

16th January 2026



Histon & Impington  
Brook Primary School

# HIBPS Newsletter



## Headteacher update

Dear Families,

What a busy week!

Children in Year 1 visited Histon Library whilst children in Year 3 had a fantastic experience at The Fitzwilliam Museum. Thank you to all involved with the trips.

Years 3 and 4 received a visit from an astrophysicist (also a parent!) who spoke with the children about Ancient Egypt. There were lots of interesting facts to share which build on our curriculum learning.

Children in EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2 have started to use the new playground equipment we've made available. There is lots of choice and it looks great fun! Pictures of the new equipment are on Facebook.

Meanwhile, the children were putting me through my paces during lunchtime chess sessions this week. There are some grandmasters in the making! I remain a little rusty....

Thank you,

Richard Bakker  
Headteacher



Meridian  
Trust



# School News – Fitzwilliam Museum Trip

On Wednesday this week, Year 3 enjoyed an exciting visit to the Fitzwilliam Museum in Cambridge as part of our History topic on Ancient Egypt. While there, we learned more about life along the Nile, explored the fascinating Ancient Egypt exhibition and saw artefacts, including the coffin lid of Ram Ramesses III! A highlight of the day was the interactive talk in which the Museum Educator was particularly impressed by the children's knowledge of Ancient Egyptian Gods and beliefs.

Looking ahead to our Geography learning next term, we even took a walking tour through the centre of Cambridge and saw some of its most famous landmarks. These included: Fitzbillies, King's College Chapel, the Corpus Clock (also known as the Chronophage), the bustling Market Square and the beautiful River Cam!

A huge thank you again to all the parents/carers who volunteered to support us on the day – your help made this memorable experience possible for the children!

Year 3 Teaching Team





# School News – Fitzwilliam Museum Trip





# School News – Fitzwilliam Museum Trip







# KS1 and KS2 updates

Year 1 – puppets!



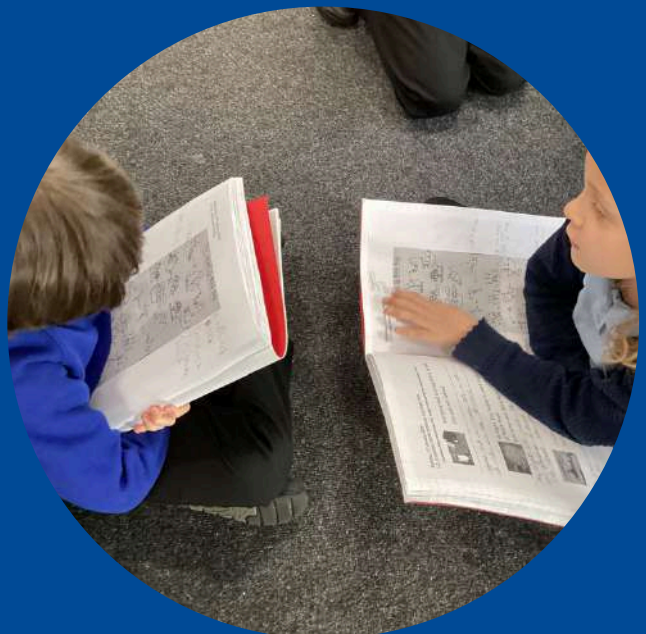
Year 1 – library visit



Year 2 – The Secret of Black Rock!



Year 2 – The Secret of Black Rock!





# KS1 and KS2 updates

Year 3 – Ancient Egyptian Talk



Year 3 – Matisse in Art



Year 4 – Science experiments



Year 5 – Science experiments







# KS1 and KS2 updates

Year 5 – making moodboards in art



Year 6 – making moodboards in art



Year 6 – investigating insulators



Year 6 – having conversations in French





# Key Dates : This Term

<b>Monday 19<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>All Day and Eve</b>	<b>School Choir at Young Voices Concert O2 London.</b>
<b>Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>Morning</b>	<b>Year 6 – Catch Your Breath Vaping Workshop</b>
<b>Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>3.15pm</b>	<b>PTFA – Pre-loved Uniform Sale</b>
<b>Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> January</b>	<b>7.30pm</b>	<b>PTFA Meeting – Tawa Lounge – New members always welcome.</b>
<b>Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> January</b>	<b>3.15pm</b>	<b>PTFA – Pre-loved Uniform Sale</b>
<b>Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>3.15pm</b>	<b>PTFA &amp; Year 3 – Cake Sale</b>
<b>Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>5.30pm onwards</b>	<b>Year 6 – SATs Information Evening.</b>
<b>Friday 6<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>8pm onwards</b>	<b>PTFA Quiz Night at The Brook</b>
<i>Monday 16<sup>th</sup> February – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February</i>	<i>All Day – Every Day</i>	<i>School – Half Term Holiday</i>
<b>Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>Appointments from 3.30pm</b>	<b>All Years – Parents Consultation Evening Appts.</b>
<b>Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>3.15pm</b>	<b>PTFA &amp; Year 2 – Cake Sale</b>
<b>Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>Appointments from 3.30pm</b>	<b>All Years – Parents Consultation Evening Appts.</b>
<i>Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March</i>	<b>–</b>	<i>Last Day of the Spring Term</i>
<b>Monday 1<sup>st</sup> – Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June</b>	<b>TBC</b>	<b>Year 6 – Residential Trip to Grafham Water Centre</b>
<b>Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June</b>	<b>TBC</b>	<b>Year 6 – IVC Transition Days</b>
<b>Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June</b>	<b>TBC</b>	<b>Year 6 – IVC Transition Days</b>





**SMARTPHONE  
FREE CHILDHOOD**

**Histon & Impington**

# Parent Talk: Raising Kids in the Smartphone Era

Practical ideas and friendly conversation about helping kids thrive in the age of smartphones. We'll look at what's working for families right now and hear about the approach being taken by our local schools, including IVC. No judgement, just real talk.

## Where

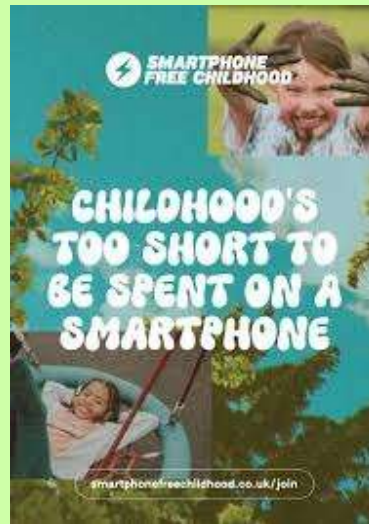
📍 Histon &  
Impington Brook  
Primary School

## When

📅 Weds 4th  
February 2026  
🕒 7.30-8.30pm

✉ No need to RSVP...just come  
along!

We will be joined  
by Amy Ruffell,  
Regional SFC  
Lead and Chris  
Gee, Assistant  
Principal at  
Impington  
Village College



Dear Parents and Carers,

In a few short years smartphones and social media have become the new frontier of parenting, and families everywhere are having to navigate this with very little help or support.

After the success of our previous efforts, we are hosting another event for all Parents and Carers of Histon and Impington (and anyone else who is interested!) to discuss our children and their access to smartphones and social media.

If you have questions about how to approach the topic, would like to learn more about what others in our community are doing and have a chance to look at smartphone alternatives, then come along to chat with other parents and share perspectives and experiences.

Amy Ruffell, Cambridgeshire Regional Representative from the Smartphone Free Childhood movement will be there, alongside Chris Gee, Assistant Principal and Social Media Lead at Impington Village College.

We'd love you to join us for this judgment-free evening of open discussions at one of our local schools.

Best wishes from the Event Organisers...who are also a group of local parents!



# 10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

## ELECTRICAL SAFETY AND DEVICES

Electrical safety is a vital topic for parents and educators, especially with the growing use of devices like smartphones, laptops, and power banks. Electrical fires are a major risk and are the cause of many deaths and injuries each year. There are reportedly nearly 20,000 accidental fires of electrical origin each year in the UK. This guide offers practical advice to help families and schools prevent electrical hazards, and promote safety when using everyday devices.

### 1 CHECK FOR OVERHEATING

Devices such as laptops, tablets, and smartphones can overheat if used for long periods or when charging. Ensure that children don't use devices on soft surfaces like beds or sofas, which can block ventilation. If a device becomes unusually hot, turn it off and unplug it. Overheating can lead to fire if left unchecked.

### 2 INSTALL RESIDUAL CURRENT DEVICES

Ensure that homes and schools are equipped with Residual Current Devices (RCDs). These devices cut off the power if an electrical fault occurs, preventing electric shocks and reducing the risk of fires. RCDs should be tested regularly to ensure they are working properly. More information about RCDs is available from Electrical Safety First.

### 3 AVOID OVERLOADING SOCKETS

Plugging too many devices into one socket can overload the electrical system and cause a fire. In schools and homes, ensure extension leads are not overloaded and never 'daisy chain' multiple extension cords together. Educate children on the dangers of connecting too many devices to a single outlet.

### 4 POWER BANKS: SAFE USE

Power banks are a handy way to charge devices, but they can also pose a risk if misused. Ensure power banks are of high quality and comply with UK safety standards. Teach children never to leave power banks charging unattended, and to avoid placing them under pillows or bedding where they may overheat.

### 5 REGULAR DEVICE INSPECTIONS

Regularly check devices for signs of wear and tear. Frayed charging cables, cracked device casings, or devices that are slow to charge may indicate electrical problems. If any issues are noticed, stop using the device until it can be repaired or replaced by a qualified technician. This proactive approach helps prevent fires caused by faulty devices.

### 6 UNPLUG DEVICES WHEN NOT IN USE

Encourage children and pupils to unplug devices when not in use, particularly overnight. Devices left plugged in unnecessarily can overheat or become fire hazards, especially if left charging unattended for long periods. Simple habits like unplugging can prevent serious incidents.

### 7 USE GENUINE CHARGERS

Always use chargers supplied by the manufacturer or from a reputable retailer. Faulty or counterfeit chargers can cause devices to overheat, short-circuit, or even catch fire. Teach children the importance of avoiding poor-quality chargers, and regularly inspect charging cables for signs of wear or damage. More tips on safe charging can be found at Electrical Safety First.

### 8 WATER & ELECTRICITY DON'T MIX

Teach children that water and electricity are a dangerous combination. Devices should never be used near sinks, bathtubs, or swimming pools. Parents and educators should ensure that any electrical appliances near water sources have proper waterproof casings and are plugged into RCD-protected outlets.

### 9 KEEP DEVICES VENTILATED

Devices need proper ventilation to avoid overheating. Avoid stacking items on top of plugged-in devices like laptops or gaming consoles, and make sure there is enough space around devices to allow for airflow. Proper ventilation helps prevent dangerous heat build-up, reducing the risk of fires.

### 10 SUPERVISE YOUNG CHILDREN

Younger children may not understand the dangers of electricity, so it's important to supervise them when they are using devices. Keep electrical cords out of reach and always remind children never to put objects into electrical outlets.

### Meet Our Expert

James Whelan is an experienced health and safety expert who is a Chartered Member of the Institution of Occupational Safety and Health. He provides services to educational settings as well as many other industries to help them maintain a safe working environment.



See full reference list on our website

[@wake\\_up\\_weds](https://www.wakeupwednesday.com)

[/www.thenationalcollege.com](https://www.thenationalcollege.com)

[@wakeupwednesday](https://www.wakeupwednesday.com)

[@wakeupweds](https://www.wakeupwednesday.com)

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 03.12.2025





Histon & Impington  
Brook Primary School

PTFA

# PTFA SPRING TERM EVENTS

SAVE THE DATES

## **JAN**      **UNIFORM SALES**

**20 & 22**    3.15pm, Brook School

## **JAN**      **PTFA MEETING**

**WEDS 21**    7.45pm, The Boot Histon

## **JAN**      **Y3 CAKE SALE**

**TUES 27**    3.15pm, Brook School

## **FEB**      **QUIZ NIGHT**

**FRI 6**      7.30pm, Brook School

Quiz tickets coming soon: [pta-events.co.uk/hijs](http://pta-events.co.uk/hijs)

## **FEB**      **Y2 CAKE SALE**

**WEDS 11**    3.15pm, Brook School

If you'd like to get involved with any event,  
please email: [hijspta@gmail.com](mailto:hijspta@gmail.com)





Histon & Impington  
Brook Primary School

PTFA

# **Pre-loved uniform sale**

Tuesday 20th January  
and  
Thursday 22nd January

3.15pm @ HI Brook School

We'll be selling lots of good quality, pre-loved school uniform for all ages outside the main gates after school.

Any uniform donations can be dropped off via the School Office on Monday - thank you.

Any questions, please email: [hjspta@gmail.com](mailto:hjspta@gmail.com)



Histon & Impington  
Brook Primary School

PTFA

# Join our PTFA meeting and share your ideas

Wednesday 21st January

7.30pm

Tawa Lounge, Histon

Come and join our friendly PTFA group to support our 2026 events and fundraisers.

We'd love to see both familiar faces and new ones.

**Last term, with your support, we raised over £5,445.**

**Join us to continue making an impact for our school this year.**

Any questions, please email: [hjspta@gmail.com](mailto:hjspta@gmail.com)

See you there!





Histon & Impington  
Brook Primary School

**HISTON AND IMPINGTON BROOK  
PRIMARY SCHOOL PTFA**

# **Cake Sale**

**Tuesday 27th January  
3.15pm**

**Our Y3 classes will be selling lots of delicious cakes for  
everybody after school in the playground to raise  
funds for our school.**

**All cakes 50p or £1 – cash preferred!**  
Any queries, please email: [hijsppta@gmail.com](mailto:hijsppta@gmail.com)



Histon & Impington  
Brook Primary School



PRESENTS THE PTFA

# QUIZ NIGHT

WITH QUIZ MASTER MR BAKKER

FRI 6 FEBRUARY 2026

HI BROOK SCHOOL, OLD HALL

8PM

DOORS OPEN 7.30PM

£7

PP

BAR

CARD OR CASH

TEAMS OF UP TO 8 PEOPLE

Get tickets for your team:  
[bit.ly/3LHMjqi](https://bit.ly/3LHMjqi)







# 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.



**What a Superstar Emilia is for volunteering to help out at an Ultra Marathon Event last Weekend.**

**It was an ultra (40 mile) and half marathon race  
Organised by her uncle, in the Forest of Bowland  
(Lancashire)**

**All profits and collections from the event go towards  
to the local Foodbank. So far they have raised over  
£4000, and had food contributions of 250kg.**

**Emilia was largely in race headquarters, doing  
'helpful' jobs like kit checks, giving out race numbers  
and prizes and putting stickers on things!**

**Well done Emilia!**

**for helping such a worthwhile event run smoothly!**





## Your Education Inclusion Family Advisor



Jurate Trumpickiene


Education Inclusion Family Advisors offer you an opportunity to ask for information, advice and support on any issue affecting your family life in a relaxed and confidential environment. These areas include:

- Challenging behaviour
- Routines
- Supporting emotions and wellbeing
- School transitions
- Parenting strategies
- Building resilience and confidence
- Any other family challenges you might be facing

As Education Inclusion Family Advisors, we offer support in various ways:

- Up to six 1:1 sessions with parents/carers (virtually or face to face in your child's school on request)
- Workshops on specific topics (currently held virtually)
- Signposting to other services such as parenting courses and support services

For more information, please speak to your school's office, contact me directly on 07767048838

 [Jurate.Trumpickiene@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:Jurate.Trumpickiene@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)  
or by using this link or QR code to request support

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





# Education Inclusion Family Advisor Newsletter January 2026

A Bit About Me

Hi, my name is Jurate Trumpickiene, I'm 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

### Building Independence in Children

A key way to help children become more independent is by giving them chances to solve problems on their own. As parents, it's natural to want to step in when we see our child struggling — we often assume they must be stressed or frustrated. But many times, they're simply learning.

Instead of fixing things right away, try taking a step back. Allow them to make mistakes, try again, and figure things out at their own pace — this is how all of us learn. Maybe your child is working on tying their shoelaces, taking longer than expected to complete a puzzle, or navigating a tricky moment with a friend who isn't sharing. Before jumping in, pause and see whether they actually ask for help.

You can continue supporting their independence by acknowledging the effort.

## Activity Idea



### Letting your child lead the play

Set aside an agreed time with no distractions where possible and let your child teach you something they are good at, like to do or facts they know. This could mean you may be gaming, dancing, singing, making slime, learning magic tricks and sports skills, or solving maths questions. Child led play and interaction works with all ages and is great for connection.

## Another Resource – EIFA Workshops

To book, please see the EIFA workshops poster or contact your EIFA.

- **Sibling Rivalry** 13/01/2025 @ 12:00–13:30
- **Understanding and responding to Challenging Behaviours** – 15/01/2025, 12:00–13:30
- **Sleep** – 20/01/2025, 12:00–13:30
- **Sleep** – 20/01/2025, 18:00–19:30
- **Supporting your Child with Feelings of Anger** – 22/01/2025, 12:00–13:30
- **Supporting your Child with Feelings of Worry** – 27/01/2025, 12:00–13:30
- **Supporting your Child with Feelings of Anger** – 02/02/2025, 18:00–19:30
- **Supporting your Child with Feelings of Worry** – 05/02/2025, 18:00–19:30
- **Family Wellbeing** - 10/02/2025, 12-13:30

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)

Contact me directly on 07767048838 or

☐ [Jurate.Trumpickiene@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:Jurate.Trumpickiene@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)  
<https://forms.office.com/e/MK4VD8wiFt>





# Parent Reminders



**UNNAMED LOST PROPERTY** - We recently had another sort out of all the unnamed lost property. This has built up since the holidays. Can we please remind you to label all possessions.

If there is no name it can not find it's way back to you. Unfortunately unnamed lost property has to be given to charity or thrown out if it is not claimed by anyone. Please have a look through if you think you may be missing anything.

## **Head Lice**

There has been a few cases of Head Lice reported.

Unfortunately head-lice are very common in young children, they are easily passed from head-to-head.

The following link to the NHS has information on what to look out for and how to treat.

Head lice and nits - NHS ([www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk))

## **Attendance**

- Reminder that if your child will not be attending school, due to an illness or a medical appointment, that you should e-mail or call the school before 9am on that day and any subsequent days to let us know why they will be absent.

If you call at busy times your call may go to answer machine, messages do come through to e-mail.

- Absence of more than ½ a day (1 session of attendance) for any other reason will require a written Term Time Absence Request in advance for which there is a form at the School Office. Thank you for your co-operation.