Autumn 4 - Newsletter - 24/09/2026

Message from Mrs Sherwood

On Monday, we had our first full governing body meeting of the year. I am pleased to announce that the governing body re-elected our co-chairs Nick Fisk and Rachel Page. At the meeting the governors formally agreed the objectives for this year's School Development Plan and the Equality Objectives (see below).

We are looking forward to welcoming you to our parents' evenings either in person or virtually. If you are coming to the in-person session (Tuesday 29th September), please come into the school via the carpark entrance. Please take a seat on one of the chairs in the middle of the hall and wait to be called by your child's teacher. The gate at the back of the school (onto Icknield Walk) will be closed from 5.30pm. Please note that this is a parent-only session. Please do not bring your children with you.

Please can I remind everyone to park with consideration for all our neighbours who surround our school. We have had reports from neighbours that parents and carers who park in the surrounding area are blocking driveways and parking inconsiderately, in the last week, there have been black vans parking on the wider footpaths at the front of the school, this is dangerous, please stop! We have instructed our neighbours to contact the police if the problems are recurring. Can I also remind everyone that the school car park is for staff only unless an arrangement has been made with the school office. Breakfast club parents and carers are asked to park on the left-hand side of the school car park and are not permitted to park after 8am, unless an arrangement has been made with Breakfast Club. Parents and carers of children who attend Fair Play or any of the after-school clubs are not permitted to park in the school car park until after 5.00pm.



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 -Herts CC .

Applying is quick and confidential. Even if you are unsure whether you qualify, we encourage you to apply, as eligibility can also help the school access additional funding to support pupils. The Government has recently expanded the criteria for Free School Meals meaning that your child could now be eligible. If you are in receipt of Universal Credit, your child will qualify for free school meals from now.

We are encouraging everyone to review the criteria and apply as soon as possible. Please click the link below and make your application. Free school meals and other benefits | Hertfordshire County Council

If you would like us to make an application on your behalf please contact Sarah Childs in the office at finance@icknieldwalk.herts.sch.uk

What's on next week

Thursday 24.09.2026

AM - Year 4 Recorder club

3.15-4.15pm - Labtots

3.15-3.45pm - Year 3 Recorder club

3.15-4.15pm - Football Feet

Friday 25.09.2026

All day - Individual and Sibling photographs with Pret-a-Portrait

PM - Year 4 Falcon class swimming

3.15-4.15pm - Kings and Queens Chess Club for Years 1-4 in the dining hall

Monday 28.09.2026

3.15-4.15pm - RTFC Gymnastics club

3.15-4.15pm - It's Your Cue Drama Club for years 3 and 4 in Year 3 classroom

Tuesday 29.09.2026

NO RTFC Multi Sports Club

AM - Flu immunisations with Vaccination UK

3.30-6.00pm - Parent Teacher Consultation evening - in person in the school hall

Wednesday 30.09.2026

Piano and Guitar Lessons

3.15-4.15pm - Outdoors Project Club

Thursday 01.10.2026

AM - Year 4 Recorder club

3.30-6.00pm - Parent Teacher Consultation evening - virtual online

3.15-4.15pm - Labtots

3.15-3.45pm - Year 3 Recorder club

3.15-4.15pm - Football Feet

Friday 02.10.2026

PM - Year 4 Falcon class swimming

3.15-4.15pm - Kings and Queens Chess Club for Years 1-4 in the dining hall

Message from the School Office

When corresponding with the school office via email, please ensure that your child's name and class are in the subject line of the email so that the office can deal with your email quickly and efficiently. Many thanks.

Individual and Sibling photographs - Pret-a-Portrait

Individual and Sibling portrait photographs will be taken by Pret-a-Portrait tomorrow throughout the school day. All children should wear their school uniform; hair accessories should be school colours and kept minimal.

Nursery children who attend on a Friday will be photographed during their nursery day and nursery children who do not attend on a Friday are invited to pop in to have their photograph taken, in the morning at 9.20am. Nursery children with siblings in the school will be photographed with their sibling if the nursery child attends the photography session. Please inform Miss Pinner your child will be attending if you have not already done so. Please note that if your child does not attend Nursery on a Friday, they can only come in for the photography session and not attend a full nursery session.

All children with siblings who attend Icknield Walk First School will be photographed both together and individually.

Message from our Teaching Assistants

Please help us to help your children by naming all of their uniform and belongings. A number of children have lost items already and although we do our very best to return misplaced items to the correct children, if they are not named it makes the task even trickier. Thank you.

Check-in parent and teacher meetings/consultations

We will be holding our initial 'check-in' parent and teacher meetings next week. At these meetings you will be able to chat with your child's class teacher to see how your child is getting on and also ask any questions that you may have. For those that have not booked appointments before, please read our 'how to guide', which can be found on the front page of our website under the quick links section.

We will be holding two sessions. In person appointments in the school hall will be available on Tuesday 29th September, 3.30-6pm and video call (online) appointments will be available on Thursday 1st October, 3.30-6pm. Nursery appointments will be from 3.50-5.30pm for both video and in person sessions.

The booking system is live (link to the booking system can be found on the front page of our website, under the quick links section) or click on the following link: https://icknieldwalk.schoolcloud.co.uk/

1. Only one appointment available per child.

2. Only the parent or carer that is contact 1 on our database can book the appointments.

3. If you are new to the school, you will need to make an account to book the appointments.

If you have any problems booking your appointments, please send an email to the office staff at : admin@icknieldwalk.herts.sch.uk

There will be an opportunity for you to view your child's workbooks in their classroom with your child, on Wednesday 2nd December, 3.30-4.30pm.

Flu immunisations - Nasal spray - IMPORTANT

Vaccination UK will be visiting school on **Tuesday 29th September** to undertake flu immunisations for children in Reception to Year 4. The immunisation is a nasal spray. Vaccination UK have been in direct contact with all parents via text messages and email asking for you to register your child for the vaccine.

Your child will only receive the vaccine on 29th September **IF** you have registered your child with Vaccination UK and given consent.

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

Icknield Walk First School Open Events - October 2026



PTA News

🎄 Christmas Cards & Gifts

We're pleased to announce that we'll be using Xmas4Schools again this year to create some lovely personalised Christmas cards and gifts.

The picture sheets for the children to complete will be sent home before half term. Please make sure they are completed and returned to school, along with all the correct information, by Tuesday 3rd November. This gives us enough time to send everything off for printing ready for Christmas. 🎅 🎄

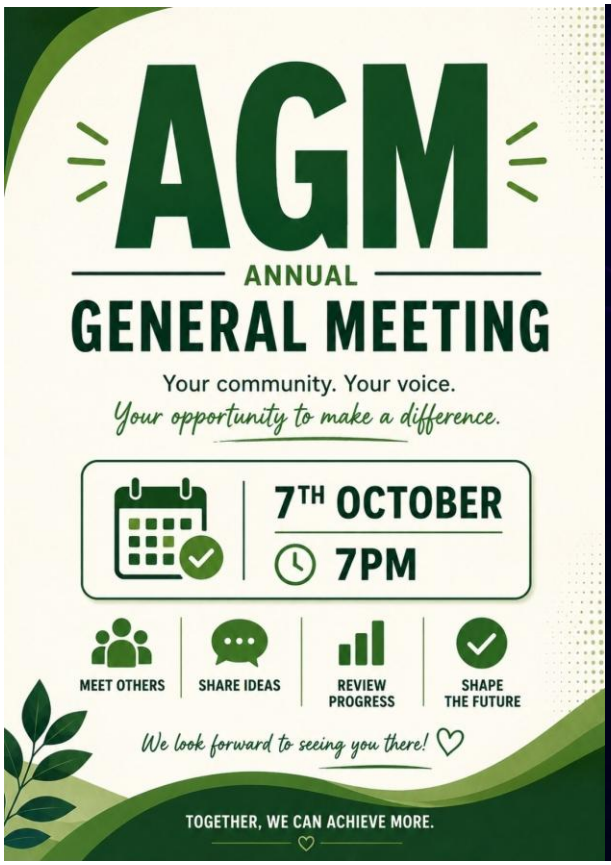
🔔 PTA Annual General Meeting - Wednesday 7th October at 7pm

Our Annual General Meeting is coming up! This is a chance to hear about what the PTA has been doing, find out about our plans for the year ahead and share your ideas. Whether you're already involved with the PTA or would simply like to find out more, everyone is welcome. We'd love to see you there!

🪩 School Disco – Friday 9th October

Get ready to dance! 🕺 💃 Our school disco is taking place on Friday 9th October, with separate sessions for Nursery, Reception & Year 1 and Years 2–4.

There'll be music, fun, disco glow, refreshments and sweets for sale. Tickets are £6, including £3 of tokens to spend at the cashless disco. Tickets are on sale online from https://www.pta-events.co.uk/iwfspta/





Vacancy - Midday Supervisory Assistant (MSA)

Please come and join our team! We have a vacancy for a Midday Supervisory Assistant to work from 11.55am to 1.15pm, Monday-Friday. The rate of pay is £12.65 per hour. Tasks include supervising the children during their lunchtime and play, in all weathers. First aid training will be given to applicants if they do not hold a current certificate. Previous experience of working or volunteering in school would be an advantage but not essential.

At Icknield Walk First School we take the safety of our children very seriously and all applicants will be thoroughly vetted and will be subject to DBS checks, internet searches, health checks and references. You will be asked questions about safeguarding children in your interview, and you will receive regular safeguarding training while you are working with us.

Closing date for applications: 12 noon, Friday 2nd October.

Please email admin@icknieldwalk.herts.sch.uk for further information and an application form. We reserve the right to interview and appoint before the closing date should the right candidate apply. Please apply early to avoid disappointment.

Year 4s moving on from Icknield Walk First School

King James Academy, Royston will be holding their open evening on Thursday 22nd October.

Edwinstree Middle School, Buntingford will be holding their open evening on Thursday 1st October, 6-8pm. The head teacher will be speaking at 6.15pm. No need to book, just turn up.



After School Activities - IWFS









Football Feet

Years 1-4



Thursdays - 3.15pm

Contact:

footballfeetkb@gmail.com



Kings and Queens Chess Club

Years 1-4



After school in the dining room

FRIDAYS – 3.15pm

To register and pay, follow this link:

https://kingsandqueenschess.co.uk/enrol.html

Events in and around Royston and other useful information



Groups and workshops

coram family lives

Autumn 2026

Bringing Up Confident ADHD/ASD Children (6 weeks) Online group

Monday 5th October to 16th November, 7pm to 9pm OR
Friday 6th November to 11th December, 9.30am to 11.30am

If your child has ADHD/ASD, or you think they might, join our online 6-week group where you will receive support from other parents and gain a comprehensive understanding of ADHD/ASD and learn strategies to improve life at home and at school.

Less Shouting, More Cooperation (6 weeks) Online group

Tuesday 6th October to 17th November, 9.30am to 11.30am

Do you feel you are constantly nagging or shouting at your child to get what you need? Are you tired of losing your cool and want a calmer house? Join our free online 6-week group to learn how you can change the way you communicate with your child, respond better, and feel more in control.

Dads Together (6 weeks) Online group

Wednesday 4th November to 9th December, 7pm to 9pm

Are you a dad who feels you are constantly nagging or shouting at your child to get what you need? Are you tired of losing your cool and want a calmer house? Join our free online 6-week group to learn how you can change the way you communicate with your child, respond better, and feel more in control.

Anxiety around ADHD Online Workshop
Wednesday 21 October 9.30am to 11.30am

Sibling Rivalry Online Workshop
Monday 9 November 9.30am to 11.30am

Reducing Conflict Online Workshop
Wednesday 25 November 7pm to 9pm

It's a Dad's Life Online Workshop
Thursday 26 November 7pm to 9pm

Navigating the Storm (Teens) Online Workshop
Wednesday 2 December 9.30am to 11.30am

All our programmes provide support, information and resources to parents, carers and adult family members in Hertfordshire so they can help their children reach their full potential.

For more info, please contact **Louise** on **0204 522 8700/8701** or email **services@coramfamilylives.org.uk** or scan the QR code for our online form.

SCAN ME

We build better family lives together

www.coramfamilylives.org.uk @coramfamilyliveshertsandbeds

Funded by Hertfordshire County Council

Hertfordshire

Coram Family Lives is registered as a company limited by guarantee in England and Wales No. 3817762. Registered charity No.1077722. Registered address: Coram Family Lives, Coram Campus, 41 Brunswick Square, London, WC1N 1AZ



Parenting when separated for parents of SEN children - online programme

Come along to our six-session programme, specifically tailored to help separated parents navigate the complexities of co-parenting and provide the best possible support for their SEND child. This is a valuable opportunity to enhance co-parenting skills, support children's development and build a strong foundation for the future.

The programme includes:

- Understanding SEN and its impact on children and family dynamics
- Effective communication skills
- Managing emotions and stress
- Collaborative problem solving
- Building a supportive network
- Creating a unified parenting approach

Dates and times

Date: Tuesday 13th and 20th October, 3rd, 10th, 17th and 24th November 2026
Time: 9.30am to 11.30am

Date: Wednesday 14th and 21st October, 4th, 11th, 18th and 25th November 2026
Time: 7.00pm to 9.00pm

This will be delivered online via MS TEAMS

SCAN ME

For more information or to make a referral, scan the QR code, email **services@coramfamilylives.org.uk** or call **0204 522 8700** or **0204 522 8701**

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Sign up to our 6-week online group

Are you a dad and feel like you are constantly nagging at your child to get what you need?

The sessions will cover:

- **Exploring what helpful discipline is.**
- **Recognising the triggers and responding more effectively.**
- **Learning new parenting tools to challenge children's behaviour**
- **How to negotiate and implement effective boundaries and family agreements**
- **How to hold boundaries and gain co-operation**

Wednesday 4th November to 9th December 2026

7.00pm to 9.00pm

Online via MS Teams

To book your place, call **Lesley** on **0204 522 8701**, email **services@coramfamilylives.org.uk** or scan our QR code to use our online referral form

Scan Me!

We build better family lives together

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Watt-A-Lott Castle Holiday Club

IDEAL FOR 4-11's

Save me!

HALF-TERM HOLIDAY
Monday 26th - Friday 30th October 2026
9.45am - 12.30pm

Royston Methodist Church

Watt Family
Quest
Crafts
Games
Bible Stories
Songs
Puppets
Snack - and what-a-lot of FUN!

Meet the Watt-A-Lott Family

Donations welcome

To book or for more information, contact
club@royston-methodist.org.uk
or Gill Grainger: 01763 242682

Led by John Hardwick

STORY MEADOW

HALLOWEEN SPECIAL

26TH-29TH OCTOBER 2026

4-11 YRS
9:00-16:00
THERFIELD FIRST SCHOOL

OUTDOOR ADVENTURES
STORYTELLING
POTIONS
BUBBLE PARTIES
AND SO MUCH MORE!

BRINGING STORIES TO LIFE

The Outdoors Project

OCTOBER HALF TERM HOLIDAY CLUBS

STUDLANDS RISE FIRST SCHOOL, ROYSTON

Monday 26th October
BUSHCRAFT: FIRE MASTER

Tuesday 27th October
NERF: MISSION SPOOKTACULAR

Wednesday 28th October
GHOSTBUSTERS: SLIME LAB & GHOST HUNT

Thursday 29th October
HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON: ADVENTURES ON THE ISLAND OF BERK!

Friday 30th October
ULTIMATE HALLOWEEN ADVENTURE: TRICKS & TREATS!

★★★★★
"0% screen time, 100% fresh air, fun, games, exploring and adventuring in nature"

MILTON COUNTRY PARK WILD PLACE

Monday 26th October
BUSHCRAFT VS MINECRAFT

Tuesday 27th October
WIZARDS OF THE WILD: A HARRY POTTER ADVENTURE

Wednesday 28th October
BUSHCRAFT: FIRE MASTER

Thursday 29th October
ULTIMATE HALLOWEEN ADVENTURE: TRICKS & TREATS!

BOOK NOW

For more activity details, FAQs and booking information: WWW.THEOUTDOORSPROJECT.CO.UK

Ofsted Registered | Tax-Free Childcare and Childcare Vouchers Accepted | Children aged 5-11 (Years 1-6)

KING JAMES ACADEMY

Christmas FAYRE



SUNDAY 22ND NOVEMBER

11 AM TO 3 PM



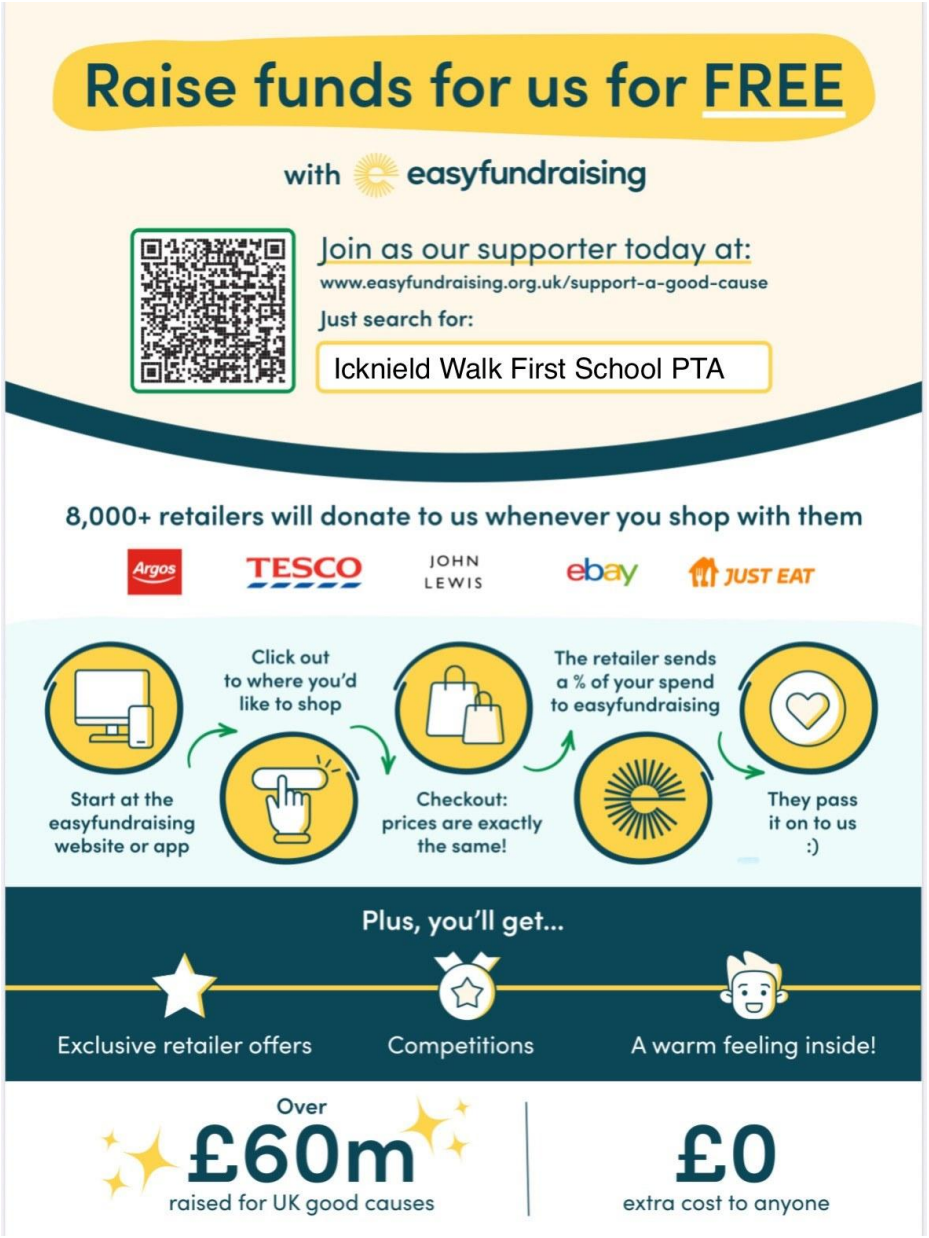
Stalls, Music & Refreshments

FREE ENTRY & PARKING

King James Academy (Senior Site)

Garden Walk
Royston
Hertfordshire
SG8 7JF

Easy Fundraising - help us while you shop



Please remember to use easyfundraising when you do any of your online shopping.

Over 8,000 retailers including eBay, John Lewis & Partners, Argos and M&S will donate to Icknield Walk First School PTA for FREE when you use easyfundraising to shop with them.

Want to know more, see this handy intro

These donations really help us and all you have to do is use easyfundraising when you're ordering the things you'll be buying anyway.

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

Neurodiversiry Support Hub

Lumi Nova - Fun digital therapy for childhood anxiety - https://luminova.app/

Mind Hertfordshire Network -

The Sleep Charity - https://thesleepcharity.org.uk/