

Spring Meadow Infant and Nursery School

Newsletter 25th September 2026

Headteacher's comments

We are really into the swing of learning now and it has been a pleasure watching the children engage and apply themselves. The new children in school feel like they have always been here! It was lovely seeing such a brilliant uptake for the Tulip parent lunch this week- please make sure you book your space before the deadline to avoid disappointment as we need to cater for the numbers with sufficient time.

We are introducing a new aspect to our newsletter which is the "Staff Spotlight" which will allow you to get to know the wider team that your child may come across day-to-day. This week, we have Miss Freeman, our new teacher in Foxglove class (Year Two)

I would like to extend my congratulations to Mrs Thompson, who was nominated and selected for our postcode in the Teaching Personnel National Teaching Assistant's Day recognition. We are incredibly lucky to have her supporting our children.

Best wishes

Mrs Laura Fielding
Headteacher



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School Disco- Friday 16th October

We will be hosting a school disco on Friday 16th October for children in pre-school – Year 2. The disco will start straight after school, 15:15 – 16:15 please send your child in with a spare change of clothes and they can get changed here and go straight to the disco! It is £3 per ticket, please pay via Arbor. If you child is in Iris, Lily or Clover class, we ask that an adult stays with them.

Playground

Please can we remind everyone that no children should be playing on the playground equipment at drop off and pickups. Thank you for your cooperation.

School Council/ Eco Council

I would like to extend my congratulations to the successful School Councillors and Eco councillors for this year:

School Councillors	Eco Councillors
Foxglove representatives	
Edward Maeve	Diya Alan
Tulip representatives	
Darcy Lyla	Zoe Isaac
Daisy representatives	
Rex Mila Sophia	Evelyn Phoebe
Lily class representatives	
Isabelle	Kylo



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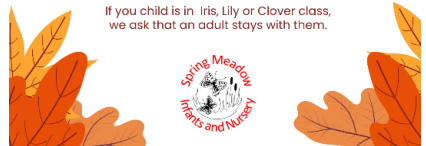
FANCY DRESS DISCO

Friday 16th October 15:15-16:15

**£3 a ticket, includes a tattoo drink and snack.
Please book via Arbor.**

The disco will start straight after school, please send your child in with a spare change of clothes and they can get changed here and go straight to the disco!

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Learn with parents

You will notice on the dates below that we hold termly “Learn with parents” sessions. These sessions allow you to come in and learn alongside your children and we generally start the year with phonics so you can see how we teach phonics in school. The sessions start at 9am after registration and normally last about 45 minutes. We have tried to vary the timings of these sessions to try and accommodate as many parents as possible.

School timings

A reminder that the school timings are as follows:

Nursery:

Morning session: 0900-1200

Afternoon session: 1200-1500

All day session: 0900-1500

Reception and Key stage One:

0840- Gates open

0845- Classroom doors open

0855- classroom doors close

0855- Registers are taken

1515- Collection from classrooms

Unit:

0900- Classroom doors open

0910- Classroom doors close

0910- Registers are taken

1500- Collection from classrooms or taken to taxis by school staff.

Please remember it is crucial that your child arrives to school on time and if they arrive after the classroom doors have closed they must come in via the office and will be marked as late.

Attendance

Please remember the importance of regular attendance in school. Each session a child misses in school can have a detrimental impact on their progress.

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% attendance in a school year	Days of absence in a school year	Weeks missed in a school year
98%	4	Less than 1 week
95%	9.5	Almost 2 weeks
90%	19	Almost 4 weeks
85%	28.5	Almost 6 weeks

Communication

As it is the beginning of the year I would like to remind you of our procedures for communication.

While we are all very happy to talk to you and definitely want to hear about the amazing things your children are doing, sometimes, we are very busy people. In order to support us, please follow the below steps so that we can ensure any issues (or celebrations) are dealt with appropriately.

In the first instance, if you have any concerns, please speak to your child's class teacher. They are best placed to deal with any issues.

If you are still not happy with the outcome, you can either contact, Mrs Tomlin, Assistant Headteacher and Early Years lead for any concerns in Nursery and Reception, Mrs Foy, Assistant Headteacher and KS1 lead for concerns in Year One and Year Two and Miss Cross, Deputy Headteacher and SENDCo, for any concerns with unit classes.

If you still feel like the issues has not been resolved, you will be able to book a meeting with Mrs Fielding via the school office and/ or follow the complaints procedure which can be found on our website.

Please also remember , the mornings are always a really busy time for teachers, so, unless your concern is urgent, try and avoid these times to catch them. If you contact the office, they will be able to arrange a time for you to meet the teacher where they will be able to give you their full attention.

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In order to protect the staff's wellbeing, all correspondence should go via the office where it is passed to the relevant members of staff.

office@springmeadow.cambs.sch.uk

I would also like to remind you that all staff have the right to be spoken to and treated with respect. If anyone falls outside of this it would be a breach of the parent code of conduct and this policy would be actioned. A copy of this is attached and can be found on the school website.

Thank you for your consideration and cooperation.

After school clubs

Monday: Creative Baking 3.15pm - 5pm (Active Play Education)

Tuesday: Rugby tots 3.15-4pm (Rugby Tots)

Tuesday: Creative Station 3.15pm - 5pm (Active Play Education)

Wednesday: Football club 3.15pm - 4.15pm (Active Play Education)

Thursday: Construction club 3.15pm - 4.15pm (Active Play Education)

Dates for your diary

30 th September	Foxglove parent lunch
October 2026	
6 th October	Prospective new parents tour @ 0915
7 th October	Daisy parent lunch
9 th October	Nursery Rhyme Time
9 th October	Prospective new parents tour @ 0915
9 th October	Prospective new parents tour @1430
12 th October	Prospective new parents tour @1430
13 th October	Reception learn with parents- phonics @0900-0945
13 th October	Unit learn with parents @1415-1500
13 th October	School council meeting
14 th October	Year One learn with parents- phonics @0900-0945
14 th October	Buttercup parent lunch

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15 th October	Year Two learn with parents- phonics @0900-0945
14 th October	Prospective new parents tour @ 0915
19, 20, 21 October- x2 mornings	Y2 – Discover stained glass workshop at the Stained glass Museum, Ely (provisional)
21 st October	Bluebell parent lunch
21 st October	SEND Coffee Morning 9-10am
22 nd October	Progress report home to parents
22 nd October	APDR deadline
23 rd October	INSET day- school closed to children- Health and safety training
27 th October- 31 st October	Half term

What have the children been learning?

Nursery

This week Nursery have been learning all about 'Real Heroes'. We have talked about the police, doctors, firefighters and about why shop staff, refuse collectors and builders are heroes as well. The children have enjoyed the role play doctors tuff tray dressing up in doctors and nurses uniforms and using the play medical kit to take care of the dolls. We have been threading penne pasta onto spaghetti, drawing and scrunching up small pieces of paper to practise our fine motor skills to strengthen our finger muscles. We have enjoyed being outside and learning to share and take turns on the bikes and scooters.

Reception

This week Reception have enjoyed their new water tray and sand area outside. The children have started reading the book 'Owl Babies' this week and loved playing with the owls and making independent owl artwork. In our 'All About Me' topic the children have explored naming lots of different body parts and looking closely with the magnifying glasses!

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Pre-school

Pre-school have been learning about people who help us this week. We have been putting out chalk fires and making fire engine biscuits while talking about the important job of fire fighters, we have cut pictures of ourselves up and stuck them back together, and bandaged up patients while role playing doctors and nurses. We have given police chase while riding our bikes and scooters outside and used lots of small world play to imitate our real life hero's.



Unit

In the unit Lily class have continued exploring space after reading Astro Girl. We have enjoyed making delicious chocolate rock cakes and making our own space centre out of recycled materials. In Iris class we have been swept up in this years publishing sensation, enjoying our sensory story of Gruffalo Granny, especially snake with strawberry sauce! We also made our own stew (with no mice) and more delicious chocolate Gruffalo biscuits. This week in Clover Class we have been reading Be Brave Little Penguin for our sensory story. We have explored different sea creatures and created our own seascapes where they can live. The children loved getting messy with shaving foam this week and exploring the texture of rice and glitter.

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Year One

We have had another fantastic week in Year 1!

This week, the children completed their first hot write. They worked very hard to write about why they are incredible, inspired by Incredible You. They used verbs and adjectives to make their writing more interesting. The children then turned their writing into their own books, complete with front covers and illustrations. In maths, we have been comparing numbers using greater than, less than and equal to.

In music, we have started using the glockenspiels to perform a song together.

In computing, we explored Sketchpad and practised using the drag-and-drop technique on the trackpad.

It has been wonderful to see the children becoming more confident and independent in their learning.



Year Two

Year 2 have been busy planning and writing their own set of instructions for looking after an unusual pet. They have been trying hard to use interesting adjectives and time connectives. In maths they have been exploring number lines and using their knowledge of place value to label blank number lines which begin and end with differing numbers.

In geography, the children have studied local maps and sorted things they spotted into either human or physical resources. Science lessons have seen the children learning about the human digestive system and the names of the different parts of the body involved in the digestion process.

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STAFF SPOTLIGHT MISS FREEMAN

Hi, I'm Miss Freeman, the Year 2 Foxglove teacher. On March 2nd, 2026, I was incredibly lucky to have a benign brain tumor removed. To put the fragility of our health into perspective: the human brain is a biological marvel, yet it is so sensitive that even a small, non-cancerous growth can alter one's entire reality.

Tomorrow, Saturday 26th September I am walking to mark my six-month anniversary. This charity means the world to me because it provides a lifeline to so many others navigating the silent, often invisible struggles of a brain tumor diagnosis. It is a cause that requires constant support and advocacy.

[Walk of Hope at Chatsworth is taking on the Walk for Hope](#)



Cambridgeshire County Council

Launching soon: Best Start Family Hub Ely

From Monday 28 September, Cambridgeshire County Council is launching five new Best Start Family Hubs, which will build on the current Child and Family Centre offer.

We would like to invite you to be part of the launch! Come along to the opening of the new Best Start Family Hub in Ely.

No booking required. Drop in to meet the team, learn about all the support available and enjoy fun activities with your children. You'll find refreshments, information stands and free resources.

Also, we'd love to hear from you about our services and the support you need.

Everyone welcome.

We look forward to seeing you soon at a new Family Hub!

Where and when

- ★ Tuesday 29 September
- ★ 9.30am - 12.00pm and 2.30pm - 4.30pm
- ★ Spring Meadow Infant and Nursery School site, High Barns, Ely, CB7 4RB

Taster activities

- ★ 9.45am Baby sing and rhyme
- ★ 10.30am Storycraft with "The Very Hungry Caterpillar"
- ★ 11.15am Bookstart corner
- ★ 2.30pm Baby sing and rhyme
- ★ 3.15pm Storycraft with "The Very Hungry Caterpillar"
- ★ 4.00pm Parachute play



Healthy Relationship Courses Autumn 2026

Supporting positive relationships for parents, families and communities.

- ### 1 Healthy Relationships Course

Looking to improve your relationship with a family member, friend, neighbour or colleague? Join our 6-week course.

 - ★ **Virtual Course** - Starting Tuesday 6 October
 - ★ **Face to Face Course** - Starting Wednesday 7 October, 10am - 12pm, Best Start Family Hub Huntingdon
- ### 2 Supporting Co-parenting

 - ★ Improve communication with your partner to support your children. Online via Teams: Monday 12 October and Monday 19 October, Midday - 1pm
 - ★ Improve communication with your ex-partner to support your children. Online via Teams: Wednesday 14 October and Wednesday 21 October, Midday - 1pm
- ### 3 RISE Programme

A programme for victims/survivors of domestic abuse whether in or out of the relationship.

 - ★ **Face to Face Course**, Thursday 5 November, 9.30am - 11.30am, Fenland
 - ★ **Face to Face Course**, Tuesday 3 November, 12.30pm - 2.30pm, Cambs City
- ### 4 Parenting with an Abusive Ex-Partner

If you have experienced an abusive relationship, communicating with an abusive ex-partner about parenting matters can be difficult. We encourage you to read our guidance on parenting with an abusive ex-partner and contact us for support.

Email RPCLead@cambridgeshire.gov.uk to book onto a course or to find out more information.

 www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk  [Cambridgeshire County Council](https://www.facebook.com/CambsCountyCouncil)  [@CambsCC](https://twitter.com/CambsCC)

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