

13th February 2026



Histon & Impington  
Brook Primary School

# HIBPS Newsletter



## Headteacher update

Dear Families,

It has been another wonderfully busy week to end this half-term. Children in EYFS have had visits from a fire engine and a local doctor today, as part of their learning about jobs in the community. Children in Year 2 have also visited EYFS this week to showcase the fantastic puppets they have been making in their Design and Technology learning.

On the sporting front, our Year 6 pupils have been busy representing the school brilliantly. Some children took part in a football competition against local schools, showing great teamwork and determination. In addition, Year 6 also represented us at the South Cambs Quicksticks Hockey Tournament, where they displayed superb skill and sportsmanship. Both groups were superb - well done!

Children in Year 4 have visited The Fitzwilliam Museum today as part of their history learning - this trip has also included a bonus treat to visit an illustrious Cambridge College - a great experience for the children!

Finally, our thanks to all who were able to attend and support the PTA Quiz and raffle last Friday; it raised a very significant sum. Congratulations to the victors who overcame the defeat from last year....!

Our best for a restful half-term break.

Thank you,

Richard Bakker  
Headteacher



Meridian  
Trust



## School News – 5AG and 6RW Dance Display



### 6RW and 5AG Dance Displays

February 2026

This is my place



The theme for this year's Children's Mental Health Week is *This is my place*. The theme focuses on feeling like you belong, whether that's within your family, your school, a group of friends, or a team. These positive connections help us feel valued, accepted, and safe. When children feel a sense of belonging, they are happier, more confident, and ready to learn and play. It supports strong mental and physical wellbeing, helps friendships grow and builds positive self-esteem.

To celebrate this important week, classes 6RW and 5AG performed stunning dance displays that beautifully demonstrated the importance of kindness and connection. The children worked incredibly hard and used a range of compositional devices, including levels and formations, to enhance their performances.

Well done to both classes for delivering such inspiring and thoughtful dance displays, you should be very proud!





## School News – Year 6 Football Friendly



Well done to our Year 6 boys who took part in the friendly football games against Bar Hill Primary School and Histon and Impington Park Primary School on Tuesday 11th February. Mr Carminati organised a brilliant event with so much excellent football, great goals and immense saves (Monty was all over the place saving goals when I was watching!!).

Brook won 2-1 against Bar Hill and they 1-1 drew against The Park. They were ace and we were very proud of all of them.

Thank you Mr Carminati for organising.



# School News – Royal Academy of Arts



We are excited to share that we have registered our school and submissions are now open for the Royal Academy of Arts Young Artists' Summer Show 2026. This free, national exhibition celebrates the creativity of young people aged 4–18 across the UK.

## **What is the Young Artists' Summer Show?**

The Royal Academy of Arts is committed to nurturing the next generation of artists. Each year, they invite young people from across the country to submit artwork for a special online exhibition, and for some, the chance to have their work displayed at the Royal Academy itself.

## **Who can take part?**

Any student aged 4–18 who is living and studying in the UK is eligible to enter.

## **How do we submit artwork?**

- Submissions are free and completed online by a parent/guardian.
- Each student may submit one artwork and there is no set theme.
- When entering, you'll need:
  - A clear image of the artwork
  - The artwork's title, size and medium
  - A short description written by the student, such as why they created it or what it means to them
- A panel of artists and arts professionals will judge all entries. Selected works will appear in the online exhibition, and some will also be shown at the Royal Academy of Arts in London.

## **What types of artwork are accepted?**

Students can submit artwork created in any material or medium including paintings, drawings, sculptures, installations, photographs, videos and mixed media pieces. There is no theme, and artwork made at any time can be submitted as long as the student is aged 4–18 at the time of submission. Group or collaborative artworks are also welcome.

## **How does the judging work?**

A panel of experienced artists and arts professionals reviews all submissions. Judges look for: imagination, originality and skill. They also aim to represent young artists from across the UK and ensure a fair balance of entries from both state and fee-paying schools.

## **Prizes**

Inspiring artworks may receive prizes and families can also take part by voting in the People's Choice Award.

Please follow the link below to find out more and submit artwork.

<https://youngartists.royalacademy.org.uk/>

**Final submission deadline: 4 March 2026 at 5pm.**



# School News – National Year of Reading

2026 is the National Year of Reading

## 10 Ways to Take 10...

1. Read something you enjoy - it's okay to stop and swap if it's not fun
2. Switch off devices and make reading a new routine
3. Swap out time on socials for 10 minutes reading
4. Record your reading streak via a reading diary or [online app](#)
5. Try different formats - comics, magazines, audiobooks or e-readers
6. Listen to audiobooks - on the way to school or out on a walk
7. Check out your school library or [local library](#).
8. Choose a quick read and enjoy an easy win
9. Read out loud - share the joy of reading with others
10. Keep a book within easy reach - in your school bag or next to bed

We are proudly taking part in the [2026 National Year Of Reading](#) and invite all our young people, colleagues and families to take 10 minutes each day to read something you enjoy.

Watch this space for more ideas and upcoming events.

Join the movement to enjoy reading throughout 2026! [#GoAllIn2026](#)



Meridian  
Trust

GO  
ALL  
IN.

National  
Year of  
Reading  
2026

***Across the UK, children and young people are reading less than they used to, and stories aren't getting the space they once did. When reading drops, confidence, imagination and learning often dip too. That's why 2026 is shining a national spotlight on reading.***

***To kick off the National Year of Reading, we're encouraging everyone in our school community—and across our trust—to take just 10 minutes each day to read something you enjoy. Take a look at our "Ten Ways to Take 10" poster for ideas and inspiration!***

***From teachers to TAs, from Reception to Year 6, and from families to Finance teams, we're making 2026 the year we [#Take10ToRead](#) and [#GoAllIn](#) with reading. Let's get started... and let's get reading!***

**026 HIBPS Amazon Wish List for Reading Books: Could you donate a book to the school?**

**As part of our ongoing commitment to promoting a love of reading - and in celebration of 2026 being The Year of Reading - we are continuing to enhance the high-quality reading resources available to pupils at HIBPS.**

**We have created an Amazon Wish List where parents and carers can choose a book (or several!) to donate to the school. When purchasing, you can add a personalised gift note, which we will attach inside the book so children can see who it was donated by. This is a wonderful way to help keep our library fresh, exciting, and inviting, and a lovely opportunity to leave a small legacy in the form of a reading gift.**

**The books on the list have been carefully selected by teaching staff to reflect the diversity of our children, spark imagination, and help them explore the world around them.**

**If you would like to gift a book to the school, you can find the Amazon Wish List here:  
<https://amzn.eu/fech8o>**

**Thank you for your continued support in helping us nurture a community of enthusiastic, confident readers.**

***A group of girls sitting on the floor in a library***

***Description automatically generatedA group of girls sitting on a deck reading books***

***Description automatically generatedA group of children in a library***

***Description automatically generatedA group of children sitting on a ball in a classroom***

***Description automatically generatedEnglish Team***





# KS1 updates

Year 1 - investigating materials



Year 1 - investigating materials



Year 2 - puppet shows!



Year 2 - puppet shows to EYFS





# KS2 updates

Year 3 – West African Drumming



Year 3 – West African Drumming



Year 4 – Ancient Egyptian Trading



Year 4 – Ancient Egyptian Trading





# KS2 updates

Year 5 – writing French stories



Year 5 – writing French stories



Year 6 – anti-bullying dance



Year 6 – learning about databases



## Job Vacancies:

Please find below a link to vacancies within our Trust Area.

<https://mynewterm.com/jobs/139086/EDV-2026-HAIPPS-18086>



# Key Dates : This Term

Date	Time	Event
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> February - Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> February	All Day - Every Day	School - Half Term Holiday
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February - Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> March	from 18:00 on 23rd.	Parent Consultation Bookings are live on MCAS
Friday March 6th	TBC	4FS - Day Trip to the Fitzwilliam Museum
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> March	9:30-11:30	Reception and Year 6 - Measuring Programme
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> March	Appointments from 3.30pm	All Years - Parents Consultation Evening Appts.
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> March	Appointments from 3.30pm	All Years - Parents Consultation Evening Appts.
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> March	10:00	Level 2 & 3 - Bikeability Training
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> March	4.45pm-6pm	Reception & KS1 Classes - Movie Night
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> March	TBC	Year 5 - Trip to see the Lion King in London
Tuesday 31 <sup>st</sup> April	TBC	Years 1.3 & 4 Giant Journey - Virtual Reality Experience
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> May - Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> May	Mornings	Year 6 - SATs week
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> May	9:00 am onwards	All Years - Class Photos with YEP
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> - Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	TBC	Year 6 - Residential Trip to Grafham Water Centre
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> June	3.15pm-6pm	PTFA School Summer Fair
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> June & Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> June	TBC	Year 6 - IVC Transition Days



Histon & Impington  
Brook Primary School

PTFA

# PTFA SPRING TERM EVENTS

SAVE THE DATES

## **MAR** PTFA MEETING

**WEDS 4** 7.30pm, Tawa, Histon

## **MAR** Y1 CAKE SALE

**THURS 5** 3.15pm, Brook School

## **MAR** MOVIE NIGHT - RECEPTION & KS1

**FRI 20** 4.45pm, Brook School

## **MAR-APR** RAISE £20.26 IN 2026

Launching 23rd March

## **APR** DISCOS-Y3/4 & Y5/6

**FRI 17** BrookSchool - more soon!

## **APR** PTFA MEETING

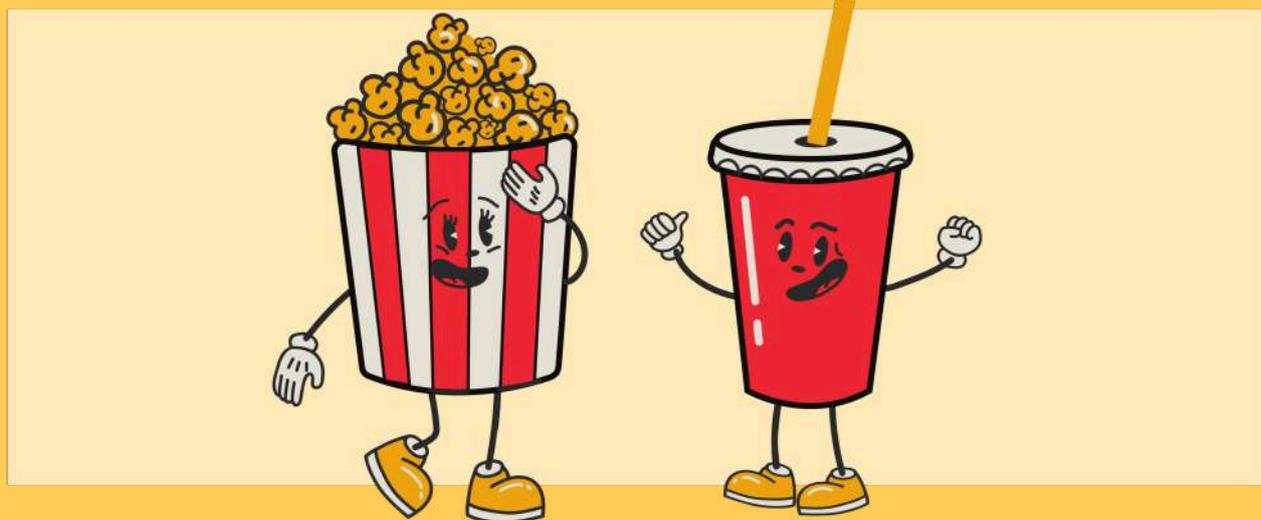
**WEDS 29** 7.30pm, Tawa, Histon



Histon & Impington  
Brook Primary School

HIBPS PTFA PRESENTS  
RECEPTION, YEAR 1 & YEAR 2  
WITH PARENTS & CARERS

# MOVIE NIGHT



FRI 20th MARCH, 4.45-6.30pm  
HISTON & IMPINGTON BROOK SCHOOL  
Wear your pyjamas & bring a cushion!

## MADAGASCAR

**TICKETS £6 PER CHILD inc POPCORN & a DRINK  
BAR FOR PARENTS & CARERS**

Please book your ticket in advance:

[www.pta-events.co.uk/hijs](http://www.pta-events.co.uk/hijs)

Due to capacity this event is for HIBPS Reception, Year 1 & Year 2 children only - siblings are unable to attend. Parents & carers will be responsible for their children.



Histon & Impington  
Brook Primary School



PTFA

# Could you be our Social Media Manager?

We're looking for a volunteer to run our  
PTFA Facebook page - can you help?

## **What is the role?**

Posting regular updates to HI Brook PTFA Facebook  
about our events & fundraising activities.

## **Time commitment**

30mins-1 hour per week. You're welcome to join  
PTFA meetings, but it's not compulsory.

## **How to get involved**

If you'd love to help, please email:  
[hjspta@gmail.com](mailto:hjspta@gmail.com)

**Thank you**



HIBPS PTFA

# REGULAR GIVING

No time for bake sales?

Here's the thing- our PTFA helps fund a range of enriching activities and projects. From new books your kids love, to amazing playground equipment, subsidising school trips that create memories and more.

However, we can only do it with your help. The good news? If you're time-poor but still able to give, then a regular donation is an easy way to contribute.

£10/month = less than two fancy coffees. But 50 families doing it = £6,000/year for our kids. They'll benefit from it. Everyone wins.

## PAYROLL GIVING

Tax-efficient: £10 a month costs you only £8 (just £6 for higher rate taxpayers)

**Charity name:** Histon and Impington Brook Primary School Parent-Teacher-Friends Association  
**Charity number:** 268870

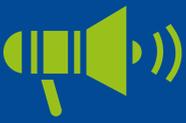
On board? Click this [link](#) to get started

## STANDING ORDER

Set up a standing order to:

**Account number:** 43091589  
**Sort code:** 20-17-20  
**Bank:** Barclays  
**Account name:** Histon and Impington Brook School PTA  
**Ref:** Your name

Email [hijpspta@gmail.com](mailto:hijpspta@gmail.com) a [Gift Aid form](#) so we can claim an extra 25p for every £1 donated.



# Our Outside School Achievements!

We love seeing your fabulous achievements outside of school!

Please e-mail the office at [office@brookprimary.co.uk](mailto:office@brookprimary.co.uk) if you have any achievements you would like to celebrate with everyone!

Please say if you and your child are happy for it to go in the Newsletter, in the school Celebration Assembly or on the Celebration Wall, or any combination of these.

Well Done to all the pupils who competed in a the Cambridge Gymnastics Academy recreational intra-club competition on Sunday. Everyone clearly had a great time. Here are just a few achievements that have been sent in to us, what a talented group you are! Wel done everyone who took part.

Poppy was very pleased to receive a bronze medal for vault, as well as a participation medal. Well done to everyone who took part!



Freya received bronze in her group for her floor routine, and Seren got 2x gold achievement medals for her routines!



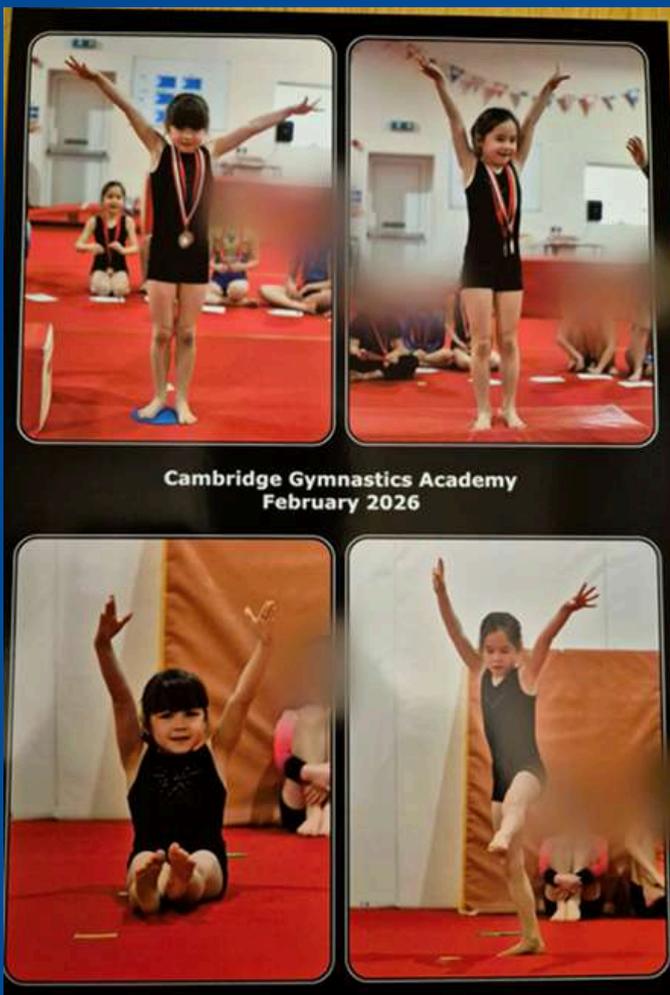


Willow, what a lot of medals!



May did amazingly well! She got a silver medal for her vault and a bronze medal for her floor routine.

Niki proudly showing her certificate and medal



Lina and Lily wanted to share that they'd really enjoyed taking part. They worked hard on their routines and Lina managed to come third on Vault and Lily came first on floor. It was a really fun competition. Well done girls!



**Benjamin came Highly Commended in the local Young Persons' Photography Competition  
- What I love about a nature.**

**What a magical photograph, well done Benjamin, you did a beautiful job!**



*A Fly Agaric under a Hedge; Highly Commended* Photo by Benjamin

**The photo can be seen here <https://abbeyfields.online/yp-photo-comp-2025-gallery>  
with some of the other entries**

## A Fantastic First Performance for Meadow

Congratulations to Meadow, who recently performed on stage for the first time, singing and dancing in front of a large audience. She put in an incredible amount of effort and showed so much confidence throughout. Well done, Meadow, we're so proud of you!



# 10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

## SUPPORTING SAFE USE OF AI

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is increasingly woven into young people's digital lives. It can offer some educational benefits and day-to-day assistance; however, it also raises concerns about misinformation, privacy, fairness, and safety. This guide provides parents and educators with practical strategies to support young people to navigate AI tools responsibly, and to use them safely and with discernment.

### 1 DEMYSTIFY WHAT AI REALLY IS

Children encounter AI in most online places, including games, streaming platforms, and school tools. Explain that AI uses patterns from past data to make decisions, but it doesn't think or feel like humans. Use age-appropriate examples, like how recommendations on YouTube or Netflix work, to build understanding and prevent false beliefs about AI being all-knowing or alive.

### 2 TALK ABOUT RISKS OF MISINFORMATION

AI can create convincing false information, including deepfake videos, photos, and fake 'facts'. Encourage children to think critically about what they see and read. Teach them to double-check information using reliable sources, to look at images and videos carefully, and to ask an adult if something doesn't seem right.

### 3 DISCUSS DATA AND PRIVACY

Explain that AI systems learn by analysing lots of data, sometimes including personal information. Help young people to be mindful of what they share online and why protecting personal data matters. Model good habits like reading app permissions together or reviewing what's collected by voice assistants like Alexa or Siri.

### 4 ENCOURAGE CREATIVE USE OF AI

Support children, when using AI tools, to explore ideas, make art, or build projects. This fosters confidence, imagination, and independent thinking. When children use AI creatively, rather than just passively consuming it, they are more likely to stay engaged and make thoughtful choices.

### 5 USE AGE-APPROPRIATE AI TOOLS

Not all AI platforms are suitable for children. Choose tools designed for education or creativity, with clear safety policies. Review terms of use and privacy settings, and help children use them in age-appropriate ways. For example, some chatbot tools mimic conversation but should only be used with guidance and boundaries in place.

### 6 USE AI TOGETHER

Exploring AI tools together can help adults understand how they work and spot potential issues. Try co-writing a story with an AI writing assistant or experimenting with an AI art tool. This encourages curiosity, helps you stay informed about the latest AI tools, and allows you to reinforce safe and respectful use while modelling critical thinking.

### 7 SET BOUNDARIES FOR AI USE

Establish when, where, and how AI tools can be used, just as you would with any digital technology. For example, you might agree not to use AI tools to complete school assignments without permission, or to avoid unsupervised use of voice assistants. Consistent boundaries help manage overuse and misuse.

### 8 WATCH FOR OVERRELIANCE

Some AI tools, like homework help apps, may be tempting shortcuts. Encourage children to use AI to support their thinking, not replace it. Celebrate effort and process over perfect answers. Reinforce that mistakes are part of learning and that relying too heavily on AI can limit real understanding.

### 9 TEACH DIGITAL ETHICS AND LITERACY

Help children explore how AI works, where it might be biased, and why ethical thinking matters. Building digital literacy alongside ethical awareness ensures children engage with AI critically, not just conveniently. Help young people to understand that not all people use AI for legitimate purposes; some use it for malicious reasons. Encourage questions about fairness, representation, and who benefits from certain tools; talk about algorithms, echo chambers, and the impact of automation on daily life.

### 10 STAY CURIOUS AND INVOLVED

AI is developing rapidly, and staying informed helps you support the young people in your care. Follow trusted sources for updates and keep the conversation going. If a child brings up a new AI trend or tool, take the opportunity to learn about it together. Showing interest builds trust and strengthens digital resilience.

### Meet Our Expert

Home to the world's largest CPD library for educators, The National College has transformed the way education establishments go about developing their workforce and managing compliance. Our three memberships help all phases and types of setting raise standards, save time, reduce risk, and build a culture of improvement.

#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

# Donations needed please!



**THE CAMBRIDGESHIRE**  
CONVOY CLUB



Sunday 5th April 2026

The Cambridgeshire Convoy Club Are Doing Children's Easter Egg Run.

Delivering Easter Eggs To Children & Staff In Peterborough City Hospital  
Hinchingbrooke

Addenbrookes

Any Donations Eggs, Gluten Free/ Dairy Free

Easter Teddy's For Babies.

Cakes & Biscuits For Staff.

Would Be Very Appreciated

Any Left Over Will Be Took To Papworth Critical Care Unit Who Saved Our Dads Life!

Anyone Who Wish To Donate Or Sponsor Please Contact Me.

Thankyou



# DC SPORTS CLUBS!

**THURSDAY - RUNNING  
CLUB: 8.00 - 8.40AM  
(YR 4, 5 & 6)**

**THURSDAY - MULTI  
SPORTS CLUB: 3.30 -  
4.30PM (YR 4, 5 & 6)**

**FRIDAY - RUNNING CLUB:  
8.00 - 8.40AM  
(YR 1, 2 & 3)**

**FRIDAY - MULTI SPORTS  
CLUB: 3.30 - 4.30PM  
(YR 1, 2 & 3)**



DC Sports



Histon & Impington  
Brook Primary School

**BOOK NOW!**

**WWW.DC-SPORTS.CO.UK**



## We Are Hiring MathsFit Educators Across Cambridgeshire

Looking for paid, flexible after-school work?

Multi award winning MathsFit delivers fun active maths sessions  
for children aged 5–9.

1 hour immediately after school  
(term-time only)

Up to £40 per session + paid  
training

Ideal for students, part-time workers, career-break returners,  
retired teachers, coaches or tutors.



*Full training, session plans and ongoing support  
provided*



*Have flexibility - deliver 1 or up to 5 one hour sessions*



*DBS, safeguarding and first aid (MathsFit supports you  
through this process)*



*A car is required due to travel between school locations*



*No formal teaching qualification is required — just  
energy, reliability and enthusiasm.*



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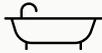


We'd love to hear from you!

# Education Inclusion Family Advisor Newsletter February 2026

## A Bit About Me

Hi, my name is Jurate Trumpickiene, and I am your school's link EIFA. As an EIFA I offer advice and strategies to parents and carers with a Primary School aged child that may be experiencing some challenges such as routines, sleep, sibling rivalry, challenging behaviour, worries or self-esteem. If you'd like a chance to chat about any of these topics, just contact me on the details below.



## Parenting Top Tip



Parents and carers often prioritise the needs of others and place their own wellbeing last, which can increase the risk of stress and burnout. Children learn by example, and when they see adults acknowledging their feelings and taking steps to care for themselves, they develop the skills to recognise and manage their own wellbeing.

Ahead of half term, our EIFA workshop will focus on family wellbeing, exploring practical ways to support self-care and introducing simple tools to help build and maintain healthy routines for the whole family.

Please join us for the Family Wellbeing session on Tuesday 10th February at 12.00. To book a place, please click the link or scan the QR code [Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams](#)



## Create a paper lantern

Tuesday 17th February is Chinese New Year and 2026 is the year of the fire horse, symbolising growth mindset in the form of independence, creativity, ambition and energy to name only a few.



Why not create a paper lantern to celebrate.



- Take a piece of A4 paper or thin card.
- Fold it in half lengthways and make equally spaced cuts along the length of the paper/card (using scissors) - Make sure you leave a 3cm gap at the top and bottom and both ends of the paper/card.
- Open the paper/card and fold it round into a cylinder shape.
- Glue or sticky tape the ends together and decorate your lantern with paints, pens, sequins or sticky gems.

## Children's Mental health week is taking place between the 9th-15th February

This year's theme is 'This is my place' and is around creating an environment that gives our children and young people a sense of belonging.

Place2Be have a whole range of resources and activities available to download for free.

[Place2Be's Children's Mental Health Week - Official site](#)

Does your child have, or potentially have, an additional need or disability?

**Pinpoint** [www.pinpoint-cambs.org.uk](http://www.pinpoint-cambs.org.uk) have lots of information, advice and tips.

For **Cambridgeshire's Local Offer** go to [www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/children-and-families/local-offer](http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/children-and-families/local-offer)



**Jurate.Trumpickiene@cambridgeshire.gov.uk**

<https://forms.office.com/e/MK4VD8wiFt>

