



# FEBRUARY 2026

Indigenous UK Weather

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### PREAMBLE



Wildflower of the Month – Snowdrop (blossoms around 2<sup>nd</sup>),  
then Crocus (flowers around 14<sup>th</sup>).

Flower of The Month: Primrose

Tree of The Month: The Rowan up to 17<sup>th</sup>, then the Ash

Full Moon this Month: Snow Moon

*"The hush of winter landscape is a poem without words."*

Emily Dickinson

# THE SKIES: FEBRUARY 2026

## THE SKIES

- 1<sup>st</sup>: Full Snow Moon
- 17<sup>th</sup>: Annular Solar Eclipse
- 19<sup>th</sup>: You may be able to see Mercury



Full Moon:  
1<sup>st</sup> February @ 22:09  
Fair & Frosty



3Q Moon:  
9<sup>th</sup> February @ 12:43  
Snow if cold enough, else cold rain



New Moon:  
17<sup>th</sup> February @ 12:01  
Snow if cold enough, else cold rain



1Q Moon:  
24<sup>th</sup> February @ 12:27  
Snow if cold enough, else cold rain



**PERIGEE @ 23:03 ON 24<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY**

**APOGEE @ 16:41 ON 10<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY**

### Now the collated expert notes on February:

FEBRUARY - tends overall to be a fairly quiet, dry, and moderately cold month. The term 'Filldyke' applied to February (from February filldyke saying) is an exhortation, not a reference to its excessive rainfall. When the late January and early February storms have finished, that may not be until 4th February, the weather becomes gradually colder. Buchan places his first cold period of the year at 7 – 14th February and in Europe, the spell 7 -13th has been called 'after winter.' Over a 100-year average at Greenwich Observatory, the 11th produces the month's coldest day and 11 -12th produces the coldest night. Severe freezing/icing is not unknown either. Such cold spells however do not occur with the regularity of the stormy periods with a percentage regularity of some 60%, though in most years the North of England & Scotland usually gets some heavy falls of snow around the middle of the month. There is usually a short period of mild unsettled weather around 16 – 20th February, followed by a short return to colder conditions during 21 -25th February, though this is seldom unduly severe. Finally, the last few days of the month return to mild but mainly stormy weather. February is a damp month with the least natural evaporation of the whole year too.

### Notes from Nature

The grass was not growing at the turn of the new year. Deep frosts and freezing temperatures have the soil locked in dormancy. This points to two good hay harvests this year.

In terms of the trees, there are dormant buds everywhere – tight, patient, and plentiful. Then there was the brilliant sunshine on Christmas Day, shining from dawn to dusk. All signs point to another good fruit year ahead, with hazel catkins showing well.

It is also worth remembering that fogs in January bring a wet spring. I have counted six so far.

In the more immediate future, squirrels are working overtime. You do not even have to go on woodland walks to find them – they are in the gardens, running along the sides of roads. They know exactly what is on the way.

Snowdrops are well ahead of schedule this year, and in the extreme south there are already daffodils in bloom. Gorse is doing well, and heather is showing signs of life. Look too for primroses.

“If spring borrows from winter, winter will borrow from spring” comes to mind. It is of note that all of these flowers are frost tolerant and able to cope with the wintry conditions still to come.

There remains an abundance of berries available for the birds, and winter migratory species are now feeding in earnest.

I have seen no real insect activity or true signs of spring emerging. February is the heart of winter and the period of lowest evaporation. The Buchan cold period begins on 7th February, by which time I expect us to be fully in winter's grip.

It is also essential to remember that the hottest days of June give the coldest days of February. June 2025 was the warmest England has seen since records began. Heatwave thresholds were met between 16th and 21st June, with the 21st being the hottest day of the month.

Of June, there was then a second heatwave, with temperatures reaching and exceeding 30c on several occasions. With that, the penny drops. February will be bitter.

### February Forecast:

February will start off on a dry, cold, and frosty note. The ground will freeze and by February 7<sup>th</sup> we are likely to be fully in winter's grip. From 9<sup>th</sup> February onward, snowfall is likely. This snow will lay and drift, causing disruption to travel and farm husbandry. February looks set to be a snow bound month, with further snowfalls following as the month progresses. Anything falling from the sky this month will be snow.

February was always expected to feel comparable to December 2010 in terms of snowfall levels. While it is unlikely that those record low temperatures will be reached, the severity of the cold should not be underestimated. This will be a shock to the system.

Bitterness is expected to increase as the month goes on, with the end of February shaping up to be the coldest part of winter by far. I am expecting February to be a notably severe month, with snowfall reaching most parts (likely all) by month's end.

This looks to be a prolonged cold spell, extending well into March – and for areas north of the Humber, potentially into April.

Lunar phases and folklore remain important tools in indigenous weather forecasting – here's how they align this February:

### **FEBRUARY 2026**

Full Moon = 1st @ 22:09 = Fair and Frosty

Last Quarter Moon = 9th @ 12:43 = Snow if cold enough, else cold rain

New Moon = 17th @ 12:01 = Snow if cold enough, else cold rain

1st Quarter Moon = 24th @ 12:27 = Snow if cold enough, else cold rain

DoP – St Candlemas: 2nd

Highest Spring Tides 3rd – 6th & 18th – 22nd

APOGEE: 9th @ 16:41

PERIGEE: 24th @ 23:03

Met Office Notes: 24th – 28th = Stormy period

BUCHAN NOTES: 7th – 14th = Cold Period

FULL MOON ON THE 1st IS CALLED THE SNOW MOON or ICE/ HUNGER MOON

## Monthly Notes & Comments

1 <sup>st</sup>	St Brigid	If white, very ditch full
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Candlemass	aka as Purification Day of BVM. Day of Prediction. Cold weather at Candlemass means colder weather after the feast than before. Snowdrop blossom day Perigee @ 02:47
6 <sup>th</sup>	St Dorothea	Gives the most snow
9 <sup>th</sup>	Apogee @ 16:41	
12 <sup>th</sup>	St Eulalie's	If sun today, then good for apples and cider. 12th to 14th see below.
14 <sup>th</sup>	St Valentine	Crocus blossom time
22 <sup>nd</sup>	St Peter	If cold will last longer - the night gives 40 days weather
24 <sup>th</sup>	St Matthias Perigee @ 23:03	St Mattee send sap up tree (usually indicates an early spring). If freezing today so for a month.
28 <sup>th</sup>	St Romanus	Bright and clear, indicates a good year

### General Notes and Comments

February was introduced into the Roman calendar by Numa Pompilous when the calendar was extended for ten to twelve. The month comes from the word februs – which means cleansing or purification, and reflects the rituals undertaken before spring.

Candlemass was the name given to the day when all the candles in the church were collected and blessed; some say it was also protection from plague and famine.

The snowdrop, in purest white array, first rears her head on Candlemas day.

The warmest days in the preceding June give the coldest days on the identical dates the following February.

Shortest and worst of all months.

If Candlemass Day be clear and bright, winter will have another flight.  
But if it be dark with clouds and rain, winter has gone and will not come again.

If Candlemass be mild and gay, go saddle your horse and buy them hay as half the winters to come this year. (This day is a very reliable day for wind up to the end of May).  
This Quarter Day is not however a true 90 day span as are the other three such Quarter days.  
Therefore as a Quarter Day it requires more caution.

Where-ever the wind on Candlemass Day, there 'twill stay to the end of May.

A snow cover in February protects the land from the worst excesses of frost and snow, and a slow thaw gently releases the water into the ground.

A sudden thaw accompanied by heavy rain is one of the most damaging of weather combinations. [causing at times severe flooding]

February always brings the rain and the thaws the frozen lakes again.

Much February snow, April summer doth show. [yes 4/5 times true]

A month with snow means spring will be fine.

If freezing on the 24th - will continue for a month, St Mathias breaks the ice, if none, he breaks it.

A sunny February brings wet and stormy summer.

February filldyke, be it black or be it white, but if it be white, 'tis better to like.  
[regardless of snow or rain, the ditches will usually fill during February.]

In February if thou hearest thunder, thou shalt see a summer wonder.

Dry February, dry summer.

A warm day in February is a dream of summer.

February spring ain't worth a pin.

On Candlemass Day if thorns be a-drop you can be sure of a good pea crop.  
[peas are picked in June which implies a good period]

When drops hang on the fence at Candlemass, icicles will hang on 25th March.

When the wind's in the east, it will stay to the 2nd of May.

If a storm then spring is near, but if bright and clear then spring is late.

If Candlemass Day do bluster and blow, winter is over, as all do know.

All the months of the year curse a fair Februair.

If February brings no rain, 'tis neither good for grass or grain.

February makes a bridge (of ice) and March breaks it.

As the days lengthen so the cold strengthens.

Warm February gives light hay crop, cold February gives heavy hay crop.

Snow in February puts wheat in the granary.

February snow burns the corn.

If the last 18 days of February are wet and the first 10 days of March are mainly rainy, then spring quarter and summer too, will prove wet too. If dry then watch out for drought conditions in the summer.

AND

From local figures of the above February and march dates if the combined rainfall is less than 100mms, then the drought possibility is much higher, A refined calculation.

There will be a deficiency of rain up to Midsummer day.

Fogs in February means frosts in May.

There will be as many frosts in June as fogs in February.

February is a damp month, not because of high rainfall, but because of low evaporation rate.

Often a month of intense cold, as the thermometer falls and the crimson sun sits in an open sky.

A time of burst pipes, and, in a good year, of skating.

So, if you are to have a good summer, alas, February will need to be a cold wet and miserable month.

See reference to St Catherine - 25th November.

[At St Catherine, foul or fair, so 'twill be next Februir.]

When hottest in June - coldest in the following February.[check June readings]

In August, so next February. [check August readings - but what relevance?]

Warm October - cold February. [check readings]

If late October and early November be warm and rainy, then January and February will be frosty and cold. [ check previous readings.]

With every thunder with rain in February, there will be a cold spell in May.

Isolated fine days in February are considered as certain to be followed by a storm.

A dry Lent spells a fertile year (not in February this year but kept for reference)

THE FULL MOON THIS MONTH IS KNOWN AS THE SNOW MOON.

ROWAN is the tree of the month up to 17th. Then ASH takes over.

SNOWDROP is the wildflower of the month up to 14th, then CROCUS takes over.

PRIMROSE is the flower of the month.

TOM	Moon	Weather	DoP	St/ Holy Day	Other Day	Quarter Day	Apogee/ Perigee	Met Off (stormy/ quiet)	Buchan (warm/ cold)	Super Moon	Highest Tides	Notes
1	Full @ 22:09	Fair and frosty		St Brigid								
2				Candlemas								Snow drops blossom
3											High Tides	
4											High Tides	
5											High Tides	
6				St Dorothea							High Tides	
7									Cold Period			
8									Cold Period			
9	3Q @ 12:43	Snow if cold enough, else rain							Cold Period			
10							Apogee @ 16:41		Cold Period			
11									Cold Period			
12				St Eulalie's					Cold Period			
13									Cold Period			
14									Cold Period			Crocus Blossom
15												
16												
17	New @ 12:01	Snow if cold enough, else rain										Annular Solar Eclipse
18											High Tides	
19											High Tides	Mercury
20											High Tides	
21											High Tides	
22				St Peter							High Tides	
23												
24	1Q @ 12:27	Snow if cold enough, else rain		St Matthias			Perigee @ 23:03	Stormy Period				
25								Stormy Period				
26								Stormy Period				
27								Stormy Period				
28				St Romanus				Stormy Period				