

# **Ely St John's Newsletter**

**Autumn Term, November 2019**

Dear all,

A short but sweet newsletter this month – the end of term is approaching rapidly and some years are underway with performance rehearsals etc. Despite the ensuing excitement of Christmas, we are trying to maintain routines and learning timetables as much as possible.

## **Snow Plan**

In the event of heavy snow, we try and help Mr Hambley, our caretaker, with the early morning work of snow clearing – we want to avoid as much path making as possible and find the best route in to school to avoid carpets getting ruined. Children will access the school from the side lane gate and up through the side gate round past the nature garden and in to the fire exit double doors at the back of the hall. On such days the Beresford Road gate will be closed as we also have to try to ensure as far as is practicable, safe routes in.

We try to stay open where possible though we do have to ensure we have enough staff to be here for the children – some of our staff travel a long way to get to school. In the event of snow causing a closure we will post this on our school website and local radios will be contacted.

If open we ask you to send the children in appropriate waterproof coats and wellies so they can enjoy the snow at breaktimes (if safe conditions). We will only be opening the school grounds for pedestrians and will not be allowing cars other than staff through the gates so please be aware that the drop off point will not be operational on such days.

## **A note from Friends**

A big thank you to everyone who supported the Christmas Fayre on 23 November. We're delighted to let you know the event raised over £3500! This total includes proceeds from the day, raffle takings, sponsorship from Pocock and Shaw and parent match funding. We really couldn't have achieved this without the support of local businesses, staff, governors, committee, volunteers (including pupils) and parents. THANK YOU!

The school is indebted to the parents in the committee who put in so much work to not only raise money for the school but to put on events for the children to enjoy. There is a lot of work behind the scenes on an almost daily basis that the committee willingly undertake – they are fabulous!

## **Parent Information Evenings**

The curriculum information evenings have been a success with as many as 40 parents attending the Year 3 and 4 and the Year 2 ones. Feedback has been really positive from

parents and we are pleased that the team leaders have been able to pass on a lot of information about the expected standards for maths and writing in particular, with examples shown to help.

For those who could not get to them, the information has either been sent out to parents already, or is on the website:

Year 4 page: [https://www.elystjohns.cambs.sch.uk/website/maths\\_and\\_english\\_parents\\_meeting\\_-\\_12th\\_november\\_2019/433927](https://www.elystjohns.cambs.sch.uk/website/maths_and_english_parents_meeting_-_12th_november_2019/433927)

Year 3

page: [https://www.elystjohns.cambs.sch.uk/website/year\\_3\\_4\\_curriculum\\_meeting\\_for\\_parents\\_-\\_12th\\_november\\_2019/433932](https://www.elystjohns.cambs.sch.uk/website/year_3_4_curriculum_meeting_for_parents_-_12th_november_2019/433932)

Year 5 and 6:

[https://www.elystjohns.cambs.sch.uk/website/maths\\_and\\_english\\_curriculum\\_evening\\_autumn\\_19/436910](https://www.elystjohns.cambs.sch.uk/website/maths_and_english_curriculum_evening_autumn_19/436910)

If you can't find anything, please ask at the office and we can help.

### **A note from governors – update on request for Beresford Road improvements:**

It has been agreed that a proposal for a Zebra crossing should be put forwards to the next stage of the process. The next step is for the City Council to agree the costings. It becomes part of a bid system as not all the requests are accepted by the Board who make the decisions. There will be a public consultation as part of this. The decision should be made early next year.

### **Asthma \_**

#### **If your child has asthma and has an inhaler, please ensure that the school is aware.**

As the weather is getting colder it is even more important that children have their inhalers in school; know how to use them; and know where they are.

Inhalers should be **named** both on the box and the actual inhaler itself.

- 1. Please bring in a copy of your child's asthma care plan (usually given to you by the asthma nurse or the Dr) and ensure that you have completed the school paperwork (see 2 and 3 below)**
2. You should have filled in 2 lots of school paperwork: one is information about the inhaler; when to use it; whether the asthma is seasonal (e.g. hay fever/ cold related etc.)
3. The other one is the permission slip for us to be able to administer the Emergency Asthma Inhaler for your child if their inhaler is unavailable. **Without this permission we would be unable to administer the Emergency Inhaler.**
4. Inhalers should be clearly NAMED, and ideally we should have a copy of the **asthma care plan** provided by the asthma clinic/ nurse
5. Most children either keep them in their drawer or bag, so that they have easy access to them should they need them.

6. Younger children's inhalers may be kept by the teacher in a place that is accessible for them to be reached quickly, but ensuring that other children who may not understand about medicines cannot have easy access to them
7. Children with asthma should have their inhaler (preferably with spacer and asthma clinic care plan) in school at all times e.g. outside for PE. This is particularly important as they should have access to their own inhaler at all times, (particularly on a school trip) and not rely on the school emergency inhaler (If parents/ carers have signed the emergency inhaler permission slip.)

**Please let the Office know in writing** if your child ceases to be asthmatic, or is diagnosed as asthmatic so that we can amend their record; and also if the way they need to take their inhaler changes (for example number of puffs, time to take it etc.)

If you are unsure whether you have let the school know that your child is asthmatic then please contact the Office, and they will be able to check for you.

Thank you.



## EVENTS CALENDAR 2019-20

### Autumn Term

#### **December**

- 4: Year 5 Performance for parents (pm)  
Family Worker drop-in (Appointments available via office)
- 11: Family Worker Workshop – Helping Children with Sleep (9:15 – 10:45am) booking required
- 12: Foundation, Year 1 & 2 Play (9am)
- 13: Foundation, Year 1 & 2 Play (9am)
- 16: Musical Christmas Coffee Morning (performances from orchestra; brass ensemble; choir and some groups of children who have tuition in school for instruments) – please come along for coffee at 8.45am and to watch at 9am
- 19: Xmas dinner day
- 19: Term Ends

**Spring Term starts on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2019**