



Ickniel
Primary School

Thrive and achieve together

www.ickniel.cambs.sch.uk

Friday 11th October 2024

Diary Dates

October	10 th – Y2/Hedgehogs Class Café (9:10am) 16 th – Travelling Book Fair arrives 17 th & 18 th – Mrs Tarrant in school for Mindfulness workshops
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School Hall Activities

It has been so lovely to see so many parents in the hall this week attending events. A small group of parents attended the PINS 'Partnership for Inclusion of Neurodiversity in Schools' Project Forum on Wednesday morning. Everyone present contributed and were able to hear all about the PINS project that we are taking part in.

Many Y2 parents were in school yesterday at the Hedgehogs Class Café. Miss Walker and the year 2 class shared how the children develop their writing and improve their sentences. Parents found the session informative and useful to watch the children participate in the activity.

Mental Health Awareness Day

We marked World Mental Health Awareness Day in school yesterday. Children were asked to wear or bring in something yellow to mark this. Year 1 did some mindful colouring and discussed what they thought mental health was. They ended the day with a show and tell where they shared the yellow things that they had brought in.



Thank you for supporting your children with this – it made school a very bright and happy place to be.

Premier Holiday Camps

Please note that there will be no Premier holiday camps at Icknield over the October half term break. Camps are being held at Bellbird in Link Road so please make your bookings with this as the venue.

Weighing and Measuring Reception & Year 6

Parents of children in Ducklings and Owls classes will have been emailed a letter today regarding the National Weighing & Measuring Programme. This is an annual check of the height and weight of children in reception and year 6. The nursing team will be in school on Tuesday 4th February 2025, but the deadline for opting out of this check is Friday 25th October. More information about the programme can be found on the link below.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-child-measurement-programme-operational-guidance>

Book Fair



The Travelling Book Fair will be back in school next week.

The cases of exciting stories and tales will arrive on Wednesday 16th October and will be here until Wednesday 23rd. Please pop to the school library after school from Thursday 17th October onwards to see what delights are on offer. Please note this is a cashless only sale. We look forward to seeing you all there next week.

Muddy Shoes

Could we please ask that all children in Key Stage 2 are provided with a spare pair of outdoor shoes? These can be put on just for break times to avoid bringing mud back into school after children have played on the field. Please can the shoes be placed in a named bag so that they can easily be hung from your child's peg. Thank you.



'Little Wandle' Phonics books

Children in Reception and Key Stage 1 are really developing their phonics decoding using the Little Wandle scheme of learning. Sadly, after a review of our stock of these books, we have found that we no longer have sufficient supply of the wide range of books to sustain this learning. We have therefore needed to purchase further copies of these books. We are sure that it will not surprise you to know that the cost of these books is not cheap, and we

are disappointed to find that many of these books have not been returned to school by children who have taken them home to read with their parents. We keep a log of which books have been sent home with which pupils and may need to consider charging families for books that do not come back to school.

New absence request forms

Ickniel Primary school strives for all pupils to have 100% attendance and sees 96% attendance as the minimum expectation for all children. However, we do understand that there are times when it may be necessary for your child to be absent from school.

Illness: To report your child absent, please email attendance@icknielprimary.org or phone the school office 01223 508750. The school office should be notified of unplanned absences on the day by 9.00am. on the first day of absence.

Medical Appointments: There is a new, green Medical Appointment Request form available from the school office. Please inform the school at least 2 days in advance of medical appointments. We request that parents provide medical information/supporting documentation if required. Where possible we encourage appointments to be arranged outside of school hours.



Bonfire Night Colouring competition

The annual Bonfire Night village celebrations will take place on Saturday 2nd November on Huckeridge Hill. The Parish Council are running a colouring competition for all primary school children to take part in. Children will have brought home their colouring pages which need to be completed and returned to the school Office by 9am on Thursday 24th October. Entry into this competition is free of charge and prizes will be given to the best 3 entries in the 3 categories (up to 5 years/6 – 8 years/9 – 11 years). Please remember to put your child's name, age and Ickniel Primary School at the bottom of your picture. Good luck everyone!

Staff Vacancies

We would like to appoint two members of staff to join Team Ickniel. We are looking for a fantastic Attendance Administrator to join the office team and a Mid-Day Supervisor to support pupils in the dining hall.

If you would like to apply for either position please visit the vacancies page on our school website. <https://www.ickniel.cambs.sch.uk/vacancies/>

Take Care

We have been advised by the Parish Council that some children have recently been seen trying to rescue their football from within one of the local electrical substations. These areas are fenced off so that the substation cannot be accessed. Children were seen trying to retrieve their ball using metal poles which they were poking through the fencing. We are unable to confirm if these children were Icknield children. This is just a message of caution for everyone.

Could we ask you to remind your children about the dangers of playing near such substations, and to not try to salvage any of their equipment that should accidentally end up within the area. Thank you.

Half term activities at SVC

The team at Sawston Village college leisure are holding a few fun activities for children during the October half term. Other than the public swim which takes place on Monday, Wednesday and Friday between 2:00 – 3:00pm there is also a trampolining session on Wednesday afternoon between 1:00 – 2:00pm or perhaps you would like to try a Crazy Kids soft play session on either Monday or Friday morning between 10:00am and 12 noon. To book online visit www.sawstonsports.com or email them at sawston@anglianleisure.com