



ELY ST MARY'S NEWSLETTER - SUMMER 2, 2025



Dear Parents & Carers,

Welcome back to the final half term of the school year! It is wonderful to re-join the staff and children for what I am sure will be a busy but memorable half term ahead. This time of year is often also a time associated with new beginnings, excitement but also anticipation, and I can appreciate this more than ever myself this year! To help keep us on track over these busy few weeks, please find below a range of information, including that relating to end of year events and transition arrangements. The newsletter aims to give you an overview but many of the events listed will also come with a more detailed parent mail letter nearer the time too.

Should you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Best wishes

Miss Clarke & The ESM Team



Y4 MTC

On **Thursday 5th** June, Y4 children took their official multiplication tables check (MTC) for which they were required to answer 25 random times tables questions from 1x1 through to 12x12, with 6 seconds to answer each question. Your child's results will be sent home with their school report.



FOSMS EVENTS

We look forward to welcoming you all to our joint annual summer fete with Spring Meadow this term on **11 July**. Should you be available to volunteer or wish to hold a stall, please do get in touch with FoSMs via the school office.

There will be a non uniform day on **Friday 20 June** - any donations for our tombola stall will be gratefully received.



SPORTS DAY

Sports Day will take place on Tuesday 1st July, with parents/carers welcome to join for the morning Round Robin Whole School event. In the event of poor weather, we have provisionally booked a back up date of Wednesday 2nd July. A separate parent mail letter will follow with full details of the day.





TRANSITION - EARLY INFORMATION AND MOVE UP DAYS

Pupils in Year 3, 4 and 5 have their move up day on **Thursday 10th July 2025** - this will be an opportunity to spend time in their new class with their teacher for September.

Pupils in Year 6 have their move up days as follows (please go to your new school in the morning - not ESM):

- **Ely College: 10th July**
- **Soham Village College: 3rd July**

Normal attendance procedures apply and all pupils are expected in school on the days that are not their transition days.

Pupils with special educational needs (SEN) have additional support for transition, both into and out of Ely St Mary's, as well as between year groups. The SENDCo and teaching team liaise with feeder schools and secondary settings to ensure all information is shared. Children have a pupil passport that shares important information about their strengths, their needs and what helps them to thrive in school.

Are classes being mixed?

Traditionally, all classes are mixed once, but usually twice in their time at St Mary's - on entry in Y3 and again for Upper School (Y5 or Y6).

Mrs Gilpin Davies & Ms Berry are currently in the process of meeting with Spring Meadow to discuss class allocations for Y2 children, who will be mixed into two new classes for Y3.

Our Y5 cohort will also be regrouped into new classes for Y6. Mr Greenwood is currently liaising with the Y5 and Pastoral Team to arrange these classes. If you wish to discuss your child's class placement, please contact the Head of Lower School, Mrs Gilpin-Davies, via the school office email (office@esm.school subject line: Y2 TRANSITION) before Friday 10th June. As always, classes are not directed by friendship groups but we will always consider very carefully whether groupings will be conducive to learning. Should you have any significant information the team should be aware of when organising the new classes, please inform Mr Greenwood or Miss Handscomb as soon as possible so this can be taken into consideration.

All other children will remain in their current groupings.



END OF YEAR REPORTS

Parents and carers will receive their child's end of year reports on Wednesday 9th July. A paper copy will be provided to all children. If you are a separated parent and do not reside with your child, please email the office to request a copy via email. Please ensure the school office has the correct contact information for parents/carers so these are received. In addition to the End Of Year Report, Y6 parents will receive SATs results in a separate additional envelope .



SUMMER UNIFORM

As the weather gets warmer, please ensure that your child comes to school with a named water bottle which they can refill during the day. We recommend that children apply sun cream before school and wear a named sunhat when outside should the temperatures rise.

A gentle reminder of ESM's uniform requirements for the final term ahead (please note there are no planned changes to uniform for next year and Y6 are permitted to wear their hoodies):

- **Footwear** – **plain**, flat, black trainers or black shoes or black boots. Where summer shoes/sandals are worn, these should be closed-back and toe to avoid foot injuries/ trips and falls.
- **Skirts, gingham dresses, shorts** are welcome to be worn. Please note, these should be knee length please. Where this is not possible (and we appreciate children grow at varying speeds), all skirts/ shorts should reach a minimum of mid thigh to ensure they are practical and safe. Hot pants or short shorts not permitted.
- **Hairstyles** to be neat and tidy. Pupils with long hair are required to have a hair band in school at all times so that it can be tied back if requested for the purpose of specific lessons or tasks e.g. PE, design technology etc.
- For health and safety reasons, **no jewellery** should be worn during PE. Where families are considering having ears pierced, the summer holidays are often an ideal time to book this to allow for healing and practice fitting/removing earrings.
- Pupils are required to come to school in their **P.E. kit** on the day they are doing P.E. Shin pads for football and hockey are strongly recommended for both lessons & fixtures. Gum Shields for tag rugby and hockey are strongly recommended for both lessons & fixtures.



END OF TERM/ HOLIDAYS

The last day of school is Wednesday **23rd July 2025** We are aware that our end of term dates are different to other schools who may break up earlier - usual expectations of attendance will be expected please. Thank you.)

The first day of school is **Wednesday 3rd September 2025**

Any term time leave taken at the end of term in order to align with siblings in other schools can not be authorised - normal attendance regulations apply to all pupils. We have very high attendance expectations. We work hard to support pupils in school and identify barriers to attendance. Our Office Team are always available to discuss support to children who are recovering from injury or illness and can sign post parents to our Pastoral and Teaching Staff. Thank you to all parents and carers for ensuring our pupils attend school regularly and on time - it makes a huge difference to the progress they make at school both academically and socially.



LIBRARY SUMMER READING CHALLENGE



Ely Library launch their Summer Reading Challenge on 13th July. Get down there to get signed up!



PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT PASSPORTS - EVALUATION

As we begin to plan for the new year ahead, we would be grateful to hear your views on the school's Personal Development Passports (enrichment offer). We are very keen to maintain a broad yet manageable and accessible range of trips, visitors and experiences for the children, as we feel these complement our curriculum offer and bring many benefits to the children's learning. We are grateful for your time in completing the survey you will shortly receive in your inbox.



CONTACT INFORMATION

If you have recently moved house or changed your email address/phone number, please ensure you update your contact information with the office



SMARTPHONE FREE CHILDHOOD

Would you like to join the Ely Area Smartphone Free Childhood (SFC) Working Group, which contains parents from several different Ely schools. The group wants to work with schools to raise awareness of SFC and the risks of smartphones for children and aims to empower parents to know they can make an informed choice about giving their child a smartphone and not to feel they have to simply because that's what everyone does. For more information view the video and see the pamphlet.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rFsiYAsgx7U>



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - SUMMER TERM

School Events

- 1 July - Sports Day
- 18 June Matinee/Evening performance of the Y6 Production 'The Next Big Step'
- 20 June Travelling by Tuba Show
- 25-27 June - Year 6 Residential or Activity Days
- 27 June - Non Uniform Day
- 10 July - Transition Move Up Day
- 11 July - School Fete
- 14 July - End of Year Report Drop Ins
- 15 July - ESM School Music Summer Concert 6pm
- 23 July - LAST DAY OF TERM

Trips, Visits and Workshops (letters to follow)

- Year 3 - 7 and 8 July - Ely Wildspace
- Year 5 - 27 June - Ely Cathedral Concert
- Year 6 - 14 - 17 July - Bikeability
- Year 6 - 22 July - Leavers BBQ
- Year 6 - 23 July - Y6 Leavers Celebration Parents Gathering 2.30pm

Name: _____			
Trip/Workshop	Date	Approximate Cost	Tick once completed
Bushcraft Workshop	24.09.24	Free	
Animal Encounters	07.11.24	£6	
Mosque	02.12.24	Free	
WW2 Workshop	20.01.25	£4.50	
Science CREST Award	Spring	Free	
Easter CSI	Spring	Free	
Clip 'n Climb	19.05.25	£22	
Drama Workshop	Summer	Free	
Bikeability	07.11.25 - 10.11.25	Free	



WHAT WILL WE BE LEARNING ABOUT?

SUMMER 2	YEAR 3	YEAR 4	YEAR 5	YEAR 6
As a Reader and Writer...	Descriptive Narrative Biography	Theseus and the Minotaur - Narrative Non-Chronological reports about the coast	Diary entry about Felix Baumgartner Non Chronological reports about Space	FASE Reading focusing on extracts of books Reading for Pleasure Narrative/Dialogue The Lighthouse Non Chronological Report Science Adaptation
As a Mathematician..	Telling the time Shape Statistics	Position and direction Shape Statistics	Angles and measurements and telling the time	Daily Arithmetic Retrieval Grids Maths Themed Projects Zoo Bakery Tours
As a Geographer and/or Historian ...	Settlements KQ: Where do we live? Ancient Egypt: KQ: Why did Pharaohs have pyramids built? What can pyramids tell us about Ancient Egypt?	Ancient Greeks: KQ: What are the ancient Greeks remembered for?	Africa KQ - What makes Africa diverse? Industrial Revolution KQ - How did the Industrial Revolution change Britain?	Australia Can I understand the physical and human geography of Australia? Suffragettes KQ: Who were the suffragettes and why were they important?
As a Scientist...	Forces: What is a force and what is their impact on the environment?	Electricity: How does electricity flow and what kind of things does it power?	Space KQ : What is our place in the universe?	Evolution and Adaptation KQ: What is evolution and how does it cause a change within a species? Science Challenges/Investigations
As an artist and/or designer...	Designing and making Egyptian jewelry	Automata Toys Designing and making a children's toy	Peter Thorpe - Space Art	Self Portraits/ Portraits Artists: Amedeo Modigliani (Expressionism); Picasso (Cubism) ; Andy Warhol (Pop Art) – digital, Mike Barrett (Layered Portraits)
As a Technologist...	Online Safety Lego WeDO	Online safety Lego Dots Animation	Online safety Beepbox	Online Safety Online Bullying Computing Digital Art
As a Musician...	Recorders	Recorders	Analysing and Performing 'Dancing in the street'	Charanga Music and Me
As a Linguist... French	Going on a picnic	The weather and ice creams	Out of this world	Talking about sports, the verb jouer
As an Athlete...	Athletics	Athletics	Athletics	Athletics
As a Global Citizen (RE & PSHE)	What symbols and stories help Jewish people remember their covenant with God?	Sikhism and Equality	Christianity - Eucharists	Humanism Why do Humanists say happiness is the goal of life?



SMARTPHONE FREE CHILDHOOD

Smartphone Free Childhood is a grassroots movement of parents who believe childhood's too short to be spent on a smartphone

We're on a mission to

01.

Bring parents together to start new and positive conversations about the problems of smartphones and social media in childhood

02.

Empower parents to wait to get their kids a smartphone until at least the end of Year 9, through signing up to the Parent Pact in their region

03.

Demonstrate that parents are demanding change at scale, and therefore force the government and tech companies to act

Why we're doing this now

We've been put in an impossible position by the tech companies. It's a lose lose - either allow our children access to something all the evidence tells us is damaging, or say no and risk alienating them among their peers at a crucial stage of their social development. **We believe something needs to change, and it starts with all of us.**



Scan to sign the Parent Pact
#smartphonefreechildhood

How you can get involved

Sign the Parent Pact - Join the growing movement of parents choosing to delay - it takes 30 seconds
parentpact.smartphonefreechildhood.co.uk

Join your WhatsApp community - Find solidarity, support and inspiration - we have one in every county in Britain
whatsapp.smartphonefreechildhood.co.uk

Help build the movement - Volunteer to be a Regional Leader and start making change in your community
regionalleaderssignup.smartphonefreechildhood.co.uk

Sign up to our newsletter - Get the latest news and campaign updates from SFC HQ
smartphonefreechildhood.co.uk/newsletter

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