

Newsletter

1st April 2022

Thank you to all those that attended the Opening on Wednesday afternoon, we were blessed to see so many people there; and were delighted to host the Bishop of Huntingdon, who captured the ethos of the school really well from such a short visit. That is all credit to the hard work of our staff and pupils who really showed what being at Holy Cross is all about. The children were fantastic; they sang and danced beautifully. We have received a number of emails from those who attended; Canon Andrew Read, the Director of Education for the Diocese of Ely, commented particularly on how he **“thoroughly enjoyed the excellent dancing, the hospitality and most of all the justified confidence and pride held by both the staff and pupils in the school and the future”**. As a result, I have been asked by Reverend David Karoon, if the children would be able to sing for the Bishop of Ely, at a confirmation service he is attending on the morning of Sunday 29th May. It is a huge honour for the children to have been asked and I am so incredibly proud of them all. Please pencil this into your calendars as I would like as many children to attend as possible.



The day finished with a very positive Parents' Forum at which Mrs Moore gave an excellent overview of how we teach Phonics and Reading at the school. Although the turn-out was a little small, a lot of positive conversation took place. Please do try and attend these if you are available; they are informal, informative sessions, and give a platform for

discussing matters relating to the school. A date for the next one will be released after the Easter holidays. It would be lovely to see a few more faces there.

As discussed at the forum, SoundsWrite have recorded a free course, consisting of two videos that shares with parents how the programme supports phonic development, leading to early reading and writing. It can be found at: <https://www.udemy.com/course/help-your-child-to-read-and-write/>

Thank you to all that came to the Easter Bingo, the donations of eggs, and prizes, gave us the boost needed to be able to raise almost £500. It was great to see every table full and many people going away with a prize. Thank you to those parents who also helped. The next Friends meeting is on: Tuesday 3rd May at 6pm, please do come along if you can. I believe discussions regarding the Downham Festival is on the agenda.

Please take a look at the promotional video released about the school, it's a brief overview of who we are and what we can offer. It is currently being uploaded to the website but is available on our Twitter and Facebook pages. Please share with others.



Sports events have featured highly over the past few weeks with children attending the Netball, Kurling and participating in the tri-golf hosted by us. The highlight of course being Einstein's performance at the Kings Lynn Corn Exchange. The dance aspects of PE this half term have been incredibly successful, resulting in a Dance club being offered across the first half of the Spring term. We are hoping to be able to participate in the festival planned for June. The Sports Leaders have also done an excellent job across this half term of running a club themselves. They have taught children who attended new games, and some of these are now being played at playtimes. Due to its success, this club also continues after Easter.



Celebration assembly took place yesterday, due to the opening being such a large event, I took the decision to just have the children attend this term's celebration. I am delighted to share that the following children received Star Learner Awards:

English: Achillies Tooley

Maths: Kelsie Willingham

Science: Jack Bowie

Foundation Subjects: Ruby Groves

PE: George Causton

Computing: Archie Weir

Home Learning: Eddie Bodsworth

Above and Beyond: Daisy Dunsmuir

Awards were also given to Kieran Stannard, Kelsie Willingham, Ruby Groves and Henry Horn-Godden, who were Mathematicians of the Day on World Maths Day last Wednesday, they completed a number of challenges and scored the most amount of points.

The following children were awarded 100% attendance certificates for the term: Harry Warren, George Causton, Kelsie Willingham, Kaylum Willingham and Jasmin Willingham. A major achievement considering the current situation regarding Covid.

Well done to all of those who achieved certificates and awards this term.

Guidance has been released this week regarding Covid, on Tuesday 29 March, the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, Sajid Javid, set out the [next steps for living with COVID-19](#) in England from Friday 1 April. This is as follows:

- regular asymptomatic testing is no longer recommended in any education or childcare setting
- adults with the symptoms of a respiratory infection, and who have a high temperature or feel unwell, should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people until they feel well enough to resume normal activities and they no longer have a high temperature
- children and young people who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and avoid contact with other people. They can go back to school, college or childcare when they no longer have a high temperature, and they are well enough to attend
- adults with a positive COVID-19 test result should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 5 days, which is when they are most infectious. For children and young people aged 18 and under, the advice will be 3 days.

I hope you all have a lovely Easter break, and we look forward to seeing you all on **Wednesday 20th April**.

REMINDERS

Dinners – We have been advised of the following small changes to the lunch menus. These are:

1. WK1 Mon - **Meat Free Monday** back on the menu Margherita Pizza
2. WK1 Fri - **Vegetable fingers** replace vegetable nuggets (problems with supply chain)
3. WK2 Tue - **BBQ Chicken** replaces BBQ Pork - (due to the length of cooking time especially on smaller sites)
4. WK2 Fri – **Fish Fingers** replaces breaded fish
5. WK2 Th - **Beef Bolognese** replaces Lasagne

Outstanding Payments – Please can all outstanding payments continue to be made. All payments are due before the end of the summer term.

PE Kit - Please ensure that your child's full PE kit is in school every day, the timetable can change at short notice. **This should include navy shorts, school t-shirt, school hoodie, and navy tracksuit, in case it is cold.** May we also remind you that all earrings, watches or other jewellery is removed on the days your child has PE.

Uniform - Please can you ensure that your child is wearing the correct school uniform as detailed in the Parents Handbook, we are starting to see items slip in that are not part of the uniform. If you are having trouble sourcing uniform, please come and see us so we can help. Let's not let the high standards gained slip now please. With the summer approaching, girl's checked dresses should be navy and white please. Can we also ask that you ensure that items of clothing are named.

All new uniform orders for September 2022 must be received by the 8th July 2022



Parking - Please can we remind you to be considerate and respectful to our neighbours across the road, and make sure that their driveways remain clear during morning and afternoon drop offs. Also ensuring that you are parking safely if you choose to park on the road rather than at the car park available to you at the social club. Thank you those of you who have engaged in the Safer Schools, and are continuing to both park and drive carefully outside our school.

DIARY DATES

After school clubs commence from Monday 25th April until Thursday 26th May 2022

April 2022

- 20th - Return to school
- 25th - Girls Football Festival (letter to follow)
- 28th - Year 6 Crucial Crew trip
- 29th - Young Voices

May 2022

- 2nd - Bank Holiday
- 9th - Year 6 SATs week
- 16th - Year 2 SATs week
- 20th - Cricket Festival (letter to follow)

The dance festival provisionally booked in July has been moved to Wednesday 22nd June 2022.

Please see attachments for Easter Activities going on in and around this area.

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