

Head Teacher's Comment – from Bryony Surtees

All of the children have taken part in our Pop Up Literacy project this week which involved each class being visited by a published author virtually. The authors read to the children and involved them in a variety of fun activities. The children really enjoyed the sessions and some of the children said it has inspired them to read more. Reading is such an important life skill and being a reader enables the children to access all of the other curriculum learning. The children have several opportunities throughout the day to read, Key Stage 1 have daily phonics lessons, we have ERIC time, Everyone Reading in Class, as well as whole class reading sessions and the teachers also read their class book daily. Some children may need extra support but all of our children are developing a love of reading and a passion for books which hopefully the children are sharing with you. We are looking forward to a time when we can use our library space to be fully immersed in books and reading. The children are not at school on Monday so perhaps they could continue their reading and sharing books at home. I hope you all have a great weekend and I look forward to seeing the children on Tuesday.

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

PD Day:

On Monday 19th October we are closed to the children as the teachers are receiving training. We wouldn't ordinarily organise a date not attached to a holiday but for this specific training, this was the only date available. Moving forward all PD Days will be either right before or after a holiday.

Remote Learning Policy:

If the school has to partially or fully close, or if a child/ren has to isolate, it is important that the children's education continues. We have put together a remote learning policy which clarifies how we will deliver your child's learning in such circumstances. Please read the policy which can be found on our website.

If your child has to isolate whilst waiting for the results of a Covid test, the teachers will upload the day's work/learning onto the class TEAMS account so that your child can do the same work as their class mates. You will find the work under the assignment tab.

Parents' Forum:

Our parents' forum to discuss our new behaviour policy will take place on Wednesday 21st October at 0900 and again at 1415. We will email out details of the meeting on the Tuesday 20th. I do hope you can join us for one of the meetings but if you cannot, we will video the forum and upload it onto our website.

Parent Governor:

We have a vacancy for a parent governor to join our governing body. For the last couple of years, the school has shared our Governing Body with Chesterton Primary School in Cambridge. This year, the governing body is splitting into separate bodies and we are looking to recruit extra governors. The role of the governors is to be strategic and work alongside senior leaders and support teachers to provide an excellent education for the children. There are six meetings per year that governors are expected to attend as well as termly visits to the school. If you are interested in the role, please email the office for further information.

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

Sports Crew:

Miss Falconer and Ms Crawley are working together to develop our PE provision and have organised for a group of children to support them with this. Well done to Betsy, Amelia, Jeremy and Lily for becoming the first members of our Sports Crew.

PTA:

Invitation to AGM

The Annual General Meeting for the Isle of Ely Primary School PTA will be held virtually (via Microsoft TEAMS) on Thursday 22nd October at 6pm, followed by a Committee meeting.

All parents and carers are welcome and we hope you can join us online.

Please email pta@isleofelyprimary.org to be sent the link to attend the virtual AGM and to view the previous AGM minutes.

At the AGM, we will appoint the committee members for the next year. If you are interested in joining the Committee, please get in touch with us. We are an informal and friendly group which welcomes new members. Joining the PTA is a great way to have fun while supporting the school and coming along to our informal meetings is also a great way to socialise and meet other parents.

If you have any questions, or would like to chat to one of the current committee members, please let us know.

Keep in touch:

Email us: pta@isleofelyprimary.org

Sign up to our mailing list: <http://eepurl.com/dvQ9Mf>

Follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/IsleOfElyPTA/>

Half Term Adventures:

For those intrepid adventurers who are hoping to solve the Riddle of the White Sphinx, there are some potential destinations to visit over half term on the attached flyer.

Half Term Holidays:

We know that lots of you may have holidays booked already in half term. The current list of countries that have travel corridors with the UK and where an isolation period is not needed on their return can be [found here](#). If a pupil returns from one of the destinations not on this list, they will be required to isolate for 14 days and not attend school – please inform us if this is the case.

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

Coronavirus:

There are three simple actions we must all do to keep on protecting each other:

Wash hands, keep washing your hands regularly

Cover face, wear a face covering in enclosed spaces

Make space, stay at least 2 metres apart

Covid Symptoms:

If your child displays **any** of the following symptoms, we will send them home and ask you to get them tested for Covid. Similarly, if your child has any of the following symptoms before school, please do not send them in and organise a test.

The main symptoms of coronavirus are:

- **a high temperature** – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature) NHS guidance states that a high temperature is 38C+
- **a new, continuous cough** – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- **a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste** – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal
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Most people with coronavirus have at least 1 of these symptoms.

For all other illnesses, e.g. cold, sore throat, blocked nose, you should send your child to school if you normally would.

Face coverings:

Staff and children in school are not expected to wear a face covering during the day. However, if you are visiting school to meet with a member of staff or to talk to the office, we would like you to wear a face covering as is usual in all other inside establishments.

Dates and School Term Dates 2020/2021

October	
Black History Month	
Monday 19th	School closed to children – PD day
Wednesday 21 st	Parents' Forum @ 0900 Parents' Forum @ 1415
Friday 23 rd	Break up

Autumn term

Starts	Monday 7th September (3rd & 4th September PD days)
Half term	Monday 26th - Friday 30th October 2020 (Monday 19 th October 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, 19th October 2020, 4th January 2021 and 12th February 2021