

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

Thank you to all of you who attended our parents' share about maths recently and the coffee morning held by Mrs Godfrey to discuss our new values. We always love having you in school and we appreciate your comments and contributions to making our school a better place for our children. Please do keep talking to us and spending time in school. This week has been children's mental health week and the children have taken part in a virtual kindness assembly as well as a mental health assembly delivered by the Ely mental health team. We all have mental health but 1 in 4 of us, including our children, will experience episodes of poor mental health at some point in their lives and so it is important that we listen to each other and help others to get their voice heard. We have encouraged the children to be brave and whilst it may be difficult to let someone know how they are feeling, there are many adults inside and outside of school ready to listen and help them. We appreciate that every child has the right to express their views, feelings and wishes and to have these taken seriously. If you are concerned about your child's mental health, please do get in touch. Enjoy the weekend.

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

#### School Values:

Our school value this week has been kind. We have already done a lot of work with the children on being kind and what this looks like and the children can say all of the right things but can sometimes be unkind with their words and actions. Therefore, it is an extremely important value for us at school as we want to be the kindest school. We hope you will reinforce this at home and please remember to let Mrs Godfrey know of any acts of kindness so we can celebrate the children in assembly.

#### Wellies:

We are still looking for donations of wellies of all different sizes. This will mean that any child can borrow a pair of wellies from the rack and go on the field or the forest school area if they do not have a change of footwear. Any old wellies you have, please send to the office for us to reuse and recycle.

#### Facebook:

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

#### Online Safety:

Lots of people pick a *password* that's easy for them to remember, but is also too easy for other people (or computers) to guess.

Don't use **your name**, **your birthday** or the **word 'password'** when you create one.

A strong password is made up of capital letters, lowercase letters, numbers and symbols.

Keep it quite long, and make it something that's not too common, or easy to guess!

**Home-Start Cambridgeshire:**

Home-Start Cambridgeshire supports families across Cambridgeshire through our fantastic team of home visiting volunteers. These volunteers come from a variety of different backgrounds but all have parenting experience, they are vital to the work of Home-Start.

They are currently looking to recruit new volunteers across all areas of the county. Their volunteer preparation course is running again in March. The benefits of volunteering for Home-Start are numerous but they offer ongoing training and support and the opportunity to make a difference to local families. Please see the attached flyer for further information.

**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