

**Head Teacher's Comment – from Helen Davies**

The children have eagerly begun their Christmas preparations this week – it is all very exciting. They have been busy learning their Christmas songs and practising for the upcoming Christmas performances. It has been lovely to see their enthusiasm and hear them sing! We can't wait to share it with you all.

The children have also recorded their Sleeps till Santa this morning which they thoroughly enjoyed, listen out for them on BBC Radio Cambridgeshire! They were brilliant.

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

**National Tree Planting week**

Wow! What a success this has been! The children have been learning all about trees this week which was launched last Friday with the Greener Growth Day. A huge thank you to all of the parent volunteers- it was a massive success!

**Book Fair**

Thank you to all of you who supported our Book Fair this year. This has meant we have raised lots of money for the school to spend on books.

**Christmas Jumper Day**

On Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December we will be participating in National Christmas Jumper Day. This means that for the donation of £1 the children can wear their normal school uniform with a Christmas Jumper. The money raised will be donated to the charity 'Save The Children'.

**Attendance**

After the last Parent Council meeting it has been decided that the school will no longer reward 100% attendance with certificates and medals. But, please be aware that if your child's attendance falls below 95% you will receive a letter expressing our concerns. Please can we also remind you that if a child arrives in school after 8.35am they will be marked as late and after 8.50am they will be marked as absent for that session.

**Indoor PE**

Over the last couple of weeks we have had a few children saying they cannot take their shoes and socks off for indoor PE because they have a verruca. If this is the case we ask that parents write in to the class teacher to say that they cannot take their shoes and socks off and that the parents provide adequate indoor footwear instead.

**Training Days**

A reminder that the school will be closed to children on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January and Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January for Teacher training days.

### **Car Park**

We are continuing to receive regular complaints about dangerous driving around the school but in particular in the school car park. I can't stress enough how important our children's safety is. As previously stated we will continue to monitor the situation and if it does not improve we will be forced to follow the lead of other schools in the area and close the car park.

### **Gymnastics**

Our year 3 and year 4 gymnastics teams did fantastically at The Hive today. They worked really hard and made us all very proud! Our year 4 team came first and our year 3 team came 3<sup>rd</sup>. A big congratulations to all those involved.

### **Nuts**

Just a reminder that we are a nut free school. There should be no nut or nut based products in packed lunches or snacks. This includes chocolate and nut spreads. On the same note if children spill any nut or chocolate and nut based spreads on their school clothes in the morning they will need to change.

### **Assistant Caretaker**

We would like to extend a warm welcome to Mr Frampton who has joined the school as our new Assistant Caretaker.

### **PTA News**

#### **Christmas Cards**

Thank you to everyone who ordered Christmas cards and other items. These will be delivered to school soon and sent out via your class teachers over the next week. If you submitted an order after the deadline, delivery will be a little later.

#### **Fundraising from your Sofa – part 2**

We are now registered with AmazonSmile. If you shop with Amazon, you can instead shop the same content from Smile and the PTA will receive 0.5% of your spend at no extra cost to you.

1. Sign in to [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) on your desktop or mobile phone browser.
2. Go to Your Account from the top of any page, and then select the option to Change your Charity.
3. Search for Isle of Ely PTA

#### **Keep in touch with PTA news:**

Email us: [pta@isleofelyprimary.org](mailto:pta@isleofelyprimary.org)

Sign up to our mailing list: <http://eepurl.com/dvQ9Mf>

Follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/IsleOfElyPTA/>

### Class news

**Little Elvers:** This week in Little Elvers we have begun to explore the topic of Winter. We have been exploring the scenery within this season -the changes that take place, what we can feel and see that is different. To go along with this we have created lots of snowflakes practicing scissor control, watercolour winter scene pictures and have also used large blocks of ice to mark make onto, describing the textures of the ice.

**Reception:** Bob our alien has had lots of fun helping us with real and alien words. We now need to help him get home! In literacy, we have recorded instructions for Bob to make jelly. In math, we have been recording and matching amounts. Our Big Question next week: "What did Bob see on his way home?". Each week the children are learning new tricky words. This is a useful link <https://uk.video.search.yahoo.com/yhs/search?fr=yhs-itm-001&hsimp=yhs-01&hspart=itm&p=tricky+words#id=12&vid=df9106cc4616ca4fe333a1f6a5b5e029&action=click>

**Year 1:** We have been writing our innovated story, the children have written fantastically well ensuring they include 'ed' suffix words, WOW words, lots of description, beautiful handwriting and their phonics knowledge to spell. We have also begun to look at tens and ones and the importance of place value above 10. Investigating teen numbers and even larger ones. In theme we have explored Vincent Van Gogh looking at how he mark makes, please ensure your child has an art top in school to create their own starry night painting next week using acrylic. Best of all we have practiced our nativity and it is looking fabulous! Have a wonderful weekend!

**Year 2:** We all enjoyed planting our trees last Friday. Thank you to all the adults who shared this experience with us. This week we have made 'Tree Fairies' to place on the trees to keep them safe and to help them grow. Next Friday is our trip to the 'National Space Centre'. If you have not given permission or paid for this trip yet, contact the school office. All costumes for the play need to be in school on Monday in a clearly named bag. If you have any questions or queries about this please speak to Mrs Bates or Miss Lewis. Our dress rehearsal is on Thursday. The rest of the children in the school will watch it. On the inside cover of your child's reading log they have a login for 'Purple Mash', a website children can access at home to support their learning and development in ICT skills. Please help your child to logon and explore it. It was a pleasure to see you all at parents' evenings this week. It was a great opportunity for us all to celebrate your child's successes and things they need to develop.

**Year 3:** We have been learning how to add and subtract 3 digit numbers crossing tens and hundreds. We have continued to learn our new non-fiction text this week and the children have worked really hard to memorise the story. We have discussed direct and reported speech and power of three. In science, the children have continued to learn about how shadows are formed and have conducted an experiment using puppets to form their own shadows. Homework books are due back on Wednesdays, ready to be sent home again on Thursdays. Please ensure your child is also completing their 15 minutes a week on TT rockstars.

**Year 4:** Year 4 have had lots of interesting conversations about British values. We have thought about why the Rule of Law is important and taking responsibility for our actions. In our Maths lessons, we have been thinking about how we can use our times tables to solve problems and in English we have been writing poems about the trees we planted last Friday. We have also made artwork based around these trees.

**Year 5:** This week, Year 5 have been reflecting on last week's tree planting as well as our current affairs with democracy. We have been forming our own parties and writing manifestos for people to support. They have engaged eagerly in these activities and have stood for some great things. In English we have consolidated our debating skills by writing persuasively about issues that affect our school. In Maths, we have gone into detail about multiplying and dividing by 10, 100 and 1000 and how we use easy step by step methods to solve problems.



## IOE Weekly Newsletter

29<sup>th</sup> November 2019

### Diary dates & events

#### Next week:

- Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December – Reception class vision screening
- Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December – KS1 costumes in school in a named bag
- Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December – Touring theatre pantomime production of Beauty and the Beast at school
- Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December – KS1 dress rehearsal, watched by whole school
- Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December – Year 2 and year 5 National Space Centre trip (7.45am drop off & 5.30pm return)

#### Forward Planning:

- Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas decoration morning, parents can join in
- Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December – Years 3 and 4 trip to St Marys.
- Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December – Open session for 2020 Reception intake at 2pm
- Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December – Moth Parents evening 3.30-5.30pm
- Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December – KS1 performance at 9am (for parents with siblings)
- Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December – KS1 performance at 2pm
- Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December – KS1 performance at 5pm
- Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December – Moth class parents evening 3.30pm -5.30pm
- Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December – Whole school flu immunisation
- Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December – Save the Children Christmas Jumper day
- Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas lunch menu
- Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December – 9am and 2.15pm Reception class Nativity
- Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December – 9am Little Elvers Nativity
- Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December – PTA Children's Disco
- Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December – Surprise visit for Little Elvers at 9.30am
- Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2019 – Last day of term
- Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2020 – First day of term (Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January and Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January are staff training day)
- Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2020 – Open session for 2020 Reception intake at 9am

#### 2019/2020 Term dates:

**Spring term:** Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January (6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> January PD days – school closed to children) to Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April

**Half term:** Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February (PD day – school closed to children) to Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2020

**Spring (Easter Holiday):** Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2020 to Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2020 (includes Bank Holidays)

**Summer term:** Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2020 to Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2020

**Half term:** Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2020 (May Bank Holiday) to Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2020

**Bank Holiday:** Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May (School closed to children)