



**Let Your Light Shine
Matthew 5:16**

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Newsletter November 2024

Autumn is here and winter is coming; the nights are getting darker and it won't be long before I will need to scrape the ice off my car before coming to work! Please make sure that your children have warm, waterproof coats for the weeks ahead and suitable clothing and footwear for Forest School and for outdoor PE. **Please name everything** so that we can return it to your child if it is found somewhere unexpected! We already have a significant amount of unnamed lost property gathered since the beginning of last term. Please make sure **all** clothing and footwear is named.

Car Parking

Before we update you on all the wonderful things that are happening in school, we need to mention parking.

It always seems to be the Term 2 newsletter where the first mention of parking arises. Respect is one of our school values which we work hard to teach our children and to model to them. It is not acceptable to park across the driveways of residents or even to park slightly across a driveway if it then prevents homeowners from accessing their drive themselves.

We just wanted to remind you about behaviours at drop off time in the morning as in previous years we have had complaints of parents attempting U-turns on Sudbrooke Road outside school despite the fact that there is a steady flow of oncoming traffic and pedestrians on both sides of the road and crossing the road. This is really dangerous, particularly at school drop off and pick up time. We have also had fellow parents and residents complaining of people parking in the layby, driving too fast, double parking to drop off and people waiting to park directly outside school and blocking the free passage of traffic. This creates concern about the safety of walking on the path with children, buggies, unaccompanied children and even for the older generations who may be dropping off for their families.

We would like to remind the few people who still use Mill Rise as a drop off point that this is discouraged. Many children cross Mill Rise to access the side gate and many children come to school unaccompanied. We ask you not to drop off your child here from your car as it can put children at risk.

We do know that many of you are using the village hall car park and some of you use the one on Juniper Drive. These car parks are fundamental in reducing the numbers of cars parked outside school and help ensure safe drop off and collection. Thank you for being considerate. We know that families will also need to park on nearby roads.

Please be mindful of safe and respectful practice on the roads. As a school we can only ask for your cooperation and ask you to consider the safety of our families and children. We do not want to see anyone injured due to someone's need to rush. **Please leave home five minutes earlier, turn where it is safe to do so - not outside school - please leave the laybys for the buses, and please respect people's rights to access their own property.**

Thank you to everyone who already does all of this, it really does make a difference.

Macmillan Coffee Afternoon

Thank you to all of our cake bakers, helpers, Year 6 helpers and to everyone who came and spent time and money with us. A total of £348.48 was raised for an excellent cause. Thank you.

Harvest Festival and Foodbank Friday

We were able to support the Lincoln Foodbank and Lincoln Community Larder with all of your generous contributions. Reverend Lynne came into school to lead our Harvest Festival service and was joined by Mrs Murphy's class who performed a harvest poem as well as some volunteers from Y5 and Y6 who performed readings, poems and prayers. Well done to all the children and thank you to Rev Lynne and all the adults who supported the children's contributions.

Our next Foodbank collection is on Friday 13th December; please continue to support those in need in our local community if you can. Thank you.

Year 5 & 6 Class Assemblies

All three classes in Year 5 and 6 have produced outstanding Class Assemblies over the past few weeks.

Mr Rear's Class kicked things off by sharing their learning from the term so far including a debate about whether zoos should exist where both sides of the argument were presented and the audience had to decide which one they agreed with.

Mrs Hauton's Class took us on a journey through the seven life processes for living things and shared examples of writing that they'd done in class along with an African themed dance during the section about movement.

Mr Clark's Class told us all about Sir David Attenborough. They included key information about his upbringing as well as explaining how he first got into TV work. We were also encouraged to think about what we can learn from his life and how we can look after the planet.

All three classes worked hard on their presentation skills and spoke clearly in front of the whole school with confidence and humour. Well done to all of the children for doing such an amazing job – we were so proud of you all!

Collective Worship

We have celebrated the compositions and music of Glen Miller throughout September and October and listened to them in our entry and exit music for Collective Worship.

Our whole school value in Term 2 is Respect and we will be hearing stories from the Bible that link into this theme all the way up to Christmas.

Open the Book

This amazing group of people captivate both the children and the adults with their retelling of key biblical stories in Collective Worship. This year we have continued to travel through the Old Testament and have heard various stories including King Solomon and Elijah. The amazing homemade props and scenery provide an engaging setting for the actors and you could honestly hear a pin drop.

Maths Workshops

We held our Maths Workshops in school at the beginning of term. Thank you to Mrs Hauton, Mrs Murphy and Mr Clark for taking the time to share with parents the various approaches and strategies that we use in school. It was so good to see the workshops so well attended. The slides from the sessions are available to view on the school website for those who were unable to attend.

Year 6 - Bikeability - W/C 7th October

Well done to all our Year 6 who completed their Bikeability course just before half term. The instructors commented that they were the most sensible and well-behaved group they'd ever taught. Well done and we look forward to seeing you using the skills that you learned in around the village in the coming months.

Flu Spray vaccinations have been administered to children whose parents gave authorisation.

Parents Evenings 15th and 16th October.

Thank you to all our parents for making time to come in and talk to your children's teachers and celebrate their work. There was such a positive atmosphere in school over the two evenings and it's always great to welcome you all onto the premises.

Year 4 Multiplication Check and times tables

As most parents in Y4 will be aware, the Y4 children will do their 'Multiplication Check' in June 2025. All children will be given 25 questions, with six seconds to answer each one. Any time they can spend on TTRS over the coming months will greatly improve their results in the summer. Mrs Arden and Mrs Clark are recommending that the children use Garage, Gig and Studio modes on TTRS to help them learn their multiplication facts. Jamming mode allows the children to choose a times table to practise, so they are encouraging the children to choose tables they aren't yet confident with if they want to play on the jamming mode. Soundcheck mode emulates the June check. Thank you for all your support in this matter.

Times Table Rockstars

Battles begin this half term. In the first round Earth will play Air and Water will play Fire. Battles close on December 10th so please encourage your children to play and practise their number facts at the same time.

Remembrance day - Monday 11th November

We sold Remembrance Day poppies and other merchandise in school and will be marking the occasion with a 2-minute silence on the playground.

Diwali

This year Diwali fell on Friday 1st November and we celebrated it with a special assembly that was presented by a number of our students on Thursday 7th November. They did a brilliant job and the rest of the school listened respectfully to the information that was shared.

Children In Need Day at Ellison Boulsters

This year, the pupil council have been tasked with choosing which charities we would like to support (information about these can be found below). The pupil council made the decision that we would not do anything for this year's Children in Need.

Shoebox Appeal

The pupil council really wanted to support the Samaritans' Christmas Shoe Box Appeal. The children have looked at this during class worship and a separate letter has already gone home about it too. For more information about what needs to be packed in the shoeboxes, please visit <https://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child>.

Anti-Bullying Week and Odd Socks Day 11th -15th November

This year the theme of Anti-Bullying Week is Choose Respect. Odd Socks Day will launch the week on Monday 11th November. Children are being asked to wear odd socks all week. Throughout the week children will take part in activities to raise awareness and to make sure that children understand what bullying is, the forms it takes and what to do if you are being bullied or witness bullying.

Save The Date: Christmas Fair

Please keep an eye out for letters from FEBA. They work so hard and do a fantastic job in raising money to enhance all the children's school experience. The Christmas Fair will be held on December 6th between 6pm and 7.30pm. We estimate that to run smoothly with enough helpers we need at least 30 people to help. Many school staff give their

time as well as FEBA. With that number of helpers it can sometimes mean that those that help do not get a break or get to look around the fair themselves with their children. If you are able to give some time on the night it would be hugely appreciated. Please

Wake-up Wednesday Online Safety Guides

These are included to support you in keeping your children safe online You can read the guidance by following the links to our website.



This month I have selected guides that relate to friendship online and a game that you may be considering for Christmas and the New Year. Click on the images to access or use the links below.

Group Chats- Access at: <https://primarysite-prod-sorted.s3.amazonaws.com/ellisonboultersacademy/UploadedDocument/98f91593-f3c1-4d29-a1bd-b805abb6024c/group-chats.pdf>Share

Kindness online-Access at: <https://primarysite-prod-sorted.s3.amazonaws.com/ellisonboultersacademy/UploadedDocument/e94f9fb4-cb6e-48de-acf9-c1cdc4be240c/share-kindness-online.pdf>

EA Sports FC24-Access at: <https://primarysite-prod-sorted.s3.amazonaws.com/ellisonboultersacademy/UploadedDocument/8874789f-d434-4ad5-b4e7-f36d5a13a30c/ea-sports-fc.pdf>

Recommended Reads



Year 5 and 6: The Wrong Shoes by Tom Percival

"There's a bunch of kids in there and suddenly they're all looking at me like someone who can actually do something, not just some weirdo with the wrong shoes and a rubbish coat."

Will has the wrong shoes – he's always known it but doesn't know how to change it. Navigating the difficulties of home and school when you feel you stick out is tough, but finding confidence with the help and empathy of friends can be all you need to see the way.

Year 3 and 4: Turtle Moon by Hannah Gold

Under the hot tropical sun, Silver settles into life at the animal centre. She even witnesses a rare sighting of a

leatherback turtle nesting on the beach. But when the turtle's eggs are stolen, events take a dark and dangerous turn. Can Silver and her new friends track them down before it's too late? It'll mean journeying into the heart of the jungle and uncovering long-buried secrets.

Year 1 and 2: Einstein The Penguin

When the Stewarts spend a sunny, frosty December day at London Zoo, they're enchanted by one small penguin. At the delight of young Imogen and Arthur, Mrs Stewart insists the penguin "must come and stay with them whenever he likes." But not one Stewart expects the penguin to turn up at their door that evening, rucksack labelled "Einstein" on his back...The family's new feathered friend helps Arthur to come out of his shell and makes massive demands on Imogen's amateur sleuthing. But together they must find out why Einstein came to them and they must keep away from the mysterious white-coat man.

And Einstein can't stay forever, can he...?

EYFS: Dadaji's Paintbrush

Dadaji loves to teach others to paint, especially his grandson. But after Dadaji passes away, the boy can't bear to use the favourite paintbrush his grandfather left for him. When a little girl knocks on the door, the boy discovers how many lives Dadaji touched with his art, and finds a way to continue his legacy.

2024: Purchasing A Smart phone for a child?

Is it the right time to get my child a Smart phone? This is something we are asked a lot by Parents. A new film by the charity Nip in the Bud discusses the hidden dangers of social media and smartphone use among children. If you are considering getting your child a phone we would urge you to watch the film here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5Zhfd0jW7iY&t=605s>

The film provides insights from children, headteachers and doctors, shedding light on the everyday harm caused by digital platforms.

You can read more information here which provides more options to consider around technology prior to purchasing smartphones for children.

<https://nipinthebud.org/fact-sheet/smartphones-and-social-media-fact-sheet/>

Kathryn Smith, Community Safety Strategy Coordinator Prevention Education

Upcoming Diary Dates & Class Assemblies

Monday 11 th November	Odd Socks All Week
Thursday 21 st November	Reception Parents stay & play 9.00-10.00am
Friday 29 th November	Nativity Dress Rehearsal
Friday 29 th November	Lighting of the Christmas Tree & Carols
Tuesday 3 rd December	KS1 Nativity Performance 9.20am
Wednesday 4 th December	KS1 Nativity Performance 9.20am
Friday 6 th December	Christmas Fayre
Thursday 12 th December	Christmas Jumper Day

Friday 13 th December	Selling Christmas Crafts
Wednesday 18 th December	Church & Party Day
Thursday 19 th December	Pantomime – Dick Whittington – AM & Children Break up
Friday 20 th December	Inset day – No children in school
Monday 6 th January	<i>Children return to school</i>

14.02.25	Mrs Murphy – Zealous Zebras
07.03.25	Ms Clark – Floella Class
28.03.25	Miss Toyne – Kusama Class
04.04.25	Mrs Arden – Pankhurst Class
02.05.25	Mrs Reed – Polite Penguins
09.05.25	Mrs Randman – Respectful Raccoons
23.05.23	Miss Sellers & Mrs Bristow – Cheerful Cheetahs

Thank you for your continued support. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any queries or concerns.