Fordham CE Primary School

13th October 2025

It take a whole community to raise a child, striving for excellence together

A note from Miss. Rankin

It seems the weather cannot make up its mind at the moment, with it being cold and miserable in the mornings and sunny by the end of the day. This usually brings the coughs, colds and sickness out in school. We will remind them to keep washing their hands to try to keep the germs at bay but they also need to remember to bring their coats into school please.

School has been busy over the last fortnight.... with Year 5 visiting Burwell House, learning about the Romans, Y3 welcoming an archaeologist and Year 6 going to SVC for a STEM day last week. School sports has also started with Y5/6 pupils performing really well in a cross country race; with three individuals going through to the next round. They were running against Year 7 students also on the Newmarket Golf Links course. A special mention to Emily C for coming first out of approximately 150 pupils from Year 5/6 and 7.

Harvest Festival:
The children performed really well at the church last Friday for our annual Harvest Festivals. It is always lovely to start the year in a place of awe and wonder and with so many parents, carers and families able to join us, with Revd. Stephen leading it. A huge thank you for your generosity in donating food for the Food Bank.

Book Week:
Last week was National Book Week and we set a 500 words story writing and front cover challenge to the school. Thank you to everyone who took part. Well done to Layla & Merida who won first prize, a £15 book token to spend at our fair, for their story, The Acorn Tree. Well done to Harriet and Elliot Priest who shared the runner up prize of a £10 book fair voucher for their creative stories and to Ewan won a £5 book fair token for his book cover - 'The Cool Jalapeno'.

Supporting a Smooth Start to the Day in Year 1 and Year 2:
We understand that mornings can sometimes be a little tricky for some of our younger children as they settle into their classrooms. Our staff are always on hand to offer gentle support and reassurance to help ease this transition.
Often, children come in happily and begin their morning routines, such as putting away their coats and bags. However, we've noticed that seeing their parents again after this can sometimes unsettle them.
We absolutely recognise how important it is for you to feel connected to your child at drop-off, but we kindly ask parents to avoid waiting by the windows to wave goodbye. While we understand this is a loving gesture, it can sometimes unsettle the children again after they've begun to settle into their classroom routines. Thank you for your understanding and support.

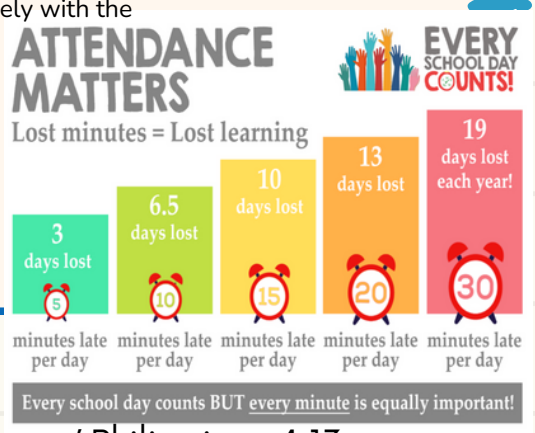
Cultural Week: We are looking forward to our cultural week starting the 20th October. A reminder that we will be launching the week with the Great World Bake Off. Pupils are encouraged to research and prepare a recipe that is linked to their own cultural heritage, bake it at home and bring into school to share with their peers - we kindly ask that no nuts are included in any recipes and to please provide a list of ingredients. A certificate will be given in recognition of their contributions.

Important Safety Update
Unfortunately, there was a car accident on Church Lane last Thursday before school drop off times, in which one of our pupils was injured. Thankfully, the child is receiving care and is recovering well. We understand this may be concerning, and we are working closely with the relevant authorities to ensure the continued safety of all our children.
Please continue to take extra care during drop-off and pick-up times, and be considerate when parking. We continue to ask that you do not park in our staff car park as there have been many near misses there also. Thank you for your ongoing support in keeping our school environment safe.

Please take a look at page two for further safety alerts regarding links from children's books to inappropriate material online.
Have a lovely fortnight Miss. Rankin

Diary Dates

Wednesday 15th October - Y6 Forest School
Thursday 16th October - Y4 Forest School
Y1 Castle Day
W/b 20th October - Cultural Week
Tuesday 21st October - EYFS Parents Evening 3.30 - 6.30pm
Wednesday 22nd October - EYFS Parents Evening 3.30 -6.30pm
Thursday 23rd October - PTFA School Disco
Friday 24th October - PD day - No children in school
HALF TERM
W/b 3rd November - Pony Academy
11th November - Armistice Day
14th November - Children in Need: dress in spots or stripes
18th November - Y3 trip to Flag Fen
W/b 24th November - Pony Academy
W/b 8th December - Y6 Bikeability
8th December - Parents' Evening *more information to follow
10th December - Parents' Evening *more information to follow
11th December - EY Nativity 2pm and 3.30pm
11th December - Y1 Forest School
12th December - Christmas Jumper Day + Christmas Dinner Day



'I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.' Philippians 4:13

Education Inclusion Family Advisor Team Countywide Online Workshop Offer

The EIFA team would like to present our newly updated workshops on a variety of parenting and family issues for **September & October**.

Please ensure you book onto each workshop individually by clicking on the link or scanning the QR code and completing the registration form.

Sibling Rivalry	Tuesday, 23 September 2025, 12:00-13:30	Book onto this workshop at: Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams or
Understanding and Responding to Challenging Behaviours	Thursday, 2 October 2025, 12:00-13:30	Book onto this workshop at: Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams or
Sleep	Tuesday, 7 October 2025, 12:00-13:30	Book onto this workshop at: Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams or
Supporting Your Child with Feelings of Anger	Thursday, 9 October 2025, 12:00-13:30	Book onto this workshop at: Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams or
Supporting Your Child with Feelings of Worry	Thursday, 23 October 2025, 12:00-13:30	Book onto this workshop at: Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams or

If you have any questions about our workshops, or the EIFA service general, please contact earlyintervention@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

SAFETY ALERT

Children's books linked to adult content

The publisher Puffin has paused sales of the popular Spy Dog, Spy Pups and Spy Cat book series after discovering a website printed in the books now redirects to adult content.

- The link was originally used to promote the characters but has since been hijacked by an unrelated third party.
- The site now shows inappropriate content with no age verification.
- Puffin is contacting UK schools and local authorities and has urged school libraries to remove the books from shelves.
- If you have copies at home, check for weblinks and ensure children do not visit them.

FORDHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL HOLIDAY CLUB OCTOBER HALF TERM

Location - Fordham Primary School
Dates - Monday 27th & Tuesday 28th October
Time - 8:30-5:00pm
Ages - Year 1-Year 6
Bring - Packed lunch including plenty of snacks, water (refills available), appropriate clothing and footwear for indoor & outdoor activities. Sun cream & sun hat if necessary.
Cost - Full day = **£32.00** per child
(sibling discount **£27.00** per child)
Half day = **£16.00** per child
(sibling discount **£13.50** per child)

If your child attends Fordham Primary School please book via Arbor, If they do not, please email Mr Archer on **AArcher@fordham.cambs.sch.uk**

Limited spaces available so book ASAP to secure your child's space. Late collection may result in additional charges.

Judo Success for Emilia C!

Emilia C (Leopards) proudly represented Ely Dojo Bodo Club at the British Judo Association East Closed Championships, held on Sunday 12th October at Breckland Leisure Centre in Thetford. Competing against opponents of similar weight and experience, Emilia showed great skill and determination, earning an impressive Bronze medal in her category. Congratulations, Emilia, what a fantastic achievement! We are cheering you on for your next competition.

Jui Jitsu success

Congratulations to Clark (Kestrels) for participating in a Brazilian Jui jitsu competition in Ely along with his family in which he achieved a Bronze medal. Great use of your free time, Clark.
Well done!

Tom succeeds in Braintree Swim Races

Congratulations to Tom (Leopards), who delivered an outstanding performance in the Braintree Season Opener 2025 last week by competing in 7 swimming races and earning a total of 7 medals and improving all 7 PBs! Among his impressive achievements, Tom secured three gold medals in the 200m Freestyle, 200m Individual Medley, and 100m Butterfly events. His dedication and skill were on full display. Tom is looking forward his next swimming races in Bury next week. Well done Tom!