



5th November

Autumn Term 2021 News

Our church school creates a firm foundation where together, with God's help and with the help of others, we learn for life, achieve our best and grow in faith.

Emergency Response Area

You may have heard on the local news that from 1st November, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough became an 'Enhanced Response Area' (ERA). ERA status will mean more resources from government for additional measures to drive down recent rises in COVID-19 infection and to protect vulnerable people, the NHS and other vital services as the winter months approach. The aim is to bring down infection rates which are currently higher in most areas than seen in January's peak. With this in mind, we would like to let you know about current measures in school; we are working as 3 'bubbles' at school (Picasso, Kandinsky and a combined Monet and Van Gogh 'bubble'). This is enabling us to minimise contact between children. Our Collective Worship continues to be via Zoom and we are limiting the number of visitors to school as essential visitors only. Adults in school are also wearing face coverings at all times when they are outside of their classroom environment e.g. in corridors and the staffroom. We are really hoping that these measures will support us in keeping our school open and as many children and adults attending every day! Your support with reminding your children/child about coughs and sneezes would be appreciated (see image) as we have lots of the usual autumn term sniffles at the moment! We would also encourage you to wear a face covering whilst on our school site and to avoid gathering in large groups – your support, as always, is appreciated!



Diwali Celebration

The children thoroughly enjoyed learning about Diwali yesterday and we would like to thank Pareeka's family for their donation of Diwali lamps. Pareeka also read the story of Diwali to her class and lots of children wished her a Happy Diwali!

Curriculum Maps

The Curriculum Maps which outline the core learning for each class during the second half term have been sent home today. These will also be available on the class pages of the school website. We hope these are useful to parents and if you have any resources which may support our learning please do let us know.

Home Learning

Thank you to all parents who shared their views about home learning last half term. From this week, we will set whole school home learning via our STARz online learning platform. The home learning will be set every Tuesday to be completed by the following Monday. This week's is available now although we know it only gives the weekend to complete.

Due to feedback, this home learning is **not** compulsory. We had mixed feedback with some families not wishing to engage at the moment for a variety of reasons through to families who expressed a desire to set a home learning expectation each week for their child/children particularly in relation to being prepared for secondary school. We hope that by giving parents a choice we can meet the needs of most; this includes those who may want to engage on some weeks but are not able to on others.

Attached with this newsletter is a 'How to' guide which explains how to log on, how to find the home learning page and how to submit learning. All children in Picasso and Kandinsky have been shown how to do this for themselves but Monet and Van Gogh will require some support.

Please can we take this opportunity to remind parents about the value of reading at home even if you are not engaging in the online home learning; any time spent engaging with books whether it is being read to, listening to e-stories or reading to someone is valuable.

Value for this half term: Generosity

Please find attached with the newsletter our Home/School Values document for our current value, Generosity. We hope you find it useful!

In school Collective Worship the children will reflect on what it means to be generous and learn about what this means for Christians. We will think about being generous beyond the giving and sharing of 'things' to reflect on how we can be generous with our kindness, our love, our time, our forgiveness and so on. We will look at examples in the Bible of when Jesus was 'generous' and think about the message for Christians.



Coats and change of shoes

Please can we remind everyone that now the weather has become unsettled your child needs to bring a coat and change of shoes to wear at playtime.

Flu Vaccinations - Foundation – Year 6

Thank you for returning the Flu Vaccination forms for your children. The team will be in school on Monday 15th November.

Remembrance Day and Poppies

Poppies and other items will be on sale next week in classrooms. If you wish your child to purchase a poppy or other items available then please send any money in a named wallet or envelope and it would be greatly appreciated if siblings could have separate money as this will avoid children disturbing other classes during the day.



Poppy – any donation

Zip Pull – 50p

Silicon Wristband – £1.00

Reflective Tag - 50p

Flexi Rulers- £1.50

We only have a limited stock of each item and sadly once they are gone, they are gone.

Our thanks to those families who have been busy knitting, crocheting and/or painting plastic bottle bottoms!

Samaritans Purse – Operation Christmas Child



Thank you everyone for the donations that we have already received for the Operation Christmas Child boxes. All donations need to be received in school by Monday 8th November so that we can sort the boxes ready for collection.

Gift Suggestions

Toys – Monet class

A football and pump, cuddly toys, dolls, toy cars, small musical instruments, yo-yos, skipping ropes, balls, small puzzles etc.



School Supplies – Picasso class

Pens, pencils & sharpeners, crayons or felt pens, stamps & ink pad sets, writing pads or notebooks, solar calculators, colouring & picture books etc.



Hygiene Items – Van Gogh class

Toothbrush, bars of wrapped soap, comb or hairbrush, flannel etc.



Other Items – Kandinsky class

Hat, gloves, scarf, sunglasses, cap, socks, T-shirt, flip-flops, hair accessories, jewellery set, watch, wind-up torch etc.



Children in Need – Fancy Dress Friday 19th November

We are asking for a suggested donation of £1 to come to school in fancy dress/non-uniform on Friday 19th November and we have set up a Just Giving page for your donations. You can access the page [here](#). Alternatively, please use the

QR code to direct you straight to our page.



School photos

A quick reminder that we have re-booked the photographer for Friday 12th November and they have confirmed that any orders received (online direct) before 22nd November, will arrive before Christmas.

Dinner Money

Reminder that dinner money for the second half of the Autumn term is now due. The cost for the half term is £81.60. (34 days @ £2.40) The Governors discussed the possibility of providing an online payment platform for dinner money. However, following discussion it was decided that this would not be cost effective for our school. However, if you can't pay by cash or cheque and wish to do a direct transfer into our bank account then please contact Mrs Nixon for more details. If you have debt on account from last term, please pay this as soon as possible. As a small school we do not have the cash flow to carry these debts so prompt payment and payment in advance is vital.



Election of our new Chair

At the STARS meeting on 3rd November, Angela Moore stepped down as Chair. Huge thanks to Angela for all her efforts since joining the committee.

At the meeting, Samantha North was voted in as the new Chair.

Thank you to Samantha for stepping up into this role especially in your first year in the school. An overview of the full committee can be found [here](#). We are looking forward to a brilliant year!

Silent Auction

Last year, STARS ran a hugely successful silent auction and we are hoping to repeat it again this year.

If any of you have any gifts or vouchers for services that you are able to donate as a prize, they would be very much appreciated.

We would also love to auction some "promises", so, if you have a skill or can spare some time we would love a donation of a promise. Perhaps you're a keen gardener or take beautiful photographs or can offer a babysitting voucher....we'd love to hear your promises! Please speak to any member of the committee about any donation. Thank you.

Christmas Cards

The children have been busy designing a Christmas card which will be available for you to purchase. A sample and ordering information will be sent home with your child next week. Please look out for this.

Our School Prayer

Dear Lord,

All together we are Abbots Ripton School

Bless each one of us this day

Bring joy to our lives

Open our hearts to peace

Together we pray to you our Father

Stand by us as we grow

May we

Reflect your goodness

In all that we do

Protect the world around us and

Take care of your creation

Our family and friends we trust to your care

Now and forever we say

Amen



Diary Dates Autumn 2021

All new dates are added in bold and italic.

Date	Event
8 th November	Open Session for Reception intake 2022 ~ 1:30pm
11 th November	Parents invited to join us for lunch. More details and booking form to follow. Postponed
11 th November	Remembrance Day ~ Church service 2:30pm (In school for children only)
12 th November	School photographs
15 th November	Flu Vaccinations
18 th November	Van Gogh Nursery Rhyme Time ~ 9.15am. Parents invited.
18 th November	Parents invited to join us for lunch. More details and booking form to follow. Postponed
19th November	Children in Need – Fancy dress/non-uniform day
22 nd November	Deadline for school photograph orders
25 th November	Parents invited to join us for lunch. More details and booking form to follow. Postponed
3 rd December	Whole School Christmas Decorating Morning
6 th December	Open Session for Foundation intake 2022 ~ 1:30pm
8 th December	Foundation/KS1 Nativity Performance ~ 9:30am and 2:00pm
9 th December	Foundation/KS1 Nativity Performance ~ 9:30am
16 th December	Whole School Christmas Lunch including Christmas Jumper day
17 th December	Christmas Christingle Service ~ 2.30pm in the church.
17 th December	End of term
18 th Dec 2021 to 3 rd Jan 2022	Christmas Holiday
4 th January	Training day ~ School Closed
5 th January	Spring term 2022 begins