



The Drake News

21ST NOVEMBER 2025

Where a World of Opportunity Awaits

A Pattern-Filled Maths Café



Our Reception Café this term was all about maths. We transformed every area of our classroom into a pattern-themed space, helping children and parents see just how many patterns appear in everyday life.



Families explored a range of patterns, including AB, ABC, and AABB repeating patterns. The children loved identifying, copying, continuing, and even creating their own patterns using colours, shapes, objects, and movements.

SRB Bulb Planting



I done some planting in the big hall. We also got yummy biscuits.



It was good. I like making the pots of daffodils

On Friday 14th November, we were invited by Thetford Town Council to join them at the Guildhall to help plant bulbs ready to bloom in spring. We travelled into Thetford on the school minibus, excited to take part. Although the weather wasn't on our side, we didn't let it spoil the fun.

We moved indoors and got busy planting daffodil bulbs into pots, using soil and tools to help us. Everyone represented Drake with pride and worked so carefully.



I loved planting. I made two pots of daffodils. 1 for me and 1 for my parents.



I planted some daffodils to bloom in spring.



I used tools to put the soil in the pots and added the bulbs.

Some of our pots have been taken home to share with families and friends, while others will stay at school so we can watch them grow and bloom over the winter months.

We finished our trip with drinks and delicious biscuits, making it a lovely way to end a very enjoyable visit!

Save The Date

We have pencilled in Friday 5th December for our tree-planting day. This will, of course, depend on the weather and ground conditions, but we will keep you updated closer to the time!

Winter Weather Safety Reminder

On icy mornings, the red playground will be closed. Please use the alternative entrances to classrooms. We will grit pathways whenever possible, so for your safety, we kindly ask that everyone sticks to the gritted paths and avoids using the play equipment during icy conditions. Thank you for your cooperation and helping us keep everyone safe.

National Tree Week

22 November – 30 November

As National Tree Week celebrates its fiftieth year, we're looking forwards, considering the people, trees and places that give us hope for a future filled with trees.

2025/26 is the 'Year of the Tree' for Halcyon. Throughout the year, the school community will study, observe, document and celebrate trees on our school site and neighbouring woodland.

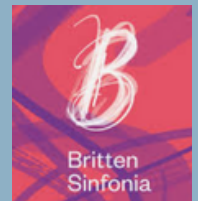
Every year group has been assigned a tree that they explore through Science, Art and other activities.

Alongside this, we will be launching our new Halcyon Forest project, inspired by a challenge from Chris Packham, where every pupil will name, plant and care for a tree.

The project will culminate with a display of our project as part of Halcyon's Sustainability Exhibition at the Royal Norfolk Show.



Curie Class Take Part in The Big Reel Project with Britten Sinfonia



Curie Class recently enjoyed a fantastic musical experience as part of The Big Reel, an exciting project delivered by Britten Sinfonia in partnership with Thetford Academy. Musicians from the orchestra visited our school to lead a lively workshop where everyone—children and adults alike—learned steps from traditional folk dances from around the UK. The whole class joined in with great enthusiasm and had a brilliant time.

The Big Reel is part of Britten Sinfonia's wider residency in Thetford, which has been running for the past two years. The project aims to strengthen links between Thetford Academy and its feeder primary schools as pupils prepare for their transition into Key Stage 3. It brings together BBC Radio 2 Folk Musician of the Year nominee Will Pound, Britten Sinfonia players, and pupils from Thetford Academy, who form a live folk/classical band for the workshop.

We are delighted that the musicians will be returning in January to perform for the whole of Key Stage 2.



Drake Primary School – Christmas Calendar!

Nov/Dec 2025	Event details
Monday 24	Y5 Swimming – last session
Tuesday 25	Y6 Swimming – last session
Wednesday 26	
Thursday 27	Y5 Christmas Assembly 9am Y6 Christmas Assembly 2.30pm
Friday 28	Y4 & Reception – School of Noise (workshops for children) Lights Switch-On in Thetford town center
Monday 1	Y3 Lantern café 9am Y5 Lantern café 1.45pm
Tuesday 2	Y4 Lantern café 9am Y6 Lantern café 1.45pm
Wednesday 3	Y2 Lantern café 9am Y1 Christmas Assembly 2.30pm
Thursday 4	Y4 Christmas Concert 9am Y3 Christmas Concert 2.30pm
Friday 5	
Monday 8	Y1 Lantern café 1.30pm
Tuesday 9	Whole school trip to watch Cinderella @Norwich Theatre Royal
Wednesday 10	Rocksteady Concert 9.30am Christmas lunch for Little Ducklings, Year 5 & 6 Y2 Nativity 2pm
Thursday 11	Christmas Jumper Day Christmas lunch for Year 3 & 4 Reception Christmas Assembly 2.45pm
Friday 12	Christmas lunch for Reception, Year 1 & 2
Monday 15	
Tuesday 16	
Wednesday 17	
Thursday 18	Christmas Fayre (in the afternoon) Followed by Carol Singing & Lantern Parade in the Woods
Friday 19	Last day - close at 1pm
	Back to school on Wednesday 7 th January 2026





CHRISTMAS AT DRAKE

Save the Date!

Thur 27 th Nov	Year 5 Christmas Assembly 9am Year 6 Christmas Assembly 2.30pm
Fri 28 th Nov	Lights Switch-On in Thetford town center
Wed 3 rd Dec	Year 1 Christmas Assembly 2.30pm
Thur 4 th Dec	Year 4 Christmas Assembly 9am Year 3 Christmas Assembly 2.30pm
Tue 9 th Dec	Whole school trip to watch Cinderella @Norwich Theatre Royal
Wed 10 th Dec	Year 5&6 Christmas Lunch Rocksteady Concert 9.30am Year 2 Nativity 2pm
Thur 11 th Dec	Year 3&4 Christmas Lunch Christmas Jumper Day Reception Christmas Assembly 2.45pm
Fri 12 th Dec	Rec, Year 1&2 Christmas Lunch
Mon 15 th Dec	Christmas Service @St Cuthbert's Church
Thur 18 th Dec	Christmas Fayre Carol Singing & Lantern parade
Fri 19 th Dec	Last day - close at 1pm

