

Ellwood Community Primary School



Bulletin - February 26th 2021

Full Opening of School from Monday 8th March 2021

Dear Parents,

I hope you all had a restful half-term. On Monday, the Government announced the roadmap to ease us out of lockdown. We are really hopeful that this is the end of the lockdowns and we will all be able to cautiously regain some sense of normality and life as we knew it before March last year.

To confirm, school will be open from 8th March to ALL children. It is our current intention that we will revert back to the plan with staggered drop-off and pick-up times, just as we had in place when we started the new term in September 2020. However, there could be a few minor adjustments needed if any further guidance is given from the DFE and Government, but as it stands most of the guidance remains similar to the Autumn term.

We appreciate that this may still be a worrying time for some of our pupils and families but we will continue to implement our robust risk assessment and additional protective measures to ensure that the pupils and staff remain as safe as possible. The majority of the school staff now complete twice weekly tests using the lateral flow rapid tests supplied by the Government and this helps to give some reassurance to staff and hopefully helps to protect the school community.

We are confident that everyone in our school community will continue to support all our efforts and continue to follow the rules and guidance until they are gradually lifted. This is so important as hopefully we will continue to reduce any risk of transmission and help to ensure that our children can attend school and maintain an uninterrupted face-to-face education they so rightly deserve.

We know that some children and bubbles may still have to isolate but we have a contingency plan in place for this and school work will be emailed or loaded onto the platform for these children, as and when needed. Our full remote learning offer is on the school website.

Staff, Governors and I would like to thank you all for your continued support, understanding, perseverance and kind words over the last half-term. It means a lot to all of us and has kept us going when things were tough.

Please see the drop-off and pick-up information on the next page. The risk assessment and more detailed opening information has been emailed to you.

We look forward to seeing the children back on the 8th March. Until then, take care and stay safe.

Kind regards

D. Milford

Mrs Milford

Drop off and Pick-up Times from Monday 8th March

Group	Drop off	Pick up
EYFS	8.55 am Bottom playground gate/ and then to EYFS door	3.15 pm Bottom gate (playground)
Chestnut	8.45 am Bottom Gate playground Year 1 -Chestnut Class door Year 2 - Infant door and then to Maple Room	3.05 pm Bottom Gate playground
Beech	8.45 am Front yard gate / Hub door Year 2 to Maple Room Year 3 to Beech Class	3.05 pm Front gate
Sycamore	8.55am Front yard gate / Hub door Year 4 to Sycamore Class Year 5 to the Hall	3.15pm Front gate
Willow	8.55 am Double gate back playground Year 5 Hall door to Hall Year 6 Willow door	3.15 pm Double gate back playground

PE Kits - Spring Term 2				
Please send your child into school wearing the appropriate clothing for either PE or Forest Adventures.				
Monday	Oak class: PE kit			
Tuesday	Chestnut class: PE kit	Beech class: PE kit	Sycamore class: PE kit	Willow class: PE kit
Wednesday	Sycamore class: Forest Adventures			
Thursday	Year 3: PE kit (if your child is attending multi-sports club)			
Friday	Oak class: Forest Adventures			
Oak	Chestnut	Beech	Sycamore	Willow

Return to School summary

- School Lunches - children to continue to bring packed lunches. These may also be ordered daily from Caterlink. (Ham, Cheese, Tuna or Egg baguette).
- Small bags only - containing reading book, water bottle and snack only.
- PE kits to be worn to school on PE days (see above chart)
- Parents/Carers please continue to wear face masks at drop off and pick up times.
- Sanitise/wash hands before coming to school.
- Individual hand sanitisers may be sent in with your child (please label with child's name).
- School uniform to be worn.

Year 1

This week Year 1 have been making bird feeders and we then they wrote instructions on how they made them. Super work!



WORLD
**BOOK
DAY**
4 MARCH 2021

WORLD BOOK DAY

Changing lives through a love of books and shared reading.

SPONSORED BY
**NATIONAL
BOOK
tokens**

World Book Day Activities

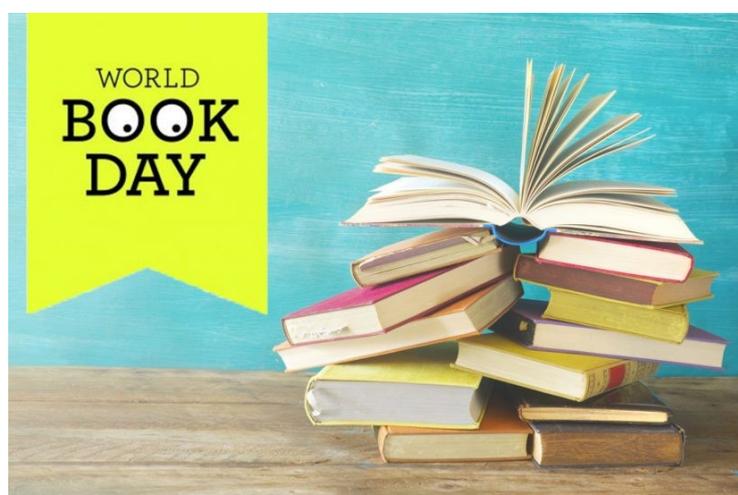
World Book Day takes place next week on Thursday 4th March 2021. World Book Day celebrates the joy and value of books, especially to children, and aims to help children start their own reading journey by giving them a £1 World Book Day Book Token. The token will be in electronic format this year and can be exchanged for one of the special £1 World Book Day books, or can be used to get a £1 discount off any book costing £2.99 or more. You can find out more by visiting the WBD website (worldbookday.com).

Unfortunately, this year we will still be in lockdown and therefore the majority of our children will still be home learning. However, we love World Book Day and won't let this stop us from enjoying it. We would like to encourage all children to dress up as a book character on **Thursday 4th March**, whether children are at home or in school. If you would like some simple, fun ideas check out the official website.

During the week, we will be running two competitions for children to enter. The first one will involve recreating a book cover and the second will be turning a potato into a book character. We are looking forward to seeing the children's creative ideas.

I'm sure the day will be a great memory for the children and to ensure you see what a fun time we all have; staff will endeavour to display photographs on the school website and online learning platforms. Should you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Mrs H Woodhouse
English Co-ordinator



World Book Day Celebrations

Turn a potato into a book character

Let's have some fun!

As you know, at Ellwood Community Primary School we are passionate about reading for pleasure.

We would like to invite children to turn a potato into their favourite book character.



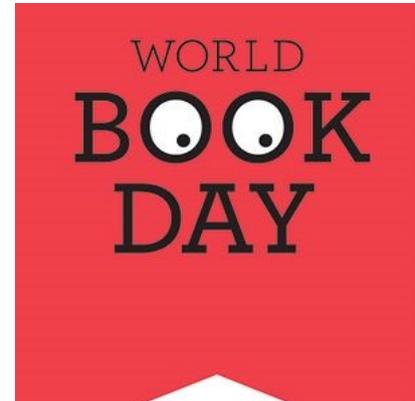
How to take part:

Take a picture of your favourite character.

Take a picture of your finished potato character.

Send both pictures to your class teacher by Friday 5th March.

We are really looking forward to seeing your creative ideas.
Have fun!



World Book Day Celebrations

Book Cover Challenge

Let's have some fun!

As you know, at Ellwood Community Primary School we are passionate about reading for pleasure.

We would like to invite the children (and their families) to recreate their favourite reading book cover.



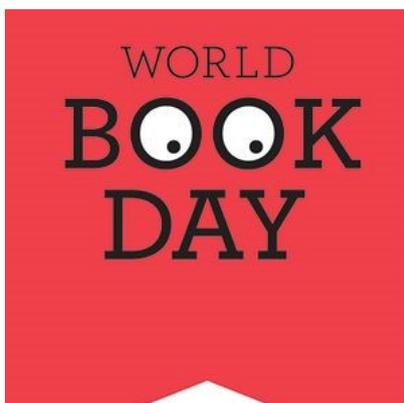
How to take part:

Take a picture of your recreated book cover.

Take a picture of the book cover you are recreating.

Send both pictures to your class teacher by Friday 5th March.

We are really looking forward to seeing your creative ideas.
Have fun!



Year 4 - Work

Treasure

The Wooden Cart has many uses, it can pull animals along, food and water. It is still as strong as the day it was made it is a little rusty but that makes it charming. It has smooth strong wooden edges, and the wheels are beautiful. It is as soft as day.

By Harry

The cart does not look much like treasure but it was once magnificent, beautiful and well built.

As the wood gleamed, the metal shone in the sunlight and the wheels were bright and sturdy as it carried and delivered its cargo, the passengers chattering and laughing as they went.

Pulled by a strong, handsome white horse, its mane swishing as it went, it always had everyone looking at it as it went by.

By Sophie

This week in English, Year 4 have been thinking about how some items that we might see as junk, might be treasure in someone else's eyes.

Read some of their lovely, thoughtful pieces of writing as they try to describe junk' as a piece of treasure.

The wheeley cart holds lots of glory. Someone might have won a race in it. Some people might say it's useless but its surprising what a lick of paint can do. You never know there might be more to this old wheeley cart than meets the eye. It may have been a magnificent go cart in Victorian times. Children may have played in it like the worlds best toy. Someone might have grown flowers in it. It must have been through a lot of adventures. I wonder how old it is?

By Cleo

To find a broken shell to hear the sea, you have to first find a rock pool sparkling in the sun. There in the sand you will see a natural creation which has travelled the world and is very beautiful.

By Seth

I am showing an umbrella because it can be useful for alot of things like.. shelter , shield , weapon , walking stick and shade . The umbrella is quite useful it's amazing things that you can use for . It's very ugly but it doesn't matter or effect its use. It's let's all the sun light in threw the holes and is beautiful.

By Faith

Treasure

Year 4 have also been learning about riddle poems. They were challenged to write a riddle poem about an item from the junkyard.

Can you guess what they are describing?

I hold food
shiny then old and rusty
opened, poured, then cook
I can be recycled
What am I?
By Sophie

I am big
I am shelter
I come in different colours keep
you dry when walking in the rain.
What am I?
By Riley

I am torn and worn
I am dusty and rusty
I am as useless as a bucket with
a hole in it
I used to hold an oily liquid but
now I hold a candle and reflect
light
What am I?
By Charlie

I am orange and rusty
I get used for one thing
I come in a pack of six
And can be used for drinking
What am I?
By Alfie

You can spend me
I'm small and round I can be silver,
brown or gold
I am not the most important thing in
the world but I can be new or old
What am I?
By Cleo

My ink doesn't flow
My carriage doesn't hold
people
My keys don't unlock doors
I know all the letters of the
alphabet
What am I?

You take me with you to a party,
you drop me on the floor and use
me no more.
What am I?
By Poppy

Oak Class — New Resources

Oak Class have had some new and exciting resources in class.

These resources were purchased using the Christmas fundraising money. A BIG thank you to our parents and families for supporting our Christmas raffle and craft sales.

We hope the children are looking forward to exploring these new resources very soon.



Eco School Competition

We would like to thank all of the children that took part in our Eco School Competition, we had some fantastic entries. The competition is now closed but you will be able to view the entries on the school's website in the Eco School section.

The winners will be announced next week.

Well done to everyone that took part.





Coleford Area MCTI Partnership

Main Place, Old Station Way, Coleford. GL16 8RH Tel: 01594 836469 www.colefordareapartnership.org.uk

SCHOOLS TREE PLANTING PROJECT

HELLO AGAIN EVERYONE,

We do hope that you have all been looking forward to being back at School. It has not been a lot of fun with all the frost and rain that we have suffered, and gardens are still recovering, but the daffodils are growing well now and are coming in bloom and the birds have started to build their nests. Like you, we have planted acorns and are hoping that they will now soon start to sprout. We have bought large pots ready for when the acorns are growing well so that they can be planted on still in the pots that were planted as these will break down in the compost in time. The plants will need to stay in those pots until 2022 when we will be able to plant them out in the place where they will then be left to grow. If you know anyone who has some spare pots please let them know that we are always pleased to accept them to help us on our way.

We are waiting now for beech seeds to arrive ready for planting in more small pots and they will later also be transplanted on in the same way as the acorn seedlings.

We do hope that you enjoyed the first part of the planting and that you have learned all about how the wonderful trees in the Forest of Dean first came here thanks to Admiral Lord Horatio Nelson.

JUNIOR BAKE OFF

...IS LOOKING FOR THE UK'S
BEST YOUNG BAKERS
AGED 9 - 15

WWW.APPLYFORJUNIORBAKEOFF.CO.UK

**APPLICATIONS CLOSE
SUNDAY 28TH MARCH 2021**

Enquiries:
applyforjuniorbakeoff@loveproductions.co.uk



Emotional Wellbeing & Resilience in Children

A webinar for parents – 8pm, 2nd March 2021

Join Tim and Shell from  as they discuss emotional wellbeing & resilience in children

How to be with your child in their emotions and encourage them to talk about them

Walking with your child as they encounter and deal with struggle and challenge

Helping your child to begin to control their emotions

**we
can
move**

**Active
Gloucestershire**

**For more information and
tickets, go to bit.ly/2ndMar21**

Support for parents and carers to keep children safe on-line

Please follow the link below for further information provided by the DfE

[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): support for parents and carers to keep children safe online - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/coronavirus/coronavirus-support-for-parents-and-carers-to-keep-children-safe-online)

Easter Chocolate Raffle Donations

We will be holding our very popular Easter Chocolate Raffle again this year and we would really appreciate any donations of chocolate. This can be a chocolate bar, a box of chocolates or an Easter egg. Please bring any donations of chocolate into school w/c 8th March .

We will be holding the raffle in a similar way to the Christmas Hamper raffle, where you will be able to buy a square which will then be entered into a draw. You may buy as many squares as you like with squares costing £1 a square. Squares will be available to buy week commencing 22nd March ,with the draw taking place on Wednesday 31st March.

Many thanks for your continued support.



Mother's Day

Tesco Lydney Store are asking for people to nominate a Mum for Mother's Day. Please look at the information below for further details.



Nominate a Mum for Mother's Day

Here at Tesco Lydney we would like to hear from you about why the special lady in your life deserves some special recognition this Mother's Day.

She could be your Mum, Step-mum, Mother - law or someone who is like a Mum to you.

Just tell us why you would like to nominate her along with her name, your name and a contact number.

Entries can be posted in the box in store however, due to covid regulations you will need to fill these out and bring with you to post. Alternatively, they can be emailed to Mothersday2021@yahoo.com.

Closing date is Thursday 11th March 2021 @ 10pm.



Adult Education
in Gloucestershire

Calming the Mind for Parents



A free* 5 week online course to introduce you to mindfulness in the comfort of your own home.

-  Explore ways to manage your stress levels
-  Find new ways to relax yourself and your family
-  Learn how to be mindful everyday

Wednesdays from 17th March

7:30-8:30

The course is being delivered via Zoom. You can access this via your smartphone, tablet or computer.

To book a place please email fay.tucker@gloucestershire.gov.uk

* The course is free if you are over 19 years old, have lived in the UK/ EU for 3 or more years, or have a valid Residence Permit, and are one of the following: Unemployed or earning below £17,000 per year; Qualified below a Level 2 (less than 5 GCSEs); Have mental health challenges, Have a learning difficulty or disability.





Happier and Calmer: Wellbeing at Home

A *free online course for parents

We will be guiding you through the latest science on how to build a happier and calmer home

-  Find ways to settle yourself as we come out of lockdown
-  Discuss ways to make your family calmer
-  Get tips to make you feel happier
-  Develop yoga and mindfulness skills

**A 5 week course running on Wednesdays
starting on 3rd March
9.30 - 11.00am**

The course is being delivered via Zoom. You can access this through your smartphone, tablet or computer. We can help you to use it.

To book a place, please email fay.tucker@gloucestershire.gov.uk

* The course is free if you are over 19 years old, have lived in the UK/ EU for 3 or more years, or have a valid Residence Permit, and are one of the following: Unemployed or earning below £17,000 per year; Qualified below a Level 2 (less than 5 GCSEs); Have mental health challenges, Have a learning difficulty or disability

Diary Dates

March

- Thursday 4th March - World Book Day
- Monday 8th March** - **Whole School Return to School**
w/c 8th March - Donations of chocolate for Easter Raffle
- Thursday 11th March - Year 3 Multi-sports (After School Club)
- Thursday 18th March - Year 3 Multi-sports (After School Club)
- Friday 19th March - Red Nose Day
(Non - uniform: wear something red to school)
- w/c 22nd March - Easter Raffle - squares go on sale
- Thursday 25th March - Year 3 Multi-sports (After School Club)
- Thursday 31st March - Easter Raffle Draw

April

- Thursday 1st April - Break up for Easter
- Friday 2nd April - Good Friday
- Monday 19th April - Return to School