

Head Teacher's Comment – from Bryony Surtees

I had the privilege of attending Young Voices with the choir at the O2 last week and was so proud of our children for their conduct, commitment and enjoyment throughout the whole day. It was a very long day, we left at 1030 and arrived back in Ely at midnight but throughout the children were just delighted to be part of something so big. They took pleasure in singing with all of the other children, and for their parents and they absolutely loved the guest stars who sang and performed with them. I am sure it has inspired our children to reach for the stars and memories were made that day which will stay with them for a whole life time. I would like to say a big thank you to Orchards Care home who have kindly donated a collection of non-fiction books to the school for us to add to our library – it is very kind and generous of them and greatly appreciated. One of their residents and some of their staff hand delivered the books this week and our library monitors enjoyed chatting with the group and about their love of reading and their favourite subjects at school, I've tweeted a lovely photo of the group enjoying each other's company. I wish you all a fabulous weekend, the last in January!

Latest news and information from Isle of Ely Primary School

Red House Charity Day:

The children thoroughly enjoyed Red House Charity day and we are pleased to say that we have raised £314 for SANDs charity. If you haven't donated yet, please click on the link below – we are at 62% of our target but Millie and Queenie, Red House Captains, would love to hit their target of £500 for such a worthy charity.

[Isle of Ely Primary School is fundraising for Sands, the stillbirth and neonatal death charity \(justgiving.com\)](https://www.justgiving.com/Isle-of-Ely-Primary-School/SANDs-charity)

Talent Show:

As part of Red House Charity day last Friday, we held a talent competition. It was a wonderful community event and thoroughly enjoyed by all. The talent on show was outstanding and we are very proud of everyone who took part, including those who auditioned. Congratulations to Mayor and Mayoress who won the talent show with their fantastic Nigerian dance, it was a joy to watch.

Parking:

I have been approached by parents who are concerned for the safety of everyone by other parents parking dangerously and illegally. The beginning and the end of the day is very busy around the school and everyone is in a rush but please be mindful of how you park and how this may affect others. Our car park is always open and maybe the safest option to park.

Wellies:

We are looking for donations of wellies of all different sizes. This will mean that any child can borrow a pair of wellies from the rack and go on the field or the forest school area if they do not have a change of footwear. Any old wellies you have, please send to the office for us to use and recycle.

Facebook:

Our new Isle of Ely Facebook page will be going live next week and this will replace the old community page which will be closed down. Further details will follow shortly.

Parents' Share:

Next week we are opening our doors for our next parent share sessions. You will be joining your child in a maths lessons to see how we teach maths and what a maths lesson looks like for our children.

Monday – Reception

Tuesday – Key Stage 2

Wednesday – Key Stage 1

All of our share sessions start at 0830, or as close to as possible, once the children are registered and settled, so please wait in the playground and wait to be collected and invited into your child's class.

Parents' coffee morning:

On Friday 2nd February at 0845, we are holding our next parents' coffee morning. Please do join Mrs Godfrey and Mrs Surtees where we will be discussing our core values and how you can support your child both in school and also at home.

School Values:

Our school value this week has been resilience. Resilience is about not giving up even when things are difficult, embracing challenge, being able to withstand stress, bouncebackability and resilience helps you feel confident. Those who show resilience have more than one go at something tricky, they don't give up straight away, they know it's OK to make mistakes and that mistakes are helpful. Resilient people try something new and will persevere until they achieve what they want to achieve. Try encouraging your child to try something new, or to do something they find difficult and encourage them to persevere and help build their resilience.

Online Safety:

East Cambs District Council has set up information pages to support families and their young people with cyberbullying. If you would like further information, please click on the below.

[Cyberbullying | East Cambridgeshire District Council \(eastcambs.gov.uk\)](https://www.eastcambs.gov.uk/cyberbullying)

If you are concerned your child may be affected by Cyberbullying, please inform your child's class teacher.

School Term Dates 2023/2024

Spring Term 2024:

Starts	Wednesday 3 rd January
Half term	Monday 19 February 2024 to Friday 23 February 2024
Ends	Thursday 28 th March
Spring (Easter) holiday	Friday 29 March 2023 to Sunday 14 April 2024

Summer Term 2024:

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

PD Days (School closed to children):

Friday 24th May 2024