



ELLENBROOK COMMUNITY
PRIMARY SCHOOL
Spring term 2016
NEWSLETTER

Hello everyone, and welcome to our Spring term newsletter.

Autumn term was very busy- everyone worked hard and we had a wonderful time. Children made great progress and got the school year off to a fantastic start. I think that you will agree that the Christmas performances were outstanding. A big thank you again to Mr Sandford, who always donates his time and camera expertise free of charge. The DVD will be available soon and all funds raised will go straight back into the next performance.

There are some fantastic photos on the blog

<http://www.ellenbrookschool.com/blog/>

The PTA kindly donated £50 to Farnworth and Kearsley Food bank instead of buying selection boxes for the children. <http://farnworthkearsley.foodbank.org.uk/>

Staff changes

Mr Kinch has moved on from Ellenbrook, so we now have an experienced Early Years teacher for Sharks maternity cover. Her name is Miss Jo Donnelly and she comes highly recommended. Our congratulations go to Mrs McCarthy Stott, who is expecting her first baby before the end of this term. We have already planned her cover for the summer term, so that Y6 will be very well looked after.

New Curriculum

From September 2014, assessing by 'Levels' was removed. Your child will now be measured against national **age related expectations** and judged to be **beginning** expected standards, **working within**, **secure** or having achieved the new **Mastery** level
The new curriculum for Ellenbrook is now in place for all year groups and teachers are assessing the children against their new targets. The new national curriculum is acknowledged to be more challenging than the old one. With many of the old Y6 expectations now appearing as early as Y4. And some Y1 expectations have been moved to Reception.

Questionnaire

Thank you for responding to our parents' questionnaire. It is heartening to know that so many of

our parents are so supportive. The analysis, and my response to comments, can be found on the website.

<http://www.ellenbrookschool.com/docs/school-policies/ellenbrook-parent-questionnaire-and-comments-2015.pdf>

Logo

We have freshened up the school logo. The children worked on different designs, but it was clear that they really wanted

to keep the main ideas from the old logo, so we worked with a graphic designer to revive the original.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Half term holiday:

Friday 12th – Monday 22nd February

Family Night Friday 18th March 7:00-9:15

Spring Term Pupil Progress Meetings:

All classes

Wednesday 23rd March 5:30pm-7:30

Thursday 24th March 4:00-6:30

A Book Fair will be in the hall during Parents Evenings

Family Festival

EYFS in school Thursday 31st March 9:30

KS1 in school Friday 1st April 9:30 am

and **KS2** at St Mary's Church 10:30am -11:30am

Easter holidays

School will close for Good Friday and Easter Monday -25th and 28th March and then...close again on Friday at 3:30pm on the 1st of April ,re-opening on Monday the 18th of April.

There are many other events and outings planned for the Spring term – remember to subscribe to our mailing system!

Healthy Schools' reminder- only plain water and no high fat/salt/sugar drinks for snacks please.

Thank you for your continued support.

Here's to a great start to 2016!

Mrs Parkins
Headteacher

