

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

It is Friday 13<sup>th</sup> and if you are superstitious, I guess it may feel it is traditionally an unlucky day whilst others may believe that it is lucky. For us, today has ended a lovely sharing week with you all. Earlier this week we welcomed you all into school for a reading or phonics lessons with your child and today many of you came and shared a cup of coffee/tea with Mrs Godfrey to hear more about our behaviour policy. I would like to thank you for your time and commitment to our school as it really does benefit the children having you learn with them in their classes and we always appreciate your views on our provision. I also met many new perspective parents as I showcased the school to them for the September 2024 intake. They were very inquisitive about the school and were impressed by the size and facilities but were keen to learn what made us different from other schools within Ely. I spoke about our ambitious curriculum, Thrive, the children's great behaviour, our inclusivity, the enrichment opportunities on offer, how innovative we are, musical opportunities and I also spoke about our whole community spirit and how everyone within it supports each other. I believe that makes us really lucky and it makes us stand out from the crowd! I hope you all have an enjoyable weekend.

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

#### **Spotlight on behaviour:**

We are very proud to be a Thrive school and their mission is to help children and young people become more emotionally resilient and better placed to engage with life and learning. The Thrive Approach is based on established neuroscience, attachment theory and child development. With two Thrive practitioners working within the setting, our school is able to support children who are demonstrating distressed and / or antisocial behaviour. Staff create bespoke support plans for these children to ensure that there is a positive change in behaviour and improvement in a child's mental health. Our Therapeutic approach threads throughout our behaviour policy and supports all of the children to manage their feelings, emotions and behaviours and to behave pro-socially. Consequently, behaviour within classes and around the school is good.

#### **Yellow House Charity Day – Friday 20th October:**

Yellow House Captains, Isaac and Charlie, are planning an afternoon of water for their charity day on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October. If the children would like to, they will be throwing wet sponges at the grown-ups, throwing water balloons at targets and trying to stay dry running through hose pipes. Isaac and Charlie would like the children to have lots of fun with water but they are very serious about raising a lot of money for Cancer Research. Charlie and Isaac ask that you donate £2 using the link below and request that the children bring in a spare set of clothes on Friday as they may get very wet.

[Isle of Ely Primary School is fundraising for Cancer Research UK \(justgiving.com\)](https://www.justgiving.com/Isle-of-Ely-Primary-School)

#### **Online Safety:**

Recently, children at school have described to us some online behaviours that are considered potentially harmful or inappropriate. We teach the children important behaviours for when they are online like alerting trusted adults if there is an issue, knowing how to block or report others who are upsetting them and how to walk away. Included with this newsletter is a helpful leaflet from the UK Safer Internet Centre (<https://saferinternet.org.uk/>) Parents can check PEGI ratings for games your children play and you can monitor their online content e.g. on YouTube. The leaflet offers guidance for parents on how to talk with children about being safe online and about how to help to keep your children safe. Further information can also be found on our website at <https://isleofelyprimary.org/parents/home-learning>.

**Snacks:**

Please only send your child in with a piece of fruit or vegetables for them to eat at morning break.

**Parking:**

As you are aware, we are looking at making the car park a safer place for road users as well as pedestrians. Many of you have told us that only having one entrance and exit causes a blockage and so we will be looking at this after half term. If you are using our car park, please drive safely, reverse park into a space and walk around the edge of the car park to the school.

**Open sessions for Intake 2024:**

If you have a child, or you know someone who has a child, born between 1 September 2019 and 31 August 2020, then you will be thinking about them starting school in September 2024. We have 60 places at our school for Reception children and we would love your child to join us and be part of the Isle of Ely Primary School. We are an Ofsted rated 'good' school, we are extremely inclusive, we have great teaching and support staff, our curriculum is engaging and fun and the children's behaviour is exemplary. If you would like to come and see all of this for yourself, please book onto one of our up and coming open sessions taking place throughout the Autumn Term. Please email or phone the office to put your name down. The dates for next half term are below:

Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> October @ 0900

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> November @ 1400

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> November @ 0900

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> November @ 1400

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December @ 1400

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December @ 0930

**PTA:**

We are delighted to inform you that next week the PTA will be hosting the following:

Monday 16th Oct - Lost Property Stall

Thursday 19th October - Pre-loved Uniform Sale.

Please see attached posters for full details.

And don't forget the PTA discos running on Wednesday! Tickets can be purchased from

<https://isle-of-ely-primary-pta.sumupstore.com/products>.

Many thanks,

The PTA Team

**Christchurch Harvest Festival:**

On 15<sup>th</sup> October they are celebrating harvest by having a community foodbank collection, craft and chat session in the courtyard followed by some soup in the main hall and a Harvest sing along. They are inviting anyone from the local community to come along and join them including any families from the school and residents from the Orchards. They will use the kitchen to warm up the soup and serve coffee/tea/cake as they normally do. Please see the attached flyer for further details.

**Education Inclusion Family Advisor Newsletter October 2023:**

Please find attached a flyer from our family support worker, Michelle West, giving advice and highlighting workshops.

## School Term Dates 2023 - 2024

### Autumn Term 2023:

Starts	Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> September
Half term	Monday 23 October 2023 to Friday 27 October 2023
Ends	Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December
Christmas holiday	Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> December 2023 to Wednesday 3 January 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 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023  
Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2023  
Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2023  
Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2024  
Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2024