

# Edmund de Moundeford Primary School

Autumn Term Newsletter 1  
12th September 2025

Welcome  
Back to  
School!

I hope that you had an enjoyable Summer and that the children are recharged and ready to take on a new school year. It was nice to see some familiar faces back on the playground and lovely to see some new ones too. The children are looking very smart in their uniform and all seem keen and eager to learn. I hope that your child/ren has settled in well and are enjoying their new classes, teachers and teaching assistants. I would like to express a big warm welcome to our new children and parents. I know it is a big transition for both you and the children, but you are both doing great.

The children have settled in really well. Please remember, if you have any concerns or questions please do not hesitate to contact us. We are always here to help.

Please click on the link below for our term dates.

<https://edmunddemoundeford.secure-primarysite.net/term-dates/>

## Breaktime Snacks

Many of the children are very hungry by lunchtime, so if you would like to send them in with a snack for break time, you are more than welcome to, but this must be **FRUIT OR VEGETABLES ONLY**. Fresh fruit is available to the children in Reception, years 1 and 2.

We are a **NUT FREE** school, so please make sure you do not send anything containing nuts into school in your child's packed lunch.

Thanks.



## School Hours

A polite reminder that our school hours are as follows:

School gates open from 8.40am. Children to go straight into school.

Register taken at 8.45am. Children who come into school after this will be marked as late.

Gates open at 3:00pm, school finishes at 3:15pm.



## Water Bottles

Parents please remember to send your child/ren in with a water bottle everyday. This does not have to be a fancy water bottle, a recycled water bottle will do but please make sure they are clearly labelled with your child's name. Thank you.

## Year 6 Parents

Your child has been sent home with a letter this week regarding the transfer to secondary school. Please check your child's bag for this letter.





## Home School Communication Books and Star Points

The children were all given their new home school communication books last week. For those parents new to our school, or as a reminder, the left hand page is for staff to write in and the right hand page is for you to write in.

The children can earn star points for bringing their home school communication book into school every day as well as for good work, exceptional work, improved handwriting, 100% attendance in a week, exceptional helpfulness, good manners, behaviour, reaching their times tables/mental maths goals and many other things too.



When the children reach 150 points they can either be rewarded with a small prize or bank the points to work towards prizes at 250 points, 350 points or 500 points.

## SAFEGUARDING; Visitors and Parents - Mobile Phones and Photos

For safeguarding reasons please **DO NOT** use your mobile phone whilst on the school premises, this includes the playground areas, unless you have been given permission by the Head Teacher. Your co-operation is much appreciated. Parents, whilst we appreciate you wanting to take pictures of your child/ren, we would request that you take them once you have left the premises so that you don't accidentally photograph another child. Please also be aware of placing pictures of the children on Social Media sites as they must not show other children too.



### Children's Mobile Phones

A polite reminder that if your child brings a mobile phone to school, they must hand it in to the office before registration. The school can not be held responsible for any damage to their phones. Thanks.

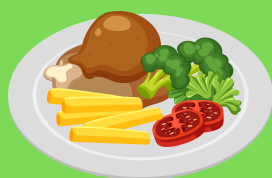
### Walking Home Permission

If you have not yet completed a walking home permission form for your child and would like them to walk home (years 4, 5 and 6 only) then please complete the form and hand it to the school office.

### School Lunches

A reminder that if your child has moved up from year 2 to year 3, you will now need to pay for their school meals. This needs to be done on the school grid system when you order their lunches.

Lunches are now **£3.60p**



### Attendance and Absence Email

An email was sent out on Wednesday 3rd September containing information on attendance and absences. Please, if you have not done so already, read the email, and familiarise yourselves with the rules.

## Staffing

A big congratulations to Mrs Mayes and her family on the arrival of their new baby boy. Mum and baby are both doing well.



I would like to welcome Miss Pennock who has joined us as cover supervisor and Mrs Amas who has joined us as mid day supervisor. Welcome to the team!

## Awards

This weeks awards go to:  
Finny and Archer.  
Oliver and Daisy S.  
Jakey and Archie L.  
Ruby B and Archie D.  
Amelie and Baily.



## Parent Governor

Welcome to Mrs Leamon and Mr D'Costa who are our new parent governors.

## *Thank You*

Thank you to the parents/carers who have already signed up to the easy fundraising page, who donates part of what you spend to the school.

We have been paid **£15.61p** which will go towards new Oxford Reading Tree level 5 and 6 books which the children need.

Our next goal is to put any money received towards some new equipment for children to use during wet play times.

Please click on the link below for more details on how to sign up and support the school.

<https://join.easyfundraising.org.uk/edmund-de-moundeford/1shn64/dda1/U5SijpKB/Q2254/facebook/15.61>



## Flamingos Class Trip

Flamingos class trip to The Ancient House Museum is on **Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> December.**

An email has been sent to parents/carers with more information and the consent and lunch forms.

Paper copies are available in the foyer if you require one.

The payment deadline for the trip is **Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> November at 9:30am.**

If we do not receive all payments/contributions, then sadly the trip will not be able to go ahead.

If you are having difficulties making the payment/contribution, please contact myself or the office.



## After School Clubs

Parents/carers have been emailed this week to notify you if your child/ren has/has not been given a space on the club you signed them up for.

Please check your emails.

Have a lovely weekend and I look forward to seeing the children back in school on Monday.

Mrs Lillycrop.



# Diary Dates for 2025/2026

Edmund de Moundeford V.C. Primary School

Why don't you  
print me off and  
pop me on your  
fridge?

## September 2025

### **Monday 15th**

Goldfinches South America Cafe  
@ 2pm.

## October 2025

### **Thursday 2nd**

Census Day Meal

### **Monday 6th**

Stay and Play session for  
children in Reception class  
2025-2027  
4-5 pm

### **Tuesday 21st**

Parent Consultations  
3:30 -5:30pm

### **Friday 24th**

Nightingales Cafe 2-3pm

### **Friday 24th**

Optional non school uniform

### **Friday 24th**

Last day of the half term.

## November 2025

### **Monday 3rd**

School re-opens

### **Thursday 13th**

School photos - individual  
and siblings.

### **Thursday 13th**

Parent Consultations  
3:30 - 6:30pm

### **Thursday 20th**

Flamingos class  
assembly approx  
9:05am

### **Friday 21st**

Hummingbirds  
trip to Ancient  
House Museum

### **Friday 21st**

Children In Need

**DON'T  
FORGET**

# Diary Dates for 2025/2026

Edmund de Moundeford V.C. Primary School

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## December 2025

### **Thursday 4th**

Flamingos Ancient House  
Trip

### **Friday 12th**

Christmas Decoration Day

### **Monday 15th**

Penguins Art Cafe 2:15 -  
3:00pm

### **Wednesday 17th**

Reception, years 1 and 2  
Nativity @ 9:20am

### **Wednesday 17th**

Christmas Dinner

### **Thursday 18th**

Reception, years 1 and 2  
Nativity @ 5:30pm

### **Friday 19th**

Years 3,4,5 and 6 Carol  
Service at the Church  
@ 9:20am

### **Friday 18th**

Christmas Jumper Day  
SCHOOL CLOSSES FOR  
HOLIDAYS

REOPENS ON 6/1/26

**DON'T  
FORGET**

# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about INSTAGRAM

AGE RESTRICTION  
**13+**

Instagram remains one of the world's most popular social media platforms, especially among teens – with around 70% of 13 to 17-year-olds using it. Owned by Meta, Instagram allows users to share photos and videos, create interactive 'stories', broadcast live, send private messages and follow others. With regular updates and new features, it's essential for parents and educators to stay informed about how children are using the app – and what the risks are.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### EXCESSIVE SCREEN TIME

Instagram's design encourages prolonged use through endless scrolling of trending content and generating a fear of missing out (FOMO). Children can quickly lose track of time browsing posts from friends, influencers, and strangers, which may disrupt their day-to-day activities.

### AI CHATBOT CONCERNS

Meta's AI, which is available on Instagram, allows users to chat with an in-app chatbot. While often helpful, it can blur boundaries for young users, who may ask for or read content that is inappropriate or see it as a real friend or confidant. Privacy issues also arise, as conversations may not be as secure or private as children assume.

### RISKS OF GOING LIVE

The livestream feature allows real-time broadcasting to followers – or anyone, if the account is public. This increases the chance of unwanted contact from strangers and pressure to act in ways that gain attention, including engaging in inappropriate behaviour. Viewers may also post offensive or harmful comments during live sessions.

### THREADS INTEGRATION

Threads is Instagram's sister app for public, text-based conversations. Posts from Threads appear in users' Instagram feeds and can lead children to view, share, and comment on public conversations with strangers. The content may not always be age-appropriate and can be misleading or false.

### SCHEDULED MESSAGING

Instagram's newer ability to schedule direct messages means that children could receive messages late at night or early in the morning. This can disrupt their sleep or keep them preoccupied before the school day even begins.

### EXCLUSION AND LOW SELF-WORTH

Feeling left out online can have a real emotional impact. Being left out of photos, receiving fewer likes, being unfollowed, or being ignored in chats and comments can leave children feeling excluded, which often hurts as much as in real life. There is a risk this can lead to reduced self-esteem and a sense of not belonging.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### USE INSTAGRAM'S SUPERVISION TOOLS

Instagram's built-in Family Centre lets parents monitor how much time their child spends on the app. Specialised 'teen accounts' are private by default and offer controls on who can message them. Make sure that children use their real age when registering their account to ensure they have these protections.

### OPEN UP THE CONVERSATION

Talk regularly to the children in your care about what they enjoy on Instagram – and what makes them uncomfortable. Encourage honest chats about filters, body image, and online approval. Reassure them that they don't need to edit their appearance or chase 'likes' to feel valued.

### SET BOUNDARIES FOR THREADS AND AI

Parental controls on Instagram also apply to Threads. These allow parents to monitor time spent in the app, check follower lists and adjust exposure to sensitive content. Discuss AI features, too, therefore helping children understand that chatbots aren't real people and should be used with care.

### BE MEDIA-SAVVY WITH INFLUENCERS

Parents should follow a few of the influencers their child watches, so they can better understand the content they're seeing. Use this as a springboard to talk about the difference between genuine recommendations and paid promotions – and how online personalities can shape opinions and behaviour.

### 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.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College