



Ellenbrook

COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

The Ellenbrook News

The weekly newsletter for Ellenbrook Community Primary School

Friday 20th January 2023



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Spring Term

Issue 135

20/1/2023

Important Diary Dates

January 2023

- * 27th Yr 4 trip to Chester
- * 30th Intrahealth flu catch ups

February 2023

- * 7th Year 4 Elm assembly
- * 13th Year 4 Oak assembly
- * 14th Class photos
- * 17th School closes
- * 27th School re-opens

March 2023

- * 17th Inset Day (school closed to pupils)
- * 31st School closes

Not An Easy Decision...!

Talk this week has focused very much on the announcement by the National Education Union of the proposed industrial action to be taken by its members on the 1st February. As I said in my WEDUC post following the announcement, I am not able as yet to give you an accurate picture of how this will affect the school but at this point I can say there will be significant closures to classes across the school. The decision taken by the NEU is the result of a very long conversation with the Government which has sadly not reached an agreeable conclusion. In my time as both a teacher and Head Teacher I can count on one hand the amount of times industrial action has happened in this country and I know that the teachers did not take the decision to vote for industrial action lightly. As soon as I have a clear understanding of the impact the NEU action will have on the school, I shall let you know and I hope to do this by Monday next week.

This week we have spent time focusing on the foundation subjects as it has been curriculum week. The teachers, in their role as subject leaders, have had the opportunity to teach each other's classes and I know they have really enjoyed the experience and it has been excellent for their professional development. I think, as schools, we tend to value subjects like English, Maths and Science more than others like French, Music and Art and these weeks are a good reminder that the curriculum is all encompassing and not just about the core subjects, which are of course important but as part of a wider experience for the children.

We have also had the first of our trips this term with Year 1 going to Blackpool Zoo. It is such a fantastic trip and I was very sorry not to be able to attend due to interviewing. Despite the chilly weather they all had a fab time which was great to hear. Experiences like this are so important to the children and something we very much believe in as a school. I know that for you as parents they can sometimes be hard to support but they really are worth the cost as they mean so much to the children.



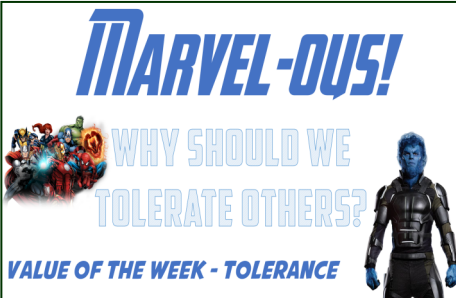
Have a great weekend!

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...Tolerance

1. Are you a tolerant person?

Well sometimes because like if it's a pencil tapping I can easily tolerate it but if it's something like super loud music whilst I'm trying to sleep I just can't help but scream!

2. Who tolerates you?

Probably my sister because when I was younger and I got all the attention so my sister said 'I don't like him, send him back' but I mean she was 5 years old.

3. Why should we tolerate others?

So we can live together as all different species can still be the same. **Year 5, Lowry**

1. Are you a tolerant person?

Sometimes I can tolerate things but sometimes things can really irritate me if my sibling hums all the time.

2. Who tolerates you?

Normally my sibling because she is always singing but I can tolerate it at certain times.

3. Why should we tolerate others?

We should tolerate each other to show respect on what they are like **Year 6, Peel**

1. Are you a tolerant person?

It depends on who I am with and what I'm feeling; I will eat a cinnamon bun and be tolerant and easy but when I eat a pickle or an onion I won't be tolerant!

2. Who tolerates you?

Definitely my mother, as she puts up with me more than anyone else and my dad, who puts up with me a lot. But mainly my friends, because I spend at least 30 hours a week with them.

3. Why should we tolerate others?

If we didn't tolerate each other, then we could risk hurting people, physically and mentally. **Year 6, Lowry**



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
698	705	757	740

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...

- ⇒ Yr 4 Trip to Chester
- ⇒ Key dates for 2023
- ⇒ Yr 3 Maple—swimming
- ⇒ Yr 4 class assemblies
- ⇒ Phonics meeting EYFS & KS1



School Shoes!

Please can I have another moan about the amount of children not wearing the correct shoes. This is not great for their feet and the number of ankle boots worn by girls presently is very high.



I know we've had some colder weather but please can I ask that all children attend school in appropriate shoes.

Car Park

I just wanted to clarify the procedure for the staff car park as this week we have had a few club parents locked inside.



The school car park gate closes at 8.15am to parents dropping off for club. If you arrive after 8.10am please do not park in the staff car park as you will be locked in. You will need to park on the road and walk your children into club via the front of school.

Can I also ask you not to follow members of staff in when they are parking. You will, again, be locked inside. Due to staffing ratios in club we won't always have someone to let you out!

PTA Meeting

Just a reminder there is a PTA meeting on Thursday next week (26th Jan) at 7pm at the Boundary Stone pub.

Price Rises

I don't have to tell you the impact price rises have had on us all and as a school we have tried our best to ensure the price increases we have had haven't been passed onto you where possible.

This is now not something we can sustain and I wanted to warn you that from April the cost of club and school meals will rise.

In the classroom this week.....

Nursery!

Snow angels, snow caves and sliding fun for Nursery this morning [#Ellenbrooknursery](#) [#outdoors](#) [#snowday](#)

Reception

"Bonjour mes amis" [#ReceptionAsh](#) loved their lesson learning French with Miss Lynch as part of curriculum week! They sang french songs, counted to 5 & played games. They've been making traditional French food, flags & finger puppets. [#ellenbrookcurriculumweek](#). [#receptionfir](#) have talked about how we are similar and different in circle time today. We then shared a story called 'Marvellous Me!' which is all about celebrating how we are all the same but different and how that makes us unique. We then drew our self portraits [#Thinkequal](#).

Year 1!

[#year1willow](#) have continued with programming in their computing lesson this week. The children had to record an explanation on an iPad of how to work the Bee-Bot. [#ellenbrookcomputing](#)

Year 2!

More SCIENCE celebrating Ellenbrook's Curriculum Week! This time [#year2cedar](#) are creating wax resist paintings as part of their science learning. They found that candle wax worked better than oil pastels. [#EllenbrookCurriculumWeek2023](#) [#Science](#)

Year 3!

This afternoon [#year3maple](#) have been dividing with remainders in [#maths](#). They are super mathematicians!!

Year 4!

Year 4 Oak have begun their Roman mosaics [#year4oak](#)

Year 5!

[#Year5Voyagers](#) are playing a division game in maths this morning [#Division](#) Designing baskets for our weaving project. [#year5discoverers](#)

Year 6!

Kandinsky would be proud!
[#year6amazons](#) [#year6swallows](#)



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