

Newsletter

21st October 2022

We have come to the end of the first half term of this academic year and what a busy and exciting time we have had at school. As well as having parents in to see our learning, the children have been out and about enriching their learning in the local area. Thanks for your continued support – see you after half term.

Autumn Term:

Mon 31 st	Return from October Half Term
November	
Tues 1 st	Hawks visit to Flag Fen
W/B Mon 7 th	Parent Consultation Evenings (late night appointments on Monday)
W/B Mon 14 th	Anti-Bullying Week
Thurs 17 th	KS2 Whistle-stop Tour: History and Music session in school
Wed 30 th	Welcome Weekday 2.30pm
December	
Mon 12 th	Virtual Christingle Service from Ely Cathedral
Wed 14 th	Snowman Drive (Evening event)
Mon 19 th	Wrens and Robins Nativity - Morning and afternoon
Mon 19 th	KS2 Carols at Church 6pm
Tues 20 th	Christmas Lunch and visit from Father Christmas
Wed 21 st	Last Day of Autumn Term

OPTA AGM

The AGM was held yesterday in school, but unfortunately very few people turned up meaning that the meeting could not go ahead.

Our PTA have been vital to the school. They hold events and activities for the children in the school and raise money so that extras can be provided for the children or activities can be subsidised. It would be a real shame if the PTA were to fold. The Covid pandemic put a stop to some of the more social activities that were held for adults as well as parents. It would be great to be able to hold these events again, but we can not do this without people willing to help out.

The current committee are planning to send out a questionnaire to gather your views regarding their role and how to encourage more people to get involved. They will also be sending out a new date for the AGM. I do hope you can join us and see how you can help OPTA – many roles only require a very small amount of time, but as they say many hands make light work.

Keep your eyes peeled – OPTA will be in touch soon

Parent Consultation Evening

We are holding our first Parent Consultation Evening the second week after half term. This is your opportunity to discuss with the class teacher how your child is as a learner in the classroom, including attitude to learning, behaviour and their progress this term.

We are using School Cloud to book the appointments and are offering both in-person and online appointments. Appointments will be ten minutes long and are blocked into either in-person or online, please make sure you know which you're signing up for!

I am told using School Cloud from a parent's point of view is fairly easy. Head to <https://offord.schoolcloud.co.uk/> and log in using your email that we have on our system. You should then be able to pick your times. Times are available from Monday to Thursday after school, with later appointments available on the Monday evening. For Hawks and Kingfishers classes there are also appointments during the afternoon on the Thursday. Accompanying this letter is a Parent's Guide for logging into and using School Cloud. Please let us know if you have any problems booking.

If your child is on the SEND register at school, you will be sent their Pupil Passport before the meeting. If you need more time to discuss this, then please speak to your class teacher, we can either allocate you a double appointment (if possible) or an extra meeting at your convenience.

We hope you can make these appointments as it is really important to us to be able to meet with you and share information about your children. Thank you.

Welcome Weekday

Thank you to everyone who was able to join us for our first Welcome Weekday. Parents joined their children in their lessons participating in a range of subjects including History, Art, Science and RE. I hope you enjoyed it as much as the children did, showing you what their lessons are like. The next Welcome Weekday is Wednesday 30th November – Kingfisher parents: this will be PE for your class so bring your trainers!



Welcome Weekday - parents joining in with lessons



PIC•COLLAGE

Sports at Offord

We are increasing our participation in sports tournaments, competitions and festivals. So far this term, the Y2 children have been to a sports festival, we sent the Y6 to a football festival, where they got to the quarter finals of the tournament – well done Y6! Also a rugby team consisting of children from Y5 & Y6 had a great time at their tournament, showing great team work. More is planned for next term and the rest of the year.



Year 5/6 Rugby Tournament



Year 6 Football Festival



PIC•COLLAGE



PIC•COLLAGE



Class trips

The Robins and Kingfishers have been on school trips this half term (Hawks are off to Flag Fen on the Tuesday after half term).

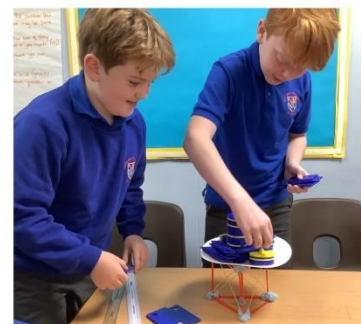
Robins had a brilliant time at Cambridge Botanical Gardens. They saw lots of different plants from all around the world. Some were very tiny and others huge! The particularly enjoyed seeing the seed pods and exploring the warm green houses.

Kingfishers headed over to West Stow on the wettest day of the year! Thankfully it was drier in Suffolk and they managed to explore the Anglo Saxon village and museum without getting wet. They very much enjoyed seeing the artefacts from the village, learning how the Anglo Saxons lived and exploring the reconstructed houses. It is great being able to enrich the classroom learning with these experiences.

Kingfishers also spent a virtual day in Ely Cathedral. Some time-travelling Medieval monks helped them explore the structure and forces of the cathedral and how it was built without modern technology. They also learned about Medieval urine – I think that is one to ask them about!! I understand it was a great day though.



Robins trip to Cambridge Botanical Gardens



Kingfishers STEM day with Ely Cathedral

