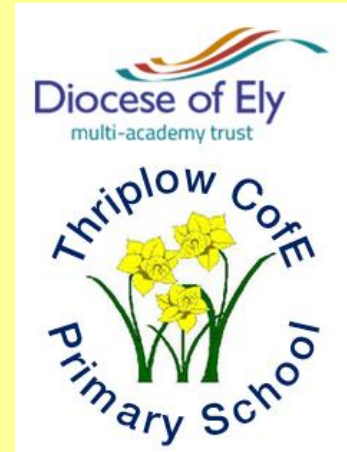


Thriplow School Newsletter

3rd October 2025



Our week started with the MacMillan Coffee morning, organised and run by Year 6. They did a fantastic job of welcoming guests, collecting money, serving tea and cake and washing and clearing. All with smiles on their faces! They raised £289.81 for MacMillan and we are so proud of them. Well done Year 6!

Your children have all brought home a Christmas card design this week for you to order if you wish. We have extended the deadline until Monday so please make sure forms are completed and back in school by then, if you wish to order.

Next week is our Harvest Festival on Thursday at 2.30pm. Children are invited to bring food donations for Jimmy's Night Shelter. Please make sure that any donations are in date. All the children will be performing a song with their class so please do come along to the church if you are able. There will be a retiring collection for the children's chosen charity (to be finalised next week) so please do bring some spare change!

It's so lovely to see so many of you at our Celebration Collective Worship on Friday afternoons. This is real highlight of our week. It was especially lovely to see so many 'old' pupils visiting today as well! Could I politely ask that you try hard to get to the worship at 3pm when we start to minimise disruption? Could I also ask that you are

mindful that although the worship takes place in the hall, some of our children access it from the entrance hall and so it is essential that they have a clear view and complete quiet in order to take part.

A reminder Year 5/6 parents that deposits for the residential trip to Hautbois are due by next Friday.

Our beautiful library is almost complete! Mrs Baron and Mrs Fisher have been working tirelessly, sorting books and organising the space. We are so grateful! On 16th October, the library will be open for you to visit from 3.15pm until 4pm. You are welcome to either visit before pick-up alone or after pick-up with your child. Moving forwards, we hope to have a regular slot for families to come and borrow books to share at home.

Best wishes,

Lucy



<https://www.facebook.com/thriplowschool>



<https://x.com/thriplowschool>



<https://www.instagram.com/thriplow.school>

In the same way your light must shine before people, so that they will see the good things you do and praise your Father in heaven. *Matthew 5:16*

You are the people of God; he loved you and chose you for his own. So then, you must clothe yourselves with kindness. *Colossians 3:12*

9 th October	Harvest Festival in the church. 2.30. Everyone welcome.
15 th October	Flu Vaccinations
23 rd October	Individual photos for all children
6 th November	Holy Communion. 9.10am in the hall. Everyone welcome
WB 10 th November	Anti-bullying week
14 th November	Movie Night after school
28 th November	Decoration Day. Parents welcome in the morning.
1 st December	DEMAT Carol Service (Year 6)
9 th December	Nativity Dress rehearsal (KS1)
10 th December	Nativity Performance (KS1) 2.30pm
11 th December	Nativity Performance (KS1) 6pm
12 th December	Festive Friday
16 th December	KS2 Concert
17 th December	Christingle (children need to bring an orange)
19 th December	Carol Service in church. 2.30. Everyone welcome
20 th January	Young Voices
WB 2 nd February	Relationships and Sex Education Week
24 th February	Parent Consultations
26 th February	Parent Consultations
5 th March	World Book Day
WB 9 th March	Science Week
21 st – 22 nd March	Daffodil Weekend
27 th March	Year 3/4 Bikeability level 1
WB 11 th May	SATS week
WB 18 th May	KS2 Residential (Year 5 and 6)
Fortnight beginning 1 st June	Multiplication Check fortnight (Year 4)
5 th June	DEMAT Art Exhibition
WB 8 th June	Phonics Screening check week (Year 1)
WB 15 th June	Poetry Recital Competition
24 th June	Sports day (First thing – will finish 11.15ish)

Term Dates 2025/2026

Autumn Term	
<i>INSET Day</i>	<i>Friday 24th October</i>
Half Term	Monday 27 th October – Friday 31 st October
End of Term	Friday 19 th December

Spring Term	
Start of Term	Monday 5 th January
<i>INSET Day</i>	<i>Friday 13th February</i>
Half Term	Monday 16 th February – Friday 20 th February
End of Term	Friday 27 th March

Summer Term	
Start of Term	Monday 13 th April
<i>Bank Holiday</i>	<i>Monday 4th May</i>
Half Term	Monday 25 th May – Friday 29 th May
<i>INSET Day</i>	<i>Monday 1st June</i>
End of Term	Friday 17 th July
<i>INSET Day</i>	<i>Monday 20th July</i>



Safeguarding at Thriplow

Lucy How and Melissa Hardege are the designated safeguarding leads at Thriplow School.

If you have a concern about a child, please come and speak to or email either of us. Alternatively please speak to any member of staff who will be able to pass on information.

If you feel that a child is at immediate risk of harm you can access further advice and guidance here.

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/children-and-families/children-s-social-care/safeguarding-children-and-child-protection>

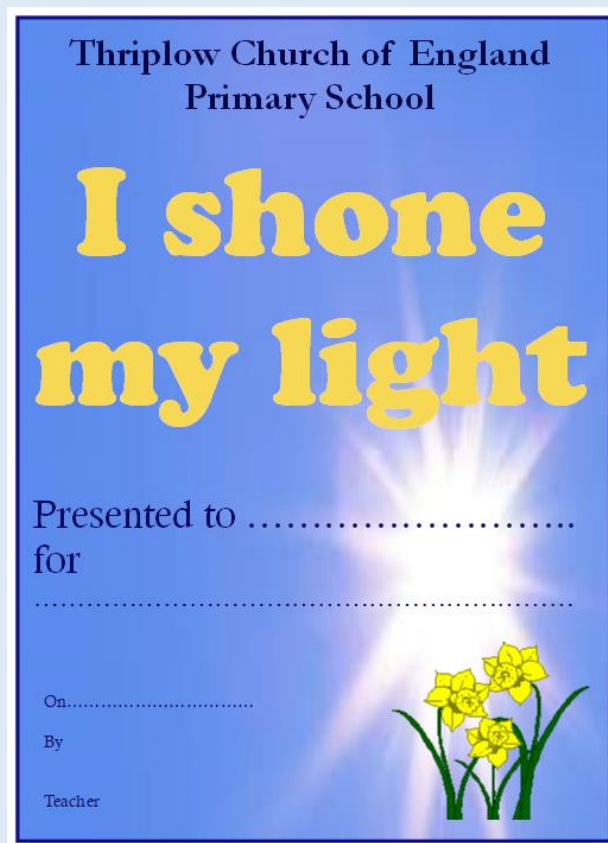
If you would like to donate a book to our library to celebrate your child's birthday, then we would be so grateful. Please follow this link to see a list of books that we would like.

<https://amzn.eu/ez2OYOf>



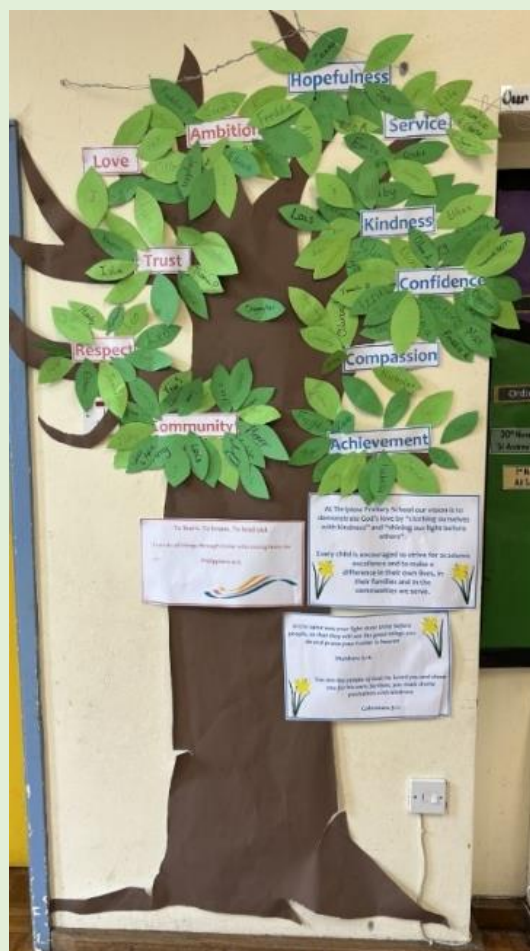
Our certificate winners this week are: -

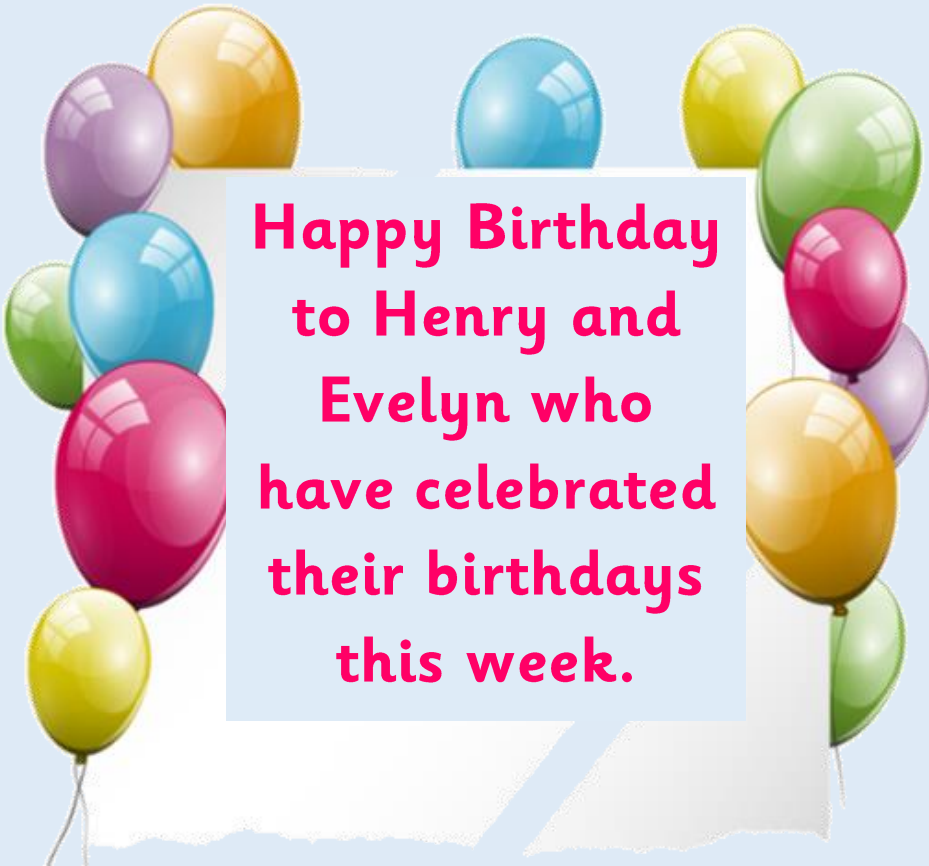
- Arlo (Reception)
- Thomas (Year 2)
- Izzy (Year 3)
- Lila (Year 4)
- Theo (Year 4)
- Annabel (Year 5)
- Leo (Year 5)



The following children were added to the 'Vision and Values' tree for living out our Thriplow and DEMAT values.

- Olivia (Kindness)
- Lily-Anne (Kindness)
- Eliza (Achievement)
- Isabella (Love)
- Kitty (Confidence)





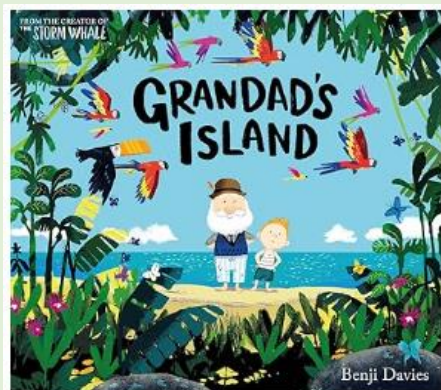
**Happy Birthday
to Henry and
Evelyn who
have celebrated
their birthdays
this week.**

Birthday Books



**Many thanks to Izzy for
donating this book on the
occasion of her 7th
Birthday**

**Many thanks to Evelyn for
donating this book on the
occasion of her 5th
Birthday**



House Points

Our totals for this week!

	Total this week	Total this term
Bacon	73	276
Barenton	55	224
Bury	65	252
Bassett	109	399

Your child's learning

Ants

This week in Ants class we have enjoyed practicing our Harvest song ready for the Harvest Festival next week! The children are all very excited for their first visit to the church.

In Maths we have been practicing our subitising skills and have been exploring how many ways we can make and arrange the numbers 1, 2, 3, and 4. In phonics we have continued to learn our sounds a, i, m, s, t, n, o and p and have practiced reading and writing cvc words containing these sounds. In Literacy we drew and labelled our own pictures of the Gruffalo and made up our own sentences to describe the story. In understanding the world we have been looking at different photos and maps of the village of Thriplow. We then worked together to draw a big map of our school and all the places we pass on our way in each day.

Next week we will be looking at People who help us in the community and we will be having a special visitor on Thursday morning! In phonics we will begin to learn some new sounds; b, c, g and d, and in maths we will begin to compare two sets of objects, learning the language of 'more than' and 'less than' to describe the two groups.

Butterflies

Butterflies have continued to work hard this week.

In Maths this week, the Year 2 children have started to represent amounts in different ways and make estimates. The Year 1 children have also been comparing numbers using the vocabulary: more than, less than and equal to. Please encourage your child to give you some examples.

In English, we have finished reading the story, 'Aladdin and The Magic Lamp.' The children sequenced the story and identified the mini plots. You could ask your child what happened at the beginning, what the different mini plots were and how they were solved. We then came up with some ideas for how we might outwit an enemy like Aladdin did with the sorcerer and the children used these ideas to start writing instructions.

In Geography, the children used the vocabulary, 'human features' and 'physical features' to identify places in Thriplow. When you are visiting or passing places, it may be an idea to ask your child what sort of feature it is. They will also be drawing a map of their route from home to school. It may be an idea for you to tell your child when they are turning into a road, and what they are passing.

In science we have continued our work on the human body and the children learnt about how vaccines work to keep us healthy. They enjoyed doing art on Friday afternoon where we built on our learning about tints and shades to create pictures in the style of Paul Klee using geometric shapes and painting them using tints and shades of blue.

Please continue to encourage your child to login to Purple Mash so they become confident with using their login details during lessons.

If you would like to share activities that your child has done over the weekend with us, then please send it via Tapestry. We have enjoyed discussing what you have shared so far with your child.

Bees

Bees have enjoyed a wide variety of learning this week. On Monday, we practiced how to paint still life objects in our sketchbooks. This is in preparation for starting our final art piece of this half term where the children will paint a selection of fruit on a canvas using acrylic paint. We will begin this next week when the children will paint the background. In PE, we started thinking about long distance running in preparation for the cross-country event later year. The children thought hard about the difference between sprinting and pacing. I was impressed with how they developed these skills over the lesson and all the children managed to run for two minutes without stopping. In English, the children applied their learning on expanded noun phrases and fronted adverbials when writing their own narrative about Oliver Twist asking Mr. Bumble for more. In Maths, we were rounding numbers to the nearest 10, 100 and 1,000. We have learnt a rhyme to help us - please do ask your child what it is! The children have also learnt how to shoot in netball, thinking specifically about balance, eyes, elbows and follow through. Next week will be another great week in Bees as we learn about the digestive system in Science and start considering addition in Maths. I know that the children are also looking forward to singing our Harvest Song in church next Thursday afternoon - I look forward to seeing you there. Please do also look out for the MCAS notification which was sent out yesterday regarding our upcoming class trip to Pizza Express.

Dragonflies

We have had a fantastic week in Dragonflies. In our English learning, we have been learning about relative

clauses and identifying the relative pronoun in a sentence. In our netball lesson this week, we have been improving our shooting technique by focusing on our balance, eyes, elbows and follow through. In the coming weeks, we will be starting to put these skills into practice in short games. On Monday Year 6 hosted a successful coffee morning. I was so proud of how well all the children took on their roles and represented our school. A huge thank you to all parents, including year 5 parents, who supported their children with bringing in cakes and baked goods, who donated or attended and those who supported with the after school bake sale. We are excited for next Wednesday when our Y6 children will be taking part in a GENR8 Cool Choices workshop. I am looking forward to seeing you all at the Harvest Festival on Thursday afternoon; the children have been working so hard on their song ahead of their performance in the church.



Our Harvest Festival will now take place on Thursday 9th October at 2.30pm. Apologies for the change in date. All the children will be performing and they are invited to bring in donations of non-perishable food. Please ensure donated food is in date.

A reminder that we are a nut-aware school. Please ensure that your child's lunchbox does not include any nuts.



- Let your child help you pack their lunch box and choose what to include from a list of options.
- To keep children fuller for longer, give them a 'main' lunch item that includes carbohydrates, such as whole grain bread, rice or pasta.
- Try pasta salads, stir-fried rice, wraps or crackers and low-fat dips as alternatives to sandwiches.
- Choose lean meats, such as chicken breast as sandwich fillings, and try to include oily fish like tuna once or twice a week.
- Include vegetables such as cherry tomatoes, carrot or celery sticks or home-made vegetable crisps (slice vegetables like sweet potato or beetroot, toss in olive oil and bake).
- Always put salad (lettuce, cucumber) in sandwiches - it all counts towards their five a day.
- Swap the crisps for plain popcorn or vegetable crisps (see above).
- Pre-peel citrus fruits like oranges or satsumas to make them easier to eat.
- Include tinned fruits but make sure they are in juice not syrup which is high in sugar.
- Fruit bars are generally not healthy - try dried fruit like apricots or sultanas instead.
- If your child insists on having crisps or chocolate in their lunchbox, try to limit this to one day per week and let them choose what their 'treat' will be.

According to the NHS, the perfect lunch box for a child should contain:

- a serving of starchy foods (wholegrain bread or pasta, brown rice);
- a protein (lean meat, egg or oily fish);
- a dairy item (low-fat cheese or sugar-free yoghurt);
- a portion of vegetables (celery sticks, carrot pieces);
- a portion of fruit (berries, grapes, melon, apple slices);
- water.

We've put together five balanced lunch boxes here - one for each day of the school week. You can copy them exactly, swap items around or get rid of them all together - whatever works for your family is fine.



Attendance Reminders

Days off school add up to lost learning			
175 NON SCHOOL DAYS A YEAR 175 days to spend on family time, visits, holidays, household jobs and other appointments			
0	6	15	19
DAYS ABSENCE (190 school days)	DAYS ABSENCE OR MORE	DAYS ABSENCE OR MORE	DAYS ABSENCE OR MORE
100%	96%	92%	Below 90%
EXCELLENT ATTENDANCE	SATISFACTORY ATTENDANCE	REQUIRES IMPROVEMENT	Persistent Absentee
Best chance of SUCCESS	Harder to make good progress	Less chance of success	CAUSE FOR CONCERN
			Serious concern Possible court action

Three-Year Period

First Term Time Leave

10 sessions (5 days) or more.

£80 for each child per parent.

E.g. if two parents take 3 children away, the fine would be $£80 \times 3 = £240$ per parent.

The total would be **£480**.

If you pay after 21 days it rises to **£960**.

If you don't pay after 28 days = a prosecution.

Second Term Time Leave

10 sessions (5 days) or more.

£160 for each child per parent.

E.g. if two parents take 3 children away, the fine would be $£160 \times 3 = £480$ per parent.

The total would be **£960**.

If you don't pay after 28 days = a prosecution.

Third Term Time Leave

10 sessions (5 days) or more.

Prosecution.

Apply now



for a Reception school place for September 2026

If your child
will be aged 4
by **31st August**

You need to
apply **NOW**
for a School
place



**Apply by
15th January
2026**

For further information please visit
www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/admissions
or contact your local School

Contact the Admissions Team by telephone 0345 045 1370

School Admissions ALC2605, PO Box 761, Huntingdon, PE29 9 QR or
email admissions@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Apply now

for a Secondary school place for September 2026

Contact the Admissions Team by telephone 0345 045 1370

If your child will be aged 11 by **31st
August 2026**

**You need to apply
NOW
for a school place**



**Apply by
31st October
2025**

For further information please visit
or contact your local School

[Secondary school admissions - September 2026 | Cambridgeshire County Council](#)

ALC2605, New Shire Hall, Emery Crescent, Enterprise Campus, Alconbury
Weald, PE28 4YE
or email admissions@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Melbourn Village College Open Evening

Join us to explore our vibrant school community

Mrs Rachel Spencer
Principal



9 October 2025 @ 5:00-7:00 P.M.

PRINCIPAL PRESENTATION @ 6:00 P.M.

Breakfast Club at Ladybird



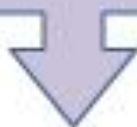
Open to Thriplow School
Children & Ladybird
Children from 3 Years



Breakfast may vary



Opens at 8:00am



Early Starters from 8:30



Contact for more information:

Email: ladybirdplaygroupthriplow@gmail.com

Phone: 01763 208055

Foxton Scarecrow Festival

Saturday 4th October
12pm to 6pm



FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT OUR WEBSITE
WWW.FOXTONSCARECROW.ORG

Information for parents about Roblox:

Original research into safety of Roblox with videos of real gameplay:

<https://think.revealingreality.co.uk/roblox-real-guide>

The updated research after the website made changes:

<https://think.revealingreality.co.uk/roblox-updated>

General information for parents about Roblox and staying safe:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/advice/apps-and-platforms/online-gaming/roblox/>

ONLINE PLAY RISKS

Because Roblox connects random players across the world, it can put younger players into an environment with anonymous users who could use the platform for nefarious reasons. For example, some role-play games are used for online dates and mature role play, which could expose youngsters to inappropriate messages in the public chat box.

ANONYMOUS PLAYERS

The anonymity of users can leave players vulnerable to bullying, harassment, and predatory behaviour. Without the right parental controls or monitoring, users can connect with each other via personal messages or friend requests, and it is very difficult to know who's behind a username in this vast online world.

MATURE CONTENT

Content is difficult to moderate throughout Roblox, due to the number of games available. This is particularly notable on smaller games and experiences, but in summary, some of the games and experiences offered on the platform contain age-inappropriate content that could easily be seen by young players.

RISK OF ADDICTION

Roblox games can feature rewarding or satisfying mechanics that keep players coming back – or persuade them to stay logged-in for much longer. Like most games, they focus on interactivity, with constant rewards via in-game unlocks and currencies, which can sometimes lead to an addictive need to remain online for long periods of time.

IN-GAME SPENDING

The majority of games within Roblox have extensive monetisation options, usually through season passes or microtransactions. Purchases can range in value from a few pennies up to much larger sums of money. While some games offer a lot of content via purchases, others can offer very little for real world money, causing younger players to end up out of pocket.

SCAMS

Many of the games on Roblox feature collectible items, pets, or characters. These objects, while digital, are worth a lot of real money on certain online markets. Scammers will attempt to trade with younger users in the hopes of getting rare items that can be sold for real money, manipulating the child into handing them over, usually via misleading information.

Advice for Parents & Educators

MONITOR THE CONTENT

While Roblox does implement plenty of moderation tools and parental controls, it's up to parents and guardians to monitor the types of games a child or impressionable player is experiencing. If a youngster wants to play Roblox, be sure to check out which specific games they want to play within it, and get a good idea of their content.

PLAY TOGETHER

Consider playing Roblox with the children in your care. There are few more effective ways to see how monetisation works, gauge whether the game could lead to addictive behaviours, or even witness how interaction between players works, than sitting down and trying the game for yourself. This should help you figure out whether it's suitable for particular children.

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF TOOLS

Use the parental controls within the game itself and teach youngsters how to report and block other players. Knowing the powers within their reach will make Roblox a safer, happier experience. You can set age ranges for who's allowed to contact you, close public chat boxes, block spending, and even make your Roblox profile completely private. All these options are helpful in cutting off bad actors from engaging with children.

TEACH ONLINE BEHAVIOURS

Have an open conversation about the risks of online play and how to spend money wisely. By being honest and giving tips on how a younger user can protect themselves, you can empower them to not only take care of themselves, but others too. Any user can be reported to Roblox moderators by other players for behaving inappropriately. With this knowledge, younger players can be aware of what to look for and help prevent it.

Meet Our Expert

Dan Lipscombe is a videogame journalist and author of over 20 books on gaming, including books on Minecraft, Fortnite, Roblox, and more. For 15 years he has been writing about his passion for gaming. When he's not playing games, he's talking about them at GAMINGbible.

#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Education Inclusion Family Advisor Team Countywide Online Workshop Offer

The EIFA team would like to present our newly updated workshops on a variety of parenting and family issues for **September and October**.

Please ensure you book onto each workshop individually by clicking on the link or scanning the QR code and completing the registration form.

Sibling Rivalry	Tuesday, 23 September 2025, 12:00-13:30	Book onto this workshop at: Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams or 
Understanding and Responding to Challenging Behaviours	Thursday, 2 October 2025, 12:00-13:30	Book onto this workshop at: Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams or 
Sleep	Tuesday, 7 October 2025, 12:00-13:30	Book onto this workshop at: Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams or 
Supporting Your Child with Feelings of Anger	Thursday, 9 October 2025, 12:00-13:30	Book onto this workshop at: Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams or 
Supporting Your Child with Feelings of Worry	Thursday, 23 October 2025, 12:00-13:30	Book onto this workshop at: Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams or 

If you have any questions about our workshops, or the EIFA service in general, please contact earlyintervention@cambridgeshire.gov.uk



Education Inclusion Family Advisor Newsletter October 2025

EIFAs offer advice and strategies to parents and carers with a primary school aged child that may be experiencing some challenges such as routines, sleep, sibling rivalry, behaviour, worries or self-esteem. If you'd like a chance to chat about any of these topics, please contact us through scanning the code or clicking on the link, or email us:

earlyintervention@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

<https://forms.office.com/e/4tV6234P68>



and a member of the team will get in touch with you.

Top Tips

Parenting Top Tip

October brings half term and Halloween fun, which can bring its own challenges for us as parents due to the change in routine, and expectations from children!

Things to try and remember:

- Try to remain calm and step away from the situation when it is safe to do so.
- Before you begin the activity or before going out, clearly explain the behaviour expectations and possible consequences for your child/ren if those behaviours are not followed. For example: 'I can't wait to go trick or treating with you, just remember it will feel really exciting, but I want you to stay with me to be safe'.
- If your child struggles with those boundaries in place, remember to gently remind and follow through with any consequences that you have previously explained.

Remember consistency is key!



(Incredible Years programme-click the book for more)

Activity Idea

Autumn is finally here, and amongst the fallen leaves are plenty of opportunities for crafting and having fun with nature.

Try out this spooky fun idea for Halloween or any other time!

1. On your next autumn walk, have a look around for fallen leaves.
2. Place the leaves under a heavy item for a couple of days to flatten them out.
(This makes it easier to paint them)
3. Paint the leaves white and let them dry.
4. Draw funny faces on them.
5. You could even stick them on your windows to scare the neighbours!

Check out these other incredible Halloween nature craft activities with the Woodland Trust:

[13 Halloween Nature Activities and Crafts - Woodland Trust](#)

Another Resource

We know that parenting during the holidays can be stressful on the parents. Try to remember to find time to relax and breathe to try and stay calm. Here is a video from Place2Be that explains why it is important to stay calm when children push your buttons.

[My child pushes my buttons | Place2Be's Parenting Smart](#)

