



Spring 3 - Newsletter - 22/01/2026

Message from Mrs Sherwood

Today, the school office have sent out the Spring Term 'Dates for your Diaries' by email, please check these through and add what is relevant for your family to your calendar. Please do check the newsletter regularly as this will be the place that we will announce any changes to dates or times.

Congratulations to Reuben from Year 4 who entered the BBC 500 words writing competition and was awarded highly commended for his entry. Well done!

Parent-Teacher Consultations

On Tuesday 10th and Thursday 12th February, parent-teacher consultations will be taking place. At these meetings you will be able to chat with your child's class teacher to see how your child is getting on and ask any questions that you may have.

We will be holding two sessions: in-person appointments on Tuesday 10th February, 3.30-6pm, and video call (online) appointments on Thursday 12th February, 3.30-6pm.

Year 3 Swift class parent-teacher consultations will take place on Monday 9th, Wednesday 11th and Thursday 12th February. Monday 9th will be in person in Swift classroom and Wednesday 11th and Thursday 12th will be video call (online) appointments.

Please note only one appointment is available per child; you must choose either online or in person on the days listed above. Teachers will only be available to talk on these dates and times.

A reminder of how to book appointments is available on our website under the Quick Links section on the front page.

The booking system will go live at 7pm on Thursday 29th January (link to the booking system can be found on the front page of our website, under the quick links section) or follow this link: <https://icknielwalk.schoolcloud.co.uk/>

If you have any problems booking your appointments, please contact the school office.

Parents and carers will have an opportunity to view their child's workbooks after school on Wednesday 11th March, 3.30-4.30pm.

Best Start in Life Parent Hub

The Best Start in Life Parent Hub is a new website from the Government that has information and support from pregnancy through to your child's early years and beyond. It offers:

- Support and advice when you are pregnant, for your new baby and toddler development.
- Childcare funding support.
- Family support in your local area.
- Getting ready to start school.

Find all the information on <https://beststartinlife.gov.uk/>

PTA News

PTA Committee Meeting – Everyone Welcome

All parents are automatically members of our PTA, and we would love your help.

Our next PTA committee meeting will take place on 1st February at 7.45pm at The Old Bull. We'll be chatting about upcoming events, fundraising ideas, and ways we can support the school throughout the year.

Everyone is welcome to join us — whether you can help regularly or just have a few ideas to share. We'd love to see some new faces and hear your thoughts.

NURSERY ADMISSIONS FOR SEPTEMBER 2026

Applications are now live for a September 2026 start.

Please fill in an application form online by following the link below, we will start to allocate places from 15th January 2026. We will continue to accept applications and offer places throughout the year until we are full.

Please call the school office on 01763 243392 if you would like to discuss your child's application, we are always happy to help.

[Icknield Walk First School Nursery application form for Nursery](#)

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 students, which the school might not otherwise be able to afford. It really makes a difference to our budget and thus to 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.

What's on

Thursday 22.01.2026

am - Year 4 Recorder Club

3.15-3.45pm - Year 3 Recorder Club

3.15-4.15pm - Lab Tots in Dove class

Friday 23.01.2026

pm - Year 4 Eagle class start swimming

3.15-4.15pm - Kings & Queens Chess Club in the dining hall

3.15-4.15pm - It's Your Cue Drama Club for Year 4s in Eagle class

Monday 26.01.2026

Learning Logs go home

3.15-4.15pm - RTFC Gymnastics club

Tuesday 27.01.2026

3.15-4.15pm - RTFC Multi sports skills club

Wednesday 28.01.2026

Guitar and Piano lessons

3.15-4.15pm - Outdoor Project

Thursday 29.01.2026

am - Year 4 Recorder Club

3.15-3.45pm - Year 3 Recorder Club

3.15-4.15pm - Lab Tots in Dove class

3.15-4.15pm - Football Feet

7pm - Booking system for Parent/Teacher consultations go live

Friday 30.01.2026

pm - Year 4 Eagle class start swimming

3.15-4.15pm - Kings & Queens Chess Club in the dining hall

3.15-4.15pm - It's Your Cue Drama Club for Year 4s in Eagle class

<https://icknielwalk.herts.sch.uk/news-dates/calendar/>

Vacancy - Cleaner

We have a vacancy for a cleaner to join our dedicated and friendly team as soon as possible.

We need a cleaner (early morning or afternoon or early evening) during term time for two hours and fifteen minutes each day, some additional holiday cleaning will also be required.

The rate of pay is £12.65 per hour.

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.

Previous cleaning experience would be an advantage but not essential.

Closing date for applications: Tomorrow, 12 noon.

We reserve the right to interview and appoint before the closing date should the right candidate apply. Please apply early to avoid disappointment.

For more details, please contact the school office on 01763 243392 or email admin@icknieldwalk.herts.sch.uk.

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.

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Closing date for applications: 12 noon, Friday 30th January 2026.

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.

Events in and around Royston and other useful information



STORY MEADOW

EASTER HOLIDAY CAMP

30TH MARCH-10TH APRIL

5-11 YRS
9:00-16:00
THERFIELD FIRST SCHOOL

Key highlights include:

- Captivating storytelling
- Treasure hunts
- Building with loose parts
- Weaving in emotional intelligence
- Short mindfulness activities
- Natural arts and crafts
- Dens, bug hotels and nest making
- Bubble parties

[Book Now](#)

PRICING

Single Day - £39.50

Easter Bundle (8 Days) - £34.36/day

PODCAST

Listen FREE on Spotify
New stories every week
Scan QR code



PODCAST





"A very magical and special Summer Camp. Highly recommend!" - Parent

storymeadow.co.uk

FEBRUARY HALF TERM CLUBS
"Childcare during the holidays they want to go to"
Fresh air. Fresh activities. Fresh attitude.
STUDLANDS RISE FIRST SCHOOL, ROYSTON



OPSTED REGISTERED





"NO SCREENS. JUST GOOD FUN OUTSIDE!"

MONDAY 16 FEB
TRIBAL ADVENTURE: BUILD, CRAFT & SURVIVE!

Join your tribe for a day of wild adventure! Work together to build your tribal woodland camp & get creative with tribal crafts. Take on castaway style team challenges & games as you learn how tribes across the world live & survive in the wild!

TUESDAY 17 FEB
CAMPFIRE COOKOUT PANCAKE DAY SPECIAL & BUSHCRAFT

Join us for the perfect winter campfire cookout! Make s'mores & Pancakes over the flames, learn different bushcraft fire lighting methods & enjoy a mix of classic outdoor games. A cosy & relaxed day filled with creativity, camp vibes, tasty treats and skills to take home and share with your family!

WEDNESDAY 18 FEB
NERF: WILD WEST SHOWDOWN

Let's go back in time and ride into a Wild West world of heists and outlaws! Grab your blasters, team up, and join stagecoach standoffs, bank robbery missions, and cattle corrals in a full day of action-packed Nerf games. A fast-paced, high-adventure Nerf experience! (Age 6+ recommended)

THURSDAY 19 FEB
BUSHCRAFT VS MINECRAFT

Minecraft comes to life outdoors! Team up to build your village using real bushcraft skills, earn reward pixels for completing survival challenges, & search for hidden resources to craft your tools. Take on Creeper & Lava Chicken games, protect your base, and experience Minecraft like never before! (knowledge of Minecraft is not required!)

FRIDAY 20 FEB
WE'RE GOING ON A YETI HUNT!

Become an explorer for the day and step into a world of mystery & adventure! Track the legendary Yeti through the wild as you follow hidden clues, build clever traps, & craft your own Yeti footprints as proof of your discovery. Work together to uncover the forest's secrets, outsmart the wild's most mysterious creature, and maybe even meet the Yeti itself!







For more info on dates, locations and how the clubs run & to book: www.theoutdoorsproject.co.uk

★★★★★ "THIS IS A WONDERFUL HOLIDAY CLUB, FULL OF FUN & FRESH AIR"

★★★★★ "I LOVE THAT IT'S PHYSICAL ACTIVITY NOT BASED ON TRADITIONAL SPORTS"

★★★★★ "THAT WAS SO MUCH FUN. CAN I GO AGAIN TOMORROW?"

★★★★★ "LOTS OF GOOD OLD FASHIONED GET DIRTY PLAY!"

BOOK NOW

The Outdoors Project
Inspiring Adventure Clubs For Kids

FEBRUARY HALF TERM HOLIDAY CLUBS

TRIBAL ADVENTURE BUILD, CRAFT & SURVIVE!

AMAZING ACTIVITIES RUNNING AROUND TEAMWORK

BUSHCRAFT VS MINECRAFT CLASSIC CHILDHOOD FUN

NERF

SUPERHERO STAFF WILD WEST SHOWDOWN

FRESH AIR GOOD TIMES NO SCREENS

MAKING FRIENDS ADVENTURE

ROSY CHEEKS

CAMPFIRE COOKOUT

CHILDHOOD MEMORIES & BUSHCRAFT SKILLS

LOCATION	STUDLANDS RISE FIRST SCHOOL, ROYSTON
DATES	MONDAY 16TH – FRIDAY 20TH FEB
TIME	9 AM - 3 PM
AGE RANGE	SCHOOL YEARS 1-6
PRICE	£39.50 A DAY

"BEST HOLIDAY CLUB AROUND" ★★★★★

- 100% OUTDOORS
- MAKING FRIENDS
- PHYSICAL ACTIVITY
- BUILDING CONFIDENCE
- ENERGETIC & ENGAGED STAFF
- FLEXIBLE BOOKING
- OFSTED REGISTERED
- CHILDCARE VOUCHERS ACCEPTED

CAMBRIDGE UNITED FC



Hi Students and Parents,

February Soccer Schools are here, and we are inviting you to join us during this Half Term!!!

Join Cambridge United for their **February Soccer Schools** from Monday 16th February – Friday 20th February and have an unforgettable Half Term of footballing fun!

Event Details:

Dates:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monday 16th February – Friday 20th February
Times:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00-4:00
Cost:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 day - £22.50 2 days - £45 3 days - £65 4 days - £85 5 days - £100

Ages:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ages 5-12
Venues:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chesterton Community College Coleridge Community College Comberton Village College Swavesey Village College

CAMBRIDGE UNITED FC

Be in with a chance to win amazing Cambridge United prizes and enjoy our daily themes where every child can express themselves in any way they want!

Also meet our very own Cambridge United players who get involved with games and activities!

There's still plenty of spaces, so make sure to register soon and secure your spot via our website:

Soccer Schools - [Soccer Schools | Cambridge United F.C.](#)

If you have any questions or need any more information the please send us an email.

For Soccer Schools, please email Elliot at elliott@cambridgeunited.com

We can't wait to see you there!

Best wishes,

Cambridge United FC



Parent & Carer Support Spring Term 2026



FREE to parents and carers in Hertfordshire

TALKING TEENS

6, weekly sessions for parents and carers of children aged **12-19**, covering:

- The Teen Brain: physical and emotional changes taking place and why behaviour changes.
- The link between behaviour and communicating difficult feelings.
- How to maintain your relationship with good communication.
- Understand risk taking behaviour around drugs, alcohol and gang culture.
- How to negotiate and reduce conflict.



Mondays 7.45 - 9.15pm
5th Feb to 19th Mar Not half term
Online Course: ID 804

Thursdays 7.45 - 9.15pm
5th Feb to 19th Mar Not half term
Online Course: ID 803

Wednesdays 7.45 - 9.15pm
14th Mar to 29th Apr Not Easter
Online Course: ID 802

TALKING ANGER in TEENS

6, weekly sessions for parents and carers of children aged **11-19**, supporting you to:

- Understand why children & adults get angry.
- Develop strategies to handle anger in yourself and others within your family.
- Recognise the early signs of anger.
- Reduce conflict and arguments.
- Encourage positive behaviour.



Tuesdays 7.45 - 9.15pm
6th Feb to 20th Mar Not half term
Online Course: ID 805

TALKING FAMILIES

6, weekly sessions for parents and carers of children aged **0-12** sharing tips on:

- Managing challenging behaviour with consistency.
- Encouraging positive behaviour.
- Building your child's self-esteem.
- Setting and maintaining boundaries.
- Responding to tantrums and difficult feelings in children.
- Developing a strong parent/child relationship now and for the future.



Thursdays 8.00 - 9.30pm
8th Feb to 22nd Mar Not half term
Online Course: ID 799

Thursdays 9.45 - 11.15am
5th Feb to 19th Mar Not half term
Online Course: ID 798

TALKING DADS

6, weekly sessions for dads & male carers of children **0-19**, sharing information on:

- Improved listening and communication skills.
- A healthy dad-child relationship now and for the future.
- Effective strategies for dealing with anger and conflict.
- How to enforce boundaries.
- Being the dad, you want to be.



Wednesdays 5pm
7th Feb to 21st Mar Not half term
Online Course: ID 806

Mondays 7.45 - 9.15pm
2nd Feb to 16th Mar Not half term
Online Course: ID 807

TALKING ANXIETY in FAMILIES

6, weekly sessions for parents and carers of children **3-12**, supporting you to:

- Understand why young people and adults get anxious.
- Develop strategies to handle anxiety in yourself and others within your family.
- Recognise the early signs of anxiety.
- Reduce stress and tension.
- Encourage resilient behaviour.



Wednesdays 9.45 - 11.30am
4th Feb to 18th Mar Not half term
Online Course: ID 801

TALKING ADDITIONAL NEEDS

A 6-week group for parents and carers of children **2-19**, with any additional need. Your child does not need a diagnosis.

- Understand your child's behaviour.
- Develop strategies that really work.
- Reduce conflict.
- Improve emotional regulation.
- Explore sensory needs.
- Increase your child's resilience.
- Manage different needs in your family.

Tuesdays 8.00 - 9.30pm
6th Feb to 20th Mar Not half term
Online Course: ID 797

Tuesdays 9.45 - 11.15am
3rd Feb to 17th Mar Not half term
Online Course: ID 796

Thursdays 8.00 - 9.30pm
5th Feb to 19th Mar Not half term
Online Course: ID 800

Booking essential. Please Quote the Course ID

To check eligibility and book a place, please contact Supporting Links on: **07512 709556** or bookings@supportinglinks.co.uk

These courses are provided free to parents by Hertfordshire County Council's Targeted Parenting Fund. Information taken on booking will be used to process your booking, check your eligibility, identify any access needs and will be stored in accordance with our GDPR policy which is available on request.

Home-Start

Home-Start are currently looking for **Family Volunteers** to support parents who are going through a tough time. Our volunteers offer a friendly, consistent presence, helping families feel more confident, less isolated, and better able to cope day-to-day.

If you've ever thought, *"I'd love to help, but I'm not sure how"*, this could be it. Please get in touch if you'd like to find out more (no pressure, just a chat).

Home-Start's Got Talent — more acts wanted!

Home-Start's Got Talent event is coming up, on March 28th 2-4.30pm at King James Academy, Royston and we'd love to add more performers to the line-up.

We're looking for:

- **Magicians**
- **Gospel Choirs / Choirs**
- **Cheerleading squads**
- **Comedians**
- **Dance groups / solo singers / musicians**
- ...and anyone who can perform and wants to show off their talent!

If that's you (or you know someone brilliant), please reply to this email with a quick description and a contact number, we'll do the rest.

Volunteers needed for store collections (Love Your Home-Start Week)

We also need a few friendly faces to help man the stands at our upcoming collections:

- **Friday 13th February – Tesco Extra Store, Royston**
- **Friday 13th & Saturday 14th February – Bury Lane Farm Shop**

A couple of hours makes a big difference, it's simple, upbeat, and you'll be fully briefed (smiling is the main qualification!).

Email Angie Ward for more information: angie.ward@hsrsc.org.uk

Easy Fundraising - help us while you shop

Raise funds for us for FREE

with **easyfundraising**

Join as our supporter today at:
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

Argos TESCO JOHN LEWIS ebay JUST EAT

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

Please remember to use [easyfundraising](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk) 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](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk) 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](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk) 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](#)

[Neurodiversity Support Hub](#)

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

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