

Ely St. John's Standard



Friday 19th December 2025



Headteacher's Notes:

In these final notes of the term, I would like to start by thanking the whole of the school community - staff, pupils, families and friends - for all of the hard work, support and commitment that I have witnessed since September. Not a single week has gone by without some standout achievement taking place or a fantastic sharing of learning and skills in some way. It has been wonderful to see all of the pupils settle and grow in confidence so much and the term has been capped off by some wonderful shared events in recent weeks. Highlights for me have been the EYFS, Y1 and Y2 performances, the Christmas Music Concert and, of course, the Celebration Service at Ely Cathedral on Monday. Thank you to all of our families who have come and supported each of these events and helped to make such special memories for all of our pupils - and I hope you have enjoyed attending the events as well!

Finally from me, I hope that each and every one of you has a restful and relaxing Christmas break and have the opportunity to share it with those that you love. Take care - enjoy - and we will see you all in 2026! (First day back for pupils is Tuesday 6th January)

Mr. Henson

ESJ at a Glance

- Nearly 300 ESJ pupils enjoyed a Christmas dinner in school on Monday - thank you to the Lunch-Time Company team for such a festive feast!
- Well done to all the musicians and singers who took part in our Christmas Music Concert on Wednesday. It was our best ever!
- The Foundation Stage 'Christmas Craft' afternoon on Tuesday was really well attended by lots of families - all the children loved showing off their creative skills!
- School looked very colourful today with everyone wearing Jolly/Christmas jumpers - thank you for taking part.
- The Choir visited all our classrooms on Wednesday to sing some Christmas songs and carols - and made everyone feel very festive!



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Updates and Information

Thank You, Mrs. Johnson!

After an amazing 33 years of service to Ely St. John's, we are saying good-bye to Mrs. Karen Johnson - who is retiring from her role as a Teaching Assistant. Mrs. Johnson has helped and supported literally thousands of pupils over four decades and the school governors and I would like to express our thanks for the dedication, commitment and skill that she has given us throughout her time at ESJ. Thank you Karen!



Family Support - Reminder

Your Education Inclusion Family Advisor



Michelle West

The Christmas break can be a particularly challenging time for families - but help is always available. The Family Advisor support provided by Michelle is a free service that we would encourage anyone to contact if you would like advice and support with any of the areas listed opposite.

Education Inclusion Family Advisors offer you an opportunity to ask for information, advice and support on any issue affecting your family life in a relaxed and confidential environment. These areas include:

- Challenging behaviour
- Routines
- Supporting emotions and wellbeing
- School transitions
- Parenting strategies
- Building resilience and confidence

As Education Inclusion Family Advisors, we offer support in various ways:

- Up to six 1:1 sessions with parents/carers (virtually or face to face in your child's school on request)
- Workshops on specific topics (currently held virtually)
- Signposting to other services such as parenting courses and support services

For more information, please speak to your school's office, or contact me directly on **07775824673** /
 michelle.west@cambridgeshire.gov.uk or by using this link or QR code to request support:
<https://forms.office.com/e/hFg4TV751g>



Contact and Medical Details

As we end the term, a reminder to please let the school office know of any important updates in contact, family or medical information. It is essential that all of our school records are as up to date as possible and that any changes from last academic year are recorded.



With this in mind, please email office@elystjohns.cambs.sch.uk with...

- any changes to contact details (especially updated email addresses and mobile phone numbers);
- any planned changes to your child's school dinner patterns;
- any updated dietary requirements or new allergies;
- any medical updates.



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Calendar

Upcoming Dates:

December

Fri 19th Dec

- End of Autumn term



Mon 5th Jan

- School Closed (Staff Training Day)

Tue 6th Jan

- Start of Spring Term



Long Term Dates:

Spring Term 2026

Training Day (School Closed)	Monday 5 th January
Spring Term opens	Tuesday 6 th January
Half Term	Monday 16 th – Friday 20 th February
Spring Term ends	Friday 27 th March

Summer Term 2026

Training Day (School Closed)	Monday 13 th April
Summer Term opens	Tuesday 14 th April
May Day (School Closed)	Monday 4 th May
Half Term	Monday 25 th – Friday 29 th May
Summer Term ends	Friday 17 th July
Training Day (School Closed)	Monday 20 th July



Term dates and staff training days for the 2026/27 academic year have now been released and can be found on our website:

www.elystjohns.cambs.sch.uk/website/term_dates/232278



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