

## Newsletter 17<sup>th</sup> April 2026

### Headteacher's comments

Welcome to the Summer term! I hope you all had a lovely Easter break and have come back refreshed. It has been lovely to have some sunshine and the children have enjoyed playing outside.

We have some exciting developments happening to the school site as we are in the process of finalising the playground markings on the main playground thanks to the donations you have made through the PTA events.

I would also like to thank everyone for the generous donations for the Ely Foodbank on the last day of term. It was amazing how much we managed to donate!

The summer term is notoriously a busy one so please do keep up to date with what is going on in school. The dates below should help to keep track!

Mrs Laura Fielding  
Headteacher

### What are the children learning this half term?

Following feedback from parents regarding knowing what the children are learning in school, we have implemented a new "What the children are learning" overview sheet which will be sent out on the first Friday of each half term. We hope you find this useful. Currently, we are only doing this for the main school children, as the learning in the unit and Nursery is much more individualised and flexible. We are starting to look at a way of creating a topic overview so you can share the learning at home too.

### Attendance

Regular attendance at school is important and correlates strongly with outcomes both academically, emotionally and socially. The school attendance currently 92.1% which is below the national average of 94.6%. Please continue to send your child to school if they are well enough. If your child does not meet the criteria set by the NHS, we will mark the absence as unauthorised. This would be for reasons such as a cough or anxiety. If you are unsure, please use the link below to the NHS guidance of "Is my child too ill for school?" But, also please be aware that if your child has a temperature or is unwell they should not be in school and if they have had D & V there is a 48 hour rule following the last episode.

[Is my child too ill for school? - NHS](#)

### School equipment and child supervision before and after school

I would like to remind you that the children should not be using or playing with any of the school equipment at the beginning or end of the day. The staff are currently unable to set up the outdoor learning areas due to children messing up the areas when waiting for the doors to open. This is particularly relevant in the Nursery and Reception playgrounds. Please ensure your child does not touch or play on any of the equipment and they should wait with their adult until the doors open. If your child is seen playing with equipment, staff members will speak to you as parents and ask you to supervise your child.

## Governor Vacancies

We still have Governor vacancies for both a parent Governor and a co-opted Governor. If you are interested in the role, please speak to Mrs Fielding for more information or email the office via [office@springmeadow.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:office@springmeadow.cambs.sch.uk) It would be amazing if anyone has any expertise or experience in SEND education or marketing.

## Cleaner Vacancy

We are looking to appoint a cleaner to join our team. 15 hours per week (1500-1800 Mon-Friday), 39 weeks per year (Plus opportunities for overtime). If you are interested in the role, please speak email the office via [office@springmeadow.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:office@springmeadow.cambs.sch.uk).

Deadline: Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2026

## Parent skills

We are always on the lookout for parents who may be able to share their expertise or skills with the children. This may be a service professional such as police officer, fire fighter or nurse or someone with a set of skills which may be able to inspire our young learners such as a scientist, author or artist. If you feel you have a skill and have a small amount of time to come and talk to the children, please contact the office- we would love to hear from you!

## Car park

I do apologise that this seems to be a standing item on the newsletter but I must remind everyone that only those with a permit should be parking in the school car park. You can apply for a permit through via the office and if you meet the criteria you may be provided with one. Please do not park in the disabled space unless you have a disability parking badge displayed clearly in the windscreen.

## Scouting and bikes

As the weather improves it is lovely to see more children on their bikes and scooters. But, please do not let your child cycle or scoot on school grounds. The hill down to the school is very steep and there are lots of little people walking around. If your child is caught scooting or biking on multiple occasions we will be writing to you as parents.



Tax Credits and Childcare Vouchers Accepted  
Sunflowers ASC  
Ely Spring Meadow School  
**Creation Station**  
Every Tuesday  
15:15 PM - 16:45 PM  
From 14/04/26 till 14/07/26  
Join us for some creative craft activities, such as pottery, paper mache and junk modelling. Children will have the chance to unwind and play with friends after a busy day at school.  
Scan the QR Code to book now or email [info@activeplayeducation.co.uk](mailto:info@activeplayeducation.co.uk)  
Price £5.50



play  
From 13/04/26 till 13/07/26  
-Excluding 4<sup>th</sup> May-  
**Creative Baking**  
Every Monday  
Spring Meadow 15:15pm - 16:45pm  
Infant School Price - £5.50  
Join us on Monday's for some exciting baking and creating activities, where children will get to bake some sweet and savoury treats!  
A healthy snack will also be provided, and children will have the chance to unwind and play with friends after a busy day at school.  
**Ways to Pay**  
SCAN THE QR CODE AND SELECT THE SESSION THAT SUITS YOUR CHILDCARE NEEDS BEST  
OR ALTERNATIVELY  
PLEASE PLACE YOUR CHILD'S EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION, MONEY, AND OTHER IMPORTANT DETAILS IN A CLEARLY LABELED ENVELOPE. THIS CAN THEN BE HANDED IN AT THE OFFICE.

### Dates for your diary

22 <sup>nd</sup> April	Butterfly Parent lunch
27 <sup>th</sup> April	Science Week
29 <sup>th</sup> April	Caterpillar Parent lunch
<b>May 2026</b>	
4 <sup>th</sup> May	Bank holiday
6 <sup>th</sup> May	SEND coffee drop in 1430
11 <sup>th</sup> May	Year One learn with parents- art @1400
12 <sup>th</sup> May	Year Two learn with parents- art @1400
13 <sup>th</sup> May	Reception learn with parents- art @1400
14 <sup>th</sup> May	Class photos
22 <sup>nd</sup> May	Progress report home to parents
25 <sup>th</sup> May – 29 <sup>th</sup> May	Half term
<b>June 2026</b>	
1 <sup>st</sup> June	Children back in school
3 <sup>rd</sup> June	SEND coffee drop in 1430
8 <sup>th</sup> June	Phonics screening week
10 <sup>th</sup> June	New to Reception parents evening 1700
17 <sup>th</sup> June	Sports day
19 <sup>th</sup> June *NEW DATE*	Year Two performing at Ely Cathedral 1000
25 <sup>th</sup> June	New to Reception transition morning 0900-1000
<b>July 2026</b>	
2 <sup>nd</sup> July	New to Reception transition morning followed by lunch 1100-1200
1 <sup>st</sup> July	SEND coffee drop in 1430
6 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 2 Dress rehearsal to school @ 1400
7 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 2 production to parents @1400
8 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 2 production to parents @1400
9 <sup>th</sup> July	New to Reception transition morning 0900-1000
9 <sup>th</sup> July	Transition day to new classes including Year 2 children to ESM
10 <sup>th</sup> July	Spring Meadow summer fete – PROVISIONAL DATE
15 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 2 leavers party
15 <sup>th</sup> July	End of year reports to parents
16 <sup>th</sup> July	Movie afternoon
17 <sup>th</sup> July	Leavers assembly Last day of term for children

## What have the children been learning?

### **Nursery**

This term in Nursery we are learning about different habitats and which animals live in them. This week we have been looking at woodland habitats and all the different animals that live there. Our story for the next two weeks is Monkey Puzzle. The children have been making monkey faces and practising their cutting skills by cutting out the pieces needed. The carrots and peas we set before Easter have now started to grow.

### **Pre-school**

We have been using our construction area and a variety of materials to create a woodland and a farmland habitat, we have been comparing the habitats and discussing the differences between them. Outside in our nature kitchen we have been using coloured water, twigs, pinecones and leaves to create different potions and recipes.

### **Reception**

This week we have learnt about the Union Jack and Royal Standard flags, Buckingham Palace, the royal family and the royal cypher. The children were excited to receive a letter from 'Queenie' about her lost hat and were keen to search around the school to see if they could find it! In maths we have started exploring 3D shapes and enjoyed exploring their properties through printing and building. After a long wait our caterpillars finally completed their metamorphosis and we watched them being released into the wild!

### **Year One**

In Maths, the children have been learning to count in 2s, 5s and 10s through practical building activities to help strengthen their understanding of number patterns. In English, they have started the model text *The Three Little Pigs*, focusing on using adjectives and similes to make their writing more interesting, as well as learning how to use the prefix *un-* to build new vocabulary. In Science, the children set up a cress experiment to find out what plants need to grow, and will observe changes over time. In DT, they began a new unit on how wheels work in preparation for designing and making their own pull toys. In Art, they explored the work of Keith Haring, looking closely at his bold use of colour, line and dynamic poses before capturing expressive poses ready for painting next week.

### **Year Two**

Year 2 have had a fantastic first week back! We were so lucky to have a visit from Past Productions on Tuesday, and they delivered a Tudor workshop. The children participated in jousting, Tudor dancing, artefact handling, acting, and shield making – they had a brilliant time! In English we have been writing recounts of the Easter holidays. In Maths, the children have been introduced to fractions and, we will be continuing to learn about this for the next couple of weeks. The children thoroughly enjoyed having dance on Monday morning with the dance coach, learning a dance to 'Friend like me' from Aladdin.

### **Clover, Iris and Lily**

In the unit this week Clover class have loved a new sensory number rhyme about 5 little monkey's swinging in a tree and a crocodile puppet coming to get them! They have also listened to the sensory story 'Monkey Puzzle' and had lots of messy fun painting jungle leaves to make a display. Iris class have listened to the sensory story 'The Queens Hat' and enjoyed sorting red and blue collage materials to make a giant queens hat. They have also loved being outside playing in the water and with the outdoor shop. In Lily class they have listened to the story 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' and have been able to retell parts of the story using play food and caterpillar and butterfly toys. They have also tasted the different fruits in the story and enjoyed painting caterpillars and butterflies.