

Friday 20th October 2023

Headteacher's Notes:

I was lucky enough on Wednesday this week to be able to lead one of our prospective parent tours for new Foundation Stage starters in September 2024. While I was touring the school with them, it was commented on several times by different parents that reading and books in general appears to be valued and celebrated throughout the school. Whether is was creative displays that were noticed, the children reading individually and sharing in groups, the promotion of reading for pleasure or the imaginative ways to engage pupils in reading through their own interests, it was clear to our prospective parents just how important our reading culture is to us. These comments were lovely to hear and were something that I wanted to share with you all.

In terms of what you can do at home to similarly nurture this interest and positivity in reading, regular reading (in all its different forms - shared, reading to, listening to, discussing) is so important - we would recommend five times weekly in most cases. This does not need to be for extended periods, 'little and often' is a good mantra, especially for our younger pupils. Supporting your child with reading can, of course, take many forms, not just listening to them read. For younger pupils, please do check out these great ideas from BBC Bitesize... www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zbxby9q. For all children, as well as regular reading, we would encourage lots of talk around the books they are reading - what are you enjoying about the book, what do you think might happen next, which character would you most like to meet? 'Book Talk' can happen any where, any time - even in the car on a day out or on the walk to and from school! If you would like any ideas for book choices for your child or for any other support, please do get in touch with your child's class teacher.







I hope all our families are able to enjoy some extra time together over the upcoming half term break. We look forward to seeing everyone back in school on Monday 30th October!

Mr. Henson

Find out more at...

@ESJ_Primary

office@elystjohns.cambs.sch.uk

Email any questions to...



www.elystjohns.cambs.sch.uk



head@elystjohns.cambs.sch.uk





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Helping keep our community safe

It has again been brought to our attention by parents and local residents that a small number of cars are still being parked and driven inappropriately or even dangerously at the beginning



and the end of the school day in the streets around the school. We are very aware that local roads are experiencing inconsiderate parking and, as such, we are in regular communication with local services and our Police Community Support team to see how we can improve this.

Some of you may be aware that there was a road traffic accident in the local area earlier this week - whilst not directly linked to the school or involving any of our families or pupils, it is a reminder of just how dangerous the roads can be and how important it is for us all to take responsibility for keeping our community as safe as possible.

Please can I ask that all our families take the time to consider local residents and road safety at all times when parking and driving at these busy times. Thank you for your support with this.









Updates from The Friends





Please don't forget to support the Friends at Tesco through the 'blue token' charity scheme. The Friends are attempting to raise funds to support fiction book reading provision for all year groups here in school. Thank you!

And...



Save the date: Saturday 2nd December

Christmas Fayre (2:00pm - 4:00pm)





John's Standard



Friday 20th October 2023



Dates for your diary next half term...

October

Mon 23rd Half Term

Mon 30th School re-opens

November

Tue 7th EYFS Parent Consultations (3:30pm - 7:30pm)

Thur 9th EYFS Parent Consultations (3:30pm - 5:30pm)

Thur 9th Height and Weight Measurements (EYFS and Year 6)

Mon 13th - Fri 17th National Anti-bullying Week

Fri 17th Children in Need - Non-uniform Day





December

Sat 2nd Friends Christmas Fayre (2:00pm - 4:00pm)

Tue 12th KS1 Christmas Performance (1:45pm)

Wed 13th KS1 Christmas Performance (9:15am)

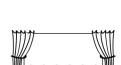
Thur 14th EYFS Christmas Performance (9:15am)

Mon 18th Christmas Music Concert Performance (3:15pm)

Wed 20th Christmas Dinner Day

Wed 20th Last Day of Term





<u>2024</u>

January

Thur 4th Teacher Training Day

Fri 5th Teacher Training Day

Mon 8th Spring Term starts



For more information on school events and activities specific to individual year groups, please check the year group pages on the school website

- select the 'Year Groups' tab on the home page.

www.elystjohns.cambs.sch.uk







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Dates for your Diary...





Term Dates 2023-24



2023

Half Term	:	23 rd October to 27 th October
Autumn Term ends	:	Wednesday, 20 th December

2024

Training Day (School Closed)	:	Thursday, 4 th January
Training Day (School Closed)	:	Friday, 5 th January
Spring Term opens	:	Monday, 8 th January
Half Term	:	19 th to 23 rd February
Spring Term ends	:	Thursday, 28 th March

Summer Term opens	:	Monday, 15 th April
May Day (School Closed)	:	Monday, 6 th May
Training Day (School Closed)	:	Friday, 24 th May
Half Term	:	27 th May to 31 st May
Summer Term ends	:	Friday, 19 th July
Training Day (School Closed)	:	Monday, 22 nd July



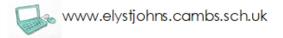
Find out more at ...







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