# Ellwood School News

Headteacher: Mrs D Milford

Tel: 01594 833232

Autumn 4 2018 - 28th Sept 2018

www.ellwoodschool.co.uk

All newsletters are also available

on our website.



#### Free School Meals

#### Why should I apply?

For every child that is entitled to free school meals the school receives extra funding to enhance provision and improve progress and outcomes for children. So please apply even if you do not wish to take up your free school meal.

#### What are the qualifying criteria for Free School Meals?

Your child might be able to get free school meals if you get any of the following:

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross
- income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

Children who get paid these benefits directly, instead of through a parent or guardian, can also get free school meals.

All infant children in England are entitled to universal free school meals.

Your child will be able to get free school meals if they're in:

- Reception class
- Year 1
- Year 2

We still ask that you apply for this via the normal free school meals applications so as to prevent your child's school missing out on additional funding.

Please visit the Gloucestershire County Council website for further information:

www.gloucestershire.gov.uk

Please note that all applications for Free School Meals have to be made on-line.

If you are unsure, please contact the school office

#### Reading Raffle Winners

This week's Reading Raffle winners were:

Chestnut - Esme Wilkins Beech - Millie Hancock Sycamore - April Donoghue Willow - Bluebelle Lloyd



Well done!

#### Achievement Assembly Awards

This week's individual achievement awards were given to the following pupils:



Chestnut Class - Seth Morgan and Mercedez Merrett

Beech Class - Finlay Davies and Zac Ellway

Sycamore Class - Ruby Chilton

Willow Class - Jayden Edmunds and Aiden Turner

Well done!

#### Weekly Writing Awards

This week's weekly writing awards were given to the following pupils:

Chestnut Class - Sorrel Blackburn and Harry Hurcomb

Beech Class - Isabelle Stockwell

Sycamore Class - Alexa Hampson

Willow Class - Tommy Rowley

Well done!
We are proud of your writing achievements!



#### Mrs Ball

At the end of this half term our caretaker Mrs Ball will be retiring after working here for over 30 years! We will be sad to see her go and would like to wish her every happiness and enjoyment in her retirement.

On the last day of term, after school, we will be holding a tea party and farewell celebration. If you would like to contribute towards her retirement gift, please bring your donation into school in a sealed envelope to the office.

Thank you.

### Data Collections Sheets/ Privacy Notice/Parental Consent

If you have not returned your Data Collection Sheet, Privacy Notice or Parental Consent Form, could you please do so as soon as possible.

Thank you.

#### Reading

Please try to encourage your child/ren to read four times a week. Many children are already reading four times a week which is great to see.

#### Caretaker/Handyperson—Vacancy

We have a vacancy for a Caretaker/Handyperson, so if you know of anyone who may be interested in this role, please visit the school website or Gloucestershire County Council website for further details about the post and an application form.

#### **Punctuality**

Could we please remind parents/carers to be punctual in the mornings, as we have had an increasing amount of children arriving late in the mornings. This in turn has an impact on the morning routine and morning classroom activities.

E.g. disruption to the start of lessons and interrupting the class and other pupils.

#### Entering School in the Morning

Could we please ask that parents do not enter the school building in the morning as this congests the corridors and delays the start of the school day.

Any messages that are not urgent may be written in your child's link book, which is checked daily or come to the school office via the front door.

Thank you for your support.



## Forest Explorers



#### Codebreaker

Saturday 13th October 2pm - 4pm

Come and learn about an ancient language with us, and use it to crack codes and create your own to send secret messages.

We'll explore how early humans would leave messages for each other long before the internet and iPads, and even paper and pencil!

The session will be both indoors and out, so please bring warm clothing, waterproofs and boots that can get muddy.





We will meet at RSPB Nagshead nature reserve in Parkend.

Cost £1 per child, booking essential, please email forestexplorersfod@gmail.com or phone 07850713804









Forest Explorers is a collaboration between Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust and RSPB, part of the Foresters' Forest project and made possible by funding from HLF.

#### **Dinner Accounts**

School dinner accounts should be kept in credit at <u>all</u> times. If there is a debt on your child's dinner account, please clear it immediately. We will unfortunately not be able to provide dinners for children if their dinner account is in arrears.

Thank you.

#### Healthy Snacks

Could we please ask that only fruit/vegetables be provided as a healthy snack for children at break time. This is due to the increasing amount of sugary snacks being brought into school for break time. As well as these snacks being unhealthy, they are also increasing the amount of plastic waste in the playground. Children in KS1 (R, Y1, Y2) receive a daily free piece of fruit/vegetable.

Many thanks for your continued support.



#### Census Day—Thursday 4th October

Some of our school funding is based on the number of

children that take up school meals during the year. We would therefore like to encourage as many children as possible to take a school meal on census day.

The choices are:

Spaghetti Bolognese or Vegetable Lasagne or Filled Baguette and Peach Crumble and Custard

If your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 they are entitled to universal free school meals. If your child is in Y3, Y4, Y5 or Y6 meals are £2.36

#### Diary Dates

October 2018

Mon 1st Oct - Book Fair - (after school)

Tues 2nd Oct - Book Fair - (after school)

Wed 3rd Oct - Life Bus

Thurs 4th Oct - Life Bus

Tues 9th Oct - Swimming Y5/6

Wed 10th Oct - Harvest

Wellie Walk - Daily Mile

Harvest Festival KS1 - 2 p.m.

KS2 - 2.30 p.m.

Fri 12th Oct - Cheltenham Literature Festival (Y5/6)

Fri 19th Oct - Break up for half term

Mrs Ball's Retirement Tea Party 3.15 p.m.

Mon 29th Oct - Start of new Term

Tues 30th Oct - Swimming Y5/6

Wed 31st Oct - War Horse Trip (Y5/6)