

## Working together to be the best we can possibly be.

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. *Philippians 4.13*

19<sup>th</sup> September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a super week this has been in school. Pupils are engaged and happy, making for a great and positive atmosphere for all.

### Safeguarding:

When considering online safety and understanding the challenges for our children being on social media platforms or chat functions, this video explains the risk very clearly: [TALK Checklist pby Internet Watch Foundation | Home \(iwf.org.uk\)](#)

### Wellbeing and Mental Health:



### Entry to the school site:

Please note that entry to the school site is controlled whilst children are present.

Please do not enter the school site without making the office aware.

Parents and carers can alert the office via the intercom system when they wish to enter or exit. For Pre-School drop off and pick up at lunchtime, the gate will be opened by a staff member.

**Reception and Year 6 only - National Height and Weight Measure measurement programme:**

Please see the attached letter and leaflet regarding the Reception and Year 6 National Height and Weight measurement programme.

Please note that if you do not want your child's height and weight to be checked, please email [eh.ncmp.healthyyou@nhs.net](mailto:eh.ncmp.healthyyou@nhs.net) with your child's official name, date of birth, school and year group confirming you would like to opt out your child. The deadline for opting out is Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2025. You will receive an email from the NCMP Team confirming that you opt out has been received

**Parking:**

Please ensure you are parking considerately at all times. Please avoid parking in front of the school gates, blocking driveways and parking on the pavements on Main Street and surrounding roads. Parking is not permitted in the pub car park unless you are a customer

**Pre-School drop off times:**

We would like to remind parents and carers that pre-school drop off times in the morning are 8.45am (pre-booked only) and 9am. The staff will come out at those times to welcome your children.

**You are invited: Public consultation:**

Do please come to the school hall on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2025 to find out more about the proposed extension of The Rackham. The event runs from 3.30 - 5.30pm.

More information here: [The Rackham C of E Primary School and Pre-School - Public Consultation | The Rackham C of E \(VC\) Primary School](#)



**We are turning The Rackham yellow for one day, Friday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2025:**

Children and adults can choose which part of their usual school uniform to turn yellow. Thank you in advance for your support. Please donate via this link:

<https://shop.youngminds.org.uk/shop/checkout/make-a-donation>

More than 1 in 4 young people have a probable mental health condition. Many aren't getting the help they need, when they need it. Some don't even know where to turn, who to talk to, or if anyone else feels the same.

By wearing yellow on World Mental Health Day (10th October), and donating what you can, you can show young people that they are not alone and that things can get better.



**Breaktime snacks: a reminder:** A reminder that morning break snacks should be fruit please. We are noticing a lot of other snacks that include sweet biscuits which unfortunately are inappropriate for school.

**No nuts:**

We would also like to remind all parents and carers that both the Pre-School and Primary school are nut free. This includes chocolate spreads like Nutella.

**Reception and Key Stage 1 school dinner on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> October:**

We will be offering all children in Reception and Key Stage 1 the chance to have a school meal on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> October. If you would still prefer to send in a packed lunch, please do so. If you think your child would prefer to try a school packed lunch instead of the main hot meal, please select this option on MCAS.

**Lost property:**

A purse has been found in church porch, containing a small amount of money. If you believe this to be yours/your child's please contact the school office.

### **Reception Stay and Play:**

We are delighted to offer an opportunity for Reception parents/carers to come into school and spend some time with their child. We will be running four morning sessions between Monday 6th October and Thursday 9th October. Each session will run between 8:30am and 9:30am. Parents or Carers will be able to come into class with their child in the morning and join in a phonics session before having the chance to play together in the classroom.

Our aim for these sessions is to give you first hand experience of how phonics is taught in Reception and to also have fun!

We hope you will be able to attend **one** of the sessions. Tickets can be booked via the Products and Trips tab on MCAS from next Friday 26<sup>th</sup> September. Please note that due to the space in our classrooms we are only able to offer one adult to attend per child for this event and younger siblings will not be able to come along.

On Friday 11th October at 8:50am we are holding a meeting in the hall for all of our Reception parents. We will give you further information about our phonics scheme and how you can support your child at home and also answer any questions you may have following your session in school with your child. This event should also be booked on MCAS via the Products and Trips tab. Bookings for both events will close on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> October.



**Year 4 Parent Information Evening – 25th September at 6pm** Please complete this form to register for the Year 4 Multiplication Table Check (MTC) Parent Information Evening. The event will place virtually and will begin at 6pm. The children in Year 4 will complete this statutory check later in the summer term. Booking will close at midday on 25<sup>th</sup> September.

### **Flu vaccinations:**

Flu has had a serious impact on the health of England's population over the past two winters.

Vaccinating your child helps reduce the risk of serious illness and plays an important role in protecting vulnerable individuals in your community, friends and family.

Our team will be visiting your child's school soon to offer the flu vaccine. You can choose between the quick, painless nasal spray or a pork gelatine-free injection.

Click here for further information: <https://bed.schoolvaccination.uk/flu/2025/cambsandpeterborough>

The form is available in 10 languages— select yours when it opens.

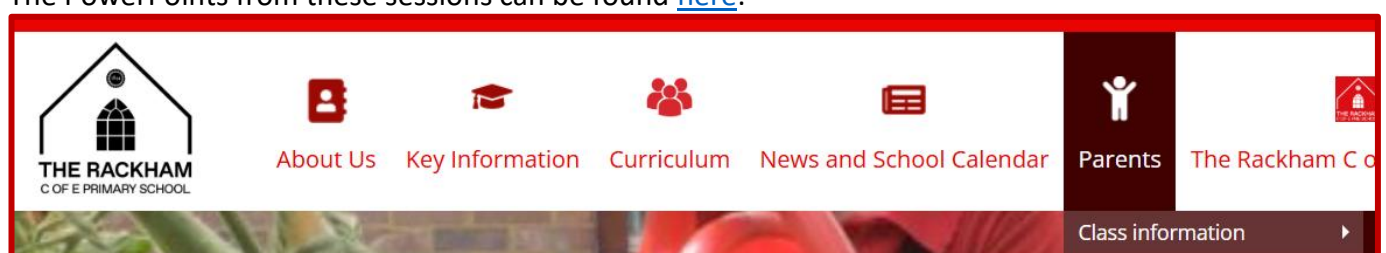
If you do not wish your child to be vaccinated, please submit a decline via the same link to avoid further contact from our team. Note: School aged children cannot receive this vaccination with their GP unless they are clinically vulnerable.

### **Topic webs:**

Please click [here](#) to view our topic webs for each year group for this term.

### **Meet the teachers:**

The PowerPoints from these sessions can be found [here](#):





### Clubs:

Club	Day	Time	Year Group	Dates
<b>Homework Club – NEW</b> <b>Booking will open at 6pm today</b>	Monday	After school: 3.15 – 4.15pm	Y3 to Y6	22 <sup>nd</sup> September to 20 <sup>th</sup> October. Please note this club will not be running on 13 <sup>th</sup> October
Colouring Club	Monday	Lunchtime: 12.45 – 13.15pm	Y1 and Y2	22 <sup>nd</sup> September to 20 <sup>th</sup> October
Christmas Card Club	Monday	Lunchtime: 12.45 – 13.15pm	Y1 and Y2	10 <sup>th</sup> November to 8 <sup>th</sup> December
<b>Library Club – NEW</b> <b>Booking will open at 6pm today</b>	Tuesday	Lunchtime: 13.00 – 13.30pm	Y3 – Y6	23 <sup>rd</sup> September to 21 <sup>st</sup> October
Needlework Club	Tuesday	After school: 3.15 – 4.15pm	Y5 and Y6	23 <sup>rd</sup> September to 9 <sup>th</sup> December
Picture Book Club	Wednesday	Lunchtime: 12.45 – 13.15pm	Y1 and Y2	24 <sup>th</sup> September to 22 <sup>nd</sup> October
Construction Club	Thursday	Lunchtime: 12.45 – 13.15pm	Y1 and Y2	25 <sup>th</sup> September to 23 <sup>rd</sup> October
Choir	Thursday	After school: 3.15 – 4.15pm	Y3 to Y6	25 <sup>th</sup> September to 4 <sup>th</sup> December
Art Club	Thursday	After school: 3.15 – 4.15pm	Y3 to Y6	25 <sup>th</sup> September to 23 <sup>rd</sup> October
Introduction to Netball	Thursday	After school: 3.15 – 4.15pm	Y1 and Y2	25 <sup>th</sup> September to 23 <sup>rd</sup> October

### How to book:

Booking for clubs opens at 6pm on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> September.

All clubs will begin during WC 22<sup>nd</sup> September and run to half term. Clubs that are continuing for the second half of the autumn term will begin again during WC 4<sup>th</sup> November.

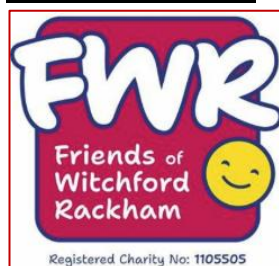
**All clubs running in the second half of the autumn term will finish during WC 1<sup>st</sup> December.**

### Donation requests:

Our KS1 classes will be needing some 2 litre plastic bottles and shoe boxes for lessons in the coming weeks. If you have any that you could donate to us, please bring them to the office.

We are also looking for any needlework supplies that are no longer required and would be very grateful for any donations to our needlework club. Many thanks.

### FWR events:



Save the date: **Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> November for FWR's Christmas Market.** Stall, Santa's Grotto, Reindeer Food and much, much more!



# Open Evening

The Rackham C of E Primary School

Is your child due to start school in  
September 2026?

Parent meeting and a tour  
of our beautiful school.

**Wednesday 8th October 2026**  
**6:00pm**

Working together to be the  
best we can possibly be.

*I can do all things through  
Christ who strengthens me*  
Philippians 4.13



**Reception 2026:**  
**Come to our open**  
**evening for**  
**prospective parents**  
**and carers:**  
**Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup>**  
**October at 6pm.**

## Activities and Events:



**Kids and Smartphones**  
an information evening for parents  
Everyone welcome

Guest Speaker: Amy Ruffell,  
Cambridgeshire's Lead for  
Smartphone Free Childhood

*Worried about your child's smartphone use?*

*Wondering when to give them their first  
smartphone?*

*Keen to chat to other parents about phones?*

Come along for an open, honest, non-  
judgmental conversation about the impact of  
smartphones on childhood



Ely

### When

7.30pm,  
Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup>  
October 2025

### Where

Ely St Johns  
Community Primary  
School  
St John's Rd, Ely CB6  
3BW

FREE EVENT

Tax credits &  
childcare  
vouchers  
accepted

ALL CHILDREN ARE WELCOME

## October Half-term Holiday CLUB

ST MARYS JR SCHOOL, HIGH  
BARN, ELY CB7 4RB

8.00 am - 5.45 pm £35  
9.00 am - 4.00pm £27

LOOKING FOR EXCITING ACTIVITIES, NEW  
FRIENDS, AND NON-STOP FUN THIS SCHOOL  
BREAK?

OUR HOLIDAY CLUB IS PACKED WITH:

- GAMES & SPORTS
- ARTS & CRAFTS
- FOREST SCHOOL
- CREATIVE BAKING
- NERF CHALLENGES
- SAFE, FRIENDLY ENVIRONMENT



OPEN TO AGE 4  
(AT SCHOOL) - YEAR 7

**DATES:**

**MONDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER**  
**TO**  
**FRIDAY 31<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER**



SCAN THE QR CODE FOR BOOKINGS OR  
EMAIL  
INFO@ACTIVEPLAYLEDUCATION.CO.UK



**ELY CITY HOCKEY CLUB JUNIOR SECTION**

COME ALONG FOR A FREE TASTER SESSION!  
WEEKLY COACHED TRAINING  
ALL ABILITIES WELCOME!

Let by qualified coaches, our weekly training sessions provide a fun, engaging and safe environment for young players to learn and enjoy playing hockey.

All age groups welcome. The following sessions are held during term time:

- QUICKSTART - SCHOOL YEARS 1-5  
TUESDAYS 3.30-4.30PM
- NUICKSTART - SCHOOL YEARS 6-9  
TUESDAYS 4.45-5.45PM
- TEEN HOCKEY - SCHOOL YEARS 9-12  
WEDNESDAYS 7.00-8.00PM

FOR MORE INFO EMAIL:  
ELYJUNIORHOCKEY@GMAIL.COM

You can find us at Ely Outdoor Sports Association (behind Ely Leisure Village)  
Dunham Road, Ely, CB6 2JH

CONTACT US Email: [elyjuniorhockey@gmail.com](mailto:elyjuniorhockey@gmail.com) Website: [elycityhockey.org](http://elycityhockey.org)

**YOUTH FUTSAL CLASSES**  
25/26 SEASON  
(MIXED BOYS AND GIRLS)

**ELY LIONS FUTSAL CLASSES**

**TUESDAY'S - WVC**  
U7/U8/9- 5:30 PM  
10/11/12- 6:30 PM

**WEDNESDAY'S - WVC**  
U6/7/8- 5 PM  
U9/10/11- 6PM

**THURSDAY'S - WVC**  
U9/10/11/12- ADVANCED  
(INVITATION ONLY)-5PM

**SUNDAY'S - LITTLEPORT LEISURE CENTRE**  
U6/7/8- 9AM  
U9/10- 10 AM  
U11/12/13- 11AM

ELY LIONS FUTSAL CLUB

BOOK US NOW!

DENIS LACERDA  
UEFA LICENSED COACH

CONTACT: [ELYLIONS.FC@GMAIL.COM](mailto:ELYLIONS.FC@GMAIL.COM)

**FUN CYCLE COACHING SESSIONS FOR YOUNG RIDERS**

**Junior Cycle Coaching**

Ely & District Cycling Club - Junior Training Sessions

Tennis Courts, Witchford Village College CB6 2JA  
Mondays (Term Time Only) | 6:30-7:30pm | Ages 9-16

Learn core cycling skills, build confidence, join the EDDC Junior Race Team, meet new friends and have fun!

Sessions are led by BRITISH Cycling qualified, DBS-checked coaches.

- First session FREE, then just £5 pay-as-you-go
- All abilities welcome - from new to cycling to aspiring racers
- Parental consent required to attend

Call Neil: 07903 251 940 or Mark: 07903 333 467  
Register online: [www.elycitycyclingclub.com/juniors](http://www.elycitycyclingclub.com/juniors)

**B&T**  
Hire & Repairs  
Tel: 01331 66 77 66

Find us on Facebook: [elycitycyclingclub](https://www.facebook.com/elycitycyclingclub) & [elycitycyclingclub](https://www.facebook.com/elycitycyclingclub)

**Free Healthy Relationship courses for parents**

All relationships have their ups and downs, but if parents are regularly arguing in front of their children, it can have negative and lasting consequences. This is a practical, free course designed to help parents in a healthy way, making sure they are taking steps to support parents who would like to improve their relationship. These courses are for parents of children aged 0-16.

**\*\*OCTOBER / NOVEMBER 2025\*\***

**Improve the communication with your partner to support your children**

**Face to Face Cambridge:** The Green Room, The Fields, Cambridge City Child and Family Centre, 9 Gifford Rd, Cambridge CB5 8ND, Thursday 9th October, 9:30 - 11:30am

**Face to Face Peterborough:** The Sandilwood Room, Gladbroke Park Community Centre, 927 Bourne Rd, Peterborough PE1 2AH, Wednesday 27th October, 9:30 - 11:30am

**ONLINE: Online via Teams:** Wednesday 9th & Wednesday 26th November, 12:00 - 1 pm

**Improve the communication with your ex-partner to support your children**

**Face to Face Cambridge:** The Green Room, The Fields, Cambridge City Child and Family Centre, 9 Gifford Rd, Cambridge CB5 8ND, Thursday 16th October, 12:45 - 14:45pm

**Face to Face Peterborough:** The Sandilwood Room, Gladbroke Park Community Centre, 927 Bourne Rd, Peterborough PE1 2AH, Wednesday 22nd October, 12:45 - 14:45 pm

**ONLINE: Online via Teams:** Tuesday 8th & Tuesday 25th November, 12:00 - 1 pm

FOR MORE INFO VISIT: [www.elycitycyclingclub.com/juniors](https://www.elycitycyclingclub.com/juniors)

## Attendance:

The Rackham has a policy on Attendance. Please follow this link to read the policy on the school website.

Thank you to all our parents and carers for supporting our drive for improved attendance. The Government has identified a child's attendance of 96% and above is the key figure to give best chance of academic progress. Please can we remind you that absence must be reported to the office by 9am on each day of absence.

This week's attendance: 96.11%

## ATTEND TODAY ACHIEVE TOMORROW

EDUCATION IS IMPORTANT - DON'T MISS OUT



Looking forward to seeing everyone on Monday.

Best wishes,  
Miss Turner

**Dates for your diary:**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Scheduled events</b>
WC 22 <sup>nd</sup> September	Baseline Assessment in Reception
25 <sup>th</sup> September	Public consultation for building work 3.30 - 5.30pm
25 <sup>th</sup> September	Y4 MTC information evening 6pm online – booking open
WC 29 <sup>th</sup> September	Baseline Assessment in Reception continues
2 <sup>nd</sup> October	Individual and sibling photos
6 <sup>th</sup> – 9 <sup>th</sup> October	Stay and play sessions for Reception 8.30 – 9.30am – booking required from Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> September.
8 <sup>th</sup> October	New intake evening for September 2026 at The Rackham 6pm
9 <sup>th</sup> - 10 <sup>th</sup> October	Scholastic Book Fair in the hall after school
11 <sup>th</sup> October	Reception phonics meeting at 8.50am - booking required from Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> September.
13 <sup>th</sup> – 14 <sup>th</sup> October	Scholastic Book Fair in the hall after school
13 <sup>th</sup> – 17 <sup>th</sup> October	Year 6 Horstead residential
16 <sup>th</sup> October	Year 5 Parent or carer school meal invitation – booking required nearer the time
WC 20 <sup>th</sup> October	
WC 27 <sup>th</sup> October	<b>HALF TERM</b>
3 <sup>rd</sup> November	Professional Development Day for teachers
4 <sup>th</sup> November	Pupils return
11 <sup>th</sup> November	Armistice Day
12 <sup>th</sup> November	Parent's Evening 3.30 - 7pm - booking required nearer the time
13 <sup>th</sup> November	Parent's Evening 3.30 - 5.30pm - booking required nearer the time
19 <sup>th</sup> November	Vision screening for Reception
19 <sup>th</sup> November	Y4 residential / experience week information evening 6pm – booking required nearer the time