

Ellwood Community Primary School



Bulletin - February 5th 2021

A letter from Mrs Milford

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope that your family are well and are staying safe. I would like to say thank you and well done for all your hard work over the last few weeks. It has been a very tough few weeks, particularly with home learning and parents juggling other responsibilities. We, as staff, are also finding it to be hard work, with some of us working full time and juggling our children and their home learning. You are not alone. We know how tough it is and how you feel. We are all really grateful that half term is around the corner and we can all have a break from remote learning.

We hope that you enjoyed the mental health activities set today and it allowed the children some free time, without having to be on the computer or devices for several hours. Next week I have asked teachers to try and reduce the workload slightly to enable pupils to catch up on any missed activities from this half term and to reduce the pressure they and parents might be feeling. We know that home learning can be tough but please remember that the directives come from the DfE and we are following their guidance. However, please be reassured we are reducing the amount of work being set, as best we can. We are aligning learning as closely as we can to our school curriculum but a skeleton version. We recognise that we have high expectations but it is our duty to give all children the opportunity and access to home learning. We know we cannot please everyone, some parents want more and some parents want less. Parents can plan the home learning to fit around their family and circumstances. So it might mean that sometimes the children complete work in the afternoons or catch up on the weekend. We know every household is different and you need to do what works for you. Please don't feel guilty or anxious about it, you are all doing a great job.

Your children are cared for and loved and this is the most important thing. Do what you can and if you require any support or advice, please mention this to the class teacher when they next phone you or email them on their year group email.

We have one more week to go until half term and then hopefully we can all have a little breather and the pace of life should slow down.

Have a good weekend,

Mrs Milford

February Half Term

We have been notified by the Local Authority that schools will not be open over the half term break to children of critical keyworkers or vulnerable children.

Half Term - Free School Meals

If your child is in receipt of free school meals you may apply for a voucher from Gloucestershire County Council, for the half term break.

If you would like to apply for a voucher for February Half Term you will need to access the online portal. The portal will be live on the Gloucestershire County Council website from **25th January - 5th February 2021** (closing at 5pm). If you applied and received a voucher from GCC previously then you do not need to reapply as you will automatically receive a voucher.

The school FSM voucher scheme will resume after half term. Further details will be sent out to those parents concerned, shortly.

Art Competition - 'A view from my window'

Well done and thank you for all the wonderful art competition entries that we have received. We will announce the winners next week.

Miss Bundy

Miss Bundy has decided that she will not be returning after her maternity leave so that she can spend more time with her family and be a full time Mum, especially during this global pandemic.

We are really sorry not to be welcoming Miss Bundy back to Ellwood School as she was such an amazing teaching assistant and has worked at our school for such a long time.

The staff and children will really miss Miss Bundy and we would like to thank her for all her hard work and dedication to our school. We wish her every success and happiness in the future.

Thank

You

Mental Health Week

Friday 5th February

We hope that the children enjoyed the activities set for today and that they managed to have a break from their electronic devices and enjoy themselves away from the screen.

Many thanks to Miss Chisman for organizing these activities.

If you have any photos of your children taken today, we would love to see them. Please send them to your child's year group email address.

Reading Books

Just a reminder that you can pick up your child's new reading books on **Monday 8th February**. Please remember to bring back the old ones, so that we may quarantine them.

If you would like new reading books after half term, please email your child's class teacher on their year group email address next week ready for collection on the first Monday back after half term, Monday 22nd February.

Thank you.

Webinars

It was lovely to see some of the children again this week. We realise that there have been some technical issues for some but we are hoping to run some more webinars next week. Please look out for emails from your child's class teacher.

Year 2

A huge well done to year 2 children who have been working hard to write some fantastic stories based on the book 'The way back home' by Oliver Jeffers. Miss Chisman has been really pleased with your work.

Well done!

Year 3

Year 3 have carried out some lovely poetry and writing work. Mrs Aston is really impressed with the work being produced and the perseverance of the children throughout the week. The children have kept going and have demonstrated good resilience, which is an important life skill and good learning behaviour. Well done!

Year 3 - Explorer Snacks

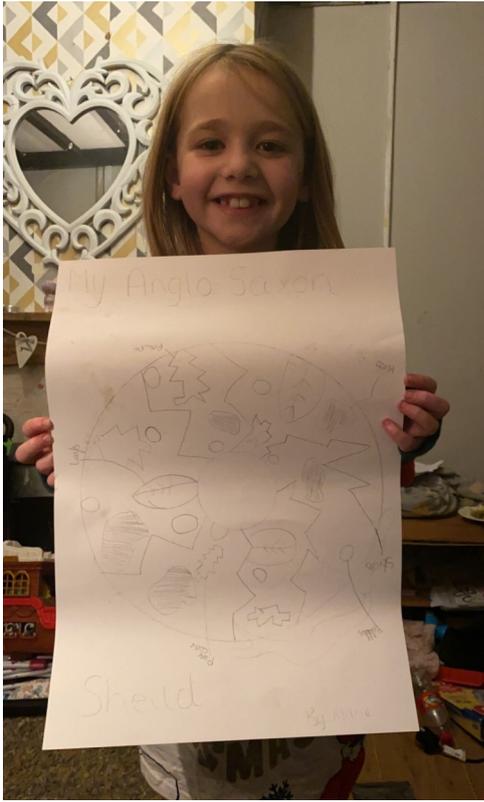
Isabella C - Isabella has sent in a photo of some protein balls that she has made with peanut butter, honey, coconut and chia seeds. They look delicious!



Maisie - has sent us a photo of her explorer snack too - looks scrummy!



Year 4 - Art



Year 4—Reading For Pleasure

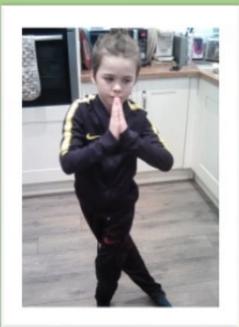


Reading for Pleasure

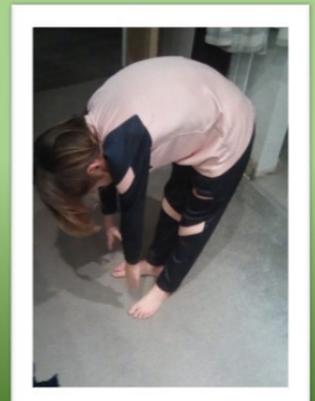


In Year 4

Sycamore Class - Staying Active at home



Staying active in Sycamore



Year 4—Science

Faith, Charlie and Poppy sent us some photos of their Science work.



	vinegar	coke	water	milk	orange
Day 3	The vinegar has worn away the bottom of the egg shell.	The coke has started to stain the bottom of the shell it's also showing signs of staining on the inside.	There are no signs of any change to the shell. The inside has split a bit.	The milk has started to react with the shell by leaving a white circle.	The orange has taken away some of the shell from the bottom of the egg.
Day 5	The vinegar has nearly destroyed all the shell.	The stains are getting worse as they are darker.	There is no sign of any change.	There is no sign of any change.	The orange has taken even more shell off and there is a dark circle around the outside. There are stains on the inside.
Day 7	The shell is completely destroyed.	The shell has gone really dark and there are stains on the inside.	There is no sign of any change.	There is no real change to the outside of the shell	Little white lumps have started to appear on the shell. There is signs of more damage to the inside.

Summary:

I have learnt that drinking water is the best thing for your teeth and that acid destroys your teeth. The ones that have stained teeth are coke and vinegar.

Money Management Workshop



Transform your attitude to finances by learning how to stretch your money using a money planner and becoming an effective budgeter to improve your quality of life.

- Learn how to budget
- Look at incoming and outgoings and what is left
- How to save money
- Wants vs. Needs
- Benefits and disadvantages of borrowing money
- Where to get help if in debt

Thursday 18th February 2021
12:30pm – 3:00pm
Online via Zoom

To book on or for further information contact
nusrath.khan@gloucestershire.gov.uk / 07825424319

*Free subject to eligibility