread

**Tuesday**  
Brunch Lunch (Sausages,  
Beans, Hash Browns & Sliced  
Bread) or Veggie Brunch Lunch

**Wednesday**  
Roast Chicken or Quorn Fillet  
with Yorkshire Pudding &  
Roast Potatoes

**Thursday**  
BBQ Chicken Pizza or Mar-  
gherita Pizza with Wedges

**Friday**  
Fish & Chips

*Jacket Potatoes available  
daily*

## Sporting Success!

Well done to Oskar W, Sophia W, Isla Grace P, Max W, Mylo R, Brendan Q, Freddie G and Stanley TW who participated in the U9 Athletics Festival that took place at the Stowmarket Leisure Centre last Tuesday.

They had the opportunity to compete in some athletic disciplines like long, triple and high jump, sprint and hurdles race and shot put. Their amazing teamwork and determination made them win all the obstacle relay races! A great effort and sporting attitude!



A special mention to Mark W who scored the highest mark in the shot put - well done!

## Parent Consultations



Spring Term **parent consultations** are fast approaching. These will be held on **Tuesday 3rd February (3:30pm-6pm)** and **Thursday 5th February (3:30pm—6pm)**. Communication will follow soon to let parents and carers know when the booking system (via Arbor) is live so you can arrange to meet with your child's class teacher(s).



As always, the Book Fair will be in school across the week and further details on this will be with you in due course.

## PTA Discos and Bake Sale



Thank you to our amazing PTA for the organisation and running of the school discos over the last two Mondays. These events, which the children absolutely loved, raised a massive £850.

Additionally, the last bake sale raised over £250 and will help with funding towards upcoming school trips. Due to its success, there is another Bake Sale planned for Thursday 12th February. If you would like to get involved by donating, or baking cakes and snacks and/or helping to run the event, please email [ptacedarspark@gmail.com](mailto:ptacedarspark@gmail.com). All support is welcome however big or small. Thank you.



## Pause Before You Post—The Risks of Sharenting

As you will be aware, Australia has recently adopted a social media ban for under 16s, and the adoption of the Online Safety Act in this country is an endeavour to keep children and young people safe online. We would also like to encourage parents to recognise the safeguarding risks of posting their own children's personal data online, particularly on social media that has unlimited privacy settings. We would encourage you to watch [this short video](#) produced by Ireland's Data Protection Commission which strikes to the heart of why we should all limit what we post online about our children, particularly when they are at an age too young to consent to it.



## Night Owls Phone Number

Please note that we have reverted back to a mobile phone for communication with the Night Owls team. This will be in place moving forward.

There is a new mobile phone number which is already displayed on the poster in the school reception area.

Night Owls no: 07934 703008



## Calm Club

At lunchtimes we will be running a Calm Club. As a school, we identify that some pupils may, on occasion, have the need for a quieter space at lunchtimes. The Calm Club will provide this with a range of activities on offer for children to engage in. In addition, this club will offer targeted support to children in developing their social skills and to promote positive behaviours.

Some pupils may be directly invited by school to attend this club, in agreement with parents, to support them with identified emerging or established needs.

Children at Calm Club not only have the opportunity to take part in games and activities indoors, but will spend time outside too.

For more information, please do speak to your child's class teacher.



## Year 4 Swimming

Year 4 pupils have started their swimming lessons at Mid Suffolk Leisure Centre on Monday as part of the PE curriculum.

Pupils will be taken to and from the leisure centre by coach. They will require:

- A full swimming costume (no bikini or tankini) or
- Trunks/swimming shorts (not Bermuda shorts)
- Towel
- Swimming cap
- Goggles (optional)



A reminder that earrings are **not permitted** during swimming lessons. Please ensure your child has these out or is able to take them out themselves before the swimming session.

### Class Cookies

Well done to **Jackdaw in Year 6** for having the the highest attendance this week.



### No Nuts

We are a nut free school!

### Attendance

This week's attendance was as follows:

Reception: 97.14%

Year 1: 92.76%

Year 2: 97.33%

Year 3: 96.86%

Year 4: 95.03%





Year 5: 93.96%

Year 6: 96.72%

Well done to **Year 2** for having the highest attendance.

### Cedars Stars

Well done to this week's Cedars Stars!

 <b>Reception</b> Margot T Lexie E	<b>Year 1</b> Reginald HA Lilly R	<b>Year 2</b>  Florence F Darcey W
<b>Year 3</b> Harper C Gile P	<b>Year 4</b> Sophie W Eadie-Rae S	<b>Year 5</b> Nylah K Niamh B
	<b>Year 6</b> Ella M Harrison W	

# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

# THREADS

AGE RESTRICTION  
**12+**

Developed by Meta – the company behind Instagram and Facebook – Threads is a clear rival of X (formerly known as Twitter) in that it's a text-based conversation platform with a character limit and the option to include links, photos and short videos. Threads is connected to a user's Instagram account, and their followers and favourite creators are imported to the platform.

However, Threads' reliance on an Instagram login effectively makes it 13+

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### DIFFERING OPINIONS

So far there has been relatively little negativity on Threads. Meta claims they will encourage friendly, positive engagements, but haven't yet specified how they plan to moderate this. As we have already seen on the likes of Twitter and Facebook, any app where users can talk freely about topics meaningful to them also contains the possibility of offence being caused or hatred being spread.

### AIMLESS SCROLLING

Threads doesn't currently have the facility to search for content – only for other users. Someone's feed, therefore, is made up of either threads from people they follow or content that Meta's algorithms have recommended. This could result in users absent-mindedly scrolling for long periods of time through nothing of particular interest, in search of that feeling of connectedness.

### STUCK WITH AN ACCOUNT

As Threads is linked to a user's Instagram account, it's comparatively tricky for someone to completely remove their Threads profile without automatically deleting their Instagram as well. Most users of Instagram, having spent considerable time building up a bank of followers and posts, will not want to lose them and could therefore feel pressured into keeping their Threads account active.

### OPEN NETWORKING PROTOCOLS

Reportedly, Meta's plan is for Threads to be compatible with the ActivityPub feature, which will allow users to connect and share content more easily across different apps. Therefore, if your Threads account is set to 'public', your posts will be accessible from other linked apps when this feature is activated. What's more, people using these compatible apps will be able to interact with Threads users without needing an account of their own.

### DATA COLLECTION

In Threads' privacy policy, Meta states that certain data about users will be collected and linked to that person's identity, including details relating to health and fitness, financial information, browsing history, usage data, purchases, location, and contacts. This can paint a very vivid picture of a user's life, and Meta does not explain why it needs all this information.

### THE USER IS THE PRODUCT

Threads' tracking of every interaction, engagement and activity can make the platform feel like a sophisticated data-collection tool. There are no adverts at the moment, but – given the sheer volume of information being gathered and Meta's history of selling data for advertising purposes – it may not be long before ads start appearing on young people's Threads feeds.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### READ THE SMALL PRINT

Privacy policies for apps are usually long and probably the last thing young people read (if at all) when signing up for a trending new platform. However, we'd advise you to look through Threads' policy and see if you agree with this level of data collection being applied to a child's account. Think critically about why Meta needs all that personal information, where it goes and what could be done with it.

### HIDE THE LIKES COUNT

Research has shown that young users often feel anxiety over how many likes they receive for their social media posts – and question whether this reflects their real-world popularity. Through the settings menu, Threads allows users to hide the likes counter on their own posts and others. While posts will no longer display an exact number of likes, they'll still show the names of users who did leave a like.

### MAKE USE OF FILTERS

Like Instagram, Threads has an option to hide replies that contain offensive words, phrases or emojis. These are predetermined by Meta, but you can also customise the list with terms that you deem offensive or which you don't think are suitable for children. Furthermore, due to the connection between Instagram and Threads, words that you select to screen out on one will also be hidden on the other.

### GO PRIVATE, AND STAY ALERT

Even if a child's Instagram account is already set to private, they'll need to select this option again in Threads. In fact, it's one of the first things the app asks at sign up. Users can also choose who is allowed to mention them by name in comments. As Threads' number of features increases, so will opportunities for potentially harmful content to slip through the net – so keep an eye out for any such material.

### Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA, and Australia.



Source: <https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2023/jul/11/threads-app-privacy-user-data-meta-policy> | <https://time.com/6292586/privacy-concerns-threads-meta/> | <https://about.fb.com/news/2023/07/introducing-threads-new-app-text-sharing/>

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