

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

We are now in week 6 of lockdown and I hope you are all getting used to the home learning. It's a very difficult and worrying time and home learning is not always easy but I know that you are all doing a fantastic job. Enjoy the quality time you are getting to spend together as a family and be mindful of everyone's wellbeing. The teachers and I are all missing the children and look forward to when we can return to 'normal' and so in the meantime, all of the teachers have written to their classes which you should have received via email on Thursday. If you would like your child to write back to their class teacher do please encourage them to do so, we'd love to hear from them. In the meantime, stay safe and well.

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

#### **Staffing Update:**

I am very pleased to inform you that Mrs Fielding will be returning to her role as Deputy Head teacher on 18<sup>th</sup> May. It will be lovely to have Mrs Fielding back and I am sure you will join with me in welcoming her back. This does mean that unfortunately, Ms Chapman will no longer be returning to our school as she was returning on a secondment to cover Mrs Fielding's role. I wish Ms Chapman well in her future endeavours. Miss Fitzpatrick is also moving on at the end of the school year as she is relocating to the East Midlands and I wish her well in her future career. We are interviewing for a second deputy today and we are obviously seeking further teachers for September. Once we have made the appointments, I will update you in further newsletters.

#### **Home Learning:**

The teachers are continuing to put lessons on Purple Mash as well as videos of them teaching. If you are unable to access Purple Mash, please do let us know and we are more than happy to put together a paper based learning pack. There is also a lot of information on our website under the home learning tab as well as on the class pages. If you have any problems, worries or concerns with the home learning do please email your child's class teacher through [admin@isleofelyprimary.org](mailto:admin@isleofelyprimary.org) and they will be more than happy to help you. It is important to note that these are exceptional times and how much of the home learning is done is very dependent on your family circumstances. The important thing is that your children are safe, well and happy.

For alternative lessons, please look at Oak National Academy. <https://www.thenational.academy/>

#### **Key Workers/Vulnerable children:**

As you are aware the school is closed to most children except for those key workers working on the front line and our vulnerable children. Next week, the school would have been closed on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May but it will now be open to those children that need it but we will be closed on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May as planned, the national bank holiday. Please do let us know if your child needs to come to school on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May.

**Latest news and information from Isle of Ely Primary School...**

**Mental Health and Wellbeing:**

If you are concerned about your child's mental health and wellbeing or even your own, we have added a page to the website under the parent tab which has links to organisations and websites that can support you.

**Starline:**

StarLine has been set up to help parents and carers in the following ways:

- By providing access to a team of qualified teachers, education and parenting experts.
- By focussing on providing practical ideas, support and reassurance.
- By offering tips, techniques and resources to enable parents to give their children the support they need to continue learning while schools are closed.
- By supporting family wellbeing and mental health.
- By covering all phases of education and subjects plus behaviour, pupil wellbeing and SEND.

StarLine is available to parents and carers of pupils from all schools nationwide. Free, confidential advice is available six days a week by phoning the StarLine team on 0330 313 9162. For more information, visit [www.starline.org.uk](http://www.starline.org.uk) or follow [@StarLineSupport](https://twitter.com/StarLineSupport) on Twitter.

The team behind StarLine will also be broadcasting a weekly programme on YouTube. In each episode of StarLive, a guest presenter will share practical ideas for home learning. Further details can be found on the StarLine website.

**The Queen Mother's Handwriting Award:**

This competition is open to all boys and girls of school age living or attending schools, within the Counties of Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Hertfordshire, Leicestershire, Norfolk, Northamptonshire and Peterborough. The competition is administered by the East of England Agricultural Society.

There are further details about the competition as well as how to enter on the attached document.

**Step into the NHS:**

Offering resources and learning opportunities about the plethora of job roles and opportunities available in the NHS. Aimed at KS2 it also tasks children with saying "Thank you to the NHS".

To enter children will need to produce either Creative artwork (painting, drawing, temporary street artwork, performance, video or slideshow) OR Creative writing. More information can be found at:

[https://www.stepintothens.nhs.uk/primary-schools/KS2-competition?dm\\_i=5EPN,6ZOD,1WDWJH,QSMP,1](https://www.stepintothens.nhs.uk/primary-schools/KS2-competition?dm_i=5EPN,6ZOD,1WDWJH,QSMP,1)



## IOE Fortnightly Newsletter

1<sup>st</sup> May 2020

### Diary dates & events

<b>Summer term:</b>	Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> April 2020 to Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> July 2020
<b>Half term:</b>	Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> May 2020 (May Bank Holiday) to Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> May 2020
<b>Bank Holiday:</b>	Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> May (School closed to children)

### School Term Dates 2020/2021

#### Autumn term

Starts	Monday 7th September (3rd & 4th September PD days)
Half term	Monday 26th - Friday 30th October 2020 (Monday 2nd November PD Day)
Ends	Friday 18th December 2020
Christmas holiday	Monday 21st December 2020 to Sunday 3rd January 2021

#### Spring term

Starts	Tuesday 5th January (Monday 4th January PD Day) 2021
Half term	(Friday 12th February PD day) Monday 15th February - Friday 19th February
Ends	Friday 26th March
Spring (Easter) holiday	Monday 29th March - Friday 9th April

#### Summer Term

Starts	Monday 12th April
Half term	Monday 31st May - Friday 4th June
Ends	Thursday 22nd July 2021
Bank Holiday (School Closed)	Monday 3rd May 2021

**PD days - The school is closed on the following days for the professional development of staff:**

**3rd September 2020, 4th September 2020, 2nd November 2020, 4th January 2021 and 12th February 2021**