



# Elm C of E Primary School

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Wisbech Schools'



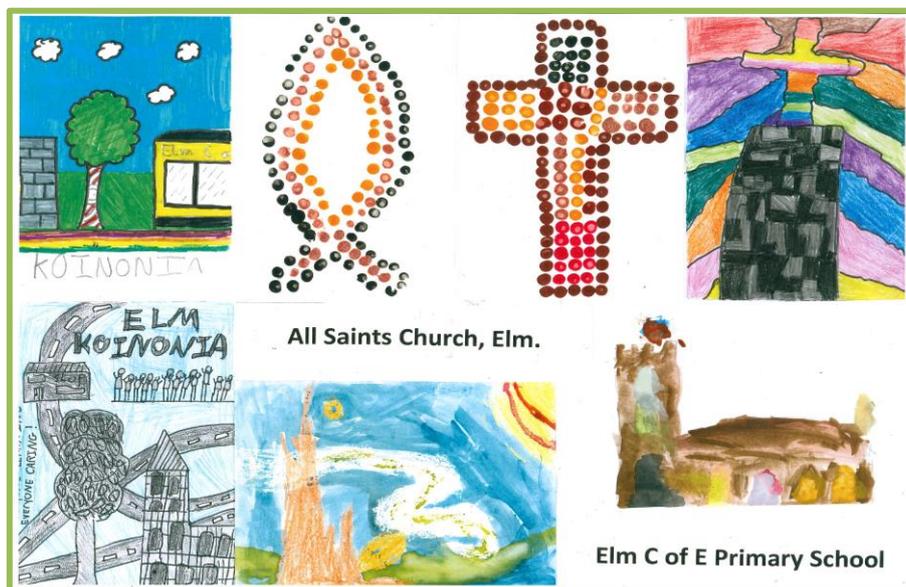
**Everyone learning, everyone caring!**

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July, 2017

Dear Parents,

### Church Art Competition

We have entered a competition run by the Ecclesiastical Insurance Company on behalf of All Saints Church, Elm. Several children took part and I would like to commend Keiran Walton, Lanalilly Stickwood, Joshua Thacker, Chloe Wright and Ralphie Lloyd for their contribution. The closing date is in August so we will not know the outcome until next term.



### Attendance

So after all the nagging, cajoling and incentives we have improved our attendance to **95.59%, up from 95.3% last year**. This is a small step, but continues the improving trend we set last year. You all know why I go on about it, but I will say it again: **if the children are not in school they are not learning**. We are continually trying to improve the teaching and learning we provide. Standards are gradually rising. But children need to be here to take advantage of that. Thank you to all the parents who support us. We gave out 66 attendance medals today for children who have been here all term. We also held a draw amongst the children who have not missed a day this year. The winner, Gracie-Lee Reed, won a £100 voucher for a new bike. Well done to all of those!

### Leavers

We wish all the best to Mr Murray who is moving onto a teacher training post at Thomas Eaton Primary Academy. He has been a really positive member of staff who has made a real difference this year! We wish all the best to Mrs Nicolau who is moving on from her post as a Midday Assistant – thank you for your service. And of course, we wish Miss Beresford a huge vote of thanks and all the very best luck in the world in her new post. She has been a star! We will miss her.

We wish Year 6 the very best of luck as they move onto their secondary schools. I think we can say we have given them a good foundation for the next stage in their learning. We thank them for their contribution.

## Key Stage 2 results – some improvement

	Reading	Writing	Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling	Maths	RWM combined
Elm 2017	48%	59%	59%	44%	33%
National 2017	71%	76%	77%	75%	61%
Elm 2016	41%	17%	34%	31%	17%
National 2016	66%	74%	73%	70%	53%

You will see from the above that there has been some improvement, particularly in writing and grammar standards. In writing we have seen greatly improved progress. But of course, standards have gone up nationally too. Other results have been positive, notably the Phonics check, where Year 1 achieved 93%. Key Stage 1 results also showed a small, but pleasing improvement on last year. All this reflects the improvements in teaching and learning going on – my thanks are due to the staff who work so hard! Many thanks to the parents and families who support their children's learning.

### Library Books

We have spent a fortune on library books this term. If your child took one home and you have not yet returned it, please do so today or at virtually any time during the first three weeks of the school holidays. Thank you.

### Dog in the playground

Please remember that we do not allow dogs on the school premises, whatever size they are, and whether you are carrying them or not. Many children (and adults) find dogs frightening and there is always the danger of dog mess. This rule applies in every school. The only exception is where an adult may require a trained working dog, which needs to be discussed in advance with the school.

### Dinner Money

Please help us by paying on the first day of the week next term. It would make a huge difference to the office workload. The menu for the new term has been issued and is also on the school noticeboard.

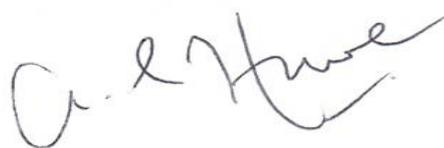
### Academy status

I am sorry to say I have no more news on this topic. The ongoing dispute between Cambridgeshire County Council and the Diocese of Ely Multi-Academy Trust has meant a big delay in the process. IF we hear anything during the holiday I will post it on the school website.

### Dates for the diary

- Start of autumn term 2017: Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2017.

Yours sincerely,



Headteacher