

Head Teacher's Comment – from Bryony Surtees

Thankfully, our COVID rates have declined a lot over the past week and we seem to be getting back to our 'normal' attendance rates. We now only have a few staff who haven't fallen ill with it and very few children. From next Friday, 1st April, all COVID restrictions will end and people with COVID symptoms will be asked to exercise personal responsibility when deciding whether to stay at home. Hopefully, with the beginning of spring, the children will stay well and healthy and we will see our attendance rates continue to increase which will mean the children will not be missing out on any aspects of their learning and being with their friends. We ended last week wearing red noses for Comic Relief and we started this week wearing odd socks to raise awareness of Downs Syndrome and the children have thought about how to be inclusive and recognise that whilst we are all different, we are all equal. Next week we are looking forward to our first live performances for a few years. The children have been practising hard and they are very excited to showcase all of their hard work. We are hoping that in the summer term, we will be able to hold our share sessions and invite parents in to see the children take part in Talk4Writing lessons as well as join us as we celebrate Arts week and Sports Day. We will send out more details nearer the time. Next Friday, 1st April, we break up for the Easter holidays and the children return to school on Wednesday 20th April. I wish you all an enjoyable and happy weekend!

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

Staffing Update:

Sadly, Mrs Nicky Pauley left us today. We thank her for all of her hard work and wish her well with her future endeavours.

Five months ago, Mrs Hilary Young joined us to help in the office for a few weeks in the run up until Christmas. We have been lucky to keep her for a few extra weeks but sadly she is moving on next Friday to take up a new post with the Cathedral. We would like to thank her for all of her hard work, help and support and wish her well in her new post.

Parking:

As you are aware, double yellow lines are due to be painted around the corners of School Road. We have been informed that this will take place next week and we look forward to School Road being a safer place to cross.

Termly Reports:

Your child will bring their termly report home on Thursday 31st March. These are a follow up from your parents' evening conversations and should reflect your discussions with your child's class teacher. Any questions or queries, please email the school office who will pass on your email to the class teacher.

School uniform:

The children in Key Stage 2, Years 3 – 6, are expected to wear a white shirt, grey trousers or skirt, an Isle of Ely sweatshirt/cardigan (Maroon) and a **school tie** except on PE days when they are asked to wear PE kit.

Year 3 and Year 4 Productions:

The children are very excited about performing their year group performances to live audiences. We look forward to welcoming the families of the children into school on Monday and Tuesday and we ask you to wear a mask and socially distance. Year 4 are performing on Monday 28th March at 1400 and 1700 and Year 3 are performing on Tuesday 29th March at 1400 and 1700. We look forward to seeing you there.

Daylight Saving:

Please remember to put your clocks forward at 1am on Sunday 27th March.

Getting Ready for Change – Reception Year:

Starting school or education is a wonderful and exciting time. To help families prepare for this transition (change), local NHS healthcare professionals have created an online health questionnaire that can be your 'Getting Ready for Change' checklist. This invitation goes out to every parent or carer living in Cambridgeshire or Peterborough who has a child aged 4-5 years.

It covers lots of points from hearing and eyesight through to emotional health and behaviour. After answering the questions you will be provided with some helpful information and on-line resources along with a summary of your answers.

You can access the questionnaire by using this link:

<https://portal.cambspborocyphs.nhs.uk/GRfC/Reception>

School Term Dates 2021/2022

Spring term

Starts	Tuesday 4th January 2022
Half term	Monday 14th February - Friday 18th February
Ends	Friday 1st April 2022
Spring (Easter) holiday	Monday 4th April - Monday 18th April 2022

Summer Term

Starts	Tuesday 19th April 2022
Half term	Monday 30th May - Friday 3rd June
Ends	Friday 22nd July 2022
Bank Holiday (School Closed)	Monday 2nd May 2022 & Monday 6 th June

**PD days - The school is closed on the following days for the professional development of staff
1st September 2021, 22nd October 2021, 4th January 2022, 19th April 2022, 27th May 2022**