



29th September

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.



MacMillan Cake sale

What a lovely cake stall we had today to raise money in aid of MacMillan Cancer Support. Thank you to Monet Class for manning the cake stall and designing posters to promote this.

Thank you to Mrs Grover who made the cakes – we raised £289 which is a fantastic amount for our small school.

Parent consultations

This term we will be holding our parent consultation appointments on the following days:

Wednesday 11th October 3:30-7.30pm (Picasso class will run from 2pm)

Thursday 12th October 3:30-5:30pm

Please be aware that appointments are for **10 minutes** – if you feel you need longer to discuss a specific issue then please make the class teacher aware so that an alternative meeting time can be arranged at a mutually convenient time.

Please respond to the email sent to you today by Thursday 5th October via office@abbotsripton.cambs.sch.uk so we can allocate you a time slot. You will be informed of this when the arrangements have been made.

Harvest Donations

Our Harvest Thanksgiving Service will be on Monday 9th October at 9:30am across in the church. Parents are invited to join us in the church, but if you have a child in Van Gogh Class we would be grateful for your support in walking with the children to the church. Please come to school at 9:20am to walk across with us if you are able.

Donations again this year will be taken to the Salvation Army's Kings Ripton Court in Huntingdon. Kings Ripton Court is a Salvation Army Lifehouse based in Huntingdon that supports young people aged 16-25 years, experiencing homelessness.



Through your generosity in donating food produce, they are able to provide new residents with a food parcel on arrival as part of their 'welcome pack' so that they can focus on settling in during their first few days. Donations also enable the team to provide emergency food provision to any

residents who may be struggling financially and also use the produce as part of their Lifeskills Programme which helps the young people develop skills needed for independent living.

They would particularly appreciate donations of drinking squash, dried pasta, rice, long life milk and tinned food (e.g. tuna). Donations can be brought into school from Tuesday via your child. Sadly they are unable to accept any fresh produce.

Phonics Workshop

Thank you to everyone who came along to the Van Gogh Class phonics workshop. We hope that you found it useful. The information from the meeting has now been loaded onto the Van Gogh Class page on the school website. If you didn't make the meeting, please do look at the resources on the website and let us know if you have any further questions.



Break time snacks

Please can we remind parents of Kandinsky and Picasso children that they may bring a piece of fruit or vegetable only as a snack for morning break times. We have recently noticed some children bringing in cereal bars and crisps. Also, children in Monet and Van Gogh do not need to bring a snack as this is provided each day at school. This is important in Van Gogh class as snack time is part of the classroom time and it is difficult if children bring their own snack. Many thanks for your support with this.

Flu vaccinations form

With this newsletter we have included a flyer for parents regarding the Flu Vaccination programme. Please read the information and **click the link to opt in your child**. The date booked for the team to visit the school is 16th November.

Dinner Money

A polite reminder to those parents who have not paid for meals taken by their children this term; as always we find it difficult to hold debt on accounts and would request that meals are paid for in advance or as they are taken. Also, the cost per day is now £2.50 and not £2.40 a meal as stated in the newsletters last term. Many thanks.



Admissions Information

Reception 2024

Do you have or know someone who has a child due to start school in September 2024? The booking portal for a place in our Reception Class in September 2024 is now open. Please click [here](#) to visit the Cambridgeshire County Council School Admissions page.

Please help us to promote our school! We are holding open sessions for prospective parents for Reception intake 2024 on the following dates:

Wednesday 4th October - 1:30pm or 2.00pm
Tuesday 7th November - 1:30pm or 2.00pm
Tuesday 5th December - 1:30pm or 2.00pm

Please contact the school for more information. Booking is required.

Transition to Secondary School

The closing date for 'on time' applications for transferring from Primary to Secondary school closes on the 31st October 2023 and is fast approaching. Please click [here](#) to visit the County Council School Admissions page which also has a link to all open days for local schools for you to visit.

Secondary 2024-2025 applications must be submitted by the 31st October and all on time applications will receive a school allocation on the National Offer date of the 1st March 2024. Parents who do not submit their application on time will need to complete a late

application form.

Life Education bus

We are delighted to welcome the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Life Education Bus for a two day visit to our school on Wednesday 11th and Thursday 12th October 2023. This is in conjunction with our Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education (PSHCE) scheme of work. During the 2 day visit, each class will visit the classroom and have an informative lesson about healthy lifestyles, the content of which being appropriate for their age group.



Van Gogh – All About Me
Monet – My Wonderful Body
Kandinsky – Meet the Brain & It's Great to be Me
Picasso – Friends & Decisions

If you would like more information about what the children will be learning, we are offering 2 sessions for parents, carers and governors. The purpose will be to meet the visiting teacher and gain an understanding of what the children will learn.

In addition, we are so very grateful to Huntingdonshire Rotary Club, who have kindly donated £500 towards the cost of the visit.

We have arranged the following sessions for parents, carers and governors:

Wednesday 11th October starting at 3pm and finishing at 3:20pm

Thursday 12th October starting at 8:50am and finishing at 9:10am

Space in the mobile classroom is limited to a maximum of 15 adults.

If you intend to come along please email the school office with your preferred session by Wednesday 4th October so that we can endeavour to arrange additional sessions should it be necessary.

Microsoft Teams – Year 6



As part of our Computing curriculum last year we trialled a new way for children to collaborate, save and share their computing learning online using Microsoft Teams. We were supported by Cambridgeshire ICT Service in setting up Microsoft Teams accounts for the children and it was a great success. We will be continuing this again this year.

Teams allows the children to save their learning in such a way that they can access it out of school. The children will start to work on a PowerPoint in small groups and they will be able to access this from home to continue with their project, if they wish. However, they are also able to communicate with the other children in the class. As with our Learning Platform STARZ, we are able to monitor this communication. We will remind the children that this method of communication should only be related to their learning and to enable the teams to collaborate on their PowerPoint out of school.

We would be grateful if you could reiterate this message at home if your child does access their Teams account.

Road Closure

Just a quick reminder that the road will be closed through the village next week. Please make arrangements so you arrive on time to drop off and collect your child.



STARS news

Thank you everyone who came along to the AGM on Wednesday. The Fundraising Summary is attached with this newsletter and other reports (Chairperson's Report and Treasurers Report) can be found on the STARS tab on the school website. As you will see from the Fundraising Summary we had an amazing year last year and this makes such a difference to the school experience for all of our children.

We have added some exciting events for this term to the diary dates below and more details for these events will follow – please do add them to your diary though so that you don't miss out!

Our first event is a 'Welcome Picnic' to welcome all of our new families in Reception – we hope that you have enjoyed your first few weeks and hope that this will be an opportunity for you to meet the wider community. The flyer with further details is attached with this newsletter.



Diary Dates Autumn 2023/Spring 2024

Date	Event
1 st October	Kings Ripton Church service – Harvest Service 11:30am
4 th October	Open Session to view for Foundation intake 2024~ 1:30pm – 2.30pm
6th October	Welcome Picnic – see flyer – all welcome!
9 th October	9:30am Harvest service in the church ~ parents invited
11 th October	Parent Consultations ~ 3:30pm – 7:30pm
12 th October	Parent Consultations ~ 3:30pm – 5:30pm
15 th October	Abbots Ripton Church Service – Harvest Service 11:30am
23 rd – 27 th October	HALF TERM
3rd November	Kandinsky visit to Peterborough museum
8 th November	Flu Vaccinations for all children. Opt out details will follow.
7 th November	Open Session to view for Foundation intake 2024 ~ 1:30pm – 2.30pm.
10 th November	Individual Pupil Photos
10th November	Camp Fire Cook Out - 5pm - details to follow
12 th November	Kings Ripton Church service – Remembrance service 11:30am

13 th – 17 th November	Anti-Bullying Week
15th November	STARS meeting 7:30pm at school
16 th November	Flu Vaccinations whole school – opting in/out information to follow
17 th November	Children in Need Day
19 th November	Abbots Ripton Church Service – Morning Praise 11:30am
29th November	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
14th December	Whole School Christmas Lunch including Christmas Jumper day – please note date change
15th December	Santa's Breakfast 8am - more details to follow 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