



Icknield
Primary School

Thrive and achieve together

www.icknieldprimary.org

Friday 17th October 2025

Diary Dates	
October	15 th – 22 nd – Travelling Book Fair 23 rd – Year 6 Class assembly 22 nd and 23 rd - Parents evening w/c 27 th – Half-term
November	3 rd – Pupils return to school 7 th – FIPS pupil disco 21 st – Staff Training Day (School closed to children)

Burwell House

Year 6 have just returned from their wonderful trip to Burwell House. They had an amazing time and arrived back at school on Wednesday tired but very happy and full of stories of their travels. They had a campfire on Monday evening when they toasted marshmallows and on Tuesday evening, they held a wonderful talent show where the children performed and shared their skills with each other. Miss Aboujieb said that staff at Burwell House commented on what a delightful group of children they were and how impressed they were with their kindness and empathy towards one another. Well done Owls!



Pasta

Just a reminder, that we are still unable to offer pasta for a lunch option. If you have pre-ordered a pasta meal for your child, they will be served a cheese or egg roll dependant upon the vegetarian roll option of the day. We will let you know when pasta becomes available.

Cross Country Event

A small team of Key Stage 2 children took part in a cross-country event at Marleigh Primary School on Wednesday afternoon. Mrs Arnold was so proud of the children and how supportive they were, not only of each other, but to children from other schools who were struggling to finish their races. Michael and Reggie (Y5) were super dedicated and volunteered to run in the Year 6 race as this meant that the Icknield Team would not lose points. Well done to all the team – and huge thank you to Mrs Carney for going with the group and for helping run in the warmup race!

Year 2 Class Café

There was a lovely buzz to the school hall on Thursday morning this week during the Year 2 Class Café. Children had a wonderful time writing sentences with their children. One parent said “Thank you for showing us how you teach the children. They seem happy learning this way. We are looking forward to the next class café”



We would like to thank all parents who take the time to attend these cafes, and we hope that you find them invaluable in supporting your child's learning.

Parent Teacher Consultations

Can we please remind all parents to make their bookings for Parent/teacher consultations on Wednesday 22nd and Thursday 23rd October.

Ten-minute slots for you to meet your child's class teacher are available from 3:40pm until 6:30pm. Appointments can be booked via your My Child At School (MCAS) account. Please remember to allow sufficient time between appointments if you have more than 1 teacher to see.

Bookings will close at midnight on Sunday 19th October.

Please note that there will be no Book and a Biscuit club on Thursday afternoon due to parents evening.

Applications for Secondary Schools

Just a quick reminder – national deadline for Secondary 2025 applications is **31 October 2025**. Any applications after this date will be considered late and may miss out on an offer on **2 March 2026**. Applications can be made online at www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/admissions

It is quick, easy and secure and there is no risk that your application gets lost in the post. You will receive an email confirming that your application has been received and you can make any changes, 24 hours a day, 7 days per week up to the closing date.

Icknield International Day

The children will be celebrating The Icknield International Day on Tuesday 21st October. They will learn all about their class's chosen country. They could be doing this through art, music, stories, poems and tasting food particular to that country. In the afternoon, we will come together to share what we have learned and created during the day. This is something that the children requested themselves as they are very interested in other countries. Please look at the list below to see which countries the classes have decided to learn about;



- Ducklings – South Africa
- Ladybirds – Philippines
- Hedgehogs – Kenya
- Squirrels – Greece
- Foxes - Brazil
- Badgers – Mexico
- Owls – Syria



Belonging by Design: Mental Health Mental Health: It's Not All In The Mind

As part of the Mental Health strand of our [Belonging by Design](#) strategy, Anglian Learning is pleased to be offering a series of free webinars across this academic year for parents and carers.

These webinars are an important way for us to launch Anglian Learning's early-intervention approach to supporting young people's mental health and wellbeing. By working in partnership with families and professionals, we aim to strengthen understanding, build resilience and promote positive mental health across our school communities.

The 'Mental Health: It's Not All In The Mind' webinar series shares practical, evidence-based strategies, grounded in the latest research and medical understanding, to support your own and your children's mental health. Topics include what causes depression, how everyday factors can affect our wellbeing, and ways to create opportunities for positive behaviour change.

The webinars are presented by Peter Templeton and Charlotte Catignani from The Foundation for Young People's Mental Health, whose work is rooted in scientific research and real-world practice. You can read more about their work and research by [clicking here](#).

Recordings will be shared via email and will also be available on our school's website. We hope you find these webinars helpful in understanding and supporting mental health within your family.

Camilla Saunders

Director of Inclusion at Anglian Learning

Further reading:

- [MindEd For Families](#)
- [How to talk to teenagers about mental health](#)
- [How to talk to primary age pupils about mental health](#)
- [Movement and mental health - Mental Health UK](#)
- [Food and mental health | Tips for everyday living | Mind](#)
- [Depression - It's really not all in the mind | YPMH](#)

Premier Holiday Camps

Please note that Premier are not running their usual holiday camps at Icknield over the imminent October half term. Camps are being held at Bellbird Primary School.

Travelling Book Fair



The Scholastic Travelling Book fair returns to school next week. From Thursday 16th until Tuesday 21st October you will have the chance to peruse the lovely selection of books and resources to perhaps take home with you. Everything that you purchase goes towards free books for us to buy! Your support is greatly appreciated. Please note that this is a cashless event so please bring your mobiles along with you! Thank you.

PE Kits

We have an increasing number of children who do not have a PE kit in school with them on their allocated PE day. Could we ask parents to check the class timetables and to ensure that their children have with them what they need to learn on the appropriate days. Please note that ALL classes have gymnastics on Tuesdays so PE kits will be needed then. PE kits do not need to be taken home each week. We would suggest that they remain in school each week and are only taken home at the end of each half term to be washed. We hope that this will reduce the number of times children are without a kit.

Here is a reminder of our PE kit:



Thank you for your understanding.

Clocks changing 26.10.25

Just a reminder that the clocks go back one hour at 1:00am on Sunday 2nd November. Please remember to adjust your clocks so that you are not late for school on Monday morning!



Diwali 21.10.25

Diwali, the Hindu Festival of lights, celebrates the victory of good over evil and light over darkness. This year the festival takes place on 21st October. Hindu families will come together to participate in prayers and rituals. They might decorate their homes with lamps called diyas, or rangoli colourful patterns that are created from chinks and dry rice. Gifts will be exchanged to spread joy and goodwill. We would like to wish all our Hindu families a Happy Diwali.

Volunteers

Do you have some time to spare? Could you commit to spending time in school supporting children with maths learning, or perhaps with listening to children who are struggling with reading? The impact of parental support in class cannot be overstated. If you feel you could join our small, but dedicated band of classroom volunteers, then please speak to the school office team. They will explain how we can 'recruit' you to our team.



If any of you are keen gardeners we are also looking to create a volunteer gardening team – please contact the school office if you would like to join this green fingered team!

Rain Gardens from SuDS

You may have seen around school some new planters and rain gardens. These have been installed as part of a 'Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS)' project, funded through the Department of Education. The aim of this project is to reduce surface flooding and improve drainage across site.

Yair and Clara, from SuDS, have been on site over the past few weeks creating these gardens and have worked with children explaining how the systems work and the benefits to site to the environment. If you would like to see all that they have achieved, please click on the link below;

[Water Sensitive Schools – First school done! - Water Sensitive Cambridge](#)

We are very grateful for not only the skills and knowledge that Yair and Clara have brought to school but also for their energy and kindness towards the children and this project.

Huckeridge Hill Firework Display



The traditional Huckeridge Hill Firework Display will take place on Saturday 1st November. Gates open at 6:00pm and entrance is free for all Sawston residents.

Children will have brought home posters this week for them to take part in the colouring competition. There are 3 age groups: up to 5 years/6-8 years/9-11 years and prizes will be given to the best 3 in each age group.

Can we please remind everyone to put your child's name, age and our school name at the bottom of their entry, before returning to the school office.

The deadline for handing these in is 9:00am on Wednesday 22nd October. All entries must be delivered to the parish council office before judging takes place.

There is also a competition for the best dressed Guy for the Bonfire. Prizes will be awarded to the winners at 6:45pm at the Firework Display on 1st November immediately before the fireworks.

Challis Gardens – Spooky Saturday

Our friends at Challis House have told us that they are holding a Spooky Saturday event on 25th October between 10am – 12 noon. There will be spooky mystery trails, face painting, and pumpkin carving as well as other exciting activities. Refreshments such as spooky soup will be on sale too!

Everyone is invited to attend in spooky costume!

