

Bulletin

5th October 2026



STUDENT

Week B

Cycle 1 Week 5

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Community



	Mon 5 th Oct	Tues 6 th Oct	Weds 7 th Oct	Thurs 8 th Oct	Fri 9 th Oct
Assembly	Year 11	Year 7, 8 and 9	Year 9	Year 11	Year 10
Lunchtime Clubs	KS3 Art Club Room 4 UNO Club Room 26 Year 7 Football MUGA Allotment KS4 Maths Revision (Foundation) Room 6	LGBTQ+ Allies Room 6 Games Club Room 22 Year 8 and 9 Football MUGA KS4 Music Revision Room 30	Choir (all years) Room 30 Year 10 and 11 Football MUGA KS4 Biology Revision Room 32 KS4 History Revision Room 11	DofE Drop in Room 6 Gaming Club Room 20 Netball (all years) MUGA Mindfulness Room 23 Year 11 German Revision Room 36 Year 11 English Revision Room 17 KS4 Art Revision Room 4	Girls Football (all years) MUGA KS4 Art Revision Room 4
After School Clubs	KS4 Coursework Catch-up All Subjects Room 20	Year 11 PE PEP and Revision Room 18 4.15 finish Year 11 English Additional Lesson Room 17 4.15 finish	Year 11 Geography Revision Week A Room 38 Week B Room 5 4.15 finish Year 11 French Revision Room 37 4.15 finish Year 11 Science Additional Lesson Room 21 4.15 finish	Year 11 Maths Additional Lesson Room 7 4.15 finish Clay Club Room 27 4.30 finish	KS4 Coursework Catch-up All Subjects Room 20 4.15 finish
Events		Year 10 and 11 Post 16 Evening 5.00pm – 7.00pm Year 7 Boys Football v Diss (away) Pick up 5.00	Flu Vaccinations Year 7 Girls Football v Long Stratton (home) Pick up 4.45		

Community



PE and Sports Studies Sweatshirts:

Optional GCSE PE and Core PE (all years) sweatshirts can be purchased on the following link:
[Old Buckenham High School - Education | 4Sports Group.](#)

Plea from Food Tech:

Once again, we are asking for any spare tubs for food tech, and a reminder that all students need to bring their own suitable container for practical lessons.

Term Dates 2026/27:

September 2026							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
A		1	2	3	4	5	6
B	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
A	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
B	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
A	28	29	30				

October 2026							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
A				1	2	3	4
B	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
A	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	26	27	28	29	30	31	

November 2026							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
							1
B	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
A	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
B	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
A	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
B	30						

December 2026							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
B		1	2	3	4	5	6
A	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
B	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	28	29	30	31			

January 2027							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
					1	2	3
A	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
B	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
A	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
B	25	26	27	28	29	30	31

February 2027							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
A	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
B	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
A	22	23	24	25	26	27	28

March 2027							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
B	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
A	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
B	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
A	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	29	30	31				

April 2027							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
				1	2	3	4
	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
B	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
A	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
B	26	27	28	29	30		

May 2027							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
						1	2
A	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
B	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
A	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
B	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	31						

June 2027							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
		1	2	3	4	5	6
A	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
B	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
A	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
B	28	29	30				

July 2027							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
B				1	2	3	4
A	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
B	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
A	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	26	27	28	29	30	31	

August 2027							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
							1
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
	30	31					

white dates – open to students
 Orange dates – school holidays
 Purple dates – Inset days
 Red dates – bank holiday

192 staff working days
 188 student working days
 Inset days 1st, 2nd Sept, 4th Jan, 23rd July

Y7 Settling in evening

Thank you to all parents that attended last weeks settling in evening. It was great to see so many parents attend and take a direct interest in their children's education.

Year 7 have got off to a strong start and we hope they can really build on this!

Open Evening

Thank you to all of the children who supported our open evening. They were all a credit to the school and we are incredibly proud of them. A particular special thank you to Tomas and Laura our Head students who performed excellent speeches to a large room of families and to Oliver in Year 7 who read his wonderful poem out to the crowd as well – very impressive!

Mamma Mia Rehearsals:

Mamma Mia rehearsals will start from Tuesday 3rd November from 3:15-4:45 in the hall for all those wanting to be involved in the cast/chorus.

Rehearsals will be on Tuesdays and Thursdays after school and a rehearsal schedule will be available on the 3rd for students to collect and take home.

Performances will take place in March 2027, and more information will be available in the Spring Term regarding dates and tickets.



Breckland Family Hubs:

What's on at the Breckland Best Start Family Hub in October...

Find more information



www.norfolk.gov.uk/familyhubs

Mondays

Monday 5th - **Norfolk Community Law Service (NCLS)** - 2:00pm-4:00pm - Services include: Family law and court support, welfare benefits, debt and money advice, immigration advice, discrimination and employment. However, you are welcome to visit the website at anytime: www.ncls.co.uk

Triage appointments at Thetford Citizens Advice may also be available - please contact Citizens Advice directly.

Tuesdays

Tuesday 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th - **REDI** - 9:00am-1:00pm - Anna is able to support parents/carers who have relocated to England from another country and are struggling with barriers to accessing support for their children with SEN or social, emotional and mental health needs.

Tuesday 13th & 20th - **DWP** - 10:00am-2:30pm - Emma from Department of Work and Pensions will be available and can support with:

- Benefit related queries
- Finance difficulties and debts
- Childcare funding
- Opportunities around training, qualifications or new skills

Wednesdays

Wednesday 14th & 28th - **Infant Feeding Drop-In** - 10:00am-11:30am - Infant feeding is all about how we nourish our little ones; from breast and bottle feeding to starting them on solids.

Wednesday 14th & 28th - **Under 5 Healthy Child Drop In** - 09:30am-11:30am - Healthy Child Under 5 Years - No appointment required to attend, you can just drop in and ask any questions about your baby or child's health development or growth.

Wednesday 14th - **SEND Café** - 1:15pm-2:30pm - Free friendly drop-in service open to all SEND parents & carers.

Fridays

Friday 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th - **Norfolk Crisis and Resilience Service (NCLS)** - 2:00pm-4:00pm

NCLS provides support to Norfolk residents experiencing financial hardship or crisis. The service works with individuals and families to identify immediate support needs, improve financial resilience, maximise income, access benefits and grants, manage essential household costs and reduce the risk of ongoing hardship. Support may include financial assessments, budgeting advice, benefit support, signposting to specialist services, and coordinated assistance with housing, utilities, food insecurity, debt and other welfare concerns.

Up and coming events and activities

SEND café @ Dereham Library will be open on Monday 5th October, 1.30pm-2.30pm hosted by Family Action, Norfolk and Waveney Autism / ADHD Support Services.



Thetford SEND Parent & Carer Cafe @ Thetford Library, Wednesday 28th October 1:30pm-2:30pm with Family Action, organized by Breckland Family Hubs.



Community and Partnership (C&P) team reserves the right to cancel event due to circumstances beyond C&P's control or not reasonably anticipated by C&P.

Inspire Drama Club:

Inspire is about creating a fun and friendly space for children to go wild with their imaginations through the acting world. Ages 7-10yrs can join the 4:15pm -5:15pm session, followed by ages 11-13yrs who can come along to the 5:30pm-6:30pm.



INSPIRE
— DRAMA CLUB —
ACT ★ CREATE ★ BELONG ★ BE YOU

A friendly, creative space for children to
build confidence, spark imagination,
make friends and enjoy performing.

-  BUILD CONFIDENCE
-  SPARK IMAGINATION
-  MAKE FRIENDS
-  ENJOY PERFORMING

 EVERY FRIDAY 4:15pm – 5:15pm Ages 7–10 years	 EVERY FRIDAY 5:30pm – 6:30pm Ages 11–13 years	 £10 PER CHILD
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 **Old Buckenham Village Hall**
Abbey Road, Old Buckenham, NR17 1PU

 **CONTACT ME NOW TO BOOK**
 07450 643397 | summerpriehs11@icloud.com

ACT ★ CREATE ★ BELONG ★ BE YOU

Ambition

Careers Appointments:

If a student would like to make an appointment to see our Careers Advisor, please can they complete and submit the form below. Parents / Carers are also welcome to attend the appointments with their child.

Mr Peat, the Careers Advisor, is in school on a Wednesday and Thursday 8.30 – 3.30.

[Careers Appointment request form \(Students\) – Fill out form.](#)

Attendance:

28.9.26	Whole School	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Cumulative	92.77%	97.64%	93.04%	91.43%	93.91%	87.94%
Weekly	93%	98.30%	90.68%	92.47%	98.19%	85.89%

Attendance	Description	Approximate number of days lost per year	Approximate number of days lost in total during secondary school, year 7 – year 11
100%	Perfect	0 days	0 days
96%	Good	7.5 days	37.5 days
95%	Nearly there	9.5 days	47.5 days
94%	Need to improve	12.5 days	62.5 days
90%	Persistent absence – very concerning	19.5 days	97.5 days
50% or less	Severely absent – extremely concerning	95+ days	475+ days

The KS3 curriculum – Assessment Week

At KS3, the school year is now organised into **four learning cycles**, with each cycle lasting nine weeks.

We are currently entering Week 5 of the cycle, and pupils have been working hard across all of their subjects.

As part of each cycle, **Week 7 is designated as Assessment Week**. During this week, pupils will complete assessments in all of their subjects. These assessments help teachers identify what pupils have learned, celebrate success, and recognise any areas where additional support may be needed.

Each assessment consists of two elements*:

Core Knowledge:

This section contains 10 questions based on the subject's core knowledge questions. These represent the key information that we believe every pupil should know and remember. Pupils who regularly revise and practise their core questions are likely to be well prepared for this part of the assessment. All core questions can be found on our website in the subject pages.

Applied Knowledge:

This section is more subject specific and allows pupils to demonstrate how they can use and apply what they have learned. The format will vary between subjects, but it will typically include longer questions that require pupils to explain their thinking or apply their knowledge in different contexts. Teachers will provide guidance on how pupils can prepare.

All pupils have been briefed about Assessment Week and have been encouraged to begin preparing over the last two weeks. We would be grateful for your support by helping your child revise their core questions at home and encouraging them to practise little and often. Regular, short periods of revision are far more effective than trying to revise everything the night before an assessment.

Our aim is not perfection. We want pupils to develop positive study habits, build confidence in their learning, and establish the routines that will support their success as they progress towards their GCSE studies.

*Some less frequent subjects will only have a core knowledge assessment in cycle 1 and cycle 3.

2 Weeks to go to our first assessment week

Respect



Star of the Week:

Each week we identify a pupil in each year to be our star of the week. This is a simple way for us to recognise our pupils who are really representing our Old Buckenham High School values and making us incredibly proud.

Year 7	George C-R	7B	For showing kindness, initiative and consideration by supporting a new student with timetables, form activities and finding lessons, often without being prompted. A true Star of the Week!
Year 8	Henry W	8B	For an exceptional start to the school year.
Year 9	Cherry B	9G	For being an excellent member of our school community and looking out for younger students.
Year 10	Autumn W	10G	Showing great community spirit supporting peers in school.
Year 11	Cam N	11B	Showing great community spirit supporting new students in school.

Other notices:

Online Safety:

Please find attached the Online Safety Newsletter for October.

Mobile Phones:

We would like to thank all parents and carers for their continued support in helping us implement the updated government guidance on mobile phones in schools.

Our students have demonstrated excellent maturity and responsibility by ensuring that phones are switched off and kept away in bags throughout the school day. This has helped to create a calm, focused learning environment where students can fully engage with their lessons and school life.

We appreciate your ongoing support in reinforcing this expectation at home and are proud of the positive way our students have responded. Thank you for working in partnership with us.