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As the Autumn term concludes, we wish to acknowledge the collective efforts and accomplishments of our school community. It has been a busy term, marked by student successes in academics, the arts and our festive production.

We also reflect on a busy and successful year and look forward to the Christmas season. At its heart, Christmas is a time to remember and celebrate, and for many, it is a time for togetherness, kindness, and generosity. We hope that everyone takes this opportunity to enjoy precious moments with family and friends, and to spread a little extra joy and goodwill within our community. Thank you to all parents, carers, staff and pupils for your hard work and support throughout the year; your commitment is what makes our school so special.

To all our pupils, families, supporters and staff, we wish you all a Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year and we look forward to seeing you back on Monday 5th January 2026 – *Diane & Gemma*

Great Ormond Street Hospital

We had a fantastic day at Ferry Meadows on 7th October doing a 5k walk to raise money for the Great Ormond Street Hospital Charity. We raised a massive £425! Thankyou everyone, what a great day - Well done team! *Claire*



AUTUMN 2025 NEWSLETTER



Next Terms Dates:

Mon 5th Jan – Fri 13th Feb 2025 (Spring 1)
(Half Term 16th–20th February 2025)
Mon 23rd Feb–Fri 27th March 2025 (Spring 2)



SHOW TIME! This term, the On Track dancers/performers have been putting in tremendous effort to prepare for our end-of-year Christmas spectacular, where they will



showcase their incredible talent. They have tackled challenging choreography, learned new songs, and owned their solo pieces while also collaborating on group performances. - *Jesse*

Thank you so much to everyone who donated or supported this event – we raised a whopping £532.50



100% Attendance

Well done to Poppy for achieving 100% attendance for the whole of the Autumn 2025 term. Poppy received a certificate and a £10 voucher.

ART-This term our amazing artists have been looking at self-expression and have created some beautiful self portraits! Our students have put huge amounts of time and effort into this project, from taking the photographs, to tracing on the light boards, learning to shade and layer watercolour, and finally creating a collage that represents themselves!



Some of our groups have also been preparing for Christmas! This term they have been looking at sculpture, here they have creatively used recycled materials to create their own Christmas tree angels with flowing skirts and sparkly halos! We are so proud of what they have accomplished so far this year and can't wait to see what



artworks they make next! - *Ella*



Maths-Our amazing students have been deeply engaged in a wide range of mathematical learning. They have explored the Cartesian plane with confidence, demonstrating strong understanding of coordinates, place value, and ordering numbers. Their algebraic manipulation skills continue to grow, and they have tackled percentages using great team work



to answer worded problems, Year 11 have covered sequences calculating the nth term with enthusiasm. The level of engagement across all lessons has been outstanding, and students have produced some truly impressive maths work - *Jenni*

English

Red group have been learning about adjectives to describe stimuli - we have looked at the season, different sounds and tastes.

Purple group have been learning about stories; hooks, settings and characters. They are slowly creating their own!

Yellow and **Blue** groups have been doing some important exam revision for their upcoming exams- *Sarah*



Exams- This term our Year 10 and 11 students sat their Functional Skills Maths and English exams. Sitting exams can be a really challenging and sometimes stressful experience for any student, and we are incredibly proud of our Y10/11 cohort

↙ for how well
+ they have managed.
All our fingers and toes are crossed for their results, which should be available at the start of next term!- *Carys*



Ferry Project Volunteering

On Monday 29th September 2025, three of our students had the wonderful opportunity to volunteer at The Ferry Project in Wisbech, a local charity that provides vital support to those experiencing homelessness. As part of their visit, our students worked with the cook to prepare and serve a warm, two-course meal of Spaghetti Bolognese followed by a spin on the traditional bread and butter pudding - made instead with chocolate croissants. The students set the tables carefully, creating a welcoming and dignified space for the clients. The food was then served, and there were compliments all round. Throughout the day, our students conducted themselves with exceptional maturity, kindness and respect, showing a real commitment to helping others and making a positive impact in the community. Their behaviour and attitude were a true credit to our school - *Joana*



Cooking

Cooking—This term in cooking the students have been looking at a range of topics, from knife skills to sauce making. All of the students work wonderfully in the kitchen and always strive to work better. It has been amazing to see all of the progress made by all of the students this term, with some of the Year 11's also completing their BTEC! I am so proud of them all. - *Jade*



Employability

Employability—Each of the schools groups attended a visit to our local Wisbech Tesco where a very friendly member of the staff "Julie Bushy" showed the students behind the scenes and gave the students the opportunity to look at the clothes warehouse, the food and drink warehouse, the freezer departments and the loading bays. The students were later given the opportunity to serve real customers on the tills. They thoroughly enjoyed this experience and identified jobs they would be interested in finding out more about - *Barry*



World Homeless Day

We visited The Ferry Project, where we were given an insight on how people can become homeless and what the Ferry Project does to support homeless people.



We had a guided tour and were able to look around their hostels, their kitchens, art gallery and their office space. - *Claire*

HERA

HERA— Our Year 11 students have now completed two full terms of our HERA programme, making fantastic progress along the way. Throughout the programme, they have explored a range of colleges and experienced new environments and people, helping them to build their confidence and broaden their aspirations. As part of this journey, our Year 11's have also been busy applying for college and taking part in mock interviews, which is an important milestone in preparing for post-16 transition. - *Natasha and Joana*.



Police Assembly

We had a visit in school on 23rd October from our local safety in schools police officer PC Gareth Price who presented an assembly on hate & knife crime.



This was a beneficial visit for both staff and students, where we all learnt a lot about how knife crime has risen around our local areas and what the consequences of carrying a knife are.

Gareth then enjoyed a game of football with our students at break time. -*Claire*

March Police Station Visit

Two of our year 10 students went on a trip as part of PSHE to the custody suite at March police station.



They got the full experience of the entire process, starting with being booked in, then into the interview room where they would be questioned. They then got the opportunity to go into a cell and experience how isolating it feels. They were given a full tour of the police custody suite, shown the clothes they would be given if needed and were able to look at some seized items. Gareth, the policeman who works with us as a school, welcomed any questions the students had and was able to give them a real insight into the whole process. -*Casey*



Baby Hamper Donations

A big thank you to everyone who sent in donations to make some small hampers for the mother and baby unit at the Ferry Project to help them over the Christmas period which we will give to the Ferry Project team at our Christmas show.

Items included Nappies, Wipes, Toiletries for baby and mum, baby clothes, Blankets, Toys & Books -*Claire*



PSHE - This term in PSHE, the children have been delving into various aspects of the working world, focusing on goal-setting, skill development, aspirations, community involvement, and broader life experiences. We've discussed the uncomfortable emotions that can arise during job applications, interviews, and planning future steps. Additionally, we examined how hobbies, particularly gambling, can impact financial stability. Throughout these discussions, we've adopted a growth mind-set, encouraging students to envision their futures and identify the necessary steps to achieve their goals. Children are always encouraged to feel free to use a different method of communication throughout their PSHE lessons and this is through "I wish my teacher knew" this enables children to seek advice/



reassurance, without the pressure of verbalising their needs and wishes -*Jesse*

Halloween

Our end of half term fun

Halloween antics included dressing up, pumpkin carving, cake making, and a Halloween quiz



Eco Schools - We're getting our hands dirty in Eco schools this year. We managed to gain a green flag award last year, and we would like to keep it up. We have been planting some small flowers on the green near the front gate of the school to make the school look really nice.

We have also been cleaning the back area of the school, as that is where the sensory garden is going to be. We have been throwing away rubbish, sorting out the shed, weeding the area so it's nice and ready for plants to go in there in the new year.

There's always more to be done! -*Ewan*



Humanities— This term in Humanities some of our groups have been looking at natural hazards, the effects they have and how we can prepare for them. Here they have made "Earthquake proof" buildings of lolly sticks, straws and hot glue which were put to the test of our manmade earthquake!

Another group has been looking at the Earth's spheres and how they interact with each other. The Red group have been learning about the water cycle and how condensation cools, and turns to rain! - *Ella*



Science-

In science this term we have been learning Biology! In the first half term we learned about cells using our microscope to have a

really close look. We looked at plant, animal, and specialised cells, before finishing off with looking at unicellular cells like amoebas and euglenas. In the second half of the term we have been looking at the reproductive system and how they work, adolescence and puberty, fertilisation, development of a foetus, and the menstrual cycle. The students got really stuck into it and it shows in their work! - *Ewan*



SMSC—Remembrance Day 11/11/25

Staff & students attended the Wisbech Town Remembrance Armistice Day service where we joined in with the 2 minutes silence at 11am to pay our respects to the fallen at the war memorial. We also laid a poppy wreath which students had made in their Art lesson - *Claire*



Farm— Our focus this term has been all things alpaca, transforming our fluffy friends from lawn ornaments into disciplined walking companions. The older alpacas—who have now accepted their fate as teaching aids—have been instrumental in training. Our students have mastered the delicate art of putting on a halter and leading them. It's a bit like trying to put a tiny hat on a very tall, woolly cat. We've seen some great teamwork, with students discovering that alpacas are surprisingly strong when they decide a particular patch of grass simply must be eaten right now.

Baby Boot Camp: We've moved on to the much cuter, but significantly more stubborn, baby alpacas. These little bundles of fluff are now undergoing "Halter Training 101." This is essential work to get them used to the equipment before they join us on proper farm walks. The babies are currently operating on the principle of "If I sit down, they can't make me walk," leading to several impromptu ground-hugging strikes. Rest assured, the students are showing impressive resolve skills.

Perhaps the most thrilling development is our foray into clicker training! The students are learning about positive reinforcement, using a clicker paired with the alpacas' favourite tiny treats (they go wild for small apple pieces and carrots). This is proving to be highly effective, mainly because the alpacas are very food motivated. We now have a few that respond to their names and even take a tentative step forward on command. If you see an alpaca at the farm standing bolt upright and staring intensely at a student's pocket, you know the training is working!

Sad News from the Coop: Our beloved Chicken Jockey, famous for his slightly dramatic run and exceptional ability to find hidden grubs, passed away peacefully. We've had a few quiet moments of reflection this week, reminding the children that life on a farm brings both wonderful new arrivals and sad goodbyes. We have planted a lovely tree in memory of Chicken Jockey which has been placed in the chicken coop - *Emma*



Welcome our new SENCO

Hello everyone, I am Alyson Robinson, the new SENCO at school. I will be conducting all the EHCP and PEP reviews moving forward and I am looking forward to meeting all of you. My background is in special education teaching and support. I hold the SENCO award and I have a wealth of experience in different areas of SEND with a specialism in Dyslexia. I will contact you approximately 6 weeks before the due date for your young person's EHCP, to agree on a meeting date and time. I will then send you the relevant paperwork for completion which needs to be with me at least 2 weeks before the meeting date. It is best that meetings are face to face at school so that your young person can be in attendance for all or part of the meeting, however, it can be arranged for you to be 'online' if necessary. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. -Alyson



Spotlight on SEND

As a parent to a child or young person with SEND, you can sometimes feel overwhelmed and in need of support for yourself. Here are some websites you can go to for support and information.



FamilyLine

First line support for every family and any family issue

Contact our helpline - Family Action

If you're feeling overwhelmed, worried or upset about any aspect of your family life, whether here in the present or something from your past, FamilyLine is here for you. We offer free emotional support, information and guidance on family relationships - including siblings - conflict, parenting, caring, financial worries and more.

TOGETHERNESS

Bringing the Solihull Approach to the world

[Home - Togetherness](#)

Emotional health learning

Togetherness pathways for parents, young people and teens, carers and grandparents

Find your journey for stronger relationships and enhanced emotional wellbeing and follow evidence-based educational content developed by clinical psychologists, health practitioners, and psychotherapists. Tried and tested by parents and young people.

This organisation has free online courses for parents/carers as well as some for teenagers. You have to check that your area is covered but a quick check indicates that Cambridgeshire, Lincolnshire, Norfolk and Peterborough, are all paid up members so you should be able to access.

Pathways library - Togetherness

Available Courses include:

Understanding your child with additional needs

Understanding your teenager's brain

Understanding your brain (for teenagers only!)

Understanding your feelings (for teenagers only!)

Understanding your child's feelings (a taster course)



Parent Talk

[Parent Talk - Support for Parents from Action For Children](#)

Local Authority Family Hubs

Family Hubs will provide high-quality support for families with children aged 0-19 (or up to age 25 for young people with special educational needs).



[Family Hubs | Cambridgeshire County Council](#)



[Family Hubs programme – Lincolnshire County Council](#)



[Contact family hubs - Norfolk County Council](#)



[Peterborough Family Hubs | Peterborough City Council](#)



For NHS-recommended advice on common childhood illnesses and guidance on when your child should stay off school visit:
<https://patient.info/>



Parents Open Afternoon—Friday 5th December
We had another wonderful afternoon celebrating our students successes! It was wonderful to see so many positive interactions and conversations going on around the school. This afternoon had such a buzz and heartfelt atmosphere. Thank you to all our parents/carers for coming in to see how our students are progressing and encouraging them to shine, we look forward to many more.

Thrive-sessions, which are held each Thursday morning, have been a very positive and effective part of our week. Pupils have been exploring emotions and wellbeing through thoughtful discussion and calming activities such as sand play and creative crafts. These sessions provide a supportive place to slow down and reflect—*Tasha*



Rewards Points—This academic year we have seen a change to the rewards system. The behaviour points now equate to a monetary value rather than points achieved for a rewards trip. Most of our students currently have around £10 in points this term which is amazing!—*Jade*

Attendance Reminder

Please ring 01945 580898 as early as possible if your child is not coming into school and for every day they are off.

For urgent Safeguarding matters ring us anytime:

Diane Woodward—07935 758084

Gemma Adams—07824 817319

Chelsea Munday—07812 396789

Farewell Claudia & Harry— The end of half term brought goodbyes to Claudette and Harry who have sailed off into the sunset to start their well earned retirement. Please



join us in wishing them all the very best in their retirement. May this charter be filled with joy, relaxation, and wonderful new adventures. You will both be greatly missed!
Gemma

Mental Health and Wellbeing



If you are struggling with your mental health and feel you need further support, here are some useful contacts for you:

Keep Your Head - Brings together good, reliable information on mental health and wellbeing for children and young people as well as their families and carers

Kooth - A free online service offering emotional and mental health support for those aged 11-19

Pinpoint - A parent and carer forum for Cambridgeshire, offering support for those aged 0 - 25

FYI Norfolk - For trusted help and advice for those aged 11 - 24

MIND - 0300 123 3393