



3rd November

School News Update

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.

Welcome back – we hope you had a lovely half term! We are into a very busy half term as we move towards Christmas. We have some exciting things happening this term and the children will be extremely busy – do have a look at the diary dates attached for more information.

Remembrance Day and Poppies

Poppies and other items are now on sale in school. 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. We only have a limited stock of each item and sadly once they are gone, they are gone. We are not able to give change so please send what you are happy to donate. Suggested donations are as follows:



- Poppy – any donation
- Reflective Tag - £1
- Zip Pull – £1
- Silicon Wristband – £1.00
- Snap Band- £1.50



Christmas Cards – DEADLINE today

Each child has designed a Christmas card and a copy of their design, along with ordering information was sent home before half term. If you wish to place an order then today is the deadline! This is a great fundraiser for our school so all orders are gratefully received.

Car Park

We have been made aware of some incidents in the car park and at the front gate. Firstly, could we ask all parents to reinforce the message that children should never leave the school site (including through the wooden gate into the staff car park) without an adult at the end of the day. Staff cars may be moving from 3:30pm if we have meetings etc. to leave for and so children should never be unaccompanied in this area of school. Similarly, once you have dropped your child to school, please remind them that they should never go back through the gates and when collected they must wait at the gates before entering the car park. Your support with this is vital – many thanks.

Open Sessions for Prospective Parents



Please can you spread the word to anyone you know who is looking for a school place for their child to start in September. We are holding Open Sessions for parents to come and view the school on the following dates:

- Tuesday 7th November ~ 1:30 – 2:30am
- Tuesday 5th December ~ 1:30 – 2:30pm

School Photos

The School Photography Company are booked to take this year's individual photos on Friday 10th November. As in previous years, we will organise sibling photos in school. These photos make ideal Christmas presents! Ordering info will be sent home with your child on the day.



We are aware that Friday is PE day for Kandinsky and Van Gogh Classes but please can the children come to school dressed in their school uniform. Van Gogh will not need their PE kit but please could Kandinsky bring their PE kit with them to change into.

Anti-Bullying Week – Odd Socks Day Monday 13th November

Nationally, Anti Bullying week is Monday 13th - Friday 17th November. The key message is about celebrating our uniqueness and respecting/accepting difference and we will spend some time during the week thinking about this. We will be joining in with 'wear odd socks to school' on Monday 13th November - please see attached flyer for more information – as we reflect on all the different socks that we are wearing we will make links with how different we all are. Please wear usual uniform on this day please, however please do wear odd socks! They could be odd with different colours, stripes, spots, patterns, lengths...you decide!



World Nursery Rhyme Week: Week commencing 13th November

Van Gogh class are going to be taking part in World Nursery Rhyme week.

This is a free initiative to celebrate and promote the benefits of singing rhymes. Nursery rhymes play an important role in early childhood by helping children master key skills such as language and communication and social, physical and emotional skills. For more information please

follow this link: www.musicbugs.co.uk/world-nursery-rhyme-week

Each day the class will be learning a nursery rhyme and we would be delighted if you could join us briefly on Friday 17th at 9am for a presentation of what we have learnt.

Flu Vaccinations

The NHS team will be in school on Thursday 16th November to administer the flu vaccination if you signed your child up. Please do follow the instructions on the letter sent home before half term to OPT IN YOUR CHILD.

Children in Need – Friday 17th November

We are inviting children to come to school in fancy dress/non-uniform for the suggested donation of £1.00. Please do not send in cash, click [here](#) for our just Giving Page.



Fruit Snacks only at playtime

A polite reminder that children should only be bringing a piece of fruit or vegetable for their play time snack. We are seeing lots of cereal bars and cake bars. Many thanks

School lunches

Parents of children in Van Gogh and Monet class have chosen meals for their children for the remainder of term. However, we have several children who are arriving with packed lunches despite a school meal being ordered. If you change your mind and decide to send a packed lunch, please do email the office to let us know so that meals are not wasted.

Also, if your child is in Kandinsky or Picasso and you have dinner money debt, please do clear this as soon as possible and we politely remind parents that meals should be paid for in advance. It is difficult for a small school to carry debt, however please do talk to us if you have concerns about being able to clear debt or pay for meals.

School Council Sponsored walk/run

Our school council have been working really hard this term to collate ideas for things that they would like to improve in our school. They would like to purchase new playground equipment and realise that this relies on funds! They would like to launch a sponsored walk or run which will take place during week commencing 20th November. They have developed a sponsor form as well as a poster to advertise the event. The poster is attached with this newsletter (well done Ethan our brilliant School Council Treasurer) and the sponsor forms will come home next week. Please do support this child led initiative.



STARS news

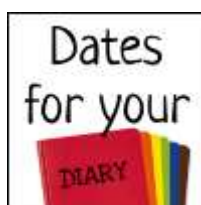
Don't forget next Friday (10th November) is the Camp Fire Cookout on the school field starting at 5pm. Entry is free and **pre-booked hot food** will be available. Food can be booked via our PTA events page [here](#). Drinks and tuck shop treats will also be available to purchase on the night. Please park sensibly in the car park so there is space for all. Wrap up warm and we look forward to seeing you there.

The next Movie Night is on Friday 24th November at **3.20pm – 5:20pm**. Tickets again will be available to book via our PTA events page [here](#).

For Foundation children a parent is required to stay with the children, for Year 1 children we would encourage a parent to stay for support. Tea and coffee will be available for the parents/carers who stay. At 5.20pm please collect your children from the front door promptly.

The wreath making session on the 29th November is also available to book via our PTA events page [here](#). Everything you need to create a beautiful wreath is included in the ticket price along with festive refreshments too.

The evening will be led by Mrs Grover who is an expert in creating beautiful Christmas wreath creations so do come along and learn a new craft!



Diary Dates Autumn 2023/Spring 2024

Dates highlighted in grey are local Church services and not school church services.

Date	Event
7 th November	Open Session to view for Foundation intake 2024 ~ 1:30pm – 2.30pm.
10 th November	Individual Pupil Photos
10 th November	Picasso online Live Remembrance Day Assembly
10 th November	STARS Camp Fire Cook Out - 5pm
12 th November	Kings Ripton Church service – Remembrance service 11:30am
13 th – 17 th November	Anti-Bullying Week
13th November	Odd Sock Day for Anti-Bullying
15 th November	STARS meeting 7:30pm at school
16 th November	Flu Vaccinations whole school – opting in/out information to follow
17th November	Nursery rhyme sharing – Van Gogh parents
17 th November	Children in Need Day
19 th November	Abbots Ripton Church Service – Morning Praise 11:30am
20th November	School Council Sponsored run/walk this week
24 th November	STARS Movie night 3.20pm – 5.30
29 th November	STARS Christmas Wreath Making Workshops – details to follow
3 rd December	Kings Ripton Church Service – Morning Praise 11:30am
5 th December	Open Session to view for Foundation intake 2024 ~ 1:30pm – 2:30pm
8 th December	Whole School Christmas Decorating Morning. Parents invited.
8 th December	STARS Christmas Fair
10 th December	Woodwalton Church Service ~ Carol service 2:30pm
11 th December	Foundation/KS1 Nativity Performance ~ 2:15pm
12 th December	Foundation/KS1 Nativity Performance ~ 9:30am and 2:15pm
14 th December	Whole School Christmas Lunch including Christmas Jumper day – please note date change
15 th December	STARS Santa's Breakfast 8am - more details to follow STARS Elfridges Christmas Shop - more details to follow
17 th December	Abbots Ripton Church Service – Carol Service 6:00pm
20 th December	Christmas Christingle Service ~ 9:30am in the church
20 th December	End of term
21 st Dec 2023 to 3 rd Jan 2024	Christmas Holiday
24 th December	Kings Ripton Church Service – Carol Service 5:00pm
25 th December	Abbots Ripton Church service – Christmas Praise 11:30am
4 th and 5 th January	Training day ~ School Closed
8 th January	Spring term 2024 begins
9 th January - 13 th February	Picasso Class swimming 1:30pm – 2:30pm