

Ellwood School News



Headteacher: Mrs D Milford

Tel: 01594 833232

Autumn 8 2017

www.ellwoodschool.co.uk

All newsletters are also available on our website.

Attendance

Our attendance for the last half term is much lower than the expected 97% mainly due to holidays being taken during term time. An increasing number of pupils this term are classed as persistent absentees due to their attendance being under 90%. We hope to see an improvement this half term. Well done to Chestnut Class for having the highest attendance.

Oak	96%
Chestnut	96.6%
Beech	96.5%
Sycamore	95.8%
Willow	96.5%

Mrs Clements

As you may be aware Mrs Clements was retiring at Christmas. However, she has kindly agreed to stay on, on a temporary part-time basis to ensure the children in Beech Class have consistency, particularly the Year 2 children who will have their SATs tests in May. We are really grateful to Mrs Clements for this. Miss Chisman works in Beech Class at the end of the week and has kindly agreed to increase to cover an extra day. Therefore, there should not be any noticeable change for the children and will keep things consistent for them.

Parents Evening

Please log onto the school website to book an appointment, it went live today. Login to eSchools and go to the Parents Evening tab, where you can book a date and time for each child.

You do not need to book an appointment if your child has a My Plan, My Plan + or EHCP shared conversation. Please see separate letter with a date for you to attend.

For children with parents that are separated, a separate appointment can be made using eSchools using their unique login or speak to the Class Teacher.

Mr Phelps will be available on both nights for a drop-in session for Year 2 and Year 5 Maths and for Year 3 and Year 5 Science. No appointment necessary.

Jumble Sale

Just a reminder that the Friends are holding a Jumble Sale tomorrow starting at 11 a.m. in the school hall. There will be a small entry fee of 20p.

Please come along and take a look at a great selection of clothes, toys and bric-a-brac.

You can come after school today for a quick look and buy, if you wish.



Poppies

Poppies and other Remembrance goodies, such as slap bands, bracelets and keyrings will be on sale after half term.

Prices ranging from 50p to £1



Flu Vaccinations

Just a reminder for parents to complete their permission slip, if you would like your child to have the vaccination on Wednesday 8th . Forms can be completed on-line or a copy can be collected at the office.

Thank you.

PCSO Visit

Our local PCSO visited school on Wednesday morning. It was great to see him meeting and greeting the children.

He will be coming back in a few weeks to carry out an Internet Safety talk and workshop with Year 2 and Year 6 . We look forward to seeing him again soon.

Remembrance Service

A Remembrance service will take place in the hall with children from Years 4, 5 and 6 on Friday 10th November at 10.30 a.m.

Parents are welcome to attend if they wish to do so.



Marathon for Whizz Kids

Mrs Logan-Giles is running the London marathon for Whizz Kids, which is a great charity, and will be coming into school on Friday 17th November to give a talk about the charity and fundraising.

On Friday 24th November school will be holding a non-uniform wear something sporty to school day. We will also be holding a sponsored mile, with all proceeds going towards Whizz Kids Charity. Further information will follow nearer to the time.

Thank you.

Lego Request

If anyone has any unwanted Lego we would love to have it. If children have wet play it would be great for them to have some to play with.

If you have any, please bring into school.

Swimming Kit

Please ensure your child has their swimming kit with them on the days that they swim. As this is part of the curriculum and statutory for KS2 pupils it is important that children take part.

Late Arrivals

Thank you for your support with this. Children have been much more prompt this week, enabling lessons to start on time.

Hair

Please ensure long hair is tied back during school, for health and safety reasons. Also could we ask that children wear small hair clips/accessories and not large JoJo Bow type hair accessories or hair bands with elaborate decorations such as cat ears etc. These are perfect for out of school activities but not during normal school.

French Link

During half term the Headteacher from our French link school, St. Hilaire-de-Riez came to Coleford as part of the town Twinning. She visited the school and met some of our teachers and staff. The Upper Juniors have pen pals in the French school and enjoy receiving correspondence.

Ellwood Nursery

Ellwood Nursery will be closed from Friday 15th December. Therefore, there will be no breakfast or after school provision for week commencing 18th December.

Christmas Fayre

We are still in need of some raffle and tombola prizes for our Christmas Fayre. If you have anything you would like to donate please bring to the school office.

Many thanks for your support.





VICKY LOGAN IS RUNNING FOR WHIZZ KIDZ

KEEP CALM AND PUB QUIZ

THE CLUBHOUSE - SLING
7.00 PM - 11TH NOVEMBER 2017
£ 5.00 PER PERSON
CASH PRIZE!!
RAFFLE!!

Ellwood Primary School - British Values

Individual liberty

- we strive to encourage children to develop a positive sense of themselves. We provide opportunities for children to develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and increase their confidence in their own abilities, for example through allowing children to take risks on the climbing wall, trim trail and during Forest Adventure activities
- we encourage a range of experiences which allow children to explore the language of feelings and responsibility, reflect on their differences and understand we are free to have different opinions, for example in a small group discuss what they feel about transferring into different classes and moving on to different secondary schools
- Pupil Voice is valued throughout school in numerous ways; discussions, School Council, PSHE work, My Plan reviews, questionnaires
- School Council is a forum where pupils can express what they feel
- Service personnel have visited school to talk about their roles
- promoting the consideration of the rights of others
- learning about Wars, the British Empire and Commonwealth

Children In Need

Children in Need goodies will be on sale from Monday 13th November, including ; Pudsey ears, wristbands, keyrings and badges. Prices ranging from £1 - £2.50



Author of the Month

Last month, our Author of the Month was Michael Morpurgo.



This month, our author is Jamila Gavin. We will be finding out all about her during the month of November and on Monday, we will be hearing one of her stories in Assembly.

Words of the Week

We are working hard to expand our vocabulary. Younger children are encouraged to use these words around our school and older children are encouraged to also use them in their writing.

This week's **Words of the Week** were **harass** and **convenience**.
Next week's **Words of the Week** will be **mischievous** and **variety**.

Spelling Challenge

Just a reminder to keep practicing the spelling words with your children in preparation for the spelling challenge on December 15th.

Spelling

Friends AGM

REMINDER: the Friends AGM will take place on Friday 10th November at 2 p.m. Please come along to find out more. All parents are welcome to attend.

School Photos

Please remember that school photos will take place on Tuesday 14th November. Children with pre-school aged siblings may have their photos taken from 8 a.m.



Reading

Congratulations to this week's book winners who each excitedly chose their book prizes during our Celebration Assembly yesterday. The winners were: Niall Edey, Harriet Gane, Esme Wilkins and Ryan Winman. I was delighted with the number of children who had earned a raffle ticket by reading four times (or more) over the twelve days since the start of half term. All ticket winners have received a house point and a class sticker. Each Thursday, we will hold a new raffle and the children understand that they can earn a ticket by reading four times between the Thursday evening and the following Thursday morning (before school). One ticket will be chosen from each class and the winner will choose a book prize to take home. We are aware that many families have an expectation of daily reading - and we fully support this. Please continue to encourage your child with their regular reading.

Please remember that a successful reading session might be just five minutes long. In addition, the children have been made aware that they may choose to read *any* text that interests them e.g. a story strip from their favourite comic or a leaflet about a place they have visited. If, however, they choose to read their school reading book, they should feel greater confidence when tackling the text, as the words will be at the correct level to enable them to read with fluency. Please ensure that after *each* reading session, your child's efforts are recorded, dated and *signed by an adult* in their Reading Record.

I will be running Reading Club for ten minutes during Friday lunchtimes (after the children have enjoyed their meals and had some fresh air). We will begin by listening to a short story (or non-fiction text) and we will then have approximately five minutes for independent reading of our own texts. I will be available to support readers during their independent time and I will aim to invite some children to read aloud with me. Any child who has not had the opportunity to read at home on four (five-minute) occasions throughout the week (Thursday-Thursday) should attend Reading Club. It will also be open to all children (from all classes) who would like to hear our story and enjoy some quiet reading time. Reading Club will begin next week, on Friday 11th November. Our first story will be a fable called 'Mercury and the Woodcutter'. I will aim to read a range of fiction and non-fiction texts during the weeks ahead.

Many thanks for your support in encouraging regular reading. It helps tremendously with all aspects of the children's development in English.

Mrs Breakwell



Diary Dates

November 2017

- Sat 4th Nov - Jumble Sale—from 11 a.m.
- Wed 8th Nov - Rags2Riches Collection
- Wed 8th Nov - Flu Vaccinations Rec, Y1,Y2,Y3 & Y4
- Fri 10th Nov - Remembrance Service Y4,Y5,Y6
10.30 a.m. in school hall - parents welcome
- Fri 10th Nov - Friends AGM— 2.30 p.m. at school
- Tue 14th Nov - School Photographs
- Tue 14th Nov - Parent Consultations 3.30p.m.—6 p.m.
- Thurs 16th Nov - Parent Consultations 3.30 p.m.—6 p.m.
- Fri 17th Nov - Children In Need
- Fri 24th Nov - Whizz Kids—Sponsored Mile

December 2017

- Wed 6th Dec - Christmas Dinner
- Tue 12th Dec - Nativity 1.45 p.m. Rec, Y1, Y2, Y3
- Wed 13th Dec - Nativity 6 p.m. Rec, Y1, Y2, Y3
- Thurs 14th Dec - Nativity 6 p.m. Rec, Y1, Y2, Y3
- Fri 15th Dec - Whole School Spelling Challenge
- Mon 18th Dec - Carol Service 3.30 p.m. Y4, Y5, Y6
- Tue 19th Dec - Christmas Party Day