

Ellwood Community Primary School

BELIEVE, ACHIEVE, BELONG

November 3rd 2022



Well we have nearly completed a week of this half term already . The time is going so quickly. We are now thinking about Christmas, it never stops in a school! The weather has not been ideal for us this week - wet and windy but this time of year is quite beautiful. The leaves and trees around the forest and school look amazing and reminds us of how lucky we are to live in such a beautiful part of the country. Sometimes we forget how lucky we truly are.

As some of you might have been aware, it was Mrs Marshall's funeral on Tuesday and several members of staff were able to attend without any disruption to the children and the school. The service, as you can imagine, was very emotional, however it was such a lovely service. Most of it was planned by Mrs Marshall herself! She was still so organised right until the end. Mrs Marshall was a member of the military wives choir and her choir sang several songs before, during and at the end of the service. Several friends read some wonderful readings and one of her daughters read a very touching letter to us all written by Mrs Marshall herself. As you can imagine it was an emotional but lovely send off to a special lady.

Our thoughts are with her family at this difficult time.

There are two fundraising pages for Great Oaks Hospice and Macmillan below, both of these organisations meant a lot to Mrs Marshall and her family and they each supported her recently with her illness. If any of you want to donate to these fantastic organisations, the links are below.

<https://tributefunds.macmillan.org.uk/In-Memory/Nikki-Marshall>

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/nikki-marshall62>

We are also planning to buy a bench to go next to the tree which Mrs Marshall chose and Mr Marshall her husband is donating to the school. This will be a lovely quiet and relaxing place for the children within the school grounds. If you would like to donate towards the bench, please send in an envelope clearly labelled.

Thank you for your ongoing support. We are starting to plan some exciting Christmas events and will let you know more details in the next few weeks.

I hope you have a good weekend.

Mrs Milford

Weekly Attendance

Our aim is to have our weekly attendance above 97% in line with the Local Authority's expectation. This week our whole school attendance was 96.8% so just below our target, let's try and get above 97% next week!

Well done to Oak class for having 100% attendance this week!!

Thank you for supporting the children to be on time. Things started to improve before half term, however we have had several instances of lateness this week which causes disruption to the start of lessons for both pupils and teachers. Remember if your child arrives late, they must be signed in by an adult and not dropped at the door. We need to monitor lateness and need to have the children signed in for safety reasons. If you are struggling with morning routines, please let the school know and we can signpost you for support. We appreciate that things go wrong in the mornings and it can't be helped, but there are sometimes patterns of lateness which may need to be monitored.

Overall attendance has improved, so thank you for helping to support this. We still have families and children with persistence absence and we will continue to monitor carefully over three next few weeks, to see if we are required to carry out any referrals to the local authority.

Please remember to report a child's absence before 9.30 a.m, ideally before the start of school by either phoning the school on 01594 833232 or emailing admin@ellwood.gloucs.sch.uk

Thank you.

Oak	100%
Chestnut	97.8%
Beech	97.5%
Sycamore	94.6%
Willow	95.3%

Children in need - Friday 18th November

Children are invited to wear PJ's on this day and we will have limited merchandise on sale after school.



Reminders

Earrings - single pair of studs, must be removed or taped for P.E otherwise pupils will not be able to take part due to health and safety.

No extreme hairstyles or hair accessories to be worn in to school. This becomes a distraction for the children and others in class.

Uniform and P.E kits - a few children are still not wearing the correct uniform. We try to make our uniform choice cheap and easily accessible and inclusive for all. If children are not abiding by the uniform requirements it is unfair on others. Children start to feel that they don't need to conform and can bend the rules. This leads to inconsistency and the children can then start to think and behave as if the rules and expectations don't apply to them. We want the children to have that sense of belonging so please ensure you send them to school in the correct uniform.

Food bank donations

Thank you so much for your donations for the food bank. Reverend Michelle kindly dropped it all off for us. It will be lovely if it brightens up a struggling families day. We never know when we might need a charity like this. What wonderful volunteers who give up their time for others.

Ashmolean Trip Reminder

A reminder of the trip to the Ashmolean Museum for years 4, 5 and 6 on Thursday 17th November. We will be leaving school at 8:15am prompt to please ensure children are at school by 8:05am to ensure they can be registered before boarding the coach. If you haven't done so already, please ensure you make payment for this trip on parent pay.

Children will need to bring a snack, lunch and a drink with them on the day.

Thank you!

After school Sale

Tomorrow after school we will be selling sweet bags, sweet cones and glow sticks!

Sweet bags - 50p

Sweet cones - £1

Glow sticks - 20p or 5 for £1

Rotary Boxes

We will be taking part in the Rotary shoebox scheme again this year, they will be available to collect from school by yourselves or the children can take them home if you wish from Monday 14th November. Boxes will need to be returned to school by 28th November.

Netball club Photos

Some pictures of the children enjoying themselves at Netball club this week!
If your child is in year 4, 5 or 6 and is interested in doing Netball club on a
Wednesday evening please let us know!



Fencing

We are lucky enough to have Progressive sports running Fencing club after school on Monday's for years 1 and 2. Here are some photos from this week!

This is such a fantastic opportunity for the children. If your child is in year 1 or year 2 and would like to stay for Fencing club, please let us know.



Tomorrow - Friday 4th November Bonfire Menu

We are offering a special Bonfire menu on tomorrow which will replace the normal menu on that day!

Please see the menu below.



Bonfire Night Menu

Boom Burgers with Jumping Jack
Chips

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Sizzling Quorn Chilli with
Raging Rice

~

Bonfire Beans and Banging
Broccoli

~

Catherine Wheel Cookie

Diary Dates

NOVEMBER

- Friday 4th December - Bonfire menu
- Monday 7th November - Poppy appeal items on sale
- Wednesday 9th November - Goodrich Castle trip - Chestnut & Beech class
- Monday 14th November - Odd socks day - Anti-bullying week
- Thursday 17th November - Ashmolean Museum (Sycamore & Willow) 8:15 leave 4:15 return
- Friday 18th November - Children In Need - Children can wear PJ's and limited items on sale after school
- Wednesday 23rd November - No pens day
- Monday 28th November - Rotary Shoeboxes returned to school

DECEMBER

- Thursday 1st December - Christmas fayre - Details to follow
- Tuesday 6th December - Christmas Performance
- Monday 12th December - Week commencing 12th Dec will be our Christmas shopping event!
- Wednesday 14th December - Christmas dinner day
- Thursday 15th December - Whole school Panto trip to Courtyard Theatre Hereford