Icknield
Primary School

Thrive and achieve together

www.icknieldprimary.org

Friday 23rd October 2026

Diary Dates	
October	w/c 26th – Half-term holiday
November	2nd – Staff Training Day 3rd – Pupils return to school 3rd & 4th – Parent/Teacher Consultations 5th – Y5 to Cambridge Central Mosque 6th – 10th – Travelling Book Fair 12th – FIPS KS1 Movie Night 13th – Y3 to Whipsnade Zoo 13th – Children in Need 16th/17th – Mrs Tarrant Mindfulness Sessions 17th – FIPS KS2 Movie Night 19th – KS2 Into Film trip to SVC 20th – Staff Training Day

Parents evening – Booking now open!



Parent/Teacher consultations take place immediately after half-term, on Tuesday 3rd and Wednesday 4th November. Please ensure that you make a 10-minute appointment to meet your child's class teachers from 3:40 – 6:00pm on either day. If you have more than one child in our school, please remember to factor in some time between each of your appointments.

Bookings can be made via your MCAS account – please click on the parents evening button on the menu bar on the left-hand side of the dashboard.

Bookings will close at midnight on Sunday 1st November.

Our School Values

At our school, our values are at the heart of everything we do. They help to shape our learning, our relationships and the way we contribute to our school community. We encourage all children to demonstrate these values every day:

🌟 **Ambitious**

We aim high, challenge ourselves and strive to be the very best we can be in all that we do.

❤️‍🩹 **Caring**

We show kindness, respect and compassion towards others, helping to create a safe and supportive environment for everyone.

🎨 **Creative**

We use our imagination, think differently and embrace new ideas when solving problems and learning new skills.

🤝 **Honest**

We tell the truth, take responsibility for our actions and act with integrity, even when things are difficult.

🌍 **Inclusive**

We celebrate diversity and ensure that everyone feels valued, welcomed and respected as part of our school family.

💪 **Resilient**

We persevere when faced with challenges, learn from our mistakes and never give up on our goals.

✨ **Unique**

We recognise and celebrate what makes each of us special, encouraging everyone to be confident in who they are.

These values are woven through school life, and we appreciate the support of our families in promoting them at home. By working together, we can help our children develop the character, confidence and skills they need to flourish both now and in the future.

Staff Vacancy

We are looking to appoint a new member of staff to join our wonderful team of Teaching Assistants. This is a full time, term-time only position, working 32.5 hours per week. If you or a friend or relative are interested in this position, please click on the link below;

Job search

FIPS Disco



There was a wonderful atmosphere in school on Thursday afternoon when the FIPS team put on an Autumn term disco. The children looked fantastic in their party outfits and had a great time dancing and running around the school hall.

It was wonderful to hear that the team from Londis store in Falkner Road kindly donated 90 packets of crisps to FIPS for the disco. We would all like to thank them for their generosity – it really goes a long way. We would also like to thank the amazing FIPS team, and all parents who helped to organise this event and attended to support the children. A profit of £360 was made and they look forward to putting it towards initiatives within the school.

Pupil Photographs

We hope that you were pleased with the photograph proofs that the children brought home with them earlier this week. Please note orders placed online before 28th October will be eligible for free delivery back to school. Orders placed after this date will be subject to a post and packaging charge and will be despatched to your home address.

Burwell House



Year 6 had an amazing time at Burwell House last week. They did some activities in the grounds of the House where they were learning about the importance of trees and how they emit oxygen. They also learnt how to measure, age and hug trees! Some trees were even given names, such as Bob and Ruby who were planted in 1947. The group also did some team building activities where they had to rely on each other to help them overcome challenges such as balancing on a giant see-saw.

Secondary School Applications

Applications for secondary schools for 2027 intake are open. The deadline for making your application is 31 October 2026, and National Offer Day is 1 March 2027

Applications submitted after 31st October will be classed late and will receive an offer on 23rd April 2027.

Applications can be made online, using the link below;

https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/children-and-families/schools-learning/apply-for-a-school-place/secondary-school

500 words competition



The 500 Words Competition is the UK's largest children's story-writing contest for ages 5–11, inviting original stories of 500 words or fewer, with the 2026 entry window running from 29 September to 6 November and offering prizes such as book bundles, illustrated stories, and a grand final attended by Her Majesty The Queen. So why not use half-term to get creative and write a fantastic story about anything you would like!

Please note that stories will not be accepted if received after 9:00pm on Friday 6th November.

How to submit your stories - BBC Teach



Daffodils

If any of you have any daffodil bulbs that you might be able to donate to school, please let us know. Now is the time to plan bulbs in preparation for next Spring so please help us to prepare the school site for a bright and beautiful Spring term!

EIFA Newsletter

Samantha Stacey, our Education Inclusion Family Advisor, has asked us to let you know of some workshops on a variety of parenting and family issues that are available for parents to attend during November. Her November newsletter is being sent to you alongside this week's school newsletter.

Half-term activities

Challis House Spooky Saturday

Our friends at Challis House are holding their popular 'Spooky Saturday' again this year.



On Saturday 31st October from 10am – 12 noon pop down to the Challis Garden to get the day off to a good 'Spooky' start. Follow the Spooky Trail, do face-painting, pumpkin-carving, poster painting and giant garden games. Hot drinks and snacks from MC Teas and Andy's soups. This event is for everyone to attend – young or old and you are invited to wear your spookiest costumes. Boo!!

Football Fun Factory

Dave and the Football Fun Factory team are holding some Football Fun Camps at Sawston Village college during half-term. Children from 5 – 12 years old can get involved, make new friends and have fun!!

Camps run from 9:00 – 3:30pm Wednesday 28th – Friday 30th October. Click below to make your booking;

https://booking.thefootballfunfactory.co.uk/event/5028

Audley End - Halloween Special | 17th October – 1st November



Audley End Enchanted Railway are holding a magical, spooky-not-scary adventure through the Enchanted Forest! Board the Halloween train to meet the Pumpkin Queen, with a special gift for every child. Continue your adventure with a whole host of tricks and treats, from potion making and magical stage shows to the brand-new Pumpkin Village, filled with autumnal photo opportunities. Plus, enjoy marshmallow toasting around the fire, mini golf and pumpkin picking (all for a small additional cost) plus so much more!

Book here – *https://bit.ly/4jUkgCE*

Anglesey Abbey

Anglesey Abbey is running a Halloween trail from Saturday, October 25, to Sunday, November 2, with a sheet that you will take you around the grounds with games to complete to help Wanda the Witch's cat, Luna, make her way through the forest. The trail costs £6 per child and includes a prize - booking is advised to avoid any disappointment.

Museum of Zoology

The Museum of Zoology on Downing Street, Cambridge are inviting children to pop in to on Thursday 29th October between 10:00 – 4:30pm to explore Autumnal animal colours with a

museum trail and real specimens for you to handle. Their expert, friendly volunteers and staff will be there to help you out. All activities and entry to the Museum is FREE.

Cambridge Museum of Technology



The Cambridge Museum of Technology in Cheddars Lane, Cambridge are also holding some fun half-term activities.

From Wednesday 28th October – Sunday 1st November 2026 - Everyone loves a bit of poo! Come along this half term for all things poo related. Hunt for poo. Get your hands on different types of poo. Learn whose poo is whose!

On Friday 30th October 2026 - Come along for some spooky, Halloween themed crafts. You can even come in a spooky costume!

All of this is included in normal museum entry.