



Ellenbrook

COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

The Ellenbrook News

The weekly newsletter for Ellenbrook Community Primary School

Friday 5th January 2024



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Spring Term

Issue 168

5/1/2024

Important Diary Dates

January 2024

- * 8th Year 2 Staircase House
- * 10th Reception Vision Screening
- * 11th Open evening – prospective parents
- * 19th Year 3 Tatton Park

February 2024

- * 5th-9th Childrens Mental Health Week
- * 13th Class photos
- * 16th school closes
- * 26th school re-opens

March 2024

- * 7th Year 6 Crucial Crew Event
- * 7th Year 5 Chester Zoo

Welcome back, welcome back, welcome back, welcome back.....!

Happy New Year to you all and I hope you had a well earned rest during the Christmas break. Not sure if you feel the same but it felt like it flew by to me and we were back at school before we knew it. This is also a very short term and there is a lot to pack in in terms of learning before we break up again for Easter in March. As always, I will be giving my normal reminder to keep an eye on WEDUC which has all of the relevant dates and information you need to stay abreast of what's going on at Ellenbrook.

This week I celebrated my birthday, and I don't know about you, but I do find myself thinking a lot about where and who I am as a person, where I want to go in life and whether my years on the planet have been used wisely so far! I did think this week about what life will be like for our current children when they reach my age. We know we are preparing children for a world that doesn't exist yet and in most cases for jobs that don't exist yet either. I think the example of AI illustrates this perfectly as this was a technology that no one was really talking about a couple of years ago but now it's mainstream and being used in a wide range of applications across many different industries. One thing that will always be needed is people who have been given the best education possible who are able to survive in the world of tomorrow and I very much hope that this is something we are providing for the children at Ellenbrook. This isn't a solo journey and we would not be able to educate the children without your support as parents. You are such an important part of the learning journey and one we very much appreciate.

There are a number of really important reminders on the reverse of the newsletter so please can I ask you to take some time to read them through especially those relating to uniform and jewellery. There is also a reminder about leave of absence requests for holidays during term time and again, it's important to reiterate that children should not be taken out of school during term time for family holidays which do not count as exceptional circumstances.

Lastly, I hope you all have a fantastic weekend!

Mr Blackburn & the Ellenbrook Staff



Weekly Attendance

Our attendance figure for this week is

95.6%



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.

Thoughtful time

This week we have been thinking about...New Year Resolutions!

1. What are your New Year resolutions?

To do well in my SATs and be kept on at United again next season.

2. Why do we make New Year resolutions?

To set a goal and to make improvements to make people better than they were in the previous year.

3. Why is keeping them important?

To stay on track and to maintain a healthy lifestyle

Year 6, Lowry

1. What are your New Year resolutions?

To be more successful than last year, like make a better business, complete new stuff or to tick things off my bucket list.

2. Why do we make New Year resolutions?

To improve and do better than last year.

3. Why is keeping them important?

If you don't you won't improve and you will start to get bored with your life and it be just the same as last year.

Year 6, Peel

1. What are your New Year resolutions?

Drink more water and don't bang my head because I usually bang my head.

2. Why do we make New Year resolutions?

To achieve your goals every year and get a sense of success.

3. Why is keeping them important?

Because if you did not have goals in life, life would be very boring!

Year 3, Ellesmere



HOUSE POINTS

BRIDGEWATER	ELLESMERE	LOWRY	PEEL
0	0	0	0

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

LOWRY

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...

- ⇒ Year 4 Ironbridge parents meeting
- ⇒ Phonics Workshop—date change
- ⇒ Year 6 SATS meeting
- ⇒ PE Kits for KS2



Uniform

I wanted to give a slightly firmer reminder about school uniform and what we as a school expect in terms of the children's appearance.

What we expect...



This week I have lost count of the number of children wearing nail polish, necklaces or bracelets which are not allowed under our school policy on uniform.

A link to the school's uniform policy can be found below.

[Uniform Policy \(ellenbrooks.school.com\)](http://ellenbrooks.school.com)

Gate Closing Time

Just a first week back reminder that the school gate closes at 8.55am. Should you arrive after this time, please drop your child off via the school office and sign them in.

Leave of Absence

Just a reminder that children should not be taken out of school for holidays during term time.

A copy of the schools' Pupil Attendance policy can be found on our website and you could be liable for a penalty notice should you currently £60 per parent per child if paid within the first 21 days.

It does rise to £120 if not paid within that time and we would strongly encourage you not to take your child out of school during term time due to the impact it has on their education.

95%	=	47 LESSONS MISSED EACH YEAR 8 days in total or 1 week and 3 days	ATTENDANCE MATTERS WHAT DO YOUR ATTENDANCE FIGURES ACTUALLY MEAN?
90%	=	95 LESSONS MISSED EACH YEAR 16 days in total or 3 weeks and 1 day	
85%	=	142 LESSONS MISSED EACH YEAR 24 days in total or 4 weeks and 4 days	
80%	=	190 LESSONS MISSED EACH YEAR 32 days in total or 6 weeks and 2 days	

BE SMART BE THERE!

Percentages based on 190 academic days

In the classroom this week.....

Nursery!

Over the next few weeks Nursery will be exploring the season of winter! Today we went on winter walks, shared information books about winter and made winter pictures with 'sparkle' [#Ellenbrooknursery](#)

Reception

Today we shared the story 'Squirrels New Years Resolutions' by Pat Miller. We thought about our own resolutions, shared our ideas in circle time, wrote them down and then made them into wishing stars [#Happynewyear2024](#) This morning [#receptionjuniper](#) have been working hard on their New Year's resolutions. We have had some fantastic ideas that we can't wait to share with our families [#NewYear2024](#)

Year 1!

[#YearOneFir](#)

Year 2!

A very busy first day back for [#year2birch!](#) Great learning all day with maths being a stand out!

Year 3!

This afternoon in French, Year 3 Cedar have been playing lots of different games using our French numbers and colours. We've had such a fun lesson

Year 4!

Maple getting back into the swing of things this morning, starting the new year with practising their timestables [#Year4Maple](#) Today in History, beech sorted the three time periods in Ancient Rome and acted out the story of Romulus and Remus [#Year4Beech](#)

Year 5!

[#Year5Oak](#)

Year 6!

Year 6 Discoverers are investigating murders. We are using our inference skills to understand the murder scenes from Macbeth. [#year6discoverers](#) [#ellenbrookenglish](#)

CLUBS

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