



25th September

Autumn Term 2020

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.



Newsletter

You may have noticed that our fortnightly newsletter has become a weekly communication since the start of term. We feel that whilst there is information to share and reminders that are helpful, we will continue with a weekly newsletter. However, as things quieten down, we will send fortnightly again. We appreciate the time that parents take to read the newsletter and hope that it continues to be useful to you.

Recent announcements

I am sure that many of you will have seen the announcement earlier this week about the need for some new and some tighter restrictions in the effort to stop a further rise in Covid 19 infections. Whilst we are pleased that there is little that has changed which directly impacts on schools, we would like to make some suggestions for further actions which parents could take:

- We would encourage parents to wear a face mask/covering when dropping and collecting children from school. This may be particularly important at pick up when queuing and waiting for your child. We know that wearing a mask will offer further protection to both you and those who you talk to.
- We would like to remind parents to use the 2 metre markers on the paths – we know that it is very tempting to gather together to talk but this really should be avoided, particularly without a mask.
- Our thanks to those parents who are keeping their children close to them on the field. Some parents have commented that there seems little point in this as the children are mixing together at school. Whilst this is correct, they are only mixing with children in their own class so it is important to keep them with you when more than one class has been dismissed.

Please do remember that we are all playing our part in keeping our whole school community safe; those who are vulnerable or who have previously been shielding are particularly at risk and we can all support in protecting these people in particular.

Covid information

With this newsletter we have sent 2 documents which have been shared with us by the Local Authority. One is a guidance document, 'What are the Rules on Self Isolation? – a Quick Guide for Parents' which is really useful alongside the guide for parents on school absence, sent last week. The second document is a visual guide on what happens when someone in your household is unwell with Covid19. Again, this is a useful visual aid.

Tapestry

We are delighted with the early feedback from our new Reception parents about Tapestry and the window into the classroom that it offers them. The staff in Van Gogh are nearing the end of their initial assessment of the children on entry to Reception and so over the next few weeks you may notice that there are fewer observations of your child. This is usual so nothing to be concerned about. As you will have seen from the diary dates, we will be offering Van Gogh parents a telephone consultation with Mrs Wilcock on 8th October for you to hear a little more about how your child has settled.



Do you have or know someone who has a child due to start school in September 2021?

Please help us to promote our school! We are holding virtual open sessions for prospective parents of next year's Reception intake on the following days:

Wednesday 14th October: 9:30am – 10:30am

Tuesday 3rd November: 9:30am – 10:30am

We will be sending information to lots of the local nurseries but if your child attends a club or sporting team outside the school and they will allow you to put up a poster, please contact the office and speak to Mrs Nixon. Booking is required this year, again via Mrs Nixon in the office.

Harvest thanks

A huge thank you to all of our families who sent in a food donation for Kings Ripton Court. The children have enjoyed learning about giving thanks and saying thank you for all that we have. During our Collective Worship they watched a delightful Harvest Service delivered by Rev'd Mandy from the Alconbury Allotments! Some children have also heard about Christians in Vellore in India and how they celebrate harvest and give thanks for their food.

I will be taking our donations to Kings Ripton Court next week and I know that they will be hugely grateful. Our thanks again.



Flu Vaccinations

Information was sent home last week about the nasal flu vaccination offered to all Primary children. Please access the link sent home to consent or decline. The portal link will close on **30th September 2020** and the School Vaccination Session Date is 30th November 2020.

School photographs

A reminder that school photographs will be taken in school on Thursday 1st October. Children will not be seated for this to avoid the whole school using the same chair and the photographer will be wearing a face mask. Please look out for the photograph proof and order form which will come home with your child on this day. All orders received before the deadline on the form, will be available before Christmas – they make great Christmas presents for family members!

STARS AGM



A reminder that the STARS AGM is on Wednesday 30th September at 7pm. The link to join the Zoom meeting is below:

Topic: STARS AGM

Time: 30/9/2020 19:00

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81563039251?pwd=L1d3cCtzSUErTzdxbXhIRkM3TXlyUT09>

Meeting ID: 815 6303 9251

Passcode: 6WfRr7

Secondary School applications – Now Open

A reminder that the application process is now open to apply for a Secondary School place for September 2021.

The link to the Cambridgeshire online application process is:

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/children-and-families/schools-learning/apply-for-a-school-place/secondary-school>

Home to School Transport and Travel

As previously mentioned, the Local Authority have released a survey for parents with children who are eligible for school transport. They are hoping to understand changes to school travel patterns as a result of COVID-19, and to inform their response to any new problems or barriers that families may be facing travelling to school. The following is the link to the Smart Survey: <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/XPJ0SD/> The survey is live now and will close at midnight this Sunday, 27th September.

Attendance % for W/E 25/09/2020

Van Gogh – 100%

Monet – 96%

Kandinsky – 98%

Picasso – 97%



Diary Dates

Please see below the diary dates for the Autumn term 2020

Any new dates are added in bold italics

Date	Event
30th September	STARS AGM – 7pm
1 st October	School photos – individual and siblings
8 th October	Van Gogh Parent Consultations via telephone: 2:30pm – 5:30pm
14th October	<i>Virtual Open Session for prospective parents: 9.30am – 10.30am</i>
15 th October	Online Phonics Workshop for Reception parents – more details to follow
26th – 30th October	HALF TERM
2 nd November	School starts again
3rd November	<i>Virtual Open Session for prospective parents: 9.30am – 10.30am</i>
3 rd November	Monet Parent Consultations via telephone: 2:30pm – 5:30pm
4 th November	Monet Parent Consultations via telephone: 2:30pm – 5:30pm
4 th November	Kandinsky Parent Consultations via telephone: 3:30pm – 5:30pm
11 th November	Kandinsky Parent Consultations via telephone: 3:30pm – 5:30pm
12 th November	Picasso Parent Consultations via telephone: 3:30pm – 5:30pm
25 th November	Flu Vaccinations for all children
18 th December	End of Term
19th Dec to 3rd Jan 2021	Christmas Holiday
4 th January	Training day – School Closed
5 th January	Spring term begins

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