

# Ely St. John's Standard



Friday 20th March 2026



## Headteacher's Notes:

As we come towards the end of another action-packed term here at ESJ, I would like to encourage as many people as possible to share your views and thoughts on all aspects of school life via the online Parent View questionnaire - <https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/login?destination=/give-your-views>

The short survey should only take a few minutes to complete and is completely anonymous. The feedback the school receives in this format is extremely useful and allows us to address issues of concern as well as ensure that we understand areas of improvement from a parent perspective.

Last academic year we had over 100 families complete the survey, a target I am sure we can beat this time around! Thank you in advance for your time with this, it is much appreciated.

For any specific questions or concerns that you may have that you feel the survey does not encompass, please don't hesitate to speak to me when you see me on the playground, or contact me via the school office. I firmly believe that it is through listening to all sections of the school community that we will ensure continued school improvement.

Mr. Henson

## ESJ at a Glance

- A huge well done to all of the performers from Y4/5 who took part in 'Treachery at Traitor's Quay' this week. The audiences loved the show!
- The Y4 residential trip to Burwell House last week was a great success - lots of fantastic teamwork and co-operation from everyone, as well as great skills of independence and resilience on show.
- A huge thank you to all of the visitors who helped 'British Science Week' come alive for pupils last week. The theme of being curious about our world (What's your question?) was evident in everything that went on.
- We are excited for our first ever Friends 'Community Day' on Sunday (22<sup>nd</sup>) morning this weekend. Thank you in advance to all the volunteer helpers!

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# Updates and Information

## Books for Schools – Ely Standard Competition

Please look out for and collect the latest vouchers for the new Ely Standard schools competition...

### 'Win £12,000 of books for your school'

Vouchers have been printed in every edition of the paper and will continue to be so until the middle of May.

Supported by the Friends, we will be collecting vouchers from now and over the coming weeks. Vouchers can be posted into one of the Friends post boxes at school or handed in to the school office.



We had great success in winning the recent 'Art Equipment for Schools' competition last term (see page 12 of this week's edition) - let's go for it again!

## School Uniform – Summer Term Reminder

As we look forward to some warmer weather during the summer term, we would like to remind everyone that our expectations for uniform remain the same. In particular, please ensure that shorts being worn as part of uniform are tailored ones - grey or black in colour. PE shorts (green or black) are absolutely fine to be worn on days your child has PE. Please be advised that gym/cycling shorts are not part of our school uniform (although they may be worn underneath a skirt). Thank you.



Our uniform provider is currently offering parents 15% off all orders until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2026, using code ELY15. Just visit [https://www.schooltrends.co.uk/uniform/Ely\\_St\\_Johns\\_Community\\_Primary\\_School\\_CB6\\_3BW](https://www.schooltrends.co.uk/uniform/Ely_St_Johns_Community_Primary_School_CB6_3BW)

## Ely Area Dodgeball Festival – Y6 Success

A team of our Y6 pupils took part in the Ely Area Dodgeball Festival on Wednesday this week, part of the School Games competition and award that we work towards every year.

As well as fine-tuning their dodgeball skills, the team got to play against children from other schools and everyone involved had a great time.

Our team were commended for their teamwork and sportsmanship throughout - well done everyone!



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# Updates and Information



## From the Friends



### Krispy Kreme Doughnuts Sale - Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March

Back by popular demand, we are holding another Krispy Kreme Doughnut sale after school on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March to celebrate the end of term!

Doughnuts will be on sale for £1.50 each, on a first come, first served basis. To guarantee your doughnuts, a box of 12 can be pre-ordered for £15 via our website [www.pta-events.com/esj/index.cfm?event=event&eventId=113685](http://www.pta-events.com/esj/index.cfm?event=event&eventId=113685) The deadline for these pre-orders is 12:00pm on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March.



### £26 for '26 Easter Fundraising Challenge

Ahead of the Easter break at the end of next week, we will be sharing information about our Easter Challenge (£26 for '26) for all pupils. Our annual Easter fundraiser is always very well supported and there will be prizes on offer once more...

Look out for a further communication on this next week!



### 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, including the May 'Film Night', is already available.



FRIENDS OF ELY ST JOHN'S

## Parent Coffee Morning - Smartphone Free Discussion



Our next Parent Coffee Morning event is **now taking place on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April (9:00am)**. The focus of discussion will be on the topic of smartphone and social media use by young people - something that is a very current topic of debate in the media and in parliament in recent months. The coffee morning will offer a chance to ask questions to representatives of the Smartphone Free Childhood campaign and aims to be informative and supportive for all. We hope to see you there! If you would like to attend, please email the school office to book your free place - thank you!



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# Calendar

## Upcoming Dates:

### March

#### Sun 22<sup>nd</sup> Mar

- Friends Community Day (10am)

#### Tue 24<sup>th</sup> Mar

- EYFS Craft Afternoon (p.m.)

#### Wed 25<sup>th</sup> Mar

- Ely Music Festival (5:30pm) - Orchestra + Choir performing

#### Thur 26<sup>th</sup> Mar

- Easter Assemblies with staff from St. Mary's Church

#### Fri 27<sup>th</sup> Mar

- Last day of Spring Term

#### Mon 13<sup>th</sup> Apr

- Teacher Training Day - school closed

#### Tue 14<sup>th</sup> Apr

- Start of Summer Term

## Long Term Dates:

### Summer Term 2026

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

### Autumn Term 2026

Training Day (School Closed)	Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> September
Autumn Term opens	Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September
Training Day (School Closed)	Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October
Half Term	Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> Oct. – Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> Oct.
Autumn Term ends	Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> December

### Spring Term 2027

Training Day (School Closed)	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> January
Spring Term opens	Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> January
Half Term	Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> February
Spring Term ends	Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> March



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](http://www.elystjohns.cambs.sch.uk/website/term_dates/232278)