



## Spring Term

## Issue 101

18/2/2022

### Important Diary Dates

#### February

- \* 1st—Chinese New Year
- \* 18th —School closes for half term holidays
- \* 28th —School re-opens
- \* 28th—4th March - Book week

#### March

- \* 3rd March—World Book Day

### Current Covid Cases

#### Across the School

5

### Events for Next Week

Have a great half term break !

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Just a reminder that we break up today for half term. The children will be back on Monday 28th February at the normal time.

## Enjoy Your Break.....!

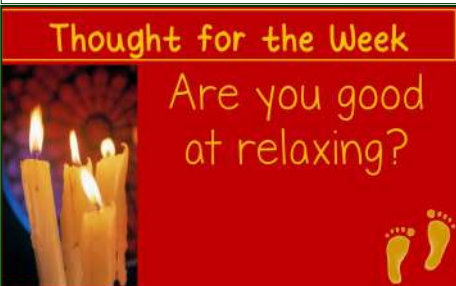
It's been a very good last week before half term if a little windy! This week the children have been finishing off work in a number of different subjects and there has been a strong working vibe despite the extra week we seem to have done this half term. The children are certainly ready for a break and we hope you all have a fantastic half term holiday!

You may have seen a very interesting article on the BBC News website this week about some guidance the Department for Education has given to schools about teaching in a non biased way. I am not sure if you are aware but the promotion of partisan political views in class is unlawful under the 1996 Education Act. Teachers should not share any of their own political views with the children and any views that are shared should be balanced and the children given the information they need to make their own decisions. This is something we as the staff of Ellenbrook think about a great deal particularly in teaching of RSE and how we cover diversity across the curriculum. We have spent quite a bit of time this term reviewing the curriculum and looking at how diverse we think it is. This has led to some really interesting discussions amongst the staff and is now something that is much more on our radar than it was previously. Hopefully the children will benefit from this as the term progresses!

I was asked this week what is the biggest thing I have learnt from my experiences of Covid. It was such an interesting question and not one I had ever thought about before. After a lot of soul searching I was unable to come up with much, it is me after all, but the one thing I would say is calmness and positivity. I have remained calm and positive throughout the last two years which I think was important for both the staff and you as parents. That's the one thing I think I will take forward. Not to worry about the small things as much and also to remember there are people a lot worse off than me and perhaps I should be better at doing more to help them.

Lastly, have a truly amazing, fantastic and peaceful half term. We will see you all when the children are back!

Mr Blackburn & the Ellenbrook Staff



### Thoughtful Time

This week we have been thinking about stillness!

#### 1. Are you good at relaxing?

No because I can never find my inner peace and when I do it's at a time when I am supposed to be doing something else!

#### 2. What's the most relaxing thing you've ever done?

For me, the most relaxing thing that I have ever done was sleep.....!

#### 3. Do you help those around you to relax?

Ni, I am very 'needy' and am an attention seeker but my sister is far worse than me....we never let our parents relax....

Year 5, Lowry

#### 1. Are you good at relaxing?

I am not good at relaxing because even though one small thing is on my mind I can't stop thinking about it.

#### 2. What's the most relaxing thing you've ever done?

Going for long bike rides like at Hemsley forest near my dads house because it is very long and really relaxing.

#### 3. Do you help those around you to relax?

I don't know because I could help people without knowing I'm helping them

Year 6, Bridgewater



### 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
1509	1570	1585	1799

Here are this weeks' house point totals!

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

**BRIDGEWATER ELLESMERE LOWRY PEEL**

### 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...
- ⇒ Children's mental health week
  - ⇒ Covid infection warn and inform
  - ⇒ Year 3 swimming
  - ⇒ Salford Community Leisure Holiday Club
  - ⇒ Covid advice for parents



### In the classroom this week.....

#### Nursery!

The wind had blown lots of rubbish into our playground so some of the children wanted to pick it up "so that the animals won't try to eat it and get hurt". [#ellenbrooknursery](#) [#lookingafterourevironment](#)

#### Reception!

[#ReceptionWillow](#) Look how hard [#ReceptionWillow](#) have worked this week! The floor books in our classroom show all the learning that has taken place in each area of the curriculum [#Valentinesweek](#) [#superstars](#) The children have had a lovely week this week and showed us all how kind and caring they are with their thoughtful words about people they love Today has finished the week off beautifully with music and PE .. have a wonderful half term everyone! [#receptionbirch](#)

#### Year 1!

[#Year1Pine](#) [#Year1Pine](#) have done amazing art this afternoon. We have carefully looked at the artist Kandinsky and used his techniques in our Valentine's Day art.

#### Year 2!

More sentences including our new spellings in Beech today! The floor was covered. Year 2 Beech are busy applying all their learning about living things to identify living, dead and things that have never been alive in the playground. If you see us ask us about the 7 characteristics of life and who 'Mrs Nerg' is?

#### Year 3!

Just admiring [#year3oak](#) art work from The Street Beneath my Feet



#### Year 4!

Yesterday [#Year4Discoverers](#) made torches for their DT project linked to the science topic electricity. They persevered through the challenges and produced some creative torches.

#### Year 5!

[#Year5Swallows](#) have finished weaving their baskets [#DT](#) [#AngloSaxons](#)

#### Year 6!

Year 6 Sharks are finishing off all their work on Macbeth by watching the ending. Will Macbeth survive or did the witches trick him? [#year6sharks](#)

### Parking

Another week...another moan about the complaints I have had from local people and other parents about car parking outside school. Please help us to maintain good relationships with those living around us and those trying to use the roads around the school.

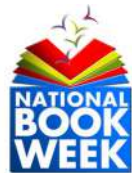


Also, just a reminder about idling cars. I noticed this myself this week and not only is it very bad for the environment it's also bad for pedestrians.

### Book Week

Just a reminder that it's book week when we return after half term.

We have a number of activities on that week so please can we ask you to check WEDUC for any updates.



**STAY ALERT > CONTROL THE VIRUS > SAVE LIVES**

### CLUBS

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