

Head Teacher's Comment – from Bryony Surtees

Welcome back to a new school year. I know the summer holidays now feel a distant memory but I do hope that you all had a lovely break and enjoyed the unusually sunny August. The beginning of term has started really well, the children have settled into their new classes and are enjoying the challenges of their new year groups. There have been a few changes this year with new timetables, family dining and our new behaviour curriculum but the children are coping well with the changes and I hope you feel that we are communicating more now and that you like Class Dojo. Please remember that this is a one way communication tool, if you would like to let a teacher know something, please use the admin email address as usual. As part of our safeguarding procedures, we have to make sure the school is secure at all times and as we have children in after school clubs at the end of the day, it is important that you all leave the site promptly so it can be secured swiftly, please do not allow your child on the field – thank you for your understanding with this. Also a gentle reminder that school starts at 0830 and the children should be in their classroom ready to learn at this time and no later. Enjoy the weekend.

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

Staffing Update:

We are pleased that Mrs Vicky Burrows joined our team at the start of the year after Mrs Williams sadly left at the end of July. Mrs Burrows is working with the Reception team.

I am pleased to inform you that Mrs Katie Bartolozzi is pregnant and is expecting her baby in March which means she will be with us for at least half of the year. As soon as Katie's replacement has been organised, I will update Moth's parents.

Parking:

We have received an email from PC Sophie Walker, a local police officer, as one of the local residents has made a complaint to the police about parents parking in the private car park of the flats opposite the school, blocking them in and incidents of road rage. There is ample space in our school car park and around the school that you do not need to park in a private car park nor block any one in. It breaks our school rule of respect. Residents are getting frustrated which is understandable and not necessary. Please be kind, considerate and respectful of our local residents when parking and use the appropriate places to park.

Trips & visits:

We have now published our trips and visits for each class for the whole year. The trips/visits that are in maroon form part of our Isle of Ely 20 which Mr Lloyd launched last year. The children will receive a badge once they have completed these trips and the idea is that the children collect as many badges as possible and the hope is that the children who have started in our Reception this year, will collect all 20 badges as they progress through the school. All of the other trips relate to an area of the curriculum and will enrich the children's experience. You will be informed of dates and costings as soon as the trip is booked.

Meet the teacher:

You have been invited to meet the teacher on Tuesday 24th September. This is an invite for all parents within the class, not individual invites, and the teachers will talk to you about the curriculum and expectations of the year. It will also give you an opportunity to ask any questions that you may have. If you have more than one child, you may not be able to attend all of the meetings, but the teachers will put the relevant information discussed on Class Dojo. Parents evening in November is an opportunity to discuss your child in detail.

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Code of conduct:

Active Learning Trust sets out clear expectations and guidelines on behaviour for all members of our community. This includes pupils (through our behaviour policy), staff (through the staff code of conduct) and all other adults (through Code of Conduct for Adults).

The Code of Conduct refers to any adult that may have cause or reason to have contact with the school community, and includes, parents (including anyone caring for a child such as a grandparent or childminder), volunteers and other visiting parties. Please remember that our school is a zero tolerance zone. Inappropriate language, threats or aggressive behaviour (verbal or physical) towards staff, pupils or anyone within the school community will not be tolerated on our premises. Thank you!

Communication with class teachers:

Parents and Carers wanting to message a class teacher to share information about their child can do so via email, telephone conversation or a meeting in person. Parents should email the school office; teachers will aim to reply to emails within 5 working days.

Parents can request meetings with teachers by sending an email or speaking to the school office team. The message will be forwarded to the teacher who will arrange a meeting or telephone conversation as a matter of priority.

School administration team and other members of staff are not able to ask teachers to come out of class to speak to parents during school hours – including before and after lessons – where no appointment has been made.

Teachers can use the Class Dojo platform to send quick messages to all parents. However, this is a one-way channel of communication and teachers will not read or reply to Class Dojo messages from parents/carers.

Additionally, parents of children who have active APDRs in place are able to make comments and post messages on the Edukey platform – these will be read and actioned at an appropriate time. Teachers will not reply to Edukey messages.

Communication with Senior Leadership Team:

In case of urgent enquiries or where a matter has not been resolved to the parent/carer's satisfaction, a meeting with a member of SLT should be requested.

Family dining:

Family dining is working really well. The children's table manners and use of knives and forks is improving. The children are enjoying having jobs and they are mindful of each other whilst all waiting to eat together. The lunch hall is calmer and the topics of conversation are ranging from best restaurants and Take outs in Ely to the football results or what the children have learnt. It is lovely to see the older and younger children interacting and conversing with each other. The lunch hour for all children is divided into half an hour of eating in the hall and half an hour of playing outside with their friends.



IOE Fortnightly Newsletter

20th September 2024

School Term Dates 2024/2025

Autumn Term 2024:

Starts Monday 2nd September

Half term Monday 28th October 2024 to Friday 1st November 2024

Ends Friday 20th December 2024

Christmas holiday Saturday 21st December 2024 to Sunday 5th January 2025

Spring Term 2025:

Starts Monday 6th January 2025

Half term Monday 17th February 2025 to Friday 21st February 2025

Ends Friday 4th April 2025

Spring (Easter) holiday Saturday 5th April 2025 to Monday 21st April 2025

Summer Term 2025:

Starts Tuesday 22nd April 2025

Half term Monday 26th May 2025 to Friday 30th May 2025

Ends Tuesday 22nd July 2025

Summer holiday Wednesday 23rd July 2025 to Friday 29th August 2025

PD Days (School closed to children):

Monday 2nd September 2024

Tuesday 3rd September 2024

Monday 4th November 2024

Monday 6th January 2025

Friday 23rd May 2025