

## Newsletter 19<sup>th</sup> September 2025

### **Headteacher's comments**

How have we been back in school for over two weeks? The children have settled well into their routines and are busy learning. We are so pleased to welcome so many new parents to our community from our Reception parents, unit parents and new Nursery parents.

The opening of the unit has been a huge success and the children are so happy to be in school. We are going to be hosting an official opening on the afternoon of Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> October where Charlotte Cane, our local MP will be in attendance. We will be inviting all of our unit parents to the official opening and the unit will then be open at the end of the school day for you all other members of the community to see. Save the date and more details will follow.

Have a lovely weekend

Mrs Laura Fielding

### **Learn with parents- Save the dates!**

Unit - 1430-1500- 6<sup>th</sup> October 2025 (Sensory stories)  
Reception- 0900-1000- 7<sup>th</sup> October 2025 (Phonics)  
Year One- 0900-1000- 8<sup>th</sup> October 2025 (Phonics)  
Year Two- 0900-1000- 9<sup>th</sup> October 2025 (Phonics)

### **Nursery Rhyme Time**

This year we are running fortnightly rhyme time sessions in nursery and pre-school where parents are invited to come in and share stories and songs with their children. Please see the flyer attached for more information.

### **After school clubs**

There are still spaces in our after school clubs. Please sign up via Arbor.

Monday- Baking

Tuesday- Dodgeball& Arts and Crafts

Wednesday- Construction & Forest School

(If your child is eligible for Pupil premium they are entitled to one free club per term.)

### **Contact information**

We are kindly requesting that you check all information and contact details the school holds for your child are correct and up to date on Arbor. Please also ensure there are 3 emergency contacts on the system. Thank you.

## **Attendance**

A huge well done to everyone as our attendance is currently 96% which is above national average. Please also ensure your child arrives to school on time as when they are late, they are missing valuable learning.

## **School Council representatives**

We are now going to be holding the school council elections on Monday morning.

## **Parents lunch**

We are continuing our parent lunch sessions this year. Please check the diary for the date of your child's class and ensure you book your lunch via the office by the Friday before so we can cater for the right numbers. Thank you!

### **Dates for the diary- Parent lunches!**

15<sup>th</sup> October- Buttercups  
 22<sup>nd</sup> October- Bluebells  
 20<sup>th</sup> November- Tulips  
 26<sup>th</sup> November- Foxglove  
 21<sup>st</sup> January- Clovers  
 4<sup>th</sup> February- Iris  
 11<sup>th</sup> February- Lily  
 4<sup>th</sup> March- Poppy  
 11<sup>th</sup> March- Daisy  
 22<sup>nd</sup> April- Butterfly  
 29<sup>th</sup> April- Caterpillar

## **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. Please find attached a letter with more information. If you are interested and would like to know more, please come and speak to Mrs Fielding.

## **PTA Coffee morning- 10<sup>th</sup> October 0900-0930**

We would like to invite you to join our PTA on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> October at 9am. You will get a chance to meet the current PTA members and see what they do and if you are able to, sign up to support in any capacity you have available. This could be anything from 1 hour at the disco, running a stall at the Christmas Fayre to organising your own event. There will be tea and cake on offer!

## **Dates for your diary**

3 <sup>rd</sup> October	Prospective new parents tour @ 0915
14 <sup>th</sup> October	SEND coffee drop in 1430
7 <sup>th</sup> October	Reception learn with parents- phonics @0900-1000
8 <sup>th</sup> October	Year One learn with parents- phonics @0900-1000
9 <sup>th</sup> October	Year Two learn with parents- phonics @0900-1000
10 <sup>th</sup> October	Prospective new parents tour @ 1400
13 <sup>th</sup> October	Prospective new parents tour @ 0915
15 <sup>th</sup> October	Buttercups parents lunch
16 <sup>th</sup> October	Prospective new parents tour @ 0915
22 <sup>nd</sup> October	Bluebells parents lunch
23 <sup>rd</sup> October	Progress report home to parents

24 <sup>th</sup> October	INSET day
27 <sup>th</sup> October- 31 <sup>st</sup> October	Half term
November 2025	
3 <sup>rd</sup> November	Children back in school
7 <sup>th</sup> November	Prospective new parents tour @ 0915
10 <sup>th</sup> November	<b>Individual photos - Please note change of date!</b>
12 <sup>th</sup> November	SEND coffee drop in 1430
12 <sup>th</sup> November	Flu vaccines
14 <sup>th</sup> November	Children in Need day
17 <sup>th</sup> November	Parents evening 1530-1730
19 <sup>th</sup> November	Parents evening 1530-1800
20 <sup>th</sup> November	Tulip parent lunch
21 <sup>st</sup> November	Prospective new parents tour @ 0900
26 <sup>th</sup> November	Foxglove parent lunch
December 2025	
2 <sup>nd</sup> December	Christmas decoration morning with parents
10 <sup>th</sup> December	SEND coffee drop in 1430
11 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas lunch Christmas jumper day
12 <sup>th</sup> December	KS1 carols with parents @ 1400
15 <sup>th</sup> December	Reception Dress rehearsal nativity to school @ 1400
16 <sup>th</sup> December	Reception nativity to parents @ 1400
17 <sup>th</sup> December	Reception Christmas party afternoon
18 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 1 Christmas party afternoon
19 <sup>th</sup> December	Nursery Christmas sing along @ 0915
19 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 2 Christmas party afternoon
19 <sup>th</sup> December	Progress report home to parents

### Smartphone Free Childhood – The Ely Area

We are a group of parents in Ely who have come together through the Smartphone Free Childhood movement (SFC). We are a positive, supportive movement, clear in our objective to create collective change and reclaim and protect childhood by delaying the use of smartphones and social media until 14 and 16 years respectively. This isn't an anti-technology movement, but one that believes in technology at the right time.

If you would be interested in joining us, please join your schools WhatsApp group which can be found at <https://whatsapp.smartphonefreechildhood.co.uk/>

Many thanks  
Smartphone Free Childhood Working Group Ely



**Kids and Smartphones**  
an information evening for parents  
Everyone welcome

**Guest Speaker:** Amy Ruffell,  
Cambridgeshire's Lead for  
Smartphone Free Childhood

*Worried about your child's smartphone use?*

*Wondering when to give them their first smartphone?*

*Keen to chat to other parents about phones?*

Come along for an open, honest, non-judgmental conversation about the impact of smartphones on childhood

**When**  
7.30pm,  
Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup>  
October 2025

**Where**  
Ely St Johns  
Community Primary  
School  
St John's Rd, Ely CB6  
3BW

FREE EVENT

 **SMARTPHONE  
FREE CHILDHOOD** | Ely

## **What have the children been learning this week**

### **Nursery/ Pre-school**

In Pre-school and Nursery this week we have continued our topic 'All About Me'. The children have been looking at their faces in a mirror and naming the features on their face. They also drew around one of their friends and then we labelled parts of the body. The children enjoyed decorating a gingerbread person with different coloured icing.

### **Reception**

The Reception children has been busy settling in to new routines and developing friendships. Starting school can be an emotional time, so the children have been listening to Colour Monster story and joining in with activities in the provision to develop their ability to identify and name their emotions. The children have started exploring forest school and have begun their reading journey by starting to learn some individual letter sounds in phonics.

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

In the unit we have all enjoyed the sensory story this week called 'Funny Bones'. We have explored different art activities with black and white resources to make skeletons and explore the sensory feel of paint and shaving foam. We have also enjoyed our dance sessions on a Thursday with Sarah. We have danced to a variety of music with scarves and ribbons.

### **Year One**

Year One have had a busy and exciting week of learning! In Maths, we've been counting forwards and backwards from 0 to 10 and exploring one more and one less. In Writing, we've become capital letter and full stop police, as we practise writing full sentences. Our Science lesson focused on the sense of sight, and we've learned about the different parts of the eye. In Geography, we've been drawing and labelling our own maps of Ely. Meanwhile, in Art, we've been mixing yellow and red to create orange and painting our own versions of Van Gogh's Sunflowers.

### **Year Two**

It's been a busy week in Year 2! In Maths the children have been working hard using part-part whole models to partition numbers. In English we have been writing instructions for feeding a dragon! They practised using adverbs and time adverbials. The children have also completed some lovely painting in Art, mixing in white to make colours lighter and black to make colours darker.