



# Autumn 2 - Newsletter - 11/09/2025

## Message from Mrs Sherwood

You will have noticed, no doubt, our wonderful Outdoor Classroom, which was bought for school by the PTA. We have already started using it, but our 'Grand Opening' will be on 24th September. Throughout the day all the children will have a chance to go into the classroom for a story with their teachers. We will have a ribbon cutting ceremony with the first class of children and the PTA committee members. We are very grateful to everyone who contributed towards this.

During the week commencing 13th October we will be holding open mornings and afternoons for prospective parents of children that are due to start Nursery and Reception in September 2026. If you know of any neighbours, friends or family that are looking for school and nursery places, please tell them about our events and they can book by calling our school office on 01763 243392.

If you should need to speak with your child's class teacher, it is usually best to catch them at collection time in the afternoon, not the morning as drop off is a busy time, or alternatively, please send an email to the school office, [admin@icknieldwalk.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@icknieldwalk.herts.sch.uk) with a brief outline of your query and the office will then contact the class teacher, and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

Please remember to remove earrings each morning before school. If your child's ears were pierced during the summer holidays and have not yet fully healed, please cover the ears with micropore tape before sending your child to school. Once healed, remove the earrings before school and put them back in again when you get home. We will be lenient for the first week or so but please do all you can to ensure that earrings are removed as soon as possible. It is for safety reasons that we ask that children do not wear earrings to school.

## What's on

Day & Date	Time	Event & Year
Thursday 11.09.2025	2.45pm	Year 4 parent meeting with Year 4 teachers in Eagle classroom
Friday 12.09.2025	2.45pm	Year 3 parent meeting with Year 3 teachers in Swift classroom
Monday 15.09.2025	-	Learning logs go home
Wednesday 17.09.2025	-	Piano & Guitar lessons
Thursday 18.09.2025	am 2.45pm 3.15-3.45pm 3.15-4.15pm	Year 4 Recorder club Reception Year group meeting for parents in the school hall Year 3 Recorder club in the school hall – collect from dining hall Lab Tots in Dove classroom
Friday 19.09.2025	-	Year 2 Fire of London workshop – non-parent event

## Year Group Meetings

Thank you to those parents who have attended their year group meetings. Please see the upcoming meetings below. If you can come to the meeting you will be able to find out more about what your child will be learning over the coming year and how you can support your child's learning.

**Reception** - Thursday 18th September, 2.45pm - in the school hall

**Year 3** - Friday 12th September, 2.45pm - in Swift class

If you are unable to attend your child's year group meeting, please don't worry, notes will be available upon request a few days after the meeting.

## Our learning topics this term

In the nursery the children will be following a topic of 'Marvellous Me' for the whole of the autumn term. Talking about families and friends and thinking about their feelings. They will even do some hand and feet printing. For the second half of the term, we will also be looking at Winter Festivals, including Diwali and Christmas.

Reception's topic is Into The Woods, they will be thinking about stories set in a woodland, such as Goldilocks and the Gruffalo. They will retell the stories and draw maps and plans. For the second half of the term, they will also have a Winter Festivals focus.

In Year 1, the children will be learning about the school grounds and local area as part of our 'Where Do I Live?' topic. They will be exploring key features of Royston and will be comparing features of a town and a village. The children will also learn about the four countries of the United Kingdom and their capital cities. They will be studying and retelling the story of the Three Little Pigs. After half term, our topic will be Toys. In history, the children will compare old and new toys. We will learn about the history of a teddy and make a timeline. We will have a visit from a theatre group and will learn about different toys.

Over the autumn term, the Year 2 children will be following two topics. Firstly, they will be studying the Great Fire of London; this will include writing diaries in the style of Samuel Pepys. They will have a visit from a theatre group, to help them imagine what life was like during the great fire. They will then be looking at the theatre and pantomimes. They will write their own traditional tales and make puppets to help tell their stories.

In Year 3 the children begin to look at British history in chronological order. This term we will study from the Stone Age, through Iron Age (The Celts) and on to the Roman Britain. In science they will be looking at rocks, fossils and soil this term. We also have our school trip to Celtic Harmony.

The Year 4 topic this term is the Amazon rainforest; this involves a study of biomes and South America. They will be looking at all who live in the rain forest and think about deforestation and the impact this is having.

If you require more detailed information about what your child is learning, please look at the curriculum page on our Website.

## Recorder Clubs

Mrs Atkins will be starting recorder clubs for Year 3 and Year 4 on Thursday 18th September. Year 4 Recorder Club will take place on a Thursday morning straight after morning registration. Year 3 Recorder Club will take place on a Thursday afternoon in the school hall, 3.15-3.45pm with collection from the dining room. If your child would like to join one of the clubs, please email the school office with Recorder Club as the title, your child's name and class.

## Help us with reading - Meeting on 24th September

We actively encourage parents, carers and grandparents to come and hear children read in school. This means that children are reading more frequently, getting more practise and our reading helpers report that it is great to see how well the children progress. It is wonderful to see our children showing off their reading skills to our volunteers. At 3.00pm on 24th September, Mrs White will be holding a meeting in school for reading volunteers. This meeting will be a refresher for those who have read with children before and an introduction for those who are interested in volunteering. Mrs White will speak briefly about safeguarding and how to hear children read in school. All volunteers need a school DBS check, the office staff will help you to apply for one.

## FLU - Nasal spray immunisations

Vaccination UK will be visiting school on Friday 26th September to undertake flu immunisations for children in Reception to Year 4. The immunisation is a nasal spray. Please note, your child will only receive the vaccine IF you have registered your child with Vaccination UK and given consent. Link below will take you to the Vaccination UK consent area of their website.

<https://bed.schoolvaccination.uk/flu/2025/hertfordshire>

Please contact Vaccination UK with any queries that you may have by sending an email to: [Hertfordshire@v-uk.co.uk](mailto:Hertfordshire@v-uk.co.uk) or by calling **01462 427 008**.

## FREE SCHOOL MEALS – ARE YOU ELIGIBLE?

**If you are in receipt of qualifying benefits and have not yet registered for Free School Meals, or wish to check your eligibility please register online at [Free school meals | Hertfordshire County Council](#)**

**Even if your child currently receives universal free meals in Reception to Year 2 you should still complete the application as other education benefits will be automatically registered.** Registering for FSM could result in extra funding coming into school to support learning and additional activities for all pupils, which the school might not otherwise be able to afford. It really makes a difference to our budget and thus to your children's learning opportunities.

Please be assured that the whole process is confidential and there is no way for your child to be identified when having their free lunch. Please use the eligibility checker link above or contact Sue Barrett or Sarah Childs in the office and they will support you.

## Smartphone Free Childhood Parents' Group

At the end of last year, we sent out communication on how best to support our children around smartphone and social media use, inspired by the work of the [Smartphone Free Childhood](#) (SFC) grassroots movement. Some of our parents have since then set up a WhatsApp group to discuss this topic.

The SFC parents' group would like to find out more about your views on this topic. Please find the link to a **short, anonymous survey**. The group note that it will only take five minutes to fill it in and that it would really help them better understand the issues involved. Please fill it in if you can.

### [SFC Parent Survey 2025](#)

The survey will be open for two weeks from yesterday and the parent group will send out the results (via the school office) as soon as possible after that. Thank you!

Best regards,

Smartphone Free Childhood Parents' Group

## PTA News



Tickets for the Bingo evening and the school disco, are both on sale. Please visit <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/iwfspta>

The PTA will send out a volunteers request soon. If you would like to join to volunteers WhatsApp group, please join using this link [https://chat.whatsapp.com/EJMqbP2Fm9S4A7nZoNw6ea?mode=ems\\_copy\\_c](https://chat.whatsapp.com/EJMqbP2Fm9S4A7nZoNw6ea?mode=ems_copy_c)



## Help us to raise money for our school



Icknield Walk First School PTA

### TESCO Blue Token Scheme

Icknield Walk First School has been accepted for the Blue Token Scheme at Tesco.

**Voting starts the first week of July 2025 until the end of September 2025.**

We are asking for your support, to help us buy benches and Forest School equipment for our outside classroom.

Registered Charity 1140307

### Raise funds for us for FREE

with easyfundraising

Join as our supporter today at:  
[www.easyfundraising.org.uk/support-a-good-cause](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/support-a-good-cause)  
 Just search for:  
Icknield Walk First School PTA

8,000+ retailers will donate to us whenever you shop with them



Start at the easyfundraising website or app



Click out to where you'd like to shop



Checkout: prices are exactly the same!



The retailer sends a % of your spend to easyfundraising



They pass it on to us :)

Plus, you'll get...

  
 Exclusive retailer offers

  
 Competitions

  
 A warm feeling inside!

Over

## £60m

raised for UK good causes

## £0

extra cost to anyone

## BeeZee Bodies - Healthy snacks



### Looking for healthy after-school snack ideas?

We've got you covered!

Our free, BeeZee Families healthy lifestyle programme can help your family make healthy habits.



#### Tuck into these healthy snacks:

- Two wholegrain crackers and tzatsiki
- Rice cakes or corn cakes
- Two crackers with a spread of low-fat cream cheese and cherry tomatoes
- Plain or Greek yoghurt and fruit
- 150ml homemade fruit smoothie
- Vegetable sticks (carrot/pepper/cucumber) with hummus
- Fruit kebabs

- Wholegrain toast with a thin layer of peanut butter
- Breadsticks
- Ayran (yoghurt-based drink)
- Baked plantain
- Sebze kebab (grilled vegetable skewers)
- Homemade fruit ice lollies
- Handful of homemade popcorn
- Apple slices with peanut butter.



Want more healthy lifestyle support?

Check out our website to find out how we can help your family.\*

Scan here or Click the link

hrt.maximusuk.co.uk

\*Our courses are designed for families with children aged 5 and up



We're here to help your family  
make healthy habits fun

Join our **FREE**, 12-week healthy lifestyle programme to help your family build habits around food and physical activity. Our in-person group sessions start on:

**Date:** Wednesday 24 Sept 2025 **Time:** 5:30 - 7:30pm  
**Venue:** The Oval Community Centre, Vardon Road, Stevenage, SG1 5RD

Or you can join us online!



[hrt.maximusuk.co.uk](http://hrt.maximusuk.co.uk)

Sign up for your  
FREE PLACE today

@ BZBinfo@maximusuk.co.uk

01707 248 648



  
Hertfordshire

Our programmes are for children above their ideal weight, see our website for more information. 24-0814



## Extra curricular activities/Events in and around Royston/Useful information

### "IT'S YOUR CUE..."

**BUILD CONFIDENCE, SPARK IMAGINATION, AND EXPLORE SELF-EXPRESSION THROUGH DRAMA GAMES, IMPROVISATION, STORYTELLING, AND CREATIVE PLAY.**

- DRAMA GAMES, TECHNIQUES AND IMPROVISATION
- CHARACTER BUILDING AND STORYTELLING
- VOICE & MOVEMENT EXERCISES
- IMAGINATIVE PLAY AND CREATING PERFORMANCES
- EXPLORING REAL-WORLD THEMES-FROM EVERYDAY LIFE TO BIG IDEAS ABOUT FAIRNESS AND CHANGE, ALL THROUGH THE POWER OF DRAMA.

**FRIDAYS 3:30-4.30PM**  
**ICKNIELD WALK FIRST SCHOOL**  
**8-9 YEAR OLDS (YEAR 4)**  
**JUST £5 PER SESSION FOR THE FIRST TERM!**

**TO SIGN UP OR FIND OUT MORE CONTACT:**  
[itsyourcue25@gmail.com](mailto:itsyourcue25@gmail.com)

Raising money for The James Foundation, a Baby Loss Charity

**FREE ENTRY**

## Family Fun Day

**12pm until 5pm**

**SATURDAY 13TH SEPTEMBER**

**INFLATABLES  
FACE PAINT  
FOOD-STALLS  
BAR  
ENTERTAINMENT  
AND MORE!**

**PRIORY MEMORIAL PARK**  
**MELBOURN STREET, SG8 9DX**

MAIN SPONSOR: 

OTHER SPONSORS:    

  
[www.thejamesfoundation.co.uk](http://www.thejamesfoundation.co.uk)  
 Charity number: 1208795



Contact us to discuss your training needs, or head to our website by scanning the QR code below:



## SPOT THE SIGNS, YOUTH SUICIDE PREVENTION WEBINAR

**15TH SEPTEMBER 2025**

**FREE FOR ALL HERTS PARENTS**

**7PM - 9PM ONLINE**




Please contact [cyp@hertsmindnetwork.org](mailto:cyp@hertsmindnetwork.org) to book your space!



**Friday, 26th September**

arrive by 7pm for a 7:30pm start  
at

**Meldreth Village Hall,  
SG8 6LB**

Teams of up to 6 people welcome  
(don't forget to give your team a quirky name!)

Can't get a team together but still want to join in the fun?  
Contact us and we will include you in a team!

Tickets are £15 per person (includes supper - fish  
chicken, sausage or veggie option & chips)

**\*Reserve your tickets by 19th Sept\***

Telephone 01763 262262 to book your tickets  
or email [events@hsrsc.org.uk](mailto:events@hsrsc.org.uk) or via this link:  
<https://buytickets.at/homestartroystonbuntingfordandsouthcambridgeshire/1825042>

Home-Start Royston, Buntingford & South Cambridgeshire  
Charity No. 1105385

Find out  
more here



SCAN ME

## AFTER SCHOOL CLUB 2025 AUTUMN TERM



FUN, EXERCISE, FRESH AIR & DIFFERENT ACTIVITIES EVERY WEEK

NEW ACTIVITIES FOR THIS TERM INCLUDE:

**HARRY POTTER QUIDDITCH  
BONFIRE NIGHT FIREWORKS PAINT MURAL  
SCAVENGER HUNT: SPOOKY TRAIL  
CAMPFIRE COOKOUT: AUTUMN EDITION  
NERF GAMES: ZOMBIE APOCALYPSE  
BONKERS CONKERS & LEAF MONSTERS  
BUSHCRAFT SHELTER & DEN MAKING  
AMONG US & VIKING KUBB  
& AS USUAL: FUN VIBES & ADVENTURE!**



**ICKNIELD WALK  
FIRST SCHOOL**  
WEDNESDAYS 3:15 - 4:25PM  
YEARS 1-4

14 week term starting 10th September



**MORE INFO & BOOK: [WWW.THEOUTDOORSPROJECT.CO.UK](http://WWW.THEOUTDOORSPROJECT.CO.UK)**  
HOLIDAY CLUBS - BIRTHDAY PARTIES - SCHOOL WORKSHOPS - AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS - SAFELINE PARENT & TODDLER GROUP  
OFSTED REGISTERED & CHILDCARE VOUCHERS ACCEPTED

**Royston Book Fair** returns on **Saturday 27 September 2025 (12–4 pm)** at Royston Parish Church. Part of the Royston Arts Festival, the fair brings together more than 30 authors for an afternoon of talks, readings, and book signings – a wonderful opportunity for young readers and their families to discover new books and meet writers in person. The Book Fair is free to attend and all are welcome. It's a fantastic way to celebrate reading for pleasure, support local authors, and be part of the wider Royston Arts Festival. Full details, including the author line-up, can be found at [www.roystonbookfair.co.uk](http://www.roystonbookfair.co.uk).



# RTFC FREAKY FRIDAY

**FRIDAY 31ST  
OCTOBER**

 **GARDEN WALK**  
 **9:00 - 3:00 PM**  
 **£25**

**JOIN US FOR:**  
**FC 24**  
**FOOTBALL TOURNAMENTS**  
**DODGEBALL**  
**ARCHERY & MORE**

**E: ALFIE@ROYSTONTOWNFC.CO.UK**

## OCTOBER HOLIDAY COURSE



### ICKNIELD WALK MULTI-SPORTS CAMP

**TUES / WEDS / THURS**

**28<sup>TH</sup> - 29<sup>TH</sup> - 30<sup>TH</sup>**

**9AM - 3PM**

**£25 PER DAY  
OR  
£65 FOR ALL 3 DAYS**

**AGES 5 - 12**

**SCAN ME**

**OR VISIT  
ROYSTONTOWNFC.KTCKTS.COM**



## STARSHIP DISCOVERY

Holiday club for primary school age children

- ★ Go on a Space Adventure with the Watt Family!
- ★ + Games
- ★ Crafts
- ★ Puppets
- ★ Bible Stories
- ★ Songs
- ★ And Loads of Fun!

**Dates:** 27<sup>th</sup> - 31<sup>st</sup> October  
**Time:** 9.45am - 12.30pm  
**Cost:** FREE (donations welcome)  
**Name of Venue:** Royston Methodist Church  
**Contact:** email [club@royston-methodist.org.uk](mailto:club@royston-methodist.org.uk)

## OCTOBER HOLIDAY COURSE



### KJAR FOOTBALL CAMP

**TUES / WEDS / THURS**

**28<sup>TH</sup> - 29<sup>TH</sup> - 30<sup>TH</sup>**

**9AM - 3PM**

**£25 PER DAY  
OR  
£65 FOR ALL 3 DAYS**

**AGES 5 - 12**

**SCAN ME**

**OR VISIT  
ROYSTONTOWNFC.KTCKTS.COM**



## Weblinks that can help you

[NSPCC](#) - Online safety.

[Smartphone Free Childhood](#)

[Angels Support \(ASD & ADHD\)](#)

Herts CC [Relationship advice](#)

[Families Feeling Safe](#)

[NESSIE - Positive Mental Health](#) - Lots of talks and courses to help you and your child with their mental health.

[Supporting Family Links](#) - Promoting Strong Family Relationships with children up to the age of 12, lots of online courses to help.

Herts CC Cost of living resources - [cost-of-living-flashcard \(thegrid.org.uk\)](#)

North Herts Family Support Services - [www.hertsfamilycentres.org](#)

[www.supportinglinks.co.uk](#) - Workshops/training courses for parents/carers of children (up to age 25).

BeeZee Bodies - [www.beezeebodies.com](#)

[North Herts Special Provision updates - look here for SEN and Behaviour support](#)

[Free School Meals](#)

Neurodiversity Support Hub

Lumi Nova - Fun digital therapy for childhood anxiety - [https://luminova.app/](#)

Mind Hertfordshire Network - [https://www.withyouth.org/](#)