



Hello everyone, and welcome to our Spring term newsletter.

Autumn term was very productive- the staff and children worked hard and we had a fantastic time. The children got the school year off to a fantastic start and our Christmas parties, trips and shows were outstanding.

There are some fantastic photos on the blog <http://www.ellenbrookschool.com/blog/>

### Staff changes

Our congratulations go to Mrs McCarthy-Stott. She is expecting her second baby this Spring, so her last day in Y6 should be just after Easter. We have always managed maternity leave brilliantly and we already have plans in place.

Recruitment is already underway for the new teachers that we will need in 2018/19.

### Getting to Know Your Governing Body A message from one of our Parent Governors Frances Jones



I have been a parent governor since November 2016 and have two daughters that attend the school in nursery class and year 1.

I became a governor as I wanted to somehow be involved in the school at which my children attend, to help ensure the school is always a great learning environment for our children, and to give something back to the community.

My background is financial planning and so I sit on the finance committee to help oversee the financial performance of our school and to ensure funds are being spent in the right areas. I do, however, attend most of the other committee meetings and this has allowed me to get a better understanding of the school across all areas, our policies and the strategies in place to meet the school's objectives. I am the Maths link governor which requires me to periodically meet with the subject leader Charlotte Harrison and talk about what actions are in place to raise achievements in this area, and whether these actions are working. Only last week I went on a walk around with Charlotte so that I could see Maths being taught across the school years. Believe me when I say I observed lots of super enthusiastic children doing Math challenges in a variety of ways, from using play dough in Reception class to iPads in Year 4, it really was a delight to see. Being a governor has been a steep learning curve but it is also very rewarding. Ellenbrook Primary School is on a continuous journey and I am proud to be part of that journey not only as a parent but also as a governor.

### PTA

Family Night:

Next PTA meeting: 7th Feb at 7pm in the Staffroom

Log on, and earn money for Ellenbrook Primary School.

[www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk)

Please try to join our PTA we want new ideas and more people involved.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



### Half term holiday:

School closes on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> and re-opens on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February

### PTA Family Night

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 7:00pm-9:00pm

### Spring Term Pupil Progress Meetings:

#### All classes

Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> March 5:00pm-7:00pm

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 4:00pm-6:00pm

### Family Festival

29<sup>th</sup> March

Reception and KS1 in the Hall 9:30am

KS2 in church 10:30am

### Easter holidays

School will close on the 29<sup>th</sup> March and opens on the 16<sup>th</sup> April

There are many other events and outings planned for the Spring term. Please remember to check your emails on a regular basis. All information will be sent by this system.

## Parking

Please remember, do not park:

- on walkways
- on or opposite the zigzags or dropped kerbs
- on or opposite driveways.

Thank you for your continued support.  
Here's to a great start to the new term.

Mrs Parkins  
Head Teacher

## Reminders

Please support our school policy on pupils' smart appearance.

Please make sure we have your correct contact details on our system.

## Remember

Healthy snacks in lunchboxes only. Plain water for classrooms and fruit for breaks. Please do not send in chocolate, sweets or biscuits.