



The Belfry CE VA Primary School

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Monday 26th January 2026

Dear parent/carer

I heard on the radio earlier today that it's 100 years since John Logie Baird first demonstrated his invention to a room of scientists, engineers and one journalist. The invention was...? The television!

In little over a decade, the king's coronation was broadcast to the nation and the years since have seen many more iconic moments, as well as developments. I don't remember the move from black and white to colour, but I do remember having only four channels, no remote and the test card of the little girl playing noughts and crosses when the programmes stopped for the evening. Many a time have I felt my age when trying to explain this to a class of children – even just that screens were never flat in the past!

Anyway, today's anniversary made me think about what our children might be reflecting on in 30-40yrs time and that their own children will struggle to believe. Will it be typing our own messages, or handwriting in school, or the mere existence of a TV schedule rather than everything being on demand? Perhaps it will be pre-made programmes at all, and everything will be created on the spot according to criteria we individual give to our AI – the technology is not that far away.

Whatever it is, I hope it is not a wistful look back to a time when people came together and interacted face to face. Technology is brilliant and gives us so much opportunity for learning and for communicating with friends and family who are not nearby, but nothing can replace that face-to-face interaction and time outside with friends and family, enjoying nature or sport or just good conversation. I encourage my own children to spend time outside rather than on screens and will do the same with all North Star's children.

Have a fantastic week.

With kind regards

Steven Boast

Executive Deputy Headteacher
North Star Federation

Date Change

Ash Class family café has moved to **Thursday 12th March** from Thursday 5th March.

Vacancies

We are recruiting! We're looking for new staff to work in our after-school club and in the hall and outside during lunch breaks. This could be the same or different people. The after-school club worker advert is out now (link below) – if you're interested, or know someone else who might be interested in working with our wonderful children, pass it on and/or contact the office.

[The Belfry CE VA Primary School - Vacancies](#)

Parking

Please, when parking up for the school run, take extra care to ensure that our neighbours can still enter (and exit) their driveways. Thank you.

Out of school success

I'd love to hear and share more of the children's successes – swimming badges, karate belts, learning a new dance, getting a badge at Rainbows or Beavers. You name it, I want to hear about it.

Celebration Assembly Winners

Class certificates

- Holly: Willow and Ophelia – for building boats from boxes and exploring whether they float or sink
- Larch: Isla - for her brilliant writing in Literacy this week, writing a recount about a birthday party
- Willow: Paisley – you have been showing great maturity as a year 4 and you are an encouraging partner for the children around you.
Hunter – you have been working hard on your times tables, and it is paying off.
- Ash: Imogen because you are fantastic all the time. You work hard and set a brilliant example to others. You are positive and smiley and a pleasure to have in the class.
Peter because you have been making a real effort this week – you got further through your A-Js and you worked really hard on your biography. Great perseverance on tackling tables too!
- Oak: Arlo – for being a smart, capable pupil with a super creative element and a natural curiosity of the world around him.

Generosity Geniuses

- Holly: Liam – for holding another child's hand when they felt nervous to go round the obstacle course you made.
- Larch: Delilah - for helping another child when they had fallen on the playground.
- Willow: Arlo – you let someone sit next to their friend.
- Ash: Jennifer for giving up her glue stick and allowing someone to use it first, before her.
- Oak: Benji – for being a hard working, kind and considerate member of Oak Class.

Tackling Tables

100% - Archie, Noah R, Livvy, Margot, Albie, Hunter, Gus, Harry F, Beau, George, Ted B, Harriet, Barnaby, Rupert, Casper, Braylee, Finley, Summer, Natalie, Ada, Ted, Raffety O, Jenny, Martha, Alesandra, Lulu, Thea, Dougie, Raff G, Alice N

Blue star – Ted B, Gus, Natalie, Raffety O, Rupert, Raff G, Alice N

Green star – Summer, Braylee, Raff G, Alice N

Red star – Ted M, Summer

Forest School:

Bella Bee goes to Freya for her super listening to the fire safety instructions and being a great bird spotter in the hide.

Bertie Bee goes to Agatha for making a bug hotel and bird feeder, and also persevering when lighting the fire with the dragon's breath. Great determination!

Diary Dates

January 2026		
Thursday 29 th January		Friends meeting, 7.30 pm, White Horse, Overstrand. Parents, grandparents etc. all welcome!
February 2026		Parents evening in February. Dates to be advised.
Thursday 5 th February	Y3/4/5	The Olly Day Road Safety Magic Show, in school, pm
Friday 6 th February	Whole school	Friends' Valentines Disco 6 – 7.30 pm
Monday 9 th February		Planetarium in school - Day 1 – Class sessions
Tuesday 10 th February		Safer Internet Day Planetarium in school – Day 2 – Class sessions
Friday 13th February	Half Term	Last day of half term
Monday 23rd February		Children return to school
Wednesday 25 th February		Oak Class family café 2-3 pm
Thursday 26 th February		Special Chinese New Year school lunch
Friday 27 th February		Friends' costume sale for World Book Day, and used uniform sale
March 2026		
Thursday 5 th March		World Book Day Special Book Day meal!
w/c Monday 9 th March		Friends' Special Persons gift day tbc
Wednesday 11 th March		Larch class family café 2-3 pm
Thursday 12 th March		Ash Class family café 2-3 pm
Friday 13 th March		Friends' non-school uniform day! Donate a small chocolate egg or chocolate bar for Easter Bingo raffle hampers.
w/c Monday 16 th March		British Science Week
Tuesday 17 th March		Willow Class family café 2-3 pm
Wednesday 18 th March		In school "Easter Experience"
Thursday 19 th March		Larch Class trip to Strangers Hall
Friday 20 th March		Friends' Family Easter Bingo. 6 for 6.30 pm start!
Tuesday 24 th March		Holly Class family café 2-3pm
Wednesday 25 th March		Easter Service
Friday 27th March	Easter	Last day of term
Monday 13th April		First day of summer term