

Ely St. John's Standard



Friday 16th January 2026

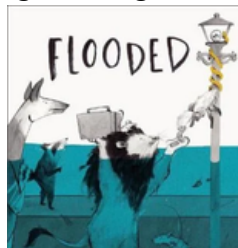


Headteacher's Notes:

Excitement, motivation and enthusiasm for learning are qualities that have always been deeply valued here at ESJ. The start of this term has seen lots of imaginative ways in which pupils have had their interest piqued by some rather strange goings on around the school building...



All of the rather odd signs and objects have been revealed as part of our latest whole school writing project, which all children in every year group are involved in as part of English lessons at the start of this term. Our inspiration for writing is being taken from the story 'Flooded' by Mariago Illustrajo. Please do ask your children about the story and find out how they've been using it as a starting point for learning!



Check out our Writing display board in the main corridor by my office when you come in for Parent Consultations to see some of the amazing work from the project!
Mr. Henson

ESJ at a Glance

- Sixteen different after-school clubs started this week - with a fantastic variety of sports, art, language and performance all on offer.
- All year groups enjoyed an opportunity to play out in the snow on our first day back last week - thank you for the warm coats, gloves and hats that were on show!
- The booking system for the upcoming Parent Consultations goes 'live' today at 6:00pm - please make sure that you book a slot to see your child's class teacher.
- School Council launched their latest project in support of Ely Foodbank (see later in the newsletter).
- Year Six pupils worked especially hard this week in completing practice Key Stage 2 tests in Reading, Grammar and Maths. Well done everyone!

Updates and Information

Spring Term Parent Consultations



Our second set of Parent Consultations will be taking place in two weeks' time on Tuesday 27th, Wednesday 28th and Thursday 29th January. We are once again using the online booking platform via the school website or e-Schools app for the booking process. It is going 'live' today (Friday 16th January) at 6:00pm and will close on Monday 26th January at 10:00am.

Please note that the consultations for Class 3X (Mrs. Grant/Miss. Goodman) will be taking place in the week beginning Monday 2nd March as the first set of consultations were delayed in the Autumn Term. Booking information for these consultations will be sent to parents after half term.

As with anything, if you experience any problems or difficulties with the booking process, please do get in touch and we will be more than happy to help. We are very much looking forward to seeing everyone in person in school for the consultations - thank you.

Ely St. John's are Winners! Well done everyone!



A massive thank you to everyone who helped last term to collect the 'Art Vouchers for Schools' tokens in the Ely Standard. Following on from our success last academic year in winning the 'Sports Equipment for Schools' newspaper competition - we have won again!

Thanks to all your efforts, the school will be receiving £750 of vouchers to spend on art resources and equipment - an amazing prize!

A special mention to the Friends who supported with the collection, admin and packaging of all the vouchers.

What a great team we have at ESJ!



A Reminder – Contact and Medical Details

As we start the new 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, new allergies or any medical updates.

Updates and Information

School Council Ely Foodbank Donations

The School Council would like to share the following message about a new partnership and project that they are working on...

The School Council are excited to share about our new Ely Foodbank donation box. We have set this up because we want to help our local community. You can donate in two ways: you can bring your donation straight to the entrance hall and put it into the box, or let your children bring any donation into class and they will give it to their School Council representative. We hope this box will improve people's lives. Thank you for your support.



Ely St John's  Ely Foodbank
Together with Trussell

Collection Point

Ending hunger together across East Cambs and Fenland

We need your help to provide emergency food and practical support for people left without enough money to live on.

Please donate an item or two from the list. Thank you!

Shopping list

- Tinned meat/fish
- Tinned vegetables
- Tinned fruit
- Tinned soup
- Rice
- Milk (long-life)
- Tinned custard
- Cooking sauces
- Tinned tomatoes
- Household items



www.ely.foodbank.org.uk
info@ely.foodbank.org.uk

Scan to donate



Ely Foodbank is a Registered Charity in England & Wales (1150746)



From the Friends



Film Night - Friday 30th January



Tickets for our first event of 2026 - Film Night - are already on sale via our website (see link below). Children from all year groups are invited to come and snuggle in their PJs and watch a movie (choice of three) with their friends. Tickets are just £4 and the doors open at 5:15pm on Friday 30th January. Don't miss out!

Friends Website

Please do visit our webpage for any further Friends information or to purchase tickets for our events - <https://www.pta-events.com/esj/>

Information about other upcoming events for this term will be shared very soon!



FRIENDS OF ELY ST JOHN'S



office@elystjohns.cambs.sch.uk



www.elystjohns.cambs.sch.uk



01353 612780



@ESJ_Primary

Calendar

Upcoming Dates:

January

Mon 19th Jan

- Vision Screening Checks (EYFS)
- Y6 Fire Safety Talk

Tue 27th Jan

- Parent Consultations after school

Wed 28th Jan

- Parent Consultations after school

Thur 29th Jan

- Parent Consultations after school

Fri 30th Jan

- Rev. Matthew (St. Mary's Church) working with Y2
- Friends Film Night (5:15pm)

w/b Mon 2nd Feb

- 'Bring a Tin' challenge from Ely Foodbank

w/b Mon 16nd Feb

- Half term break

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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