



Welcome back to the first week of the new half term. I hope that everyone had a good break. It was fantastic to hear our work had been showcased at Kettles yard over the holiday period. The most exciting news this week, it that the new light room and soft play room have been installed at the Fields site, these are vital areas to support the development of communication and self-regulation skills. This half term our focus is English and Communication, so we are looking forward to lots of storytelling and interactive literacy-based activities. Our first event is World Book Day on 2nd March, further details are below.

Industrial Action

The National Education Union (NEU) has announced that its ballot of teacher members in England has met the thresholds required to commence industrial action.

The next proposed date is Wednesday 1st March 2023. We have written to families today outlining our intentions for the day.

Please note there is a further action planned for 15th March.

Robins Class News

Robins have been adventuring out this week.

We went to the shops with our shopping list to get ingredients for cooking pancakes and we went to Barnwell Road library to share new and exciting stories!





Deer Class News

This week in Deer class we cooked pancakes in our Cooking lesson. We were using our Maths skills to measure the ingredients; Physical skills to mix them together; Sensory skills to taste our pancakes with different toppings - they were so delicious we made loads! Our cooking lessons are important for learning Life skills such as how to follow recipes, cook and wash up dishes and place them away ready for the next class. It was Shrove Tuesday this week, when most people made pancakes...Did you know that means we are closer to Easter!

The first Pancake Day was in 1445 in the UK!

Around 52 million eggs are used for Pancake Day!

You can make pancakes with only 3 ingredients!
(flour, milk and eggs)

Deer class know how to make pancakes - would you like to make a perfect pancake too? We wonder what your favourite pancake topping would be...?



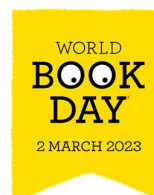


Deal Class News

Deal class have been exploring the new textured panels around school. Each coloured corridor has a different texture to explore. When sensory learners move around school, they will use the textures to recognise which area of school they are in.



World Book Day – Thursday 2nd March



This year, World Book Day is taking place on Thursday 2nd March 2023 and the emphasis is on **making it YOUR World Book Day.**

We are looking forward to an exciting World Book Day on Thursday and sharing lots of fun stories together.

To celebrate the day we would like to invite pupils to dress up as a fictional character from a book of their choice. You can find lots of creative ideas at worldbookday.com/dressing-up-ideas.

We would also like you to send in via Evidence for Learning, you and or your child sharing stories in unusual places.

Support for Families Struggling Financially

Have your circumstances changed recently? Have you checked if your child might be eligible for Free School Meals.

Your child will get free school meals if you receive any of the following:

- Income Support
- Income Based Job Seekers Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Child Tax Credit - but no element of Working Tax Credit - and have an annual income (as assessed by HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC)) that does not exceed £16,190
- If you are supported under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Working Tax Credit during the four week period immediately after your employment finishes or after you start to work less hours per week
- Universal Credit with an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400 (as from 1 April 2018)

Families who are currently paying for school meals will save around £450 a year for each primary school child if they are entitled to free school meals.

When your child is registered for free school meals, if your child is in Reception to Year 11, the school will also receive Pupil Premium, which is extra money to support children from families on lower incomes. If your child is in receipt of [universal infant free school meals](#) (where your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2), we still recommend you apply if you believe you may be eligible for free school meals, because the protection will continue beyond Year 2 and the school will receive Pupil Premium funding to support your child's education.

You can apply for free school meals online at:

https://cambridgeshire-self.achieveservice.com/service/Apply_for_Education_Welfare_Benefits

Ask the office or your class teacher if you need help making an online application.

Big Siblings Project

This project aims to provide a volunteer befriender for children with a disability, illness, financial disadvantage; have suffered bereavement or have challenging behaviour. The family should live within biking distance (4 miles) of central Cambridge.

The Big Siblings are student volunteers aged 18 years upwards. **Little Siblings must be between 5 and 10 years of age**, with some leeway if the child has a developmental or learning disability.

The student acts as an older brother or sister to the child, visiting the child (usually once a week during Cambridge University Term Time) and either spending time with the child at home or taking them out to the park, cinema or elsewhere in Cambridge. Only activities approved by the parent / guardian / carer are undertaken. SCA also arranges occasional group activities and trips out for all Big Siblings and their Little Siblings that your child may attend with your consent.

Contact the SCA office on

mail@cambridgesca.org.uk or

07749738870 – you will be asked some simple questions and then be sent an application form to complete if appropriate.



SEND Transformation Parent / Carer Event

9 March 2023 | Burgess Hall, St Ives | 10am - 1.30pm

Come along to find out about the changes we are making to improve the SEND system.

Share your views and learn more about:

- Special School places
- EHCP processes
- SEN Support
- Information sharing (Local Offer)
- Building confidence in the system



Book now via Eventbrite | Scan the QR CODE or visit the link below:
<https://bit.ly/sendtransformation>

Best wishes

Anne