

PARENT CARER BULLETIN



Week Commencing 2 February 2026



News & Notices:

Total Raised for the British Heart Foundation

We are delighted to share that Friday 23 January's non-uniform day raised an incredible £343.18 for the British Heart Foundation. Your generosity and support make a real difference, and we are so grateful to every student, family and staff member who contributed to this important cause.

If you'd like to learn more about the fantastic work the British Heart Foundation does — from funding lifesaving research to supporting people affected by heart and circulatory diseases — you can visit their website here:

[British Heart Foundation \[bhf.org.uk\]](https://www.bhf.org.uk)

Thank you once again for helping us make a positive impact beyond our school community. ❤️

Madrid Trip Information Meeting

A quick reminder for all families: our information meeting for students heading to Madrid will take place on Monday 9 February at 5:30pm on Teams. Please ensure your child accepts the meeting invitation in their Teams calendar so they can join smoothly on the day. We're looking forward to sharing the final details and answering any questions before we set off!



Year 11 Individual & Group Photo Session

Further to our email update, we wanted to remind you that the Year 11 individual and group photo session scheduled for today, Friday 30 January, has been postponed.

We completely understand how important these photographs are — they mark a significant milestone for our students as they prepare for their final months at Stour Valley. Please rest assured that we are already working with our photographers to secure a new date.

As soon as the booking is rescheduled, we will update all Year 11 parents and carers with the revised arrangements.

Thank you for your understanding and continued support. We look forward to giving our Year 11s the memorable photo experience they deserve.

Working Together to Support Student Care This Spring

As we move through the colder months, we are seeing an increase in students experiencing mild cold symptoms during the school day. To help us continue providing timely care, we kindly ask parents and carers to provide their child(ren) with a small, labelled supply of paracetamol to hand in at Reception.

This will enable our first aiders to offer the support students may need, while also helping us to preserve the school's emergency medication supply for longer periods.

A gentle reminder that any medication required during the school day must be handed in at Reception for safe and secure storage.

Thank you, as always, for your support in helping us keep all students healthy, safe and well cared-for. If you have any questions, please do get in touch with the school office.



Futures Update

We warmly invite you to take a look at the latest update, which is always available on our school website for your convenience.

We encourage parents and carers to check in regularly, as this page is kept up to date with key notices, guidance and useful information to support you and your child throughout the school year.

You can view it anytime by using the following link:

[Click here to view](#)



Year 8 Parents & Carers' Evening - Booking Reminder

We kindly invite all Year 8 parents and carers to book your appointments for our Year 8 Parents & Carers' Evening on Thursday 5 February, taking place between 4pm and 7pm.

Your engagement and partnership make such a difference, and we truly appreciate you taking the time to meet with your child's teachers and discuss their progress.

Bookings can be made easily via EduLink.

Thank you for your continued support.



Exciting Stage Combat Workshop Opportunity for Young Performers

We have been asked by the Quay Theatre to share a fantastic opportunity with our school community. They have partnered with Shoddy Theatre to offer a one-off Stage Combat workshop in mid-February, designed to give young people a taste of how professional fight sequences are safely and convincingly choreographed on stage.

Shoddy Theatre have worked on the West End and on high-intensity productions such as Vikings, and they will be bringing their expertise to guide participants through the fundamentals of stage combat — including safety, reactions and realistic movement.

Two sessions will be running on Thursday 12 February:

- Ages 7–11: 16:00–17:00 — £10

☞ [Click here to book](#)

- Ages 11–15: 17:30–19:00 — £15

☞ [Click here to book](#)

Spaces are limited, so early booking is recommended. Young people should wear loose, comfortable clothing and bring a bottle of water. After booking, the theatre will contact families to collect emergency contact and medical information if not already held on file.

This is a wonderful opportunity for any student interested in theatre, performance or simply trying something new. If parents or carers have any questions, they are welcome to contact the theatre directly at:

youththeatre@quaysudbury.com. 🧐💜



Events this February

- **Monday 2 – Friday 6 February:** National Storytelling Week.
- **Wednesday 4 February:** reading at Kedington Primary (14 Year 9 students), 9:50–10:50am.
- **Thursday 5 February:** Year 8 Parents & Carers' Evening, 4–7pm
- **Monday 9 February:** Author, Julian Sedgewick, visits Year 8 and 9 students for a talk and signed book.
- **Monday 9 February:** Madrid Information Meeting via Teams, commencing 5:30pm.
- **Friday 13 February:** final full school day before Half Term.
- **Monday 23 February:** students return from Half Term.

Spring 2026 Term Dates

- **Tuesday 6 January:** Spring Term starts.
- **Monday 16 – Friday 20 February:** Half Term.
- **Thursday 5 February:** Year 8 Parents & Carers' Evening, 4–7pm
- **Monday 30 March – Friday 10 April:** Easter Break



Year 8 & 9 parent/carer reminder



**JULIAN SEDGWICK
AUTHOR VISIT**

MONDAY 9TH FEBRUARY

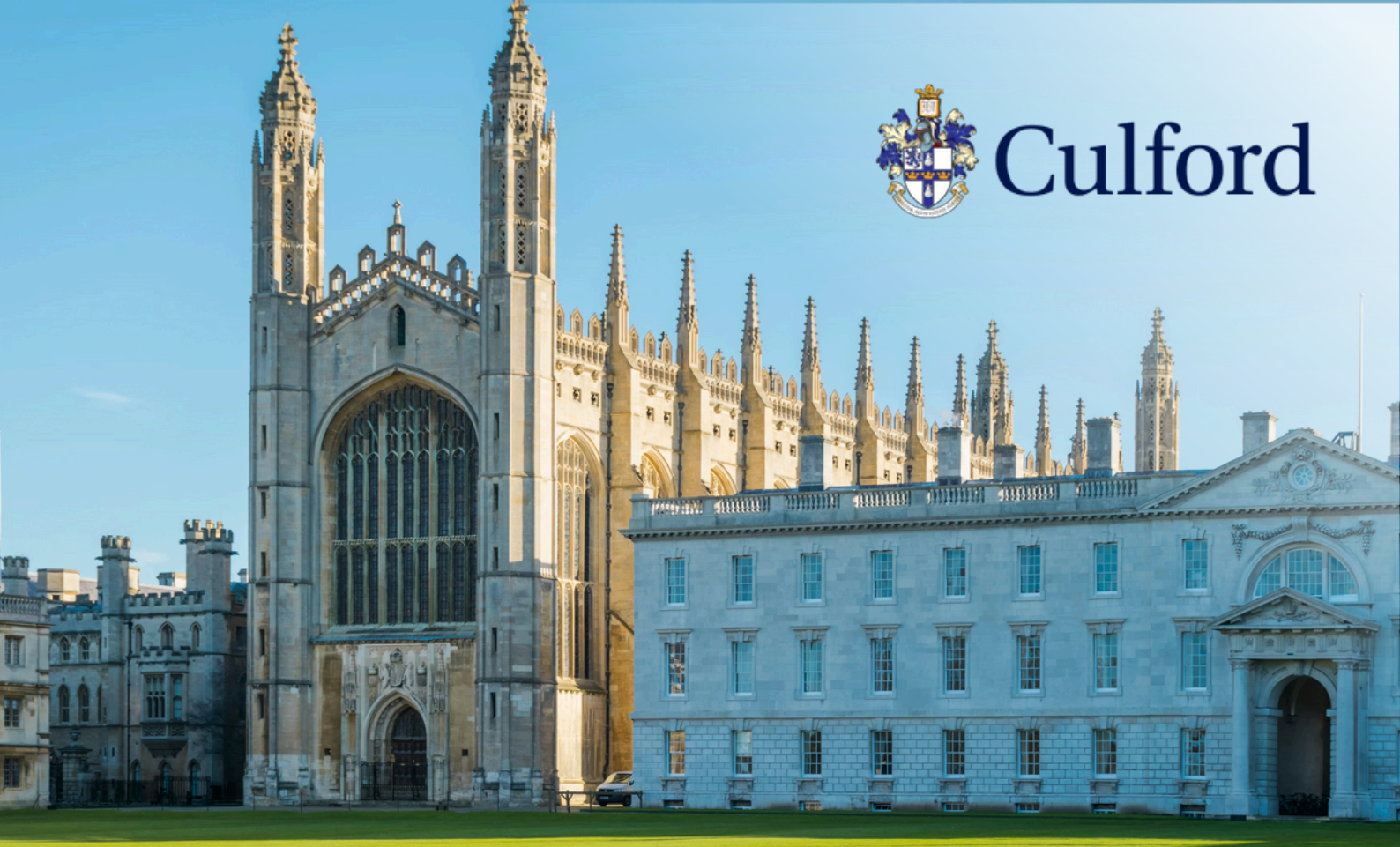
PLEASE PAY VIA PARENTPAY
(ALL OF YEAR 8 & 9)

£2.50- AUTHOR TALK

£9.50 - AUTHOR TALK AND SIGNED BOOK



Culford



East Anglian Oxbridge Conference 2026

Saturday 28 February, 09:00-13:30 at Culford School

Join our open event for all schools with seminars covering:

- Choosing the right university, college and course.
- Interviews and admissions tests.
- How to begin to prepare yourself now?
- Personal statements.
- Q&A with Oxbridge undergraduates, graduates and admissions tutors.

This is a fantastic opportunity for students across the region to get the best tips on their applications to Oxford or Cambridge. Marcus Rackowe – Head of Sixth Form



Scan the QR code or visit culford.co.uk/oxbridge-sign-up
Contact Jade.Daniels@culford.co.uk 01284 385335