

Dry Drayton C of E (C) Primary School, and Pre-School

Newsletter – 11th September 2026



'I pray that your love for each other will overflow more and more, and that you will keep on growing in knowledge and understanding.' Philippians 1:9

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome back to school, especially to our new families.

It has been lovely to have our school filled with the children, their happy faces and enthusiasm.

Paige and Ruby set a very high standard for leading Celebration Collective Worship this morning – well done to them both! There is so much to read and remember, they did a cracking job. The timetable for the rest of the term is further on in the newsletter. Please do let me know if you cannot make your child's date and we can swap leaders around. There are so many Year 6 children that some will have to wait until next term to be the lead.

Mia and Felicity were in action as the new Estimation Station leads, setting the challenge for the week. (They set a challenge or challenges that everyone in the whole school can make an educated guess at the answer. This week, KS1 have to estimate the number of lego bricks in the box, KS2 have to estimate the mass of the box and lego bricks. Do discuss this with your child.)

Here is the Year 6 leadership team and the Year 5 helpers. All Year 6 have shiny new badges!

Ennis House leader – Emma yr 5 – Alice

Simmonds House leader – Lily yr 5 Jamie

Library – Jacob

CW – Paige

Sports – Cameron

ICT – Albie

Yr 6 Eco lead – Darya

Estimation station – Mia

Year 5: Library helpers - Ivona and Benedict

Farah House leader – Lola yr 5 - Eden

Wiggins House leader – Maxwell yr 5 - Millie

Library - Kira

CW - Ruby

Sports - Tala

ICT - Melammu

Yr 6 School council lead - Gian

Estimation station - Felicity

Sport – Joshua C Art – Luna

St Edmund class reporters have interviewed our new members of staff. Please read all about them a few pages further on.

Thank you for joining the 'Meet the Teacher' sessions on Wednesday. If you were unable to attend, the information from the meetings can be found on the website in your child's class page. Our homework expectations were also shared so that you are able to support your child with their learning when at home. Reading regularly contributes greatly to progress in confidence and fluency, and of course learning to read opens up a world of learning opportunities or simply to read for pleasure. If you could aim to hear your child read five times a week that would be fantastic. Your child's teacher can support you with this.

Children can choose from a variety of tasks from their class' homework menu. Tip top projects will receive up to five house points and we are also planning a Homework Exhibition during one of our Friday Celebration Collective Worships later in the year to share all their hard work and creativity.

OPEN MORNING Wednesday 30th September – please share the date with prospective parents. Anyone is welcome but you will need to book a tour.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

Kind regards, Sonia Hegan

Polite reminders:

- Fruit only for break time snacks in a named pot if needed
- No nuts, crisps, chocolate, fizzy drinks or squash in packed lunch boxes
- Please remember a second pair of shoes to change into for indoor wear when it's wet and muddy and your child likes to play football on the field
- Also remember a coat and wellies for forest school!

We have new members of staff and so St Edmund children have been interviewing them and can share their first two fact-finding missions:

Mrs Tellett – St Edmund class teacher and teacher in St Etheldreda

Favourite animal: penguin

Favourite colour: green

Favourite food: apples

Favourite book: Lost bear, Hannah Golding

Favourite subjects to teach: Maths and Science

Where were you born? Pontefract, Yorkshire

What you like about Dry Drayton: getting to know the children

About your family: Three young children

Previous jobs: Scientist in bio-chemistry working in a lab.

Hobbies: running – about to do 398th Park Run!



Mrs Roe – St Etheldreda TA

Favourite animal: giraffe

Favourite colour: green

Favourite food: lasagne, chicken pepper pizza

Favourite subjects to teach: English and Art

What you like about Dry Drayton: how welcoming we all are

Where were you born? Huntingdon

About your family: Two children

Previous jobs: Estate agent

Hobbies: gym, walking, friends, shopping



Small school.



Big hearts.



Big ambitions.

Pre-School

A warm welcome to all new and returning pre-school families as we begin an exciting new school year.

Our story this week was 'Dear Zoo'. To bring the book to life we introduced a special story sack, with props and soft toy animals matching the characters in the book. The children absolutely loved opening the different boxes to see which animal was hiding inside!

This half term our focus will be 'Ourselves' and introducing the 'Autumn' theme. If you are out for a walk this weekend, please help your child gather a small bag of nature treasures like conkers, pine cones, or colourful fallen leaves. Please pop them in a small bag and bring them into pre-school next week. We will be using them in various activities including counting, art and sensory play.

Thank you.

Pre-school Team



St Julian class

Reception: We have made a lovely start and we are beginning to get into a routine.

The school website has lots of amazing information and if you need to ask something, no question is too daft.

Next week our focus is on 'our home'. Thank you to those who have already sent in a photo of their house, I will be turning these into mini house blocks for the small world/construction area.

Mrs Scarrow

Year 1/2: Well done to the children on a super start to the term. The year ones are settling into the new routine of being in 1/2 and the year twos are being great role models. It was lovely to see so many parents at 'Meet the Teacher' on Wednesday. The PowerPoint of the session is on our class page on the website, as is the topic homework menu. Please do take a look.

Have a lovely weekend – I think the children are ready for a rest after their first full week back at school!

Miss Hampton



St Etheldreda class

St Etheldreda have had a busy start to the new school year, diving straight in to 'The Tin Forest' in English and place value in maths. We have explored the homework menu together and the children are all very excited at the opportunity to showcase their creative skills over the coming term.

It was great to see so many parents at Wednesday's open session; for those that weren't able to attend, the information covered can be found on a PowerPoint on the class website page. We hope to have the TT

Rock Stars logins arranged for Year 3 soon, but in the meantime, you can access some excellent free maths games on sites such as Mathsframe and Top Marks.

Have a lovely weekend,

Miss Corr and Mrs Tellett



St Edmund class

What a fantastic start St Edmunds have made to the year, stepping up to new positions of responsibility and impressing Mrs Tellett with their attitude to learning. Thank you for those who came along to 'Meet the Teacher', it was lovely to see so many of you there. If you couldn't make it then please take a look at the slides which will be uploaded to the website by the end of the week. The homework menu is also uploaded, we look forward to seeing some of your projects from home!

Mrs Fairbairn and Mrs Tellett

Summer Reading Challenge

Well done to any children who completed the library Summer Reading Challenge. Don't forget to bring your medals and certificates into Celebration Collective Worship once you have collected them!



Forest School Autumn 2026



Forest School sessions take place every week. Please ensure that your child always has their Forest School Gear at school, which is a pair of wellies plus a waterproof jacket and trousers (or an all in one). Remember, it's never the wrong weather, it's the wrong clothes, so please don't let your child miss out. We have some second-hand wellies in school if you need to borrow them, so do

ask in the office. We are happy to have any outgrown waterproofs for our spares. PLEASE LABEL ALL CLOTHES AND SHOES.

Reception and Key Stage 1 – Mondays

KS2 – Fridays

In addition to these, each year group will have a whole afternoon of Forest School on a Thursday, dates below. Please send your child to school in PE kit including their PE sweatshirt (and not a hoodie).

Date	Year Group
Thursday 17 th September	Year 5/6
Thursday 24 th September	Year 3
Thursday 1 st October	Year 4
Thursday 8 th October	Year 2
Thursday 15 th October	Year 1
Thursday 22 nd October	Reception

Thursday 29 th October	Half Term
Thursday 5 th November	Year 5/6
Thursday 12 th November	Year 5/6
Thursday 19 th November	Year 3
Thursday 26 th November	Year 4
Thursday 3 rd December	No Forest School as Christmas decoration afternoon
Thursday 10 th December	Year 1 and Year 2
Thursday 17 th December	No Forest School

Birthday lunches

Don't forget you can book to join your child for lunch in school on (or near) their birthday.

Birthday lunches cost £5 each. To book a birthday lunch, please pay on MCAS and email the office to let us know your menu choices.



Please note that we may ask you to choose a different day if there are too many bookings on the same day.



Celebration Collective Worship

11th September

Headteacher Awards were awarded to Ada, Fred and Emma.

		House Points		
Totals for w/c 7th September				
Ennis - 119 Farah - 111 Simmonds - 101 Wiggins - 109				

Celebration Collective Worship Leaders – please let Mrs Hegan know if you are unable to attend and would like your child's day to be swapped. It will make you feel so proud to see them in action!

Date	Lead	Assistant
11th September	Paige	Ruby
18th September	Mia	Felicity
25th September	Darya	Emma
2nd October	Gian	Jacob
9th October	Melammu	Albie
16th October	Lola	Lily
23rd October	Maxwell	Cameron
30th October	Half term	
6th November	Kira	Tala
13th November	Ruby	Paige
20th November	Felicity	Mia
27th November	Emma	Darya
4th December	Jacob	Gian

11th December	Albie	Melammu
18th December	Lily	Lola

PE Days

	On the following days children are to come to school in PE kit with their school shoes or spare trainers in their bag.
Year 5/6	<u>Wednesday</u> Football -shin pads required -football boots will be allowed once the ground has softened <u>Thursday</u> Netball
Year 3/4	<u>Wednesday</u> Football -shin pads required -football boots will be allowed once the ground has softened <u>Thursday</u> Netball
Year 1/2	<u>Monday</u> OAA-trust and teamwork <u>Thursday</u> Listening skills games
Reception	<u>Thursday</u> Balanceability

Autumn term clubs

Booking is still open for all clubs for the autumn term: please contact the office to book, as we will adjust the cost to reflect the number of weeks remaining. **There are spaces in all clubs except Football Club.**



Our sports clubs are run by JS Sports:

Multi-Sports: Our multi-sports club for all year groups offers children the chance to try their hand at a host of different sports. Every week is a session based on a different sport, including football, tennis, tag rugby, cricket and many, many more. It is a great activity for children to be introduced to sports and learn the rules and techniques to play the game.



Football: Our football sessions involve an engaging and fun warm up followed by a skill-based activity, learning and improving on different areas of football, including passing, dribbling and shooting. The session finished with some fun matches, tournaments and a variety of football-related games.



Gymnastics: Our gymnastics club is an indoor club and is great for creative children. At the club, children will learn key principles of gymnastics, including rolls, balances, jumps, transitions and more making sure safety is a priority at all times. Children will be able to create their own routines and use apparatus safely, making the most of equipment available.



Please see the table below for details of each club. All these clubs run from 3.20-4.20pm.

Please make a note of the dates each club is running, as they do vary.

After **school wraparound care** 3:20-5:30pm will continue to be offered in the pre-school room for all pupils aged 3 to 11 – see below for more details.

Day	Club	Adult	Cost (per term)	Dates
Monday	Cooking Club (years 1-6, priority given to KS2)	Miss Wright & Miss Pope	£71.00	7 th September-14 th December
Tuesday	Football Club (years 3-6)	Sports coach	£67.50	8 th September-15 th December
Wednesday	Craft Club (years 1-6)	Mrs Sweetnam	£67.50	9 th September-16 th December
Wednesday	Code Club (years 5-6)	Claire Shih	Free	9 th September-16 th December
Thursday	Musical Theatre Club (years 2-6)	Mrs Pergande Vincent	£38.50	3 rd September-22 nd October
Thursday	Multi-Sports Club (years 1-6)	Sports coach	£72.50	3 rd September-17 th December
Friday	Gymnastics Club (years 1-6)	Sports coach	£72.50	4 th September-18 th December

After-School Club

After-school club is offered in the pre-school room for both regular and ad-hoc bookings (subject to availability). Contact the [school office](#) to book a place.

Hours and fees

- Short session1: 3:20 to 4:30
- Short session 2: 4:20 to 5:30
- Long session: 3:20 to 5:30

Short sessions £6.50; Long session £13.00.

After School Club will close at 4:30 on Fridays, so there will be no long session.

**DRY DRAYTON SCHOOL & PRE-SCHOOL
OPEN MORNING
WEDNESDAY 30TH SEPTEMBER
TOURS AT 9.15AM AND 10.45AM**

Year 5 are conducting tours of the school (including forest school) and pre-school at 9.15am and 10.45am on Wednesday 30th September.

All parents and prospective parents are invited, please call or email the school office to book a place.

office@drydrayton.cambs.sch.uk
01954 780618



St Peter and St Paul's Dry Drayton
A small church with a big heart

Church update

All are most welcome to join us every third Sunday for a short, family friendly service of Morning Worship at 11am. The next service is Sunday 20th September.

Proposed Diary Dates New dates added in red.

Wednesday 30 th September	Open Morning
Wednesday 14 th October	Harvest Festival in church 9:00am – all welcome
Wednesday 21 st October	Parent consultations in the afternoon and after school
w/c Monday 26 th October	Half Term
w/c Monday 2 nd November	Auditions for DDGT
Friday 6 th November	Flu vaccinations
Wednesday 11 th November	Remembrance service in church 10:30am – all welcome
Friday 12 th November	Dry Drayton's Got Talent in the afternoon
Thursday 3 rd December	Decoration afternoon for Christmas 1:30pm, volunteers needed
Tuesday 8 th December TBC	Nativity dress rehearsal 9:15am
Wednesday 9 th December TBC	Nativity 9:15am
Thursday 10 th December	School pantomime trip
Wednesday 16 th December	Christingle and Carols in St Peter and St Paul Church 9:00am
Friday 18 th December	Final Celebration Collective Worship for the term Last day of term

Don't forget full term dates, curriculum information, photo gallery and lots more can be found on our website: www.drydraytonprimaryschool.co.uk

Safeguarding at Dry Drayton C of E Primary School, and Pre-school

Mrs Sonia Hegan, Mrs Susan Phillips and Mrs Fiona Sweetnam are the designated safeguarding leads at

Dry Drayton C of E Primary School, and Pre-school.

If you have a concern about a child, please inform **any** member of staff.

If you think a child is at immediate risk of harm you can access further advice and guidance here:

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/children-and-families/children-s-social-care/safeguarding-children-and-child-protection/>