## ILLAGE VOICE

#### **NEWS FROM WEST WICKHAM & STREETLY END**

**JULY 2025 ISSUE 266** 

#### WHEELED BIN COLLECTIONS

2 July Wednesday Blue & green 9 July Wednesday Black Wednesday 16 July Blue & green Wednesday 23 July Black Wednesday 30 July Blue & Green

#### It is no longer necessary to book to attend any of Cambridgeshire's Household **Recycling Centres.**

For details of locations & opening hours visit: www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/wasteand-recycling/household-recycling-centres

#### CHURCH SERVICES

6 July 11.00. Joint service of Holy Communion at Balsham Church 13 July 9.30. Holy Communion at St Mary's Church

9.30. Morning worship at 20 July

St Mary's Church 27 July

9.30. Morning worship at St Mary's Church

For more details visit www.grantavale.org.uk

#### \* HUB NIGHT! \* WEST WICKHAM VILLAGE HALL





#### **USEFUL CONTACT DETAILS**

West Wickham website: for news, what's on, directory of information & useful contacts. https://westwickham.org

**AgeUK Community Warden:** 

Sheree Geoghegan. T: 07436 102865 Email: wardens@ageukcap.org.uk

#### **Granta Medical Practice / Linton Health** Centre.

T: 0300 234 5555 option 3, followed by option 1 for appointments, option 2 for the Pharmacy.

#### **DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE** Wednesday 16 July

Editors: Andrew Morris & Anna Fairhead 21 High Street, West Wickham Cambridge CB21 4RY T: 01223 290863

Email: wwwillagevoice@gmail.com

The Village Voice is sponsored by West Wickham Parish Council and delivered free to all households in West Wickham and Streetly End. The views expressed herein are those of the contributors.

#### NEW EMAIL ADDRESS FOR THE VILLAGE VOICE

We have been experiencing increasing 'issues' with the Yahoo address. It appears there is an incompatibility between Gmail and Yahoo that might be causing some of the problems but that doesn't account for the relentless increase of spam!. It has therefore been decided to use Gmail and the new address is wwvillagevoice@gmail.com. This new address is already 'live' but the Yahoo address will continue to be valid for a few months, will respond with an automatic reply giving this information and the email received will be automatically forwarded to the Gmail address. The Yahoo account will be closed by the end of the year.

Andrew

#### THE BIG GARDEN PARTY **SATURDAY 5 JULY**

Thank you to everyone who has already volunteered to help make this year's Big Garden Party even more of a success than last year. Here is some information about what will be available to eat and drink while you're enjoying the range of activities on the day.

The barbecue menu will include Aberdeen Angus beef burgers, Blackgate pork sausage hot dogs, Boerewors rolls and Haloumi and red pepper

Inside the Village Hall, at the bar there will be beers, wines and Pimm's, while the kitchen cafe team will be serving teas, coffees and squash, as well as a wide selection of cakes.

Donations of cakes (even bought ones) will be gratefully accepted, so please contact Julie on 07545 561707 or Vivienne on 07563 204364 if you can help.

Ronnie Temple

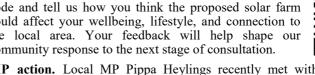
#### KINGSWAY SOLAR COMMUNITY ACTION

KSCA's community walk highlights Kingsway Solar farm concerns. A huge thank you to everyone who joined our community walk on Sunday 8 June. Over 130 residents and volunteers came together to explore the West Wratting countryside as part of a national campaign drawing attention to the spread of industrial-scale solar farms, pylons, and battery storage developments in rural areas. Afterwards, we gathered at West Wratting Village Hall for wildlife displays, refreshments, and a talk outlining the plans for Kingsway - what's proposed, why the Action Group is opposing it, and how local people can get involved.

You can watch the video of the talk and listen to the audio of the O&A by visiting the news page on the KSCA website (kingswayaction.org).

Watch out for future community events in Balsham, Weston Colville and West Wickham.

**Take our survey.** We want to hear your views. Use the Q code and tell us how you think the proposed solar farm could affect your wellbeing, lifestyle, and connection to the local area. Your feedback will help shape our community response to the next stage of consultation.



MP action. Local MP Pippa Heylings recently met with the Project Manager, David Vernon, from Kingsway/Downing Renewables to raise concerns about poor community engagement, lack of transparency, battery fire risks and the need for proper consultation over potential community benefits. She has promised to share a full update soon, including with Parish Councils.

Continued on page 2

#### **Kingsway Solar Community Action continued**



### Step into nature – July's focus: Insects!

As part of our Step into Nature campaign, we're asking residents to look out for insects this month. Insects play a vital role in ecosystems—

pollinating plants, breaking down waste and providing food for

birds and other wildlife.

Please record anything you spot, especially rare or protected species. You can log sightings online at iRecord. Visit the Buglife website to help with insect identification (https://www.buglife.org.uk/bugs/identify-a-bug/).

#### What you can do

- Complete our community survey on the solar farm's impact on you.
- Sign the national petition to ban large-scale solar on farmland (https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/703284).
- Pledge your support for CPRE's rooftop solar campaign (https://www.cpre.org.uk/rooftop-solar/).
- Become a KSCA member to stay involved (https://kingswaysolarcommunityaction.co.uk/how-to-join-us/)
- Follow KSCA on Facebook for real-time updates.
- Donate via GoFundMe to support our work (https://gofund.me/479e0bd8).

Together, we can protect our countryside and make sure local voices are heard.

Ellen Collier

## West Wickham Village Hall

# COFFEE MORNING

From 10.30 on Thursday

10<sup>TH</sup> JULY



Selection of teas & coffee Variety of homemade cakes

ALL WELCOME

Call Sue Thurston (897811)

#### WEST WICKHAM IN THE PAST: A MISCELLANY

Village get-togethers are not a new thing but in the 19<sup>th</sup> century these were primarily associated with royal occasions – the Coronation of Queen Victoria and her subsequent Golden and Diamond Jubilees. An account of the Diamond Jubilee celebrations in West Wickham appeared in the *Cambridge Chronicle* in June 1897.

A committee was formed several weeks in advance to organise the event. This was chaired by the Chairman of the Parish Council, John de Fraine, and consisted of all the farmers (the major employers); wheelwright, Robert Ewin; blacksmith, Edward Simkin, carpenter, Frank Cole (the last two were also parish constables) and four other men, some of whom, if not all, were agricultural labourers. Donations were given, a house-to-house collection was made and with the money it was decided to give a 'free public dinner' to all the inhabitants.

On the day, the village was decorated with flags and at 2pm a procession of about 300 to 400 people headed up the High Street led by the Salvation Army Band. To accommodate so many people, the diners had to be split between the School and the Mission Hall (now known as the Old Chapel). The contents of the meal were not recorded but judging by earlier occasions it would probably have included cold beef and plum pudding. Afterwards, games, races, a tug of war, other sports and dancing took place in a field lent for the occasion during which a free tea was also provided. The festivities finally ended at 10pm with 'loud cheers for the Queen' and everyone headed for home.

Although the organising committee had been entirely male, the newspaper report did acknowledge the considerable part played by a number of women - from farmers' wives to agricultural labourers' wives along with 'several of the young women of the village'. This is in marked contrast to sixty years earlier when at the Coronation celebrations, beer for the men helpers cost 5s 6d while the women who washed up only got 1s between them!

West Wickham & District Local History Club will be having a display at the **Big Garden Party** on 5 July so do come along and see us and find out more about your village in the past or you can contact:

Janet Morris, 21 High Street

T: 290863 Email: jmmorris@jmmorris.plus.com

#### **BALSHAM SINGERS**

The concert on 17 May, celebrating our 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary year, was well received by a capacity audience. The choir were joined by a small chamber ensemble of talented local musicians which enhanced the performance. We sang pieces by Mozart, Haydn and Handel alongside contemporary composers, Goodall, Rutter and Groban to name a few. The programme included an arrangement of Gershwin's Summertime arranged for Balsham Singers in 1996 by our very first musical director Jonathan Cook. In her address our present Chairman, Jean Mannion dedicated the concert to the choirs founder, Julian Robinson, who had sadly passed away just a few weeks previously.

If you are interested in joining our choir we always welcome new members. We meet in Balsham sports Pavilion on Thursdays at 7.30pm. The first rehearsal of the new season, for our Christmas concert, will be on 11 September . If you have any questions please contact our Musical Director John Clenaghan john.clenaghan@sky.com

Save the date - concert on 13 December.

Jo Stinton

#### **PARISH COUNCIL NEWS**

The items shown below have been selected from a more detailed draft of the minutes taken at the meeting on Monday 19 May. A full copy of the draft minutes can be viewed on the notice boards

**Election of Chairman & Vice Chairman.** Alex Schuilenburg was re-elected as Chairman, David Sergeant was re-elected as Vice Chairperson.

#### Planning:

- 1. 23/01780/Prior. The Meadow, Streetly End. Change of use from agricultural building to dwelling. This had been refused by South Cambs DC.
- 2. Streetly Hall Biodigester plant Christopher Covey reported that the next investigation will be archaeology, which will be quite a lengthy process.

#### Finance

- 1. End of year accounts 2024/2025: The Parish Council accepted the year's accounts and bank reconciliation which will be submitted to the internal auditor along with the Annual Governance & Return Statement and forms, which the Chairman read out and signed. The accounts are exempt from an external audit.
- Authorised payments & monies received: These are shown in the draft Minutes on the website and noticeboards.
- 3. Request for a replacement computer for the Parish Clerk: This was agreed.

#### **Traffic & Parking issues:**

- 1. Potholes Although most of the potholes reported to the County Council had been repaired, the Chairman urged everyone to report any further problems. Cllr Sargeant will add a guide on how to report problems on the website. The water problem at West Wickham Road, Balsham, still continues and the work scheduled for the first week in May did not occur.
- 2. Vehicle speed measuring unit: Below are the recent speeding results, with thanks to Trevor Hall.

Week ending 4 May. Streetly End facing Horseheath. Over 45mph: 1184 (29.1%). max speed: 1 @58mph. Total vehicles: 4068. Week ending 11 May. Streetly End facing West Wickham.

Over 45mph: 453 (10.3%). Max speed: 53mph. Total vehicles:4399.

**Footpaths:** Cllr Temple reported the bridge on West Wratting Footpath 14and several in West Wickham have been repaired or replaced.

#### **Village Hall & Recreation Ground:**

- 1. RoSPA safety inspection: None of the equipment was categorised "red" but some of the fence panels need attention and some minor repairs are needed to some play equipment e.g. the multi user games area board in the rear car park.
- 2. Goal posts and 5-a-side proposal: Due to very dry weather the scarification of the grass has not yet been done. Cllr Temple is looking into possible available funding.
- 3. Wild Flower Beds: The Council grass cutters on their annual verge cutting sadly cut these but as the plants were only just coming through no damage was done.

The Post Office van visits: No further development. West Wickham Parish Council Biodiversity Policy: Cllr Sargeant, who drew up the draft policy, gave a brief outline. It follows the model policy from the 2021 Environment Act. This was agreed and will be available on the website.

#### **Any Other Business:**

- 1. Cllr Temple asked about getting a grant for a bench. The Parish Clerk is looking into this..
- Cllr Hazelhurst regretfully handed in his resignation as a Parish Councillor due to personal reasons. The Chairman thanked him for his time and work whilst a a Councillor

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Monday 28 July at 7.30pm.

Jenny Richards, Parish Clerk.

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

T: 01223 665260; Email: parish.clerk@westwickham.org

#### **DAVID PARR HOUSE**

We are an independent charity founded in 2014 to care for and preserve 186 Gwydir Street in Cambridge, a house previously owned by a working-class Victorian artist, David Parr. The house is a unique survival of Arts and Crafts workmanship layered with 20th-century social history and was lived in by the same family for over 125 years.

The House is now open to visitors, and we host events, workshops and exhibitions. Alongside our artistic programme and work to care for the house, we also undertake important research into David Parr and the decorating company he worked for, F R Leach & Sons. The company was renowned for creating Arts & Crafts interiors for churches and grand buildings nationally and around Cambridge city and the surrounding villages. We are still learning much about the company from our visitors and about the creative industries in Cambridge from people whose parents and grandparents worked in them.

Opening times are Thurs-Sat 10-5pm. You can find more about us on our website: https://davidparrhouse.org/

## HELP BRIGHTEN UP THE VILLAGE HALL FLOWER BEDS

We would like some help from the community this summer with the new borders. Indi and Jan, together with helpers, have cleared all the areas and then Marian Corbett, who some of you will know from the Gardening Club, designed the layout of new plants.

Since planting, Indi and Jan have continued watering the borders but would appreciate volunteers to come forward to help with the task. Some weeks no watering is required but other times the growing roots need moisture as they establish themselves. With a few volunteers one of us can e mail volunteers on the list in order (so nobody gets called on each time we need help). There is a hose available and the job takes no more than 15 minutes. We can come with you the first time if you wish.

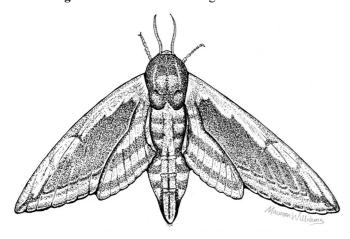
Indi Liepa email : PeteandIndi@gmail.com Jan Lupton email: Jan.lupton@gmail.com

#### **NATURE NOTES**

July and August are the prime butterfly months and the **Big Butterfly Count** this year is between 18 July and 10 August. Why not spend 15 minutes in your garden counting butterflies and contribute to this piece of citizen science by reporting your observations to

bigbutterflycount@butterflyconservation.org?

At the time of writing it is the 'June Gap' for butterflies when after the first flush of spring there is usually a dip in numbers before picking up again in mid-July, although a good number of **meadow browns** seem to be flying now. You might think that moth numbers would follow the same pattern but having recently attended a 'Motharama' in Linton, I was privileged to see numerous moths that had been caught in traps, including **privet**, **poplar and elephant hawkmoths**, and quite a few **scarlet tigers**, one of which rested on my hand before flying off. A decade ago these lovely insects were restricted to certain quite limited habitats but they have extended their range considerably in recent years. Another beautiful moth is the (day flying) **hummingbird hawkmoth** which got itself stuck in Di's



conservatory recently and Alex reported on the village WhatsApp group that he had been visited by an **eyed hawkmoth**, whose hindwings contain a pair of glaring blue 'eyes'. When threatened it also shakes menacingly, which makes would-be predators hesitate.

The spindle ermine moth, whose caterpillars normally

wreak havoc with spindle in hedgerows, have been at it again, although this year Di's spindle has been rescued by a pair of great tits who have been busy collecting the caterpillars to feed their nestlings. The tits were evidently able to get at the caterpillars despite all the protective webbing, and Di had a ringside seat as it all happened outside her window. The spindle in my hedge hasn't fared so well.

Ladybird larvae, which resemble red and black aliens, have been noticed by several people so perhaps they are unusually prevalent this year and will develop into lots of adults. Both the larvae and the adult ladybirds feed on aphids, which is why gardeners like them, although they seem to avoid the blackfly aphids which are all over my broad beans. Ladybirds are generally much loved and have a wealth of local names, one being Clock o' Clay which is the subject of a poem by John Clare. The ladybird has an association with the Virgin Mary, who was depicted in red (rather than the more familiar blue) by Leonardo da Vinci. Our native seven-spot apparently conveyed to the medieval mind an association with the seven joys and seven sorrows of Mary so they considered it an embodiment of goodness. If only the ladybirds realised how much was expected of them!

The exceptionally sunny spring has given us various waves of wildflowers, which when seen *en masse* have an uplifting effect on our emotions. In turn we have had cowslips, cow parsley, buttercups, poppies and oxeye daisies. Orchids are also a source of delight if you know where to look. This can be tricky as orchids have a habit of springing up in unpredictable places. This year we have had early purple and at the time of writing there are reports of bee, pyramidal and common spotted orchids. All these wonderful plants contribute to the glories of this 'Flaming June', which is actually nothing to do with the month or the weather but is the title of a painting by Frederic Leighton of a red-haired model who had fallen asleep in his studio.

### Drawing of a Hummingbird Hawk Moth by Maureen Williams

Please send your nature sightings to:

Peter Grieve. T: 01223 897811, E: mail@petergrieve.co.uk Di Licence. T: 290434, E: dianarubylicence@gmail.com

#### FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S

West Wickham Parochial Church Council invites "Friends of St Mary's" to a Garden Party with drinks and nibbles at

St Mary's Church on Friday 22 August, 6 - 8pm.

All are welcome to support the important work of maintaining our beautiful mediaeval church. If you have not had an invitation please let Marcus Cornish know that you will be attending.

T: 07836 213307 or Email: wmcorn@hotmail.com

## \* HUB NIGHT! \* WEST WICKHAM VILLAGE HALL NEXT 26.7.2025 7PM-11PM

#### **1ST BRINKLEY GUIDES**

## FUN, FRIENDSHIP, ADVENTURE, CHALLENGE, LIFE SKILLS

Some of the things we have enjoyed:-Water activities, Narrow Boat Weekend, Pyjama Party Murder Mystery Weekend Summer Activity Camp, Climbing, Abseiling, Caving High Ropes, Archery, Bushcraft Skills International opportunities.

> Aged 10-14 Meeting in Brinkley on Tuesday evenings

For information or to arrange a taster please contact Grace Bristow, T: 01638 713967, Email: grace.bristow@talktalk,net

#### FROM THE VICARAGE

At the time of writing, we are really looking forward to our curate, Hannah Threlfall's ordination as a priest on 28 June at Ely Cathedral. As with her ordination to be a deacon last summer, this will be a beautiful service of worship, solemn promises and joy. Dagmar Winter, Bishop of Huntingdon will ordain Hannah, along with other curates around the diocese, as a priest who will, as it says in this special order of service: 'lead God's people in the offering of praise and the proclamation of the gospel', as well as presiding at Holy Communion services, baptisms and marriages.

I'm so grateful we have this opportunity to come together at the Cathedral to witness Hannah's ordination and to give thanks for the ministry of curates from around the Ely diocese as they serve in Christ's name in their parishes and the wider world. Hannah has already been involved in our parishes in so many ways: leading morning worship, Taizé services and creative church, taking school assemblies, making pastoral visits, to name but a few, and I'm so glad her ministry amongst us will continue to grow. Word has it that, as well as taking upcoming weddings and baptisms, she also has a pet service in Balsham church planned, so there is much to look forward to!

Speaking of our wonderful ministry team, I'm delighted to confirm that Alastair France, who has been on placement with us since last Autumn, has been accepted onto an ordination training pathway for experienced lay leaders in the Church of England. After initial interviews, candidates like Alastair embark on a journey that may potentially take them to ordination in two years. We hope and pray we can support Alastair in this journey and, if you see him around, please feel free to ask how he is getting on and offer him your encouragement.

Finally, as some may know, I have been granted study leave from the beginning of August until the beginning of November, which will involve some traveling around including interviewing Anglican ministers in different parts of the country. Whilst I am on study leave, Revd Hannah, Revd Kathy and the rest of our ministry team will continue to lead a rich variety of worship, offer pastoral support and look after our parishes, and please feel free to contact them on any matter.

Revd Iain McColl



#### WEST WICKHAM & DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB July Events

Why not take a break from gardening and join us at these summer events.

West Wickham Big Garden Party 5 July. Visit our stall for helpful advice, quizzes and edible flowers!

#### Garden visit to Farm Lodge, Hildersham, 21 July

6:30pm (£7.50 including refreshments).

Proceeds to the NGS garden scheme charities.

Places are limited, so please book early. (members only) https://findagarden.ngs.org.uk/garden/47248/farm-lodge 
Contact Rio Glyn-Davies for further information.

rioglyndavies@gmail.com

Inspired to take some photographs when you are out and about? Here's a reminder of this year's competition categories

Frozen, Light and Dark, Terrific Trees
Contact us on photo@westwickham.org for more details.

To find out more contact Sally Collins at wwdgc@westwickham.org

#### **BALSHAM WI**

The June meeting took us back to the 1970s - the age of disco, with flashing disco lights, mirror ball and music from 45rpm vinyl records played on a Bush record player to greet us. The meeting opened with greetings to three of our current members who started with Balsham WI in the 1970s - they were each awarded a Yorkie Bar which first appeared in the shops during this decade. The 1970s was the time of the Vietnam War, the Troubles in Ireland and much industrial unrest in the country with many strikes and walkouts. We had decimilisation, joining the EC and Queen Elizabeth II's Silver Jubilee. Balsham WI was very involved in community events at the time entering floats into the village carnival and purchasing a new village sign. The Quiz on prices of household goods in the 1970s was very interesting and I don't think many of us got any of them right.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 8 July 7.30pm at the Pavilion in Balsham. The theme for this meeting will be the 1980s. We are a friendly group, and new members are always welcome. Our meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm in the Pavilion, Balsham. Please get in touch if you are interested in joining us – balshamwi@gmail.com or send a message on Facebook, @Balsham WI

**SAVE THE DATE:** Saturday 16 August when we are holding an afternoon tea for past and present members at the Church Institute in celebration of our centenary this year.

#### **LINTON LIBRARY NEWS**

Summer is here – let the Summer Reading Challenge begin! The Challenge encourages children to keep reading through the holidays. This year's theme is Story Garden – adventures in nature and the great outdoors.

Developed by The Reading Agency, the annual challenge is for pre-school and primary school aged children of all reading abilities. It's free to take part. Children should:

- sign up at the library to receive a collector's folder and bookmark
- read six library books of their choice during the holidays
- · collect a sticker for each book read

On finishing they'll receive a certificate and medal (under-3s receive a special sticker medal).

Sign up from Saturday 5 July. For all children who sign up at the Linton Library on Saturday 5 July, Scotsdales Garden Centre will be generously providing a free gift to get the gardening for the Story Garden started! Once the holidays start, collect stickers any time the library is open. Each Saturday in holidays we will be running a free craft activity, 11-12.30pm. Parents & Carers must stay with their children. Adults, we hope you'll keep reading all summer too! Choose from our shelves, or travel light on holiday by downloading free eBooks, eAudiobooks, eMagazines and eNewspapers onto your device. For more details, visit our website or ask library staff.

We are pleased to announce that local author, **Mel Symonds**, will be launching her new book for children on Saturday 19 July, 11-12.30pm. Come and meet her and try the themed activity!

Vicky Anandraj and Ann King, Community Library Assistants, Linton Library.

Opening hours: Tuesday 10am-5pm; Wednesday 4-7pm; Thursday 2-5pm; Friday 10am-5pm; Saturday 10am-1pm.

#### LINTON VILLAGE COLLEGE NEWS

Enrichment is a core value at Linton Village College. Every June we collapse the timetable for our Enrichment Week. This has been a long-standing fixture in Linton Village College's calendar to enable students to learn outside of the classroom

Our ambition is for all students to experience a weeklong residential in Year 9, a week's work experience in Year 10 and a range of day trips and events in Years 7 and 8. These opportunities enable students to learn in a hands-on way, push themselves out of their comfort zones and build relationships and confidence.

This summer our residential trips included Iceland, Paris, Scotland and the Peak District. Our first trip to Iceland was dubbed 'Fire and Ice'. It lived up to its name with trips to volcanoes, hot springs and glaciers on the itinerary. Paris provided both a variety of cultural sightseeing and a day at Euro Disney. The Scotland and Peak District trips afforded our Year 9s a more physical set of activities such as bouldering, ridge scrambling, water sports, bushcraft and abseiling to name but a few.

Years 7 and 8 enjoyed trips to Chessington, Colchester Zoo, Audley End and Milton Country Park for water sports. Our in-house provision included a 'Cuban Day', a CSI Day', archery, axe throwing and rock climbing.



#### CSI Day at LVC

We also hosted a virtual work experience. This included a day of physical activities led by the Army, online learning and the chance to develop a range of life skills.

After an action-packed week, the planning for Enrichment Week 2026 commences!

Helena Marsh, Principal

DON'T FORGET
COFFEE MORNING

THURSDAY 10 JULY
FROM 10.30
AT THE VILLAGE HALL

#### **MEADOW SCHOOL NEWS**

With sunshine warming our playgrounds and the buzz of outdoor fun in the air, it's been a wonderful time for exploration and collaboration — both in nature and within our school community.

Embracing the Outdoors with OPAL. One of the most exciting initiatives at our school has just begun: the launch of our Outdoor Play and Learning journey. This is something we're truly passionate about. We want to give every child the freedom to be their authentic selves during playtime — choosing who to play with, what to play, and how to express their creativity and curiosity. We believe that these opportunities for free, unstructured outdoor play foster strong friendships, improve behaviour in the classroom, and ultimately help each child become the best version of themselves. In a world dominated by screens and technology, encouraging imaginative outdoor play is a positive and refreshing step for our young people. To support this vision, we are developing our outdoor play areas with new resources and activities. Thanks to a generous grant from Wadlow Wind Farm through our PTA special thanks to Kara Rann — every child will soon have access to a fantastic new sandpit! Alongside this, we are creating exciting spaces such as digging pits, mud kitchens, dress-up areas, and plenty of room for children to explore and play with toys.

We're opening up the possibilities and hoping nothing will be off-limits — except the limits of their own imaginations! To help us make this vision a reality, we're kindly asking for donations of items of all sorts! Anything such as pots and pans, small world toys (babies, prams, cars, dinosaurs), sandpit toys, building blocks, and more. If you can help, please drop off donations at the school office or get in touch at office@meadowprimary.org.

**Sports Day Triumphs.** Earlier this month, our sports day was a fantastic success. The children showed incredible determination, resilience, and team spirit as they competed in a range of activities — from individual sprints to thrilling relay races, and fun group challenges like egg-and-spoon races, sack races, and the long jump. It was wonderful to see everyone giving their best and cheering each other on.



**Rock Climbing** 

Residential Adventure. Our Year 6 pupils recently returned from an unforgettable residential trip to Norfolk Lakes, where they joined forces with children from Wimbish **Primary** School. The adventurepacked days were filled with exciting activities including kayaking, high ropes, archery, and crate stacking! This unique experience offered the children a chance to challenge themselves, build confidence, and

create lasting memories — ones we're sure they will treasure forever.

Faye Facer, Assistant Headteacher