



Ellenbrook Express

Summer Term Newsletter 2026

Welcome to the summer-term edition of our newsletter, the Ellenbrook Express, in which we will give updates of items mentioned last term and notify you of events taking place in the coming weeks. To any families new to the school – especially those whose children will be joining us in September – this newsletter is presented alongside our website and a range of apps, giving you an overview of the exciting activities provided at our happy, thriving school.



Our Vision, Purpose and Values

At Ellenbrook, we want our children to love, learn and thrive in a community founded upon moral values, nurtured to develop the knowledge and skills to become lifelong learners and make a positive contribution to future society.

We talked last time of our **six core Ellenbrook values**, which help us achieve this vision and underpin all that we do within the curriculum and around school:

Respect – Resilience – Consideration – Confidence – Independence – Teamwork

Our school motto/strapline – can you help?

You may also recall us asking for help to **create a short motto to summarise our school's values and purpose**, opening this up to gain as many suggestions as possible, perhaps **reflecting the school logo and linking it with growth**. Thank you to all who sent ideas in, these have been discussed with children, staff and governors and we'd like you to join us in the final say, to make a decision as a community. **We have shortlisted the most popular ten suggestions and will open it up as a vote**, which we'll carry out via Weduc in the first weeks of June.

1. Creating strong roots, growing together.
2. Nurturing values, rooting futures.
3. Believe, achieve, grow and shine.
4. Grow together, make a difference.
5. Think kindly, grow well, make a difference.
6. Together we learn, grow and achieve.
7. Rooted in values, branching into the future.
8. Rooted in values, branching out together.
9. Be kind, grow, achieve and shine.
10. With courage and care we grow together.

Health and Wellbeing



PE T-Shirt Change

The policy in school over recent years has been for children to have different coloured PE tops, depending upon their 'house'. The house system will remain, but the PE tops will change to all pupils having the same one.

Different coloured tops are actually counterproductive to positive and adaptive PE lessons, as this prevents even mixing of groups, especially when numbers become skewed as classes go through the school. This will also, we are told by many, make it simpler and more cost-effective for parents.

We have talked to local schools about this and then gone to our uniform suppliers to create a low-cost solution. This is being done as we speak and will be available before the end of June; it is something close to the photograph (with the school logo on). There is also the option to have children's initials printed onto their PE t-shirts; they like it as it seems more like a sports team top, whilst for parents it could save a lot of lost property!

Black shorts, tracksuit bottoms & hoodies will remain part of PE kit; please keep these plain.

NB: We do not expect families to buy a new PE t-shirt immediately, just that whenever your child grows out of their own in the next year, it is replaced with the new green one.



Daily Mile Track

Families may be aware of the Daily Mile, a national school scheme aimed at ensuring children are given guaranteed activity-time each day or week. It is so simple – create a track around the school site and have a dedicated ten-minute slot on as many days as possible when the whole school goes for a giant walk... or skip...or run... it doesn't matter, as long as we keep moving. The health benefits are many, whilst it also gives an opportunity for children to buddy-up as young and old support each other round. Add some music and allow the pupils to DJ, and it creates a really special part of our breaktime activity provision that benefits every child.

To fund the creation of a track, we are grateful for use of some of the PTA funds; this will enable us to implement a path through the trees behind the fence and trim-trail at the back of the school field. It will also open up the space for us to create our own Forest School area on site, for which plans are being discussed.



Interactive Sports Day

Our Daily Mile track may not be ready until after the summer, but we will use our current facilities to stretch our Sports Days this year to become an interactive family/child event. The children will take part in a range of running, jumping and throwing activities, moving around activity stations on the field/playground, whilst we will invite parents and carers not only to watch and support, but also to join in at certain places, beyond the traditional 'parent race' (all at a gentle, inclusive level!).



Sporting Success

Swimming team – won the Worsley Schools' Gala.

Rugby team – came fourth in the Salford Reds/Salford Schools' Mixed Cup.

Netball team – currently unbeaten in the Salford Schools' League.

Football team – are through to the final of the City of Salford Schools' Cup.

It's not just about the winning, of course, it's about developing a passion for life and building the skills and qualities which are enhanced by taking part in team sports, doing this whilst representing the school in the most fair, sporting manner. Our children do this unflinching, and to achieve success at the same time is even more remarkable.



PTA News/Fundraising and School Support

This summer's school fair takes the form of our very own festival: Ellenfest! We are really excited about this and grateful to the PTA, as ever, for their organising of it. There will be a couple of non-uniform days to raise stock for this, as outlined in the 'Dairy Dates' section on page 4. If anyone wants to know more or is able to help on the day, please see the most recent PTA newsletter or contact the school office.



Parking Around School

Thank you to all those who drive and park carefully around school, particularly taking note since the last newsletter, it's been much calmer. However, we would still like to remind users of the school car-park that this area is heavily used by pedestrians, especially as children enter or leave EBASC and school clubs.



Developing Oracy

In some years, a Key Stage 2 show has taken place in the summer term. This year, this will be replaced by Ellenbrook's Got Talent – enabling the children who want to perform a more individual platform to do so – and enhanced class assemblies, so that the key national strategy to promote the oracy skills of all children can be given increased focus.



School Science Week 2026

Miss Mottram has put together a very exciting range of activities, investigations and challenges to help us maximise our science week this year, beg 6th July, and we are especially looking forward to seeing a range of visiting presenters inspire the children.



Ellenbrook's 30th Anniversary

Thank you for the ideas we've been given so far for our school's 30th anniversary this September; we've got time-capsules, dress-up days (1996 themed - get your Britpop gear ready!) and commemorative artwork planned, but welcome further suggestions.



Building Developments

As well as the new bench (a second one is to follow) and planter at the school entrance, families might have noticed the striking renovation of our Chatterbox Shed, outside the Y1 classrooms. A local building firm has painstakingly taken the shed piece by piece, wood and metal, to restore it to its former glory. The children love it as a playtime space. Over the half-term break, work was done on the school library to transform this space into two smaller rooms for nurture activities and reading support groups, at the same time as creating bespoke 'phase libraries' in each area of school – EYFS, KS1 and KS2 – to make these more accessible to the children. Reading – and fostering an understanding and love of it – is still the most crucial aspect of learning in a primary school, even for older children, so we hope to promote this further with these developments.



Holiday Activities – Vela Sport Camp

The feedback received following our trial of a new holiday sports camp at Easter and the Whit half-term, run by a team of parents from school who are professional sports coaches, was exceptionally positive. The camp will run again during the summer holidays, so please ask at the office for details.



Staffing News

We would like to offer our official congratulations to two staff who are about to embark upon maternity leave: Mrs Cooper, TA in Nursery, and Mrs McShane, Y1 teacher (in June and October

respectively). Rigorous recruitment drives have taken place and we have recruited talented staff who will ensure your children receive the same high level of education and care.



Pastoral Support- increasing access for our children and families

We are incredibly grateful to the work of wellbeing charity Place 2 Be for their contribution to the nurturing of our children in recent years, and we are also thankful to the organisation that has funded this at significant expense up until the end of this academic year. Many of you will know of key-worker Alice's dedication to this end, and will want to join us in our appreciation.

From September 2026, we won't have Place 2 Be's services, but are very pleased to announce that we will provide even more pastoral support in the form of Mrs Baird, our deputy head-teacher. Mrs Baird is trained in many areas of this field, such as Mental Health First-Aid and Family Support, and will be taking over these responsibilities. Two of the many benefits to this are that Mrs Baird is known to all of our children and families – and has excellent relationships with them – and enables us to increase our pastoral support offer from 2 to 5 days per week.



Summer Term Dates for your Diary: *(details will come via Weduc)*

Y4 Multiplication Tables Check Week - beg Monday 1st June 2026 -12th June 2026

Year 6 to RHS - Thursday 4th June 2026

PTA Bring a Bottle non-uniform day (no theme, just own-clothes) – Friday 5th June

Y1 Phonics Check Week - beg Monday 8th June 2026

Year 4 Clarinet Concert at The Lowry - Monday 8th June 2026

Fives World Cup Girls Football - Tuesday 9th June 2026

PTA Dress Like a Rockstar Day - Friday 12th June 2026

PTA 'Ellenfest' – Saturday 13th June 2026

Summer Term Assessment Week - beginning 15th June 2026

New Nursery and Reception Parent/Carer Welcome Evening – Monday 15th June, 6pm

New Nursery 'Stay and Play' – Wednesday 17th June, 9.15-10.15am

New Reception 'Stay and Play' - Friday 19th June 2026

Salford Schools' Swimming Gala - Friday 19th June 2026

EYFS Father's Day Stay and Play – Monday 22nd June 2026

Y6 Salford Athletics - Tuesday 23rd June 2026

Y6 High School Transition Days - Thursday 25th & Friday 26th June 2026

Ellenbrook Transition Day – Friday 26th June 2026 (spend day with next year's tchr)

Y5 Athletics Salford - Tuesday 30th June 2026

Upper KS2 Interactive Sports Day: Y5 and Y6 – Wednesday 1st July, 9.30am

Lower KS2 Interactive Sports Day: Y3 and Y4 – Wednesday 1st July, 1.45pm

KS1 Interactive Sports Day: Y1 and Y2 – Thursday 2nd July, 9.30 am

EYFS Interactive Sports Day: Nursery and Rec – Thursday 2nd July, 1.45pm

School Science Week (inc. parent/child session today) – beg Monday 6th July 2026

Reception Forest School – Oak: Monday 6th July 2026; Elm: Wednesday 8th July 2026

Year 3 Class Assembly - Thursday 9th July 2026

Dress as a Scientist Day – Friday 10th July 2026

Y6 Magistrates Mock Trial Day – Friday 10th July 2026

End of Year Written Reports sent out – Friday 10th July 2026

Year 4 Class Assembly - Tuesday 14th July 2026

Year 6 Leavers' Assembly for Parents – Wednesday 15th July 2026 2pm

Year 6 Leavers' Party – Wednesday 15th July 2026 6pm

Year 6 Fun Day – Thursday 16th July 2026

Ellenbrook's Got Talent Final – Friday 17th July 2026

PTA Colour Run – Friday 17th July 2026 (time tbc)

End-of-Year Presentation Assembly – Tuesday 21st July, 9.30am

Summer Holiday – Wednesday 22nd July to Tuesday 1st September 2026, inclusive