

This week's Big Talk...

What adventures will half term bring?

Head Teacher's Comment – from Helen Davies

Goodness we have reached the end of our first half term already, and what a half term it has been!

I would like to say a big thank you to Charlotte Salmons for organising our visit from the East Anglia Air Ambulance yesterday. They ran First Aid workshops with our KS2 children throughout the day. The children really seemed to enjoy the experience, especially practicing CPR on the test dummies! The instructors were very impressed by both the behaviour of our children and also how well they listened and responded to the instructors. He described them all as a credit to the school which was so lovely to hear. I was also very impressed by how many parents came for the parent first aid session, hopefully you all learned something useful.

We've also been running an inter class tag rugby tournament in KS2 which has been a great success. The children certainly seemed to relish the friendly competition.

Just a reminder that we break up for half term today and look forward to welcoming the children back to school on Monday 28th October. I hope you all have a lovely break over half term.

Latest news from Isle of Ely Primary School...

- ❖ The school are currently recruiting a caretaker. Please contact the school office on admin@isleofelyprimary.org if you would like further information.
- ❖ As a school we are working together to collect the ALDI Kit for Schools stickers. Please hand any stickers you may have in to the class teachers. If we are able to collect 300 stickers we will receive an exclusive sports kit plus a chance to win £20,000 for the school.
- ❖ We welcome Mrs Kiss, Mrs French and Mrs Ashcroft to our wonderful TA team after half term.

Dates for your diary...

Next week:

- Tuesday 29th October – Open Session for Y20 intake 10am
- Wednesday 30th October – Open Session for Y20 intake at 1.30pm
- Wednesday 30th October – Science with Parents 8.30-9.30am
- Friday 1st November – 8.45am – Parent Council Meeting
- Friday 1st November – 17.30 – PTA Firework Display

Forward Planning:

- Wednesday 6th November – Individual School Photos
- Wednesday 6th November – Year 3 – Recycle Day
- Monday 11th November – Family Worker in 9 to 11am
- Friday 15th November – Children in Need.
- Wednesday 4th December – Touring theatre pantomime production of Beauty and the Beast at school
- Thursday 19th December 2019 – Last day of term
- Tuesday 7th January 2020 – First day of term (Monday 6th January is a staff training day)

Eco Council

Last week, the children were invited to chat to the class about why they would make a good Eco-Councillor to represent their peers. There were many great conversations that stemmed from this and the children showed great passion for looking after our planet! The classes then voted and the most popular candidate in each class was presented with their Eco-Councillor badge in assembly. Eco-Council meetings will begin after half term.

Dragonfly Class – Emmy, well done to her!

Bumblebee Class – William, well done to him!

Spider Class – Lilly, well done to her!

Caterpillar Class – Tom, well done to him!

Wasp Class – Noam, well done to him!

Earwig Class – Fergus, well done to him!

Moth Class – Idrees, well done to him!

Grasshopper Class – Mishka, well done to her!

Ant Class – Toby and Ollie, well done to them!

Mayfly Class – Lewis, well done to him!

What we've done this week...

Little Elvers: This week Little Elvers have been continuing to explore the topic of Autumn. They have been collecting and investigating leaves, exploring the different ways of using them - leaf printing in paint, leaf rubbing and drawing around them. We also had a very special visit from some paramedics! The children explored the ambulance and the equipment inside. They got to go into the ambulance to find out what special equipment is used and worn - getting to try on the paramedics helmets and explored the sounds of the siren.

Reception: This week we have been travelling in our class trains, we have seen space rockets and unicorns! In literacy we have been segmenting and blending words, with our friend Fred. In maths we have learnt new vocabulary, one more and one less. We have been showing this on our number lines. Please enjoy your child's reading book with them over half term. Have a safe and fun break.

Year One: This week have been innovating and writing our own version of 'Old Bear'. We have ensured that our stories include adjectives, conjunctions and interesting sentences. Additionally this week we have expanded our addition knowledge looking at a variety of vocabulary and problems which link with addition. Most excitingly we designed, made and evaluated our own toy! We hope you have a lovely half term. Year 1 PE will be Thursday afternoons, they will be both inside and outside so please ensure they have the correct kit. Show and Share sessions will now be taking place on a Wednesday! The items that are brought in must be linked to our theme 'Let there be light'. Our mini WOW for the theme is on November the 7th, this is the Year 1 Bonfire.

Year Two: We have finished writing our Dragon poems. We have worked very hard on identifying and using nouns and adjectives in our writing. We have been comparing quantities in maths and trying to explain which set has more, less or equal to in them. We found this quite a challenge, but we are working very hard to understand and explain it. Mrs Bates taught us the song 'Puff the Magic Dragon' we have learnt it and added actions to it. We have also played the chorus on the xylophones. We performed it to the year 5 pupils and they were amazed. In RE we answered the question 'Is it possible to be kind to each other all of the time?' This week marks the end of our 'Castles and Dragons' theme. We have learnt so much and had lots of fun.

Year Three: Year 3 have been learning how to write instructions this week, using imperative verbs and adverbs to make their directions clear. In Design Technology the classes have been learning about bridges to answer the Big Question – How could we help Hereward build a bridge across the Fens? The children have also been completing termly assessments to enable us to track progress. We hope the children have a relaxing half term, but would like all children to continue to read as much as possible.

Year Four: This week, the children in Year 4 have been writing their own warning stories. They have used fantastic vocabulary for their descriptions and were able to create tension. In maths, we have been learning about formal written methods for addition and have used place value grids to support with our understanding of exchanging. Year 4 have also been busy learning about bridges as part of our theme lessons, where the children needed to design a bridge to help Hereward the Wake cross the Fens. The children investigated how to make their bridges stronger by changing the height and shape of the beams, and decided which materials would work best for this. We then tested them out to see if they could hold the weight of a car. We had great fun!

Year Five: This week, children have been working on subtraction in maths, and using tools to check their work: inverse operations and estimating specifically. In English, the children have shown a amazing dedication in writing up a recount of their school trip to West Stow. Our theme topic has been history, where the children have been learning even more about the Anglo-Saxons and their time in England. They're becoming quite the historians. Finally, Friday is our school trip to the Fire Station and also the last day of our battle between Ant and Mayfly classes. Rematch set for over half term, good luck!

PTA News

Diary dates:

Halloween cake sale and second hand uniform sale – Wednesday 30th October 3pm

We will be holding a Halloween themed cake sale on Wednesday 30th October at 3pm so please do drop by to pick up some spooky but yummy treats! Cakes are 50p each and as always all cake donations (bought or home-made) are very much appreciated.

Please make sure that any containers you would like returned are clearly labelled with your child's name and class, and remember we are a nut free school. The committee will be on hand to receive any donations at drop off or alternatively please bring your donations along to the stand outside the school office from 2.45pm onwards.

Fireworks event - Friday 1st November, from 5.30 on the school field.

We are really pleased to announce that generous sponsorship has been pledged from Greensleeves Care Home, Hopkins Homes and the landowners of the Orchard Green development, in support of this new community event.

***HELP NEEDED ! ***

We urgently need more parent volunteers to help out on the evening please. We would be especially grateful for a couple of parents to help on the gate, and a few parents to run the licensed bar or to help us set up after school on the Friday. Please do email the PTA if you're happy to lend a hand. We are also asking parents to please consider donating a bottle of something alcoholic for the raffle. The winner takes away a 'barrow of booze' ! Please hand in any bottle donations to the school office.

Tickets are on sale for the event priced at £10 for a family (two adults and two children) or £5 per adult and £2 per child - please email pta@isleofelyprimary.org for more details.

We have a ticket stand at pick up each day, for you to purchase or collect your tickets.

Children's Disco – Wednesday 18th December.

The disco for KS1 will begin at 4pm and for KS2 at 5.15pm

Thanks for your support!

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

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