**Head Teacher’s Comment – from Bryony Surtees**

The one way system has been working well so far but we have been lucky with the weather at pick up and drop off times. If it rains, our plan is to continue with the usual system but we may need to make some small adjustments if it is pouring. We will communicate these adjustments as and then they are needed. The weather has certainly turned cold, wet and windy this week. Please make sure that your child has a coat with them at school as we do go outside in all weathers and obviously they have to wait outside to be picked up. Together we have been focusing on our school rule of Ready this week and the children have been thinking about what they can do to be ready to learn both inside and outside of school. The children know that having a healthy diet, getting lots of exercise along with plenty of sleep will prepare them for the next day and help them learn as well as being organised and ready to listen. All of our Head teacher awards were presented to the children who showcased being ready this week and next week we will be thinking about being respectful. I hope you all manage to have a restful and enjoyable weekend so the children come back raring and ready to learn on Monday.

**Latest news and information from Isle of Ely Primary School…**

**Dates**:

Attached to the newsletter is a list of dates for the year, please bear in mind that these dates are subject to change. We have tried to keep things as normal as possible but we may need to make some changes to the events nearer the time and some of the events will be now virtual. For example, it will not be possible for parents to come to a share session this half term but we will video the lesson and email it to parents and upload it onto the website and our parents’ forum will also be virtual.

**Parking:**

We know many of you are now walking and cycling to school at the moment which we would obviously encourage and I hope you will continue to do this as we head towards the winter months. There was an increase in cars and traffic this week but please be mindful of our neighbours and do not block their drives or park on the pavements or on corners as this can be dangerous for all.

We have had a request to ask that you don’t park at the entrance to Stour Green. Unfortunately, the entrance to Stour Green does not have double yellow lines but, as you might know, has blind corners from both sides entering the road. At both school drop off and pick up times there has an increased number of cars parked at the entrance to the road (some parking right up to the junctions), meaning cars must enter the road on the wrong side, making it very difficult to enter and leave the road safely. Please do be mindful of everyone’s safety and park accordingly.

**Informal Parents’ Evening**:

You should have all signed up for your parents’ evening slot by now so please make sure you note the time and day. On Monday you will be emailed a link to the meeting to your normal email address and you can then click on the link at your allocated time and the teachers’ will let you into your meeting. Please do not click on the link early as the teacher will not be available and please bear with us if the teachers are running behind or we have technical difficulties.

**Latest news and information from Isle of Ely Primary School…**

**Eco Council:**

This week many of the children put themselves forward to be on our Eco Council and canvassed their classmates. The classes then voted and today the councillors were announced. The children were congratulated in celebration assembly this morning and they are looking forward to their first meeting with Mrs Ryan, our outdoor lead.

Next week, the children will be voting for our House Captains.

**Family Support Worker:**

Michelle West, our family support worker, is still available to offer help and support for any family that needs it but at the moment this will have to be virtually. There is further information on the attached poster and if you would like us to arrange a meeting, please do let us know and we can facilitate that.

**Dogs:**

Please be aware that we do not allow dog onto our school site which includes if they are being carried or in the car park.

**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

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.

The

**Dates and School Term Dates 2020/2021**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **September** | |
| Monday 28th | Informal parent meetings 1530-1730 (Via TEAMS) |
| Wednesday 30th | Informal parent meetings 1530-1930 (Via TEAMS) |

**Autumn term**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Starts | Monday 7th September (3rd & 4th September PD days) |
| Half term | Monday 26th - Friday 30th October 2020 (Monday 19th 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**