

Head Teacher's Comment – from Bryony Surtees

The first half of the summer term is now at an end and looking back, it is always surprising how quickly the half term goes. At this time of year, everyone starts to look ahead and think about next year. The Year 6 children think about moving onto their respective secondary schools, the staff think about what class they will be in next year and the children think about who will be their class teacher. After half term, we will be asking the children to choose five friends they would like to be with in their next year class and then Mrs Godfrey and I will be organising the classes. Please do chat with your child/ren over half term as we will always guarantee they will be with at least one of their friends. I hope you enjoy the half term break, see you on Monday 3rd June.

Latest news and information from Isle of Ely Primary School

Staffing update:

A big welcome to Mr Duncan Bashford who has joined us from Premier Education following Mr Smith's departure. All of the children will get to know him very quickly.

Congratulations to Miss Lucy Peck and Miss Michelle Reitingger, who have been appointed permanent teachers at the school.

Attendance:

For most pupils, the best place to be is in school, surrounded by the support of their friends and teachers. This is important not just for your child's learning, but also for their overall wellbeing, wider development and their mental health. It's usually safe for parents and carers to send their children to school with mild illnesses, like a minor cough, runny nose or sore throat.

However, children should stay at home if they have a high temperature of 38C or above or are vomiting.

Children can sometimes feel a little bit worried about going to school. Mostly, this is a very normal emotion.

It's important to recognise that going into school can help children to feel less worried than letting them stay at home and anxiety is not an authorised reason for absence.

Children who are registered at a school but regularly fail to turn up are officially referred to as being 'persistently' or 'severely' absent.

Pupils who have missed more than 10 per cent of school sessions are considered persistently absent, while children who have missed more than 50 per cent of school sessions are referred to as severely absent.

We want all of the children's attendance to be at 96% and above but if your child's attendance dips below that, expect to have a conversation with your child's class teacher, quickly followed by a letter and if it continues to drop, a Parent Contract Meeting with Mrs Surtees.

Key Stage 2 SATs:

A big well done to all of the Year 6 pupils who sat their Key Stage 2 SAT tests last week. They all truly showed our school values of resilience, responsibility and courage. The results are posted on 9th July and we will send them out to parents as soon as possible afterwards.

House Points:

Congratulations to Red Team who again won this half term's Team Cup. They have kindly decided to celebrate with the whole school and so everyone can have an extra break time in the first week back.

Red: 14, 338

Green: 13, 217

Yellow: 12, 848

Blue: 12, 651

Arts week:

A big thank you to all of the wonderful artists who have lead workshops for the children this week. It has been a fabulous week enjoyed by everyone. Thank you also if you attended one of our parent share sessions, the children love having you in school.

Green House Charity Day

Green house charity day is planned to take place on Friday 21st June. House Captains, Georgia and William are currently planning the day but are thinking about hosting a penalty shoot-out and a music run to raise money for Jimmy's Cambridge, which supports homeless people. Further details will follow soon.

PTA

The PTA are still busy organising Isle Fest and tickets will go live on June 3rd. There is lots of exciting stuff being planned and we can't wait to see you on June 29th. If you want to have a stall or know anybody who would want one please contact the PTA at pta@isleofelyprimary.org.

Online safety:

WhatsApp is one of the most popular instant messaging apps, used by over 2 billion people in 180 countries. It allows you to send and receive messages, as well as make voice and video calls. You can connect with people individually or join group chats where lots of people can contribute. However, did you know that the app is rated 16+ and not suitable for primary aged pupils. However, we know that there are WhatsApp groups across the school and so to ensure your child stays safe, please discuss the App and how to use it safely:

Make use of safety features:

Show your child how to block and report other users of the app or inappropriate content.

Talk about sharing:

Talk to your child regularly about what they should and shouldn't share with others on WhatsApp.

Remind your child that, even if they think what they are sending will stay private, others might save, forward or screenshot it. Talk to them about making sure others are comfortable with what they are sending and let them know they can come to you or someone at school if they are worried about something they have shared on the app.

The end of the day:

At the end of the day, please collect your child/ren and leave the school premises quickly. Please do not allow them to play on the field or on the play equipment as there are no staff there to supervise the children. We also have to lock the gates swiftly as there are many after school clubs and activities. Thank you for your understanding with this.

Summer Term 2024:

Starts	Monday 15 April 2024
Half term	Monday 27 May 2024 to Friday 31 May 2024
Ends	Friday 19th July
Summer holiday:	Saturday 20 July 2024 to Friday 30 August 2024

PD Days (School closed to children):

Friday 24th May 2024