

FLOWING
STRENGTHENING
DEEPENING

**LIKE A TREE FIRMLY PLANTED BY STREAMS OF LIVING WATER
PSALM 1:3**

Newsletter February 2026

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back to school. I hope that you and your children all had great half terms; it's lovely to be back at school with such lighter days and even some warmer weather. A brief newsletter here with details of the return of the coffee van (now set to be a monthly event), community and governor news as well as some new key dates.

I also wanted to update you on the playground project. You maybe aware that we were visited by local MP Ben Obese-Jecty towards the end of January. We talked about many things but foremost was our frustration with some of the difficulties we have encountered in getting this project started due to planning issues regarding bio-diversity. Ben helped us with ideas for funding and also put us in touch with people who we could talk to about how to resolve our planning issues. One thing which has now been suggested is that we may have some expertise within the school community about BNG. We particularly need help in writing ecological bids or awareness of how a monitoring programme around tree growth can be set up. If you do have any expertise in this area and would like to help us finally get the project started then please do get in touch with us.

Finally we are refining the way in which pick up from after school clubs works as there has recently been some confusion. If you are picking up from the school run 'after school club' then arrangements are unchanged.

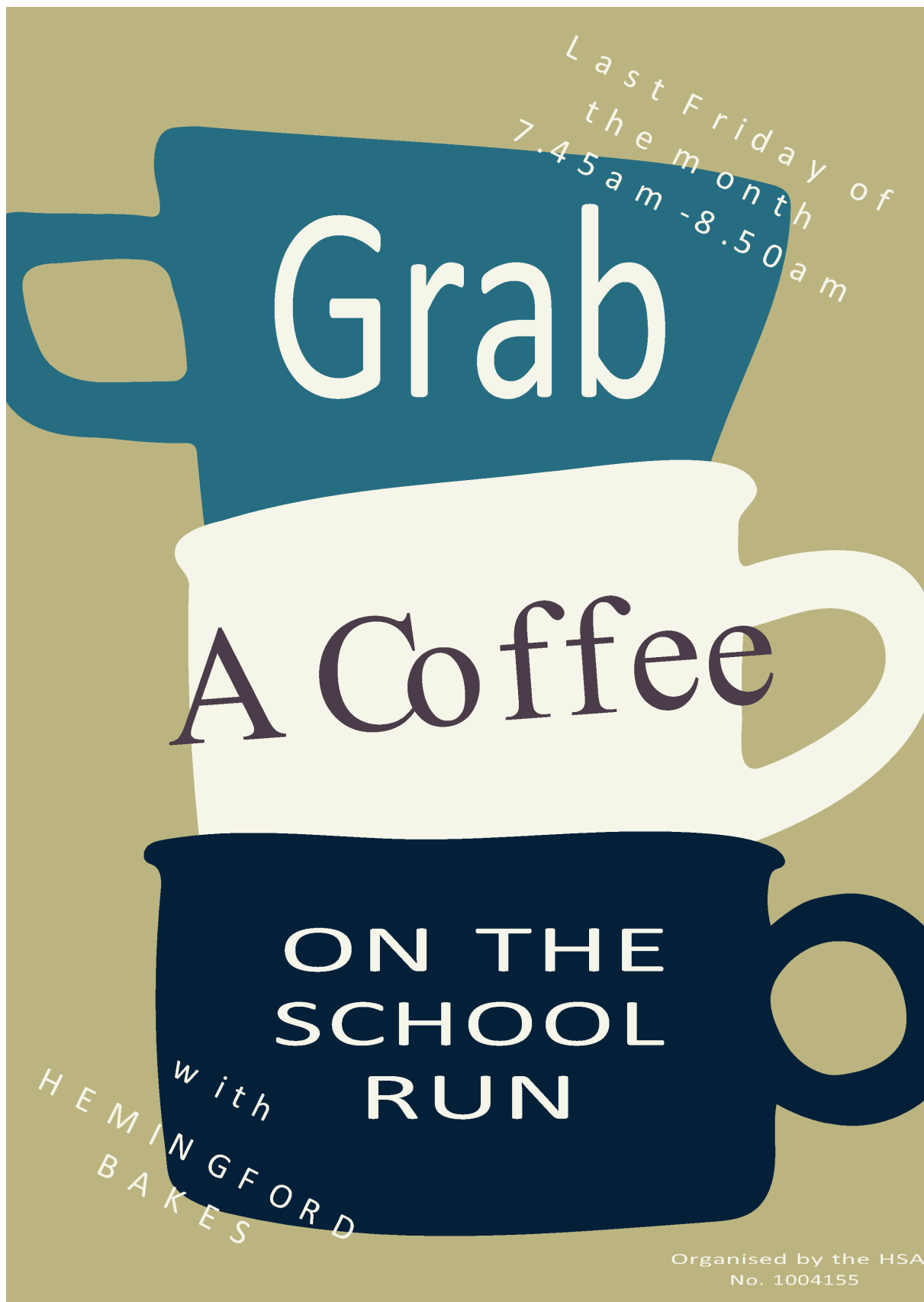
For other clubs the rule is as follows.

- If the club is on the playground - pick up from playground gate.
- If the club is on the field - pick up from the field gate (at the far end of the car park).
- If the club is in the hall - pick up from the hall door exit on the car park.
- If the club is anywhere else inside the school - pick up from the main office door,

I hope this makes sense, any questions do please let me know head@holywell.cambs.sch.uk

Yours sincerely

Paul Baddeley



The coffee van returns this Friday morning before school. Please don't forget the same health and safety rules as before.

The van is for the use of adults only, children will be told in assembly that they are not to approach it and there will be a marked exclusion zone around the van.

- Purchases should be made by adults as they are in the process of leaving the playground, not when they are entering. Customers should ideally buy their drink and then leave the playground.
- The cups supplied will be lidded, please don't remove the lids whilst on the school playground.
- Try to keep to your left as you exit the gate as there may still be people coming in at this point (those entering school at this time should also keep to their left).
- The van will be in place in time for anybody dropping off at breakfast club to use it as they leave the playground. Parents/Carers who are not dropping off at breakfast club should wait to come on to the playground until the school gates are opened at 8.35 as usual and only buy their drink as they are leaving the playground after dropping off. Willow parents can access after dropping their children off at the Willow gate. Pre-school parents are also welcome to use this facility
- The van will be positioned near the gate in front of one of the bike sheds. This bike shed will not be in use this Friday.
- The van will leave school shortly after last customers are served, we think this will be at about 9.15 and before the children are back on the playground.

Community Notices

Dear parents/carers,

Please find below information about Pinpoint and their annual conference, which is free of charge. Pinpoint is run by parents for parents of children with SEND and the conference is a great chance to source information, support, and to meet other parents and carers of children with similar needs.

The [Pinpoint Annual Conference](#) is a free, informative and supportive event bringing families and professionals together to share knowledge, insight and good practice. **The conference is for parents and carers of children and young people with SEND, alongside the professionals who support them.**

Thursday 10 March 2026 9.30am - 2.15pm at The Burgess Hall, Westwood Road, St Ives, Cambridgeshire, PE27 6WU Free to attend - booking required. The conference will feature expert speakers, practical information, and opportunities to connect with others who understand the SEND journey. Secure your spot here: [Pinpoint Annual Conference – Pinpoint](#)

Mrs Oliver

Dear parent or carer

The local NHS is reminding families of the extra urgent NHS dental care appointments are available across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. These appointments help with common urgent problems such as severe dental pain, excessive bleeding of the gums and loose or broken crowns and bridges.

If you or your child needs urgent dental help, visit NHS 111 online or call 111. Symptoms will be checked and you'll be given details of the local dental practices that offer urgent dental care. If your family already sees a dentist, please contact them first. If they can't help, NHS 111 will explain what to do next.

As patients are not linked or registered to one specific practice, those who need urgent NHS dental care can contact any practice offering NHS services across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough to see if urgent care appointments are available.

Urgent NHS dental care appointments are for anybody of any age who needs urgent dental care. Charges start from £27.40 unless you qualify for free NHS care or help with costs. NHS dental care is free for all children under 18, or those under 19 in eligible full-time education.

You can [find more information on urgency NHS dental appointments](#) on the NHS website.

Thank you,

NHS Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Integrated Care Board



Saturday Art Club

St Ives Library

7th March 2026 10 - 11:30am

Let's celebrate the start of spring and encourage the sun to shine. Create a sun catcher using tissue paper and glue. We'll be using picturebooks as inspiration.

£1 per child

Suitable for children aged 4 years+ and we encourage adults to take part too.

Book at the Front Desk

or email: stives.referral@cambridgeshire.gov.uk



Cambridgeshire Libraries



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Cambridgeshire County Council
www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/library



Stay and Play

SEND sessions 1.15 - 2.15pm

St Ives Library

Wednesday 21st January 2026

Wednesday 18th February 2026

Wednesday 18th March 2026

Wednesday 15th April 2026

Join our relaxed afternoon sessions for children with disabilities or additional needs. Come along and read stories, play with the toys, sing songs and try a simple craft.

Ask at the library desk for further information or email: stives.referral@cambridgeshire.gov.uk



Cambridgeshire Libraries



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Cambridgeshire County Council
www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/library



**Toddler
Storytime and Crafts**

St Ives Library
Tuesday mornings 10 -11am (Term time only)

Carefully selected books for sharing with children aged 0-5.
Come along and listen to the stories, sing rhymes, take part in simple crafts and meet others.
10am - 11am. Suggested donation of 50p per child.
Ask at the library desk for further information.

 Cambridgeshire Libraries
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Governors

At the Full Governing Body meeting last half term, we were presented with a report from the head teacher detailing attendance since the last meeting. The DFE has also just released a new set of data for each school, benchmarking attendance against similar schools in the area and presenting us with targets for improvement. It was noted that our attendance is as a school is generally very good, however governors are continuing to monitor trends, particularly with children who receive Pupil Premium grant. The Full Governing Body also received a verbal update from the Finance Committee, whose last meeting was focussed mostly on the SVFS (Schools Value Financial Standards). Governors then shared their monitoring visits with the board and discussed our training records and how to ensure they were up to date.

Dates

New Dates In Bold

Thursday 26th February PM - 'A' Team Football Tournament

Tuesday 3rd March PM - Y6 NFL Flag Football Festival

Thursday 5th March - World Book Day - **See separate letter from Mrs Drysdale about this.**

Friday 6th March - Dance competition assembly

Tuesday 10th March PM After School - Y5/Y6 Netball Tournament

Wednesday 11th March - Parents/Carers Evening

Thursday 12th March - Parents/Carers Evening

Thursday 12th March PM - 'B' Team Football Tournament

Tuesday 17th March PM - Reception & Year 1 Intra PE Event

Friday 20th March All Day - YDP Football Tournament

Tuesday 24th March All Day - NFL Flag Football Tournament

Wednesday 25th March - Y3/4 Performance PM

Thursday 26th March - Y3/4 Performance Evening

Friday 27th March - Last Day of Spring Term.

Monday 13th April - Teacher Training Day (School Closed)

Tuesday 14th April - Summer Term Begins

Monday 4th May - Bank Holiday (School Closed)

Wednesday 20th May - Life Education Bus for Willow and Ash class

Friday 22nd May - Training Day (School Closed)

Monday 8th June - Class Photos

Wednesday 1st July - Sports Day Morning Events

Thursday 2nd July - Sports Day Afternoon Events (Races)

Wednesday 8th July - Reserve morning for Sports Day

Thursday 9th July - Reserve afternoon for Sports Day

Friday 17th July - Last Day of Summer Term

Wednesday 2nd September - Autumn Term Begins