

**Important Diary Dates**

**February 2023**

- \* 7th Year 4 Elm assembly
- \* 13th Year 4 Oak assembly
- \* 14th Class photos
- \* 15th & 16th PTA costume sale
- \* 16th Y3 Maple swimming
- \* 17th Languages Day
- \* 17th School closes
- \* 27th School re-opens
- \* 27th—2nd Scholastic Book Fair

**March 2023**

- \* 2nd World Book Day (dress up day)
- \* 3rd Wear your pyjamas to school day
- \* 17th Inset Day (school closed to pupils)
- \* 31st School closes

# The Ellenbrook News

*The weekly newsletter for Ellenbrook Community Primary School*

Friday 3rd February 2023



Ellenbrook

COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

**Issue 137**

**3/2/2023**

## It was the Week that Was.....!

It's been a very curious week due to a number of factors but obviously the industrial action taken by teachers across the UK has been a key focus for us. I want to start by thanking you as parents as I had nothing but positive feedback on the decision the NEU made to call for industrial action. I know this has been the same sentiment for the majority of schools in Salford and as I said previously, the decision to close classes was not one anyone took lightly but hopefully your daily routines were not too disrupted. I know Chester Zoo was free for children on that day so if we do get as far as the next few strike days it may be worth investigating what offers are on from other local attractions.

I have been out of school for two days this week at the Salford Headteachers' conference which has been a great opportunity to catch up with colleagues and of course reflect on the theme which was about supporting children's mental health. We had a fantastic session with Mark Ferris who is an expert in the restorative approach in schools and I took a lot from it that we can look to introduce at Ellenbrook. We also had other sessions on supporting children's mental health and anxiety and I think this is something, as a school we are very good at but you can always do better and having events like this really helps to focus the mind on what's possible.

We also had an issue with lunch again this week and I have put a longer explanation on the reverse of the newsletter. We do think we have finally corrected the issue now but will monitor it closely going forward.

Lastly, you may have seen the post in the Ellenbrook Facebook group about parents sitting in idling cars from as early as 2.45pm at collection. If you do arrive early, please can I ask you not to sit in an idling car. It's really bad for the environment and does set the wrong example for the children.

I hope you all have a great weekend!

Mr Blackburn & the Ellenbrook Staff



**Weekly Attendance**

Our attendance figure for this week is

**95.6%**



Thoughtful time...This week we have been thinking about...Rules of law

**1. Are you a rule breaker?**

Well at school, no I never break rules at school!!) But at home....im going to be honest, I NEVER listen (according to my Mum)

**2. How do you feel if someone does not follow the rules?**

It drives me MAD! I think I inherit it from my Mum, we both get really frustrated!

**3. Is it ever ok to break the law?**

No! it is never ok because laws are there for a reason

**Year 6 Amazons, Bridgewater**

**1. Are you a rule breaker?**

Yes because sometimes I break rules by accident and if someone annoys me I have to do something about it.

**2. How do you feel if someone does not follow the rules?**

It doesn't bother me, ill tell a teacher and walk away if it does bother me I will tell them to STOP!

**3. Is it ever ok to break the law?**

No! a rule is ok but a law is not because if you do you have a high chance of going to jail

**Year 5 Discoverers, Ellesmere**



**Updates from the Office....**

- ⇒ When a child comes into school through the office if they are either late or have been to an appointment you **MUST** sign them in with a reason.
- ⇒ **Parents please can we remind you that you MUST inform the office if your child is unwell and not attending school. This can be done either via Weduc Absence reporting or the Telephone Absence Line**
- ⇒ Please make sure that if your child has any medicines/inhalers which are kept in school that they are up to date and you have completed a medical permission form for this academic year.
- ⇒ Any letters, slips or forms can be posted in the white post box attached to the wall outside the school office. This box is checked regularly during the day.
- ⇒ If your child is attending an independent school for an entrance exam can we ask that you complete a leave of absence form and return it to the office. This absence will be authorised by the school.

**HOUSE POINTS**

BRIDGEWATER	ELLESMERE	LOWRY	PEEL
1207	1200	1241	1257

The winner of this weeks' house point challenge was.....

**ELLESMERE**

### Things to Remember ....

- Please can you let the office know if your child is going home with another adult before pick up. Can we also ask you to make sure they are aware of the school's collection arrangements.
- Please remember we need two weeks notice if your child is changing from school meals to packed lunch and vice versa. Please do not change without informing the office.



### **Letter sent this week.....**

This week we have sent letters for...

- ⇒ NHS Guidelines on sickness
- ⇒ Year 2 Big Adventure
- ⇒ Revised Key Term Dates
- ⇒ Reception Lets connect
- ⇒ Payment reminders for EBASC, Lunches, Music and Sports Clubs



### **PTA Survey**

Following on from the PTA meeting a week or so ago, I posted a PTA survey to gain your feedback on some of the ideas the PTA have of raising money going forward.

It's a really short questionnaire and would provide us with very useful feedback in terms of upcoming events. It will only take a few minutes to fill it out. The link is below

<https://surveyhero.com/c/ixk373hq>

Can I also remind you that the PTA are always looking for volunteers for events and for the committee meetings so if you are free you can sign up via the facebook page or contact the school office.

**ellenbrookpta**



### **In the classroom this week.....**

#### **Nursery!**

Nursery have had a very successful bird watching session this afternoon. They did a great job of identifying the different bird we saw and recording them on their spotters sheets [#Ellenbrooknursery](#)

#### **Reception**

[#ReceptionAsh](#) had a very special story time today. Some children who had rewritten The Little Red Hen read us their versions! We had bunnies who found grass, pink horses who found a bucket, caterpillars & butterflies who wouldn't help as well as red dogs and fairies! [#superimagination](#) [#ReceptionFir](#) have had a great afternoon trying different types of bread from different countries. They've tasted ciabatta, bagel, wrap, brioche, naan and pretzels. Brioche and pretzels were voted the most popular!

#### **Year 1!**

"What continent do my favourite animals live in?" [#year1willow](#) have been researching the continents and the animals that live there. They made group posters and even explained what groups the animal belongs to. Ask us to sing the continents song! [#ellenbrookgeography](#)

#### **Year 2!**

Wow check out [#year2pine](#) and their pouches! Designed, hand sewn and decorated! [#dt](#)

#### **Year 3!**

Year 3 Beech have had a fantastic afternoon learning about the layers of the earth as well as the layers of soil. They then made their own edible soil and labelled the parts before devouring it!

#### **Year 4!**

[#year4elm](#) have been presenting the news about the murder of Julius Caesar.

#### **Year 5!**

Today we were learning to read maps and orientate ourselves using symbols. What a challenge! [#year5discoverers](#)

#### **Year 6!**

Year 6 have been amazingly resilient and creative in their playground designs. But do they fit the brief? [#year6amazons](#)

### **Lunches**

This week we have unfortunately suffered another failure with our lunch system meaning some of the children in Year 3 did not get their choice of meal. This same problem occurred earlier in the term and we fixed the problem which was a formula error in the spreadsheet of one class.

This week's error was the same but with a different class meaning the numbers given to the kitchen were incorrect. We did apologise to the children for this and we have now introduced a further failsafe to try to ensure the same error does not occur again.

### **Uniform**

Just a further reminder that trainers are not part of school uniform and should not be worn to school.

This week I have seen a number of children who are wearing trainers, in some cases very brightly coloured trainers, as opposed to school shoes. Please can we ask you to make sure your child has the correct footwear.

## **CLUBS**

KEY STAGE / YEAR GROUP	DAY	ACTIVITY
YR 1&2	TUESDAY (8 – 8.45am)	Dance
YR 3&4	WEDNESDAY (8-8.45am)	Dance
YR 1&2	WEDNESDAY (3.30 – 4.30pm)	Football
YR 5&6	THURSDAY (8-8.45am)	Football
YR 3&4	THURSDAY (3.30-4.30pm)	Football
YR 5&6	FRIDAY (3.30-4.30pm)	Dance