



Ellington Primary News

Believe and Achieve

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have finally reached the end of a long but highly successful first half term. All classes have settled so well with their new teachers and have produced some excellent work. We hope that you enjoyed looking through your child's books at the parent/carer consultations and you were as proud as we are.

Harvest

Thank you for the amazing attendance at the Harvest Festivals, it is a lovely way to end the half term. Thank you for the donations for the Wansbeck Valley Food Bank. These are always highly appreciated.

Mrs Cook

We are delighted to announce that Mrs Cook gave birth last week to beautiful baby Daisy.

I am sure you will join us in sending congratulations to her and her family - including proud Grandma Mrs Strachan!

New Roof—Last Stage!

During half term, we will have the solar panels reinstalled on the flat roof. This is the final stage of the work. Years 5 and 6 will now enter school via the side entrance not the studio. Thank you for your patience throughout the works!

Parent Consultations/Parent Survey

Thank you to all of the parents/carers who were able to attend our parent consultations on Wednesday and to those who made alternative arrangements with their child's class teacher. We had an overall attendance of 85% across school.

Thank you also to the parents/carers who were able to fill out our parent survey on the night of the consultations. This provides us valuable feedback to improve school and also celebrate

School Nurse

As mentioned in the previous newsletter, we now have a school nurse working at Ellington Primary every other Wednesday. She is available to support pupils and parents in a whole range of areas and we believe that she will be an excellent addition to the team. If you require any support from the school nurse, please contact Mrs Dyer at the school office or speak to your child's class teacher.

WOW—Walk to School Project

We are currently 4th in the North East in the Walk to School Top Ten chart! This is an amazing achievement but can we reach the top 3? To help us achieve this, can you walk, scoot, cycle or park and stride to school at least two times per week?

Sport at Ellington

At Ellington, we believe that sport plays a crucial role in school life. That is why we increased our PE lessons to two lessons per week this year and we also joined the Ashington School Sports Partnership. This means that children from Reception to Year 6 will all have opportunities to compete in competitions against other schools in a variety of sports. We are also holding some whole school sports days focusing on new sports to allow children to experience a huge variety of sports at Ellington. We then hope children will develop a lifelong love of sport and enjoy sporting hobbies outside of school.



In our achievement assembly every Friday, we love to celebrate sporting successes. Please encourage your child to share their successes with us.

You can find more about our PE curriculum [here](#).



Christmas Activities

Below is a repeat of information in the last newsletter:

Last year, we had a brilliant Pantomime come to us in school. Aladdin was a huge success so we have rebooked the Pantomime and we will be hosting Cinderella on December 4th. School will subsidise the cost of the show but we will request a £3 donation per child to help cover the costs involved. We did look at taking the children to see a Pantomime but the costs involved in tickets and transport make this too expensive at over £20 per pupil.

We then have a Christmas film night on December 6th. Children can be collected as normal at home time but we will re-open our doors at 4:15pm for the Christmas film. This is a whole school event where children can leave after school and return in their pyjamas for a Christmas film. There is no cost for this and children can bring a drink and snacks with them.

On 8th December, it is Christmas Jumper day. The children can, if they wish, wear something 'Christmassy' that day.

Reception and Nursery will be performing their Christmas show on December 13th at 9:30am.

Years One and Two will be performing their Christmas show on December 14th at 9:30am.

We are having our Christmas dinner on December 14th!

Class parties will take place during the last week as follows:

December 18th - KS1 Party / December 19th - EYFS Party / December 20th - Years 5/6 Party / December 21st - Years 3/4 Party

Finally, we will be holding two Carol Concerts for children from Reception to Year 6 on December 21st and 22nd at 9:15. Children will be singing a range of traditional Christmas carols and we would love you to join us.

Attendance 16/10–27/10

Reception– 97.5%

Year 1–92.0%

Year 2–89.4%

Year 3–95.0%

Year 4–90.4%

Year 5–95.8%

Year 6–92.3%

Whole School–93.0%

Down from 93.8%

Diary Dates

Break up for half term	27th October
Return to school	6th November
Cinderella Pantomime	4th December
Film night	6th December
Christmas Jumper Day	8th December
EYFS Performance	13th December
KS1 Performance	14th December
Christmas Dinner	14th December
KS1 Party	18th December
EYFS Party	19th December
Year 5/6 Party	20th December
Year 3/4 Party	21st December
Carol Concert	21st December
Carol Concert	22nd December
End of term	22nd December
Teacher Training Day	8th January 2024
Return to school	9th January 2024

Online Safety

Following our Online Safety Workshops, we have posters around school displaying our SMART rules for Online Safety. Last year, Mrs Richardson ran a competition for pupils to design a poster displaying our Online Safety rules. Libby H from Year 4 is our winner and we now have her design displayed around school and as screen savers on our I pads and laptops. We hope this will help children to remember the SMART rules whenever they are online.

At Ellington Primary School, we...



STAY SMART ONLINE

SAFE



Keep all of your personal information **SAFE**.

PaSSWord * * * * *

MEET



Don't **MEET** up with strangers you have talked to online.

~~Strangers~~

ACCEPT



Think before you **ACCEPT** anything online.



RELIABLE



Not everyone is **RELIABLE**.
They may not be who they seem to be.



TELL



TELL a responsible adult if you feel worried or uncomfortable.



Reception News

What a brilliant fortnight we have had in Reception. We have been doing lots of work based on the story the Little Red Hen. We have learned the story using actions to help us, labelled the characters and wrote speech bubbles to show what the characters in the story say. The children were super at using the sounds they have been learning to help them. We ended our learning on this story by creating a recipe to help us make bread just like the Little Red Hen does. We sieved, poured and mixed to create the dough then worked hard at kneading the dough. We watched it rise and popped it into the oven. We then chose a topping to add to our bread, chocolate spread and jam being the firm favourites. It was so tasty!

In maths we have been working hard on recognising more or less than an amount by playing a magic game where objects kept appearing and disappearing! Head over to your child's School360 account to have a look.

In our provision we have been thinking about Halloween. We have made our own potions, carved pumpkins and practised Halloween themed CVC words. We have also been working hard at learning our song for the Harvest Festival.

We also had a super special non-uniform day to celebrate being the top attendance class for 3 weeks running. We also had a game of dodgeball and a trip to the library as part of our winning prizes. Thank you for all of your support in making this happen, we have some very happy children in Reception!

Have a brilliant half term!



Year 1 News

Wow! What a fantastic although somewhat busy first half term.

The children are now fully settled into their new routines and have impressed both Mrs Strachan and me with how much they are already achieving.

In English, we have been performing poetry. We have been studying different poems by Michael Rosen and performed the poem 'Yesterday' to some children in different year groups. We also got a great reply from poet Michael Rosen himself on Twitter.

Please follow our Twitter (X) page @ellingtontweets to see what we get up to in school.

In Maths, we have been working on multiplication, working on how many lots of and using concrete manipulatives to help us work out the answer. We then moved on to division and sharing. The children have found these new concepts tricky however, they have shown great resilience by continuing to try their hardest.

In Geography, we have now completed our first unit of work 'What's it like to live here' today we took a walk around Ellington to have a look at the different features we could see on our Ariel map.

In DT, we have completed our unit of 'Making Windmills'. The children persevered and created some great working windmills.

Finally, we have been learning all about Harvest and why we celebrate it. We hope you enjoyed our Harvest assembly.

Thank you for all your support this term. It's been very busy and we know everyone leads busy lives but reading at least 3 times a week makes a huge improvement to your child's reading. Please continue to read over the half term holidays and most importantly enjoy spending some quality time with your children.

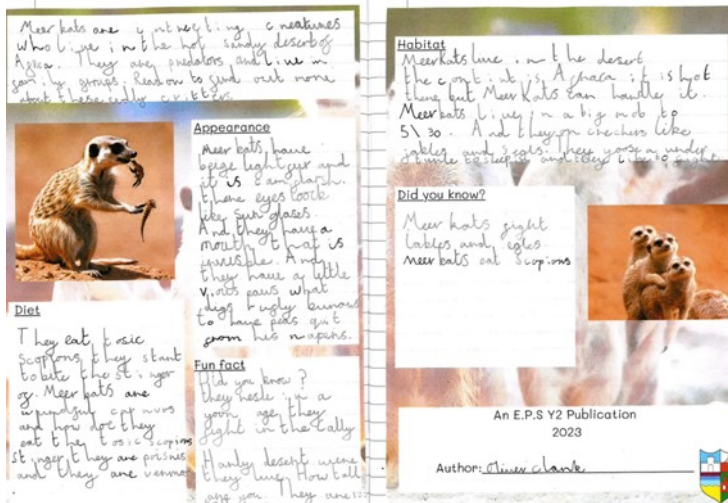
Thank you,

Mrs Horsley



Year 2 News

I can't believe that we have been back to school for eight whole weeks! We have packed so much into that time and Year 2 have made a brilliant start to their learning journey.



You will be pleased to know that we have finally finished our Marvellous Meerkat Fact-Files. The children have worked so hard and took a huge amount of pride in their work. They also used their resilience to keep going (even when their hands hurt!). We moved on to learning about the poet Joshua Seigal (he's not a seagull!) and performing his poem 'A Classroom Speaks'. Miss Gray's reading comprehension group have also finished reading 'The Owl Who Was Afraid of the Dark'. They took the Accelerated Reader quiz

for the book and absolutely smashed it! Our Year 2 word count is now an impressive 29,318 words.

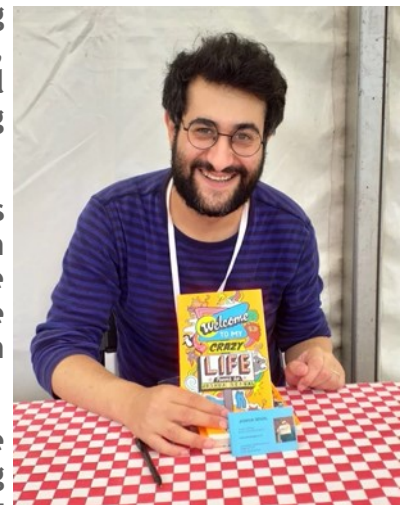
- In maths, we have finished the calculation section of our Big Maths CLIC and we are ready to start looking at SAFE (shape, amounts, fractions and explaining data). The first area we will be looking at is fractions and we will start by some recapping of skills from year 1.

Our afternoons have been busy learning more about animals in science. We now know that reptiles have dry scales on their bodies and they need a direct source of heat to be able to survive. This is because they are cold blooded animals. We don't think Ellington is hot enough to attract any reptiles such as crocodiles or chameleons.

In RE with Mrs Redpath, we have explored Islam. We have found out about the five pillars of Islam and we will be doing some more work around this during our inter-faith week, next half term.

Have a restful, happy and safe half term and enjoy some spooky fun on Halloween!

Miss Gray



Year 3 News

What a busy end to the half term!

In English, we have been working on poetry based on Rachel Rooney's excellent collection of poems, "A Kid in my Class". The children practised and performed the poems with some lovely expression and actions.

In maths, we have started learning about fractions and the children are managing this tricky topic very well.

We had a wonderful time at Ashington Rugby Club on Monday. The children took part in a range of rugby themed games and were an absolute credit to the school.



On Thursday we had a very exciting Design Technology day with a seasonal produce theme. We learnt some food technology skills, producing some delicious fruit tarts.

We have also been busy practising our short piece of drama ready for Friday's Harvest Festival.

Have a well earned rest over the holiday, we have another very exciting half term planned when we return!

Year 4 News

Dear Parents and Carers,

First, I just wanted to say a huge thank you to all parents that attended the Parent Teacher Interviews on Wednesday. It was fantastic to get the chance to tell you how well your children have settled into life in Year 4. Also, thank you to everyone who attended the Harvest Performance. All the children did a fantastic job of learning their lines at home, it made everything run so much easier in the classroom. I have to say how impressed I have been by children taking responsibility for their learning. Finally, before I recap our learning over the past two weeks, I just wanted to wish you all a very happy and restful half term break.

In English, the children have been looking at the performance poetry of Joseph Coelho. We have performed a variety of his poems including 'A Little Bit of Food' and 'The Gingerbread Man'. We have also identified some of the vivid imagery that Joseph Coelho included in his poem Miss Flotsam we then used this to create some artwork based on the images we could imagine. In reading, the children also completed reading 'The Witches' by Roald Dahl. It was a hefty 320 words, so the children have done brilliantly to get through it in a half term and they thoroughly enjoyed it.

In Maths, the children have continued to make very pleasing progress in their CLIC sessions. The main parts of the lesson have focussed on the introduction of column multiplication and short division.

In Art, the children really enjoyed our 'Art Day' on Thursday and Friday afternoon. The children used different grades of pencil to investigate tone and how tone can be used to create 3D shapes. They drew sketches of ribbon to practice this skill. We also used charcoal to create a picture focussing on using tone as well as proportion. Finally, we 'drew with scissors' by creating collages

In Science, the children have learnt to apply their knowledge of classification keys and closed questions to plants. We also completed our end of unit assessment.

In History we have been studying leisure time for children in the Tudor and Victorian era and how this compared to the modern era. This included looking at how Tudor fairs compared to Victorian fairs.

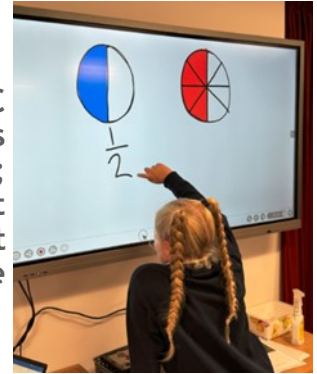


Year 5 News

Just like that... the first half term of the year is complete! The children have worked extremely hard during their first half term of year 5.

In English, we have reached the end of Kensuke's Kingdom. The children have used formal writing techniques and modal verbs to write their very own Desert Island Survival Guide!

In maths, the children maintain their enjoyment with their CLIC sessions and are using all their determination to beat their previous weekly Beat That score. This week we have progress to fractions; where we have been understanding and exploring equivalent fractions. We now know the difference between unit and non-unit fractions and how to make fractions equivalent when given the denominator.



In PE, we have implemented our space awareness, attacking / defending techniques and communication skills into game situations with the attitude to be victorious over the opposing team. We have also been working hard during our circuit training with the hope of improving on our health-related fitness baseline scores, fingers crossed!



In geography, we have concluded our topic 'What is life like in the Alps?' The children compared Innsbruck, a ski resort town in Austria, to Northumberland. Using evidence such as, Alnwick Castle & Gardens, Cragside, Kielder Observatory, Holy Island, Bamburgh Castle and Hadrian's Wall, we decided that Northumberland has much more to offer!

Well done on another fantastic week Year 5! I have been super impressed with all the children this half term; their attitude to learning, their behaviour and their willingness to try their best has collectively made this half term very enjoyable for everyone.

Have a great half term everyone!

Mr Todd

Year 6 News

What a half term it has been! We've been so busy and the children have made a good start to Year 6.

Recently, we had a visit to Cragside, the house in the world to be powered by hydroelectricity during the Victorian era! We explored the grounds and linked in some of our science knowledge when looking at the trees to decide which classification of plant they were. Inside the house, we toured all the rooms and spoke to the guides who shared many interesting facts about the house and little things for us to notice. The staff and other members of the public commented on how polite and well-behaved the children were, therefore highlighting our value of "pride".



Not only that but a few days later, the Red Cross came in to do some first aid training with the children. We were taught CPR, how to use a defibrillator, what we mean by "first aid" and some tips for bumped heads and burns. The children even had a go at using the recovery position to get a casualty on their side if they are unconscious but still breathing. Everyone took part in a positive and enthusiastic way.



In the classroom, we have finished our non-chronological report in English from the point of view of a Victorian charity worker; looked at micro-organisms in science; researched the roles of some key women during WW2; and tackled multiplication of whole numbers as well as decimals in maths - and that's just to name a few!

I hope all the children have a good rest over the half term and come back ready and raring to go!