

# Spring Meadow Infant and Nursery School

## Newsletter 9<sup>th</sup> October 2026

### Headteacher's comments

There is so many amazing things happening around school. The children are so busy with their learning and are working really hard.

I am really proud that we now have some children who have already read 25 books at home as part of our reading challenge and have received their certificate in the Headteachers assembly on Fridays. Please remember to read everyday with your child as this prospers a love of reading which will hopefully stay with them.

The children are particularly enjoying lunchtimes where they are loving riding on the diddi-cars, exploring the signs of Autumn in forest school as well as climbing on the rope bridge and making mud pies in the mud kitchen.

Please do take the time to read the information and reminders below so you don't miss any of the upcoming events to updates.

As the weather starts to turn colder, please remember to provide your child with suitable, NAMED weather appropriate clothing e.g. jumpers, coats and hats.

I hope you have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes

Mrs Laura Fielding  
Headteacher

## Spring Meadow Infant and Nursery School

### School Disco- Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October

We will be hosting a school disco on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> 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 your child is in Iris, Lily or Clover class, we ask that an adult stays with them.

### Car park

This does seem to be a standing agenda on the newsletter but I must remind you that no parent should be parking in the school car park unless they have a parking permit. If you do park in the car park without a permit, you may risk getting locked in. If you think you may be eligible for a parking permit because you have a child who is struggling to regulate and they have an EHCP or your own mobility issues (with a blue badge) then please ask the school office for an application form. Please be aware that we have to allocate these on a priority basis as spaces in the car park are limited.

### 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.

### Parent lunches

Please see below the dates for the upcoming parent lunches. You **MUST** have booked the adult meal the Friday before the lunch takes place via the school shop to allow us to cater for the correct number of places. Unfortunately, if you miss the deadline you will not be able to attend the



Spring Meadow Infant and Nursery School

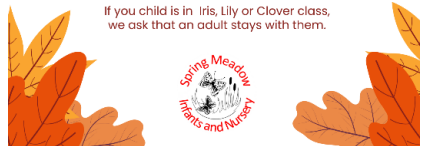
## FANCY DRESS DISCO

**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!**

**If your child is in Iris, Lily or Clover class,  
we ask that an adult stays with them.**



Kind   Resilient   Knowledgeable   Inclusive   Independent   Creative

## Spring Meadow Infant and Nursery School

event as a parent lunch must be booked and paid for in order to attend. Bookings are now open for all parent lunches so you can book in advance.

|                           |                          |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| 14 <sup>th</sup> October  | Buttercup parent lunch   |
| 21 <sup>st</sup> October  | Bluebell parent lunch    |
| 11 <sup>th</sup> November | Butterfly parent lunch   |
| 18 <sup>th</sup> November | Caterpillar parent lunch |
| 28 <sup>th</sup> November | Lily parent lunch        |
| 13 <sup>th</sup> January  | Iris Parent lunch        |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> February  | Clover parent lunch      |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> February | Tulip parent lunch       |
| 24 <sup>th</sup> February | Foxglove parent lunch    |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> March     | Daisy parent lunch       |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> March    | Buttercup parent lunch   |
| 17 <sup>th</sup> March    | Bluebell parent lunch    |
| 24 <sup>th</sup> March    | Butterfly parent lunch   |

### **Attendance/ absence reporting**

If your child's attendance has dropped below where we would expect your child's class teacher will be speaking to you before half term. Your child's attendance is paramount to their success. If your child continues to have high absence due to illness the school may request professional medical confirmation on each absence.

If your child is too unwell for school, it is the parent/carer responsibility to inform the office before 9am via phone or email. If there has been no contact made before 1030 we will follow our safeguarding procedures and will conduct a safe and well visit.

### **Parent Governor vacancy**

We currently have a Parent governor vacancy on our governing board. We would love to get some fresh perspective and would invite all parents from across the school to consider supporting our school in this capacity. A letter with more information will follow shortly. If you are interested and would like to know more, please come and speak to Mrs Fielding.

## Spring Meadow Infant and Nursery School

### **PTA**

As a school we are still struggling to gain parental support to run a PTA which would normally support the school in organising additional events for the children. We would really appreciate your support in whatever capacity you are able to provide. I am setting up a virtual meeting for anyone who may be able to support with the Christmas fayre in whatever capacity that may be (this could range from wrapping some presents, hosting a stall on the day, ticketing the tombola prizes to being Santa's elf in his grotto). The meeting will take place on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October at 1400-1430 via this teams link:

<https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/3735280246755811?p=9J9hvUsHklUdsulWOF>

Meeting ID: 373 528 024 675 581 1

Passcode: nF3Pp3BZ

### **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)

If your child is FSM Eligible, please speak to the school office as your child will be eligible to attend one free club per year.

### **Parent/Carer consultation evenings**

This year the parent/carers consultation evenings will be on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> November 1530-1730 and Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> November 1530-1800. You will be able to sign up for these via Arbor. These meetings are an opportunity for you to learn how your child is doing at school and ask any questions you may have. The booking system will go live on 19<sup>th</sup> October 9am. Please contact the office if you require any additional support with making a booking. If your child is in Nursery or Pre-school, there will be a sign-up sheet by the classroom door to book an appointment with your child's key worker on these days. If your child attends breakfast and afterschool club and you are unable to get to the door- please email the office and they will be able to support.

## Spring Meadow Infant and Nursery School

### School vacancies

We are currently advertising for three positions within the school:

- Cleaner
- SEND Midday supervisor
- SEND Teaching Assistant

If you are interested in any of these positions, please go to the website for more information.

### Trips and visits

We are extremely proud of the amount of trips and visitors we have in school but we understand that the cost of these trips can be unmanageable in one bulk payment. Therefore, we have planned the trips for the whole year in advance and have created an optional monthly payment plan to help spread the cost. If you have not already received the letter for your child's year group with further information, it will follow shortly.

### Ely Cathedral Harvest celebration- Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> October

We are proud to be supporting the Ely Cathedral Harvest celebrations this year by having our own display. The theme this year is "All things bright and beautiful". The children in all areas of the school have been busy preparing and contributing to the display. Pop down over the weekend to see what part of the song we have based our display around.

### Dates for your diary

**\*New dates/ amended dates/time in bold**

|                                |                                                                                    |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>12<sup>th</sup> October</b> | <b>Tulips trip to Stained Glass Museum @9am-11:45am</b>                            |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> October       | Prospective new parents tour @1430                                                 |
| 13 <sup>th</sup> October       | Reception learn with parents- phonics @0900-0945                                   |
| <b>13<sup>th</sup> October</b> | <b>Foxglove trip to Stained Glass Museum @9am-11:45am</b>                          |
| 13 <sup>th</sup> October       | Unit learn with parents @1415-1500                                                 |
| 13 <sup>th</sup> October       | School council meeting                                                             |
| <b>13<sup>th</sup> October</b> | <b>Year One learn with parents- phonics @0900-0945 *Please note change of date</b> |
| 14 <sup>th</sup> October       | Buttercup parent lunch                                                             |
| 15 <sup>th</sup> October       | Year Two learn with parents- phonics @0900-0945                                    |

Kind   Resilient   Knowledgeable   Inclusive   Independent   Creative

## Spring Meadow Infant and Nursery School

|                           |                                                                  |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 14 <sup>th</sup> October  | Prospective new parents tour @ 0915                              |
| 21 <sup>st</sup> October  | Bluebell parent lunch                                            |
| 21 <sup>st</sup> October  | SEND Coffee Morning 9-10am                                       |
| 22 <sup>nd</sup> October  | Progress report home to parents                                  |
| 22 <sup>nd</sup> October  | APDR deadline                                                    |
| 23 <sup>rd</sup> October  | INSET day- school closed to children- Health and safety training |
| November 2026             |                                                                  |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> November  | Children back in school                                          |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> November  | Prospective new parents tour @ 0915                              |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> November  | Clover and Iris Treetops Trip 1345-1445                          |
| 6 <sup>th</sup> November  | Half termly curriculum overview to parents                       |
| 6 <sup>th</sup> November  | Nursery Rhyme Time                                               |
| 9 <sup>th</sup> November  | Individual photos                                                |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> November | Parents evening 1530-1730                                        |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> November | School council meeting                                           |
| 11 <sup>th</sup> November | Butterfly parent lunch                                           |
| 11 <sup>th</sup> November | Lily Treetops Trip 1345-1445                                     |
| 11 <sup>th</sup> November | Parents evening 1530-1800                                        |
| 13 <sup>th</sup> November | Prospective new parents tour @ 0915                              |
| 16 <sup>th</sup> November | All of Y2 to Ely Museum for the Roman workshop                   |
| 18 <sup>th</sup> November | Caterpillar parent lunch                                         |
| 18 <sup>th</sup> November | SEND Coffee Morning 9-10am                                       |
| 19 <sup>th</sup> November | Reception and Year 1 Animal Experience visit                     |
| 20 <sup>th</sup> November | Children in Need day                                             |
| 20 <sup>th</sup> November | Nursery Rhyme Time                                               |
| 25 <sup>th</sup> November | Lily parent lunch                                                |
| December 2026             |                                                                  |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> December  | Recycling Workshop with Waterbeach Recycling Centre              |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> December  | Christmas decoration morning with parents 0900-1030              |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> December  | Nursery Rhyme Time                                               |
| 8 <sup>th</sup> December  | Reception Dress rehearsal nativity to school @ 1400              |
| 8 <sup>th</sup> December  | School council meeting                                           |

## Spring Meadow Infant and Nursery School

|                           |                                         |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| 9 <sup>th</sup> December  | Reception nativity to parents @ 1400    |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> December | Christmas lunch<br>Christmas jumper day |
| 14 <sup>th</sup> December | KS1 carols with parents @ 1430          |
| 16 <sup>th</sup> December | Reception Christmas party afternoon     |
| 16 <sup>th</sup> December | SEND Coffee Morning 9-10am              |
| 17 <sup>th</sup> December | Year 1 Christmas party afternoon        |
| 18 <sup>th</sup> December | Nursery Christmas sing along @ 0915     |
| 18 <sup>th</sup> December | Year 2 Christmas party afternoon        |
| 18 <sup>th</sup> December | Reception Polar Express day             |
| 18 <sup>th</sup> December | Progress report home to parents         |
| 18 <sup>th</sup> December | Unit Christmas party afternoon          |
| 18 <sup>th</sup> December | Last day of Autumn Term                 |

### STAFF SPOTLIGHT

#### MISS MCINTOSH

Hello everyone! As many of you will know, I am Miss McIntosh! I've worked at Spring Meadow in the office for 5 years and each of my children have attended this school, I absolutely love working here!

I enjoy taking my children out on the weekends and finding new places to go to keep them busy - if you have anywhere you can recommend please pop into the office and let me know! I am often spotted with a Starbucks in my hand, my passion for caffeine is well known throughout the school.



Kind   Resilient   Knowledgeable   Inclusive   Independent   Creative

## Spring Meadow Infant and Nursery School

### What have the children been learning?

#### **Nursery**

This week in Nursery we have been reading 'The Three Little Pigs'. We have been talking about where we all live and have been learning the name of our school and the class we are in.

Children have been making houses for the Little Pigs by glueing and sticking sticks, straw and roller painting brick patterns on paper houses, they then drew their own pictures of pigs to go on the houses. In our messy play tray we have had brown coloured gloop for the toy pigs to play in, the children have enjoyed getting their hands in this and talking about what it feels like.

#### **Pre-school**

In pre-school this week we have been looking at differences in materials and how they might change. We conducted an experiment using paper, we felt in and spoke about how it was nice and smooth, we then scrunched it up into a ball and then unwrapped it. The children noticed that the paper was no longer smooth and it was now "bumpy"

We have been looking at different ways to stick materials together, working out that Sellotape is better at stick some materials together than a Pritt stick.

The children have been enjoying our Three little pigs story and have embraced pretending to be the big bad wolf and blowing down each other's houses, using the phrase "Il huff and il puff and il blow your house down"

#### **Year One**

We have enjoyed lots of new learning in Year 1 this week!

In writing, we have been learning about nouns and adjectives. We went on a noun and adjective hunt around the classroom and then used some of the words we found in our own writing.

In science, we used our sense of taste to try different foods. We talked about whether they tasted salty, sweet, sour or bitter.

In geography, we went on a local walk to look for human and physical features in the area around our school.

It has been lovely to see the children using their new learning in so many different ways.

## Spring Meadow Infant and Nursery School

### Reception

In Reception this week we have been getting busy! We have continued our learning based on 'Owl Babies' and created an innovated version of the story! We had Fox babies in Bluebells and Bat babies in Buttercups! In Topic, we have been talking about where we live and where we go to school. We created a map of the school as a class and some of the children made their own maps of where they live! The children have continued to impress us with their determination and enthusiasm for learning in their phonics and Maths lessons too.

### Year Two

This week in English, we have been recapping time connectives in preparation for our school trip next week and the recount writing that will follow. In Maths, we have been practising counting in 2s, 3s, 5s and 10s, looking for patterns in number sequences. In Computing, the children have been exploring technology in and out of the classroom. They designed their own inventions, including voice-activated devices, button-operated machines and even technology that could create alternative dimensions! Their creativity has been fantastic.



### Unit

This week Clover Class have been reading Sylvia and Bird for our sensory story. The children have loved creating birds' nests out of paper for Bird and using bubble wrap to print paint onto Sylvia the dragon. We also got very messy this week exploring the unique texture of Oobleck.

In Iris class we have started to think about Autumn and enjoyed The Leaf Thief sensory story. We have also been working hard on our multi-media river for the Cathedral harvest festival display.

## Spring Meadow Infant and Nursery School

# Spring Meadow Infant and Nursery School

## Wraparound Care

### Autumn Term

A fantastic range of after school clubs and creative activities to keep your child active, engaged and having fun!

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  <h3>FOOTBALL CLUB</h3> <p>Fun football club for Year 1 &amp; 2 only!</p> <p><b>FUN GAMES &amp; CHALLENGES</b></p> <p><b>SKILLS &amp; TRAINING</b></p> <p><b>TEAMWORK &amp; NEW FRIENDS</b></p> <p><b>Thursdays</b><br/>3:15pm – 4:15pm<br/>Year 1 &amp; 2 only</p> <p><b>£5.50</b> per session</p> <p>Book directly with the club at:<br/><a href="mailto:info@activeplayeducation.co.uk">info@activeplayeducation.co.uk</a></p> <p>Run by Active Play Education</p> |  <h3>CREATIVE STATION</h3> <p>Creative play, art &amp; crafts for little imaginations!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Art club with new techniques</li> <li>★ Experiment with colours &amp; materials</li> <li>★ Create something to be proud of!</li> </ul> <p><b>Tuesdays</b><br/>3:15pm – 5:00pm<br/>Reception, Year 1 &amp; 2</p> <p><b>£8.50</b> per session</p> <p>Book directly with the club at:<br/><a href="mailto:info@activeplayeducation.co.uk">info@activeplayeducation.co.uk</a></p> <p>Run by Active Play Education</p> |  <h3>CREATIVE BAKING</h3> <p>A delicious collection of bakes to make and enjoy!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♥ Learn useful baking skills</li> <li>♥ Decorate &amp; create tasty treats</li> <li>♥ Build confidence and creativity</li> </ul> <p><b>Mondays</b><br/>3:15pm – 5:00pm<br/>Reception, Year 1 &amp; 2</p> <p><b>£8.50</b> per session</p> <p>Book directly with the club at:<br/><a href="mailto:info@activeplayeducation.co.uk">info@activeplayeducation.co.uk</a></p> <p>Run by Active Play Education</p> |  <h3>After School Club!</h3> <p>For Reception, Year 1 &amp; Year 2 Students</p> <p><b>SESSION TIMES</b></p> <p><b>Tuesdays</b><br/>3:15 – 4:00pm<br/>Reception, Year 1 &amp; 2</p> <p>HAVE FUN ★ SKILLS ★ MATCHES ★ TEAMWORK</p> <p><b>£6.00</b> per session</p> <p>Book directly with the club at:<br/><a href="http://www.rugbytots.co.uk">www.rugbytots.co.uk</a></p> <p>Run by Rugby Tots</p> |  <h3>CONSTRUCTION CLUB</h3> <p>Build, create, imagine!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Construct and build with different materials</li> <li>★ Try new challenges and projects</li> <li>★ Make, create and have fun!</li> </ul> <p><b>Thursdays</b><br/>3:15pm – 4:15pm<br/>Reception, Year 1 &amp; 2</p> <p><b>£5.50</b> per session</p> <p>Book directly with the club at:<br/><a href="mailto:info@activeplayeducation.co.uk">info@activeplayeducation.co.uk</a></p> <p>Run by Active Play Education</p> |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|



### Please note:

All clubs must be booked directly through the club organisation. The school cannot take bookings for these clubs.

Kind    Resilient    Knowledgeable    Inclusive    Independent    Creative

## Spring Meadow Infant and Nursery School

# INCREDIBLE YEARS

## PRE SCHOOL

The Incredible Years Pre-School programme supports parents and carers to build warm, positive relationships with their children, creating strong foundations for learning and development. It promotes nurturing and consistent approaches that help children feel secure, confident, and ready to learn.

Delivered over 14 sessions, the programme equips parents and carers with practical skills to encourage social, emotional and language development, use positive and effective behaviour strategies, support children to manage their emotions and build confidence, develop school readiness skills, and work in partnership with early years settings.

### Who is it for?

- ✓ Parents of children up to 6 years.
- ✓ Parents need to be able to commit to all 14 sessions.



For enquires, please email  
[ccc.parenting@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:ccc.parenting@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)

Best Start Family Hub -  
Ely  
Spring Meadow Infant  
and Nursery school site  
High Barns, Ely,  
CB7 4RB

14 weekly sessions  
starting Wednesday  
4 November

9.30am - 11.30am



FAMILY  
HUBS

Kind   Resilient   Knowledgeable   Inclusive   Independent   Creative