

### Dairy Dates

#### Wed 3<sup>rd</sup> Oct @ 0830

Years 1, 3 & 4 Parents'  
Share Session (Writing)

#### Thurs 4<sup>th</sup> Oct @ 0830

Little Elvers, Reception  
& Year 2 Parents' Share  
Session (Writing)

#### Mon 8<sup>th</sup> Oct

0845 Harvest Festival  
(Years 2, 3 & 4)

1430 Harvest Festival  
(Little Elvers, Reception,  
Year 1)

#### Thurs 11<sup>th</sup> Oct & Fri 19<sup>th</sup> Oct

Open Session for Intake  
19

#### Fri 19<sup>th</sup> Oct

Break up for half term

#### Mon 29<sup>th</sup> Oct

Back to School

### Big Talk

*If you go down to  
the wood today,  
what would you  
see, what would  
you do?*

### Executive Head Teacher's Comment

This week has seemed very quiet in school, particularly on Wednesday, as the Year 4 children have been on a residential trip in the forest and the Year 3 children visited Bewilderwood. The trips link with their theme, Into the Woods, and in particular their big questions, 'What would I see down in the woods today?' All of the children have had a fantastic time, used their imagination and stayed positive to try out new and something scary things. It has been lovely to watch the growth of our children and to see them push themselves to achieve and succeed. The Year 3/4 children, and indeed all of our classes, have had an amazing start to the term, the classes have gelled together, the themes and Big Questions are fun and interesting and they are supported by our fantastic teachers and teaching assistants who really care about the safety, well-being and education of all of the children.

Today, I held our first newly formed Parents' council meeting. At the meeting we discussed the aims of the Parents' council and how we can work together to ensure that parents are kept up to date and are consulted on any new initiatives. It was a very positive, productive meeting and I will be sending out the names of your Parent Councillor next week along with the minutes of our meeting and how you can get in touch with them. There will be a page on the website with further information too.

At the meeting, I was able to quash some rumours that seem to have spread throughout the playground and causing worries and concern with the parents. Rumours start by something being overheard or a child or parent saying something that is not entirely accurate and then it spreads and changes. If you have heard something or your child has said something to you which causes concern, please do get in touch with us so we can clarify the situation. When you do email the office, please do consider the tone of your emails and the choice of words that you use. Emails can be misinterpreted and may cause offence as you do not hear the intonation in the speakers' words when reading an email. After all, we are all working together for the good of the children at Isle of Ely.

I look forward to seeing you all next week at the Parents' English Share Session on either Wed 3<sup>rd</sup> or Thurs 4<sup>th</sup> Oct and please do stay for the talk with Miss Trueman as she will be sharing with you our new handwriting policy and how you can support your child at home.

Lastly, a quick reminder about parking, please do remember to reverse into the car parking spaces and do not stop to drop off your child near the gate as this causes a blockage behind you.

I wish you all an enjoyable weekend.

Bryony Surtees

### Head teacher's Award

#### Ladybird Class

Sophie R for staying positive when faced with a new challenge.

#### Butterfly Class

Aleksander T for aiming high and working hard in all his challenges.

#### Dragonfly Class

Jude for aiming high with his story map and including lots of detail.

#### Bumblebee Class

Bobbie for aiming high with her story writing and preserving with her phonics.

#### Caterpillar Class

Jacob J for his creative word choices in his story.

#### Spider Class

Grace M for always being exceptionally kind and supportive to her friends.

#### Moth Class

Gabriella S – for aiming high and staying positive. Gabriella was amazing on our BeWilderwood trip. She was always polite, well-mannered and a ray of sunshine.

#### Wasp Class

Flo – Although she was nervous about the classes being split this week, she remained positive. Well

### Year Group News

**Reception:** This week we have been working on the Golden Rule, 'We work hard'. The children have been working really hard and enjoying going up the rainbow. Next week, we will be working on the Golden Rule, 'We are gentle'. Can you talk to your child about what it means to be gentle. Next week our Big Question will be 'Where is your favourite place to go?' Children are welcome to bring in pictures or items but no toys please. In literacy this week we have been using our phoneme fingers to listen carefully to each sound in a word. In maths we have been measuring each other, our shoes and objects around the class. Thinking about the mathematical language. Big, medium and small. At the end of the day if your child has forgotten an item and needs to come back into the classroom can they please wait till all children have been dismissed.

**Year 1:** Year One have been learning all about materials this week thinking about our Big Question, 'What is the best material to make a toy?' The children have learnt what different materials are and also described their properties. They have learnt new words such as 'opaque,' 'translucent,' 'absorbent' and 'waterproof.' In Maths the children have learnt about length and have been measuring using non-standard and standard units. I wonder if the children can measure how tall they are at home? In English the children have been planning and writing their own Old Bear stories. We have been focusing on using our phonics to sound out and spell words.

**Year 2:** Year two have had a fantastic week learning all about different dragons. We even got to see some dragon teeth and meet some real Dragon Hunters. In Maths we have been learning systematic methods to partition two-digit numbers. All the children have tried very hard at this and have made us proud. Next week we will be recapping the names and properties of 2D shapes so please talk to your children about this over the weekend. In English we will be writing the end of our fantasy stories so please ask your children all about their story lines and encourage the description of characters and settings. In theme we will be looking at living, dead and never alive. PE will be on Monday and forest schools will be on Thursday.

**Year 3/4:** This week the Year 3/4 team has been focused on exploring the woods. Year 4 have had an amazing time on their Residential, although I am not sure if the teachers eating fish eyes is true or just a rumour! Year 3 meanwhile, have been busy out and about in BeWILDerwood. From spotting Twiggles hanging from the tallest tree-tops, to sliding down 'Slippery Slopes' and building dens – Year 3 did not stop. It was certainly an action-packed day. Please remember PE for Year 3/4 is on: Tuesday for Earwig and Wasp, Wednesday for Grasshopper and Moth. Thursday for all classes. It would be great to see the kit coming in on a Monday and going home on a Friday as we had at least 10 children this week who did not have kits. We really do appreciate your support with this matter and I know many are keen to book another visit so perhaps something for half term!