



Ellenbrook

COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

The Ellenbrook News

The weekly newsletter for Ellenbrook Community Primary School

Friday 11th March 2022



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Spring Term

Issue 103

11/3/2022

Important Diary Dates

March

- * 7th—11th March—Book Fair
- * 18th March - INSET day, school closed

April

- * 1st April - School closes for Easter
- * 19th April - School re-opens

Current Covid Cases

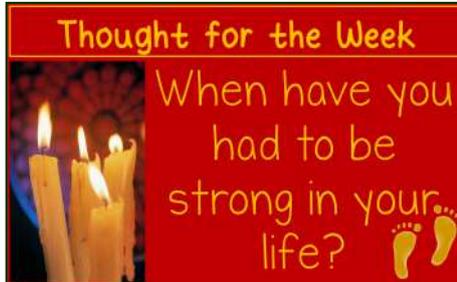
Across the School

5

Events for Next Week

Next Friday (18th March 2022) is an INSET day and the school will be closed to children.

It's the Key Stage 2 STEPS gym competition on Monday next week (14th March 2022)



Thoughtful Time

This week we have been thinking about standing firm!

1. Are you good at standing up for yourself?

Most of the time I let people have 3 chances but if they carry on I will stand up for myself.

2. Have you ever made a stand for someone else?

I have once out of school. There was a group of children and they were being mean to a little girl so I told them to stop being mean and they stopped.

3. What's worth standing up for in life?

Stand up for family, friends and also stand up for strangers as well.

Year 3, Bridgewater

1. Are you good at standing up for yourself?

I think so, but I have never needed to because I am surrounded by kind people.

2. Have you ever made a stand for someone else?

Yes, when someone in my old school was bullied I stood up for her and helped her out.

3. What's worth standing up for in life?

When someone is treated unfairly because of their race, religion and so many other unfair reasons.

Year 5, Lowry



Recharge.....!

This week I have been away for a few days at the Salford headteacher's annual conference. How fantastic it has been to see colleagues face to face and to re-engage with them on a personal level. As good as Teams is, it's no substitute for shaking a hand or patting a back or a hug! The theme of the conference was re-charging and reinvigorating leaders following the most intense period in education for decades. It was a strange feeling for us all as the last time we had the HT conference it ended on the day we were recalled to school to deal with the pandemic. A week after I returned the school was locked down and we all know what happened after that! It was a strange feeling knowing that it was 2 years ago pretty much to the day that all of this started and now it does feel very much that we are in 'living with covid' mode. Like many things, we will learn to adapt a 'new life' as the old one feels like it's pretty much gone forever.

One of the other things I have been thinking about this week is the curriculum. We have worked so hard as a staff over the last 18 months to develop a curriculum which is not only broad and balanced but designed specifically for our children. As a school it's easy to fall into the trap of doing things for other people (Ofsted & the DfE) but I can honestly put my hand on my heart and say our curriculum came from us and was focused and led by the children at Ellenbrook. We are looking forward to sharing much more of our curriculum with you over the next few months.

Lastly, a huge well done to our sports teams who were involved in competition against other schools this week. The Year 3 football team played in the recent tournament at Man Utd and did fantastically well. They did an amazing job and won the competition which is truly awesome. Talking of success, the Key Stage 1 gym team (superbly coached and led by Miss Camilleri) also had success this week in their competition on Monday. They did a fantastic job and ended up finishing second with a silver medal. Really well done gymnasts!

What a busy newsletter! I hope you all have a fantastic weekend.

Mr Blackburn & the Ellenbrook Staff



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. Can we also ask that you give a reason as we have to call and ask if you report them as 'unwell.'**
- ⇒ **All inhalers/medicines need to be in school with a signed medical permission form. This is for the current academic year (even if we have held them for previous years)**
- ⇒ 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
2268	2243	2097	2480

Here are this weeks' house point totals!

The winner of this weeks' assembly challenge was.....

BRIDGEWATER

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.

Parking on the Zig Zag Lines

I appreciate that a regular moan in the newsletter is unlikely to make anyone change their ways in regard to dropping off and collecting the children from school. But I do think it's only fair to share the feedback I have had this week from not only local residents but also other parents trying to use the pathways and safely cross the roads.



We have had yet more legitimate complaints from local residents about what I can only describe as unsafe and dangerous parking particularly on the zig zag lines at the front of the school.

I have also had a number of calls from local residents of the surrounding streets saying that our parents are parking across drives when waiting to collect children. This is not acceptable and reflects very poorly on us as a school.

You are all aware that parking on these lines during the set period is illegal and it is also very dangerous to pedestrians. Please can I respectfully ask that you don't do this as someone will get hurt if we are not careful.

Snacks

I know this is another moan but when I emptied the school bins on Sunday I was shocked at the number of packets of grab bags crisps and chocolate bars that were in them.

As I have said in previous newsletters, I understand this is a battle you may not want to have but please can I ask you to monitor the snacks the children are bringing in very closely. It's not healthy to be eating so many foods with high levels of oil and sugar.



STAY ALERT > CONTROL THE VIRUS > SAVE LIVES

Letter sent this week.....

This week we have sent letters for...

- ⇒ Cancelled Aldi Olympian visit
- ⇒ KS2 Assemblies
- ⇒ EBASC Spring 2 Payment Reminder



In the classroom this week.....

Nursery!

Nursery, WE DID IT! Our super veggies have caught the Evil Pea! We've worked hard all day making traps where we can keep him so he doesn't escape again! [#ellenbrooknursery](#) [#superveggiestoherescue](#)

Reception!

Outdoor happiness in [#receptionwillow](#). Well-being & involvement at its best! We are enjoying exploring outdoors in the sunshine - some children are performing a dance & singing an Olly Murs song, some are observing flowers, others made a slide & we even found a ladybird! The children were very excited to find lots of tiny eggs in our nest this morning! The children were challenged to count the eggs & then tell the adult what would happen if one egg hatched and what would happen if another egg appeared

Year 1!

[#Year1Pine](#) have had a busy day today. Take a look at what we have been up to in maths and ICT. [#year1cedar](#) have been exploring directions by getting Mr Wolf to the correct house. They had to decide whether he needed to go north, east, south or west. The children also had to establish if he needed a quarter turn or half turn. [#geography](#) [#maths](#) [#whichway-home](#)

Year 2!

Year 2 Beech are exploring lines of symmetry this week

Year 3!

Back [#year3oak](#) measuring and adding measurements in cm and m.

Year 4!

Voyagers are sorting and classifying states of matter. They had great fun being molecules representing solids, liquids and gases!

Year 5!

Year 5 swallows have been participating in a discussion about poems, expressing and justifying their own options in their own words. [#figurative](#) language

Year 6!

Another Will Year 6 allow the stranger to stay or make him leave? Tomorrow, we will be listening to the speeches they have written (based on our text 'The Island' by Armin Greder) to make a final decision. Will it be the same as the ending of the story? [#year6jets](#) [#English](#)

CLUBS

KEY STAGE / YEAR GROUP	DAY	ACTIVITY
KS2 (YR 3 – 6)	MONDAY (8 – 8.45am)	Fitness
YR 5 & 6	MONDAY (3.30 – 4.30pm)	Tri-golf
YR 5 & 6	TUESDAY (3.30 – 4.30pm)	Tennis
EBASC Attendees	WEDNESDAY (3.30 – 4.30pm)	Multi Sports
YR 1 & 2	THURSDAY (3.30 – 4.30pm)	Cricket
KS1 (YR 1 & 2)	FRIDAY (8 – 8.45am)	Multi Sports
YR 3 & 4	FRIDAY (3.30 – 4.30pm)	Handball