

19th June 2026



Our Weekly Update



Headteacher update

Dear Parents, Carers and Families,

It was great to see so many of you at Sports Day last week. We really were lucky with the weather and I am sure you will agree that a wonderful day was had by all. Thank you for all your complimentary feedback about the organisation and pace of the events. The children really did do themselves proud and show resilience and camaraderie within their teams. A huge well done to all the Houses but particularly to Yellow House, who were the overall winners.

It was also fantastic to see so many families at yesterday's Make A Difference evening. So many tasks were achieved, smartening the school in various ways. This is particularly helpful while we are in a transition period as we undertake recruitment for a new Caretaker. A huge thank you to everyone who gave up their time so willingly to support the school, and brought along tools and community spirit!

Today, teachers have been working alongside Trust colleagues

to start looking at curriculum plans for the next academic year. It has been really exciting to see staff collaborating to plan detailed and engaging opportunities for our children.

Next week sees the diary get even busier, with school trips for Years 5 and 6, transition days for Year 6 children going to Abbey College, and transition events for our new Reception children. This time of year is always so busy, so please do keep an eye on the calendar and on updates from the office. If you think you have missed anything, please do get in touch.

With best wishes for a lovely weekend,

Jonathan Clarke and the SPS Team



Key Dates – updates in blue



Tuesday 23 rd (Barn Owl and Osprey) and Wednesday 24 th (Red Kite) June	Year 5/6 trip to Ferry Meadows
Thursday 25 th and Friday 26 th June	Abbey College transition
Week beginning Monday 29 th June	PSHE Life Bus visiting Somersham
Wednesday 1 st July	KS1 trip to Hunstanton
Thursday 2 nd July	Meridian Trust Arts Showcase (Choir, French Choir and Irish Dance Club)
Wednesday 1 st , Tuesday 7 th and Thursday 9 th July	Cromwell Community College transition
Monday 6 th July	Water Safety Assembly
Thursday 9 th and Friday 10 th July	St Ivo School transition
Friday 10 th July	PFA Colour Run
Tuesday 14 th and Wednesday 15 th July (14:00)	Year 5/6 production to parents/carers
Wednesday 15 th July	Robin class trip to Ramsey Heights Nature Reserve
Thursday 16 th July	Wren class trip to Ramsey Heights Nature Reserve
Friday 17 th July	End of term
Thursday 3 rd September	Term starts for children

Make A Difference Day



To reiterate the message above, a huge thank you to all the volunteers who came to support Make A Difference day last night. A huge amount was achieved: jet washing, gardening, cleaning and repairs, just to name a few.

A particularly big thanks go to SB Carpet Clean and CPW Groundwork, who gave their time and expertise on a voluntary basis. SB Carpet Clean gave a good clean to some of our classroom carpets, and CPW Groundwork helped to clear some soil from the front garden, as part of the project to transform it. We are really grateful to both businesses for their support.

Junior Open Mic Night

To kick off Somersham Carnival week, The Rose And Crown (Somersham) is hosting their first junior open mic on 21st June, 3pm-6pm. It's a fantastic opportunity for children up to the age of 18 to perform and experience what it is like to do a real gig! We will have a professional sound engineer (sound man Phil) and professional violinist/teacher (Katie) supporting and running the event on the day. There will be a digital (weighted keys) piano, microphones and backing tracks available at the venue. Any genre of music from classical to pop or rock, or spoken word/poetry will be warmly embraced. If your child would like a chance to shine, we can make it happen. Please email katieneaves@gmail.com to sign up for a slot. Please note any child under the age of 18 will need to be accompanied by an adult.



Reception	Healthy	As this was our theme for the week, we learned that being healthy means eating well, staying active, getting enough rest, and doing things that help our bodies grow strong and our minds feel happy. We also explored the different ways we can keep ourselves healthy. Can your child remember any of these? What does your family do to stay healthy? We would love to hear about the healthy habits you practise at home!
Year 1/2	Kippah	KS1 have been learning about the Jewish faith in World Views. Can they remember what a Kippah is and a fact about how or why they are worn?
Year 3/4	Persuasive	In English, we have started our new topic on persuasive letter writing. Can you tell someone at home what the features of a persuasive letter are? Can you use these to persuade them to do something?
Year 5/6	Monologue	In Year 5/6, we have been planning a monologue to write next week. This is where a character usually speaks in the first person and shares their thoughts and feelings. Other features include rhetorical questions to engage the reader.
	French	Years 3&4: Practise the vocabulary and learn some new vocabulary with this tutorial (go to full tutorial then play the games): les sports Years 5&6: Listen to this Haitian pop song: Aller à l'école

PFA COLOUR RUN

FRIDAY 10TH JULY -
WATCH THIS SPACE



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about SPORTS BETTING ONLINE

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Sports betting online involves placing wagers on real-world sporting events through websites, apps, and linked accounts. In the UK, licensed gambling is illegal for under-18s, yet young people may still encounter betting through sports coverage, social media, gaming spaces, friends, or adult accounts. With gambling content increasingly visible online, parents and educators should help children understand the risks, financial impact, pressure, and how to make safer choices.

EASY ONLINE ACCESS

Online sports betting sites and apps are widely available and can be accessed through phones, tablets, computers, and, indirectly, gaming or social platforms. Some young people may attempt to bypass age checks using false details or someone else's account. Digital wallets, prepaid cards, and saved payment details can also make spending harder to notice, increasing the risk of discreet or impulsive betting.

PEER AND INFLUENCER PRESSURE

Social media influencers, online tipsters, and sports content creators can make betting appear fun, profitable, or part of being a committed fan. Young people may feel pressure to copy this behaviour, especially when friends talk about odds, accumulators, or predictions during matches. Gambling advertising rules aim to protect under-18s, but children can still see persuasive betting content in online spaces.

FREE BET OFFERS

Online betting platforms often use free bets, bonus credits, or 'risk-free' promotions to attract users. These offers can make gambling seem safe or low commitment, but they usually include terms and conditions that young people may not understand. A free incentive can lead to real spending, repeated deposits, or the belief that gambling is easier to control than it is.

NORMALISING GAMBLING BEHAVIOUR

Online sports betting can make gambling feel like a routine part of watching sport. Young people may begin to see odds, predictions, and wagers as harmless entertainment rather than as financial risk. This can also blur boundaries with other gambling-like activities, including loot boxes, skins betting, or casino-style games, making later gambling feel more acceptable or familiar.

ADVERTISING AROUND SPORT

Young people can be exposed to betting brands through sports broadcasts, social media, sponsorship, pitch-side advertising, and content linked to major fixtures. Repeated exposure may make gambling seem normal, glamorous, or expected as part of the sport. Without adult guidance, children may connect betting with excitement, loyalty, and success, rather than understanding that gambling is designed to make money from customers.

CHASING WINS AND LOSSES

A winning bet can create excitement and encourage a young person to try again, while a losing bet may lead them to place another wager to win back the money. This is known as chasing losses. Because online bets can be quick, small, and available at any time, children may not recognise how rapidly repeated decisions can become costly and emotionally harmful.

Advice for Parents & Educators

START EARLY CONVERSATIONS

Talk openly with children about how betting works, including odds, losses, advertising, and the fact that gambling companies are commercial businesses. Use examples they may recognise, such as betting adverts during football matches, influencer predictions, or online tipsters. Keep the tone calm and curious, so that children feel able to ask questions, share concerns, and discuss pressure from friends without fearing punishment.

EXPLORE ONLINE EXPOSURE

Ask which apps, websites, games, sports channels, and social media accounts children use around live sport. Betting content may appear through adverts, sponsorship, livestreams, tipster pages, or discussions between friends. Watching a match together can help you point out gambling messaging in real time and explain how it is designed to influence choices, normalise betting, and encourage spending.

SET SAFER BOUNDARIES

Use device, app store, and bank settings to limit spending, block gambling transactions where possible, and require adult approval for purchases. Check payment histories for unfamiliar withdrawals, digital wallet use, or repeated small transactions. These safeguards work best alongside clear conversations, helping children understand that online payments are still real money, even when they feel quick, hidden, or invisible.

NOTICE AND SEEK SUPPORT

Look out for secrecy around devices, sudden interest in odds, requests for money, unexplained spending, mood changes linked to sports results, or late-night phone use. Respond with support first, then gather information and seek specialist advice where needed. Organisations such as GambleAware, Ygam, GAMSTOP, and the Gambling Commission provide information about gambling harms, education, blocking tools, and support routes.

Meet Our Expert

Bubba Gaeddert is a Senior Lecturer and the Head of Events at the University Campus of Esports. He is also the President and Co-Founder of the Videogames and Esports Foundation, a charity that supports safe and inclusive gaming environments. With over 25 years of experience in esports, education, and media, Bubba is a global leader in promoting positive gaming practices for youth and families.



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