

### Head Teacher's Comment – from Bryony Surtees

Welcome back, I hope you all had a fabulous half term break. The weeks are whizzing past and we now only have four weeks until the Easter break, an unusually short half term, but we aim to pack a lot into those weeks. Next week we are celebrating world book day with a dress up day and to deepen the children's love of books and reading, we have the book fair here until Wednesday so please pop along after school. We are ending next week with a coffee morning to discuss our offer for children with additional needs. The week after that we are holding our spring term parents' evening so please look out for the link next week and book your appointment with your child's class teacher and we are ending the term with Year 4's performances and Rock Steady assemblies, so lots to look forward to. As you will have read Mr Lloyd is leaving us at the end of the year. He has been with us for four years and took up his post just after the first COVID lockdown. Mr Lloyd has been instrumental in developing our primary knowledge curriculum and shaping the direction of our school and so the school won't be the same without him but it has been a pleasure working with him and I wish him every success as Head teacher at Waterbeach Primary School. I look forward to hearing about his new adventures. Spring is fast approaching so we can look forward to warmer weather and lighter and longer days and it's always delightful to see the daffodils. So hopefully you are all feeling well and will have a great weekend planned.

### Latest news and information from Isle of Ely Primary School

#### **Staff update:**

Congratulations to Mr Lloyd, our Deputy Head teacher, who has been appointed as Head teacher of Waterbeach Primary School from September 2024. We will miss him greatly but wish him well in his future endeavours.

We are currently advertising for a new deputy head teacher so if you know of anyone who may be interested please direct them to the vacancies page of our website:

[Deputy Head Teacher at Isle of Ely Primary School | MyNewTerm](#)

#### **School Values:**

This week we have been thinking about being responsible and taking responsibility for ourselves, others, our things and the world. Being responsible helps the children to be more honest and to keep their promises; it encourages independence and it enables children to gain other's trust and confidence in themselves.

#### **Book Fair:**

The book fair is running until Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March in our school library. Please come along at the end of the day so your child/ren can peruse all of the wonderful books and spend their world book day vouchers.

#### **Stranger danger:**

As the nights are getting longer and lighter, there will be more children walking home alone or playing out with their friends. Please remind your child/ren about how to stay safe and what they should do if they are concerned or worried whilst out and about alone.

### **Parents' evenings:**

Parents' evenings will take place on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March and Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March. As usual, they will take place on line so please look out for the link next week and book a meeting with your child's class teacher for one of the evenings.

### **Coffee morning:**

Next Friday, 8<sup>th</sup> March @ 0845, we are holding our next parents' coffee morning. Please do join us for a coffee as we discuss our approach to supporting children with additional needs. If you would like to talk to us about any concerns you have, how we support children or you would like to meet other parents who children have additional needs, please do pop along.

### **World Book Day:**

Next Thursday, 7<sup>th</sup> March, is world book day and we are celebrating the day with a dress up day. We would like your child to come into school as their favourite book character and to bring the book with them.

### **Parking:**

As usual, there have been complaints about the parking outside of the school. This time, cars have been stopping in the middle of the road to allow their passengers to alight from their cars. This creates a hazard and puts other road users and pedestrians in danger. Therefore, please either use our car park, park in one of the parking bays or park considerately along the road so we can keep everyone safe.

### **Facebook:**

Our new Isle of Ely Facebook page is now live. Please join our Isle of Ely group as we will be posting all of the relevant information there, including this newsletter, and the other community page will be closing shortly.

### **Online Safety:**

The NSPCC have partnered with Ambitious about Autism to bring online safety tips, advice and activities specifically for parents and carers of children with SEND. They have spoken to parents of children with a range of special educational needs such as dyslexia, autism and speech and language difficulties.

Being online can be positive for children and young people, including those with additional needs. So much of our communication now happens online, either by messages, in a game or through a video call. To find out information on how to keep your child safe online, please click on the link below:

[Online safety for children with SEND | NSPCC](#)

## School Term Dates 2023/2024

### Spring Term 2024:

Starts	Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> January
Half term	Monday 19 February 2024 to Friday 23 February 2024
Ends	Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> March
Spring (Easter) holiday	Friday 29 March 2023 to Sunday 14 April 2024

### Summer Term 2024:

Starts	Monday 15 April 2024
Half term	Monday 27 May 2024 to Friday 31 May 2024
Ends	Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> July
Summer holiday	Saturday 20 July 2024 to Friday 30 August 2024

PD Days (School closed to children):

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2024