



Ellington Primary News

Believe and Achieve

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been fantastic to welcome back all of the children after a sunny summer holiday. The atmosphere in school has been amazing. The children have settled into their new classrooms and routines so well and it has been great to watch their class assemblies. We hope that you too have enjoyed the class assemblies and you have found the parent/carer meetings useful.

This year, we aim to have lots of opportunities for you to come into school for assemblies, plays, concerts and other events.

School Rules and Values

In school, we have introduced some new whole school rules.

They are three easy to remember rules which apply in all situations when representing Ellington Primary School.

They are:

- **Be Ready**
- **Be Respectful**
- **Be Kind**

Our school rules go hand in hand with our whole school values which the children have been learning about in class. During this work, Years 1 to 6 have created displays in the school hall to explain what this value is all about and why it is so important. Our focus value this half term, for the whole school, is **Resilience**.

We are aware that the start of a new year can be challenging for children. New staff, new classroom, trickier work, etc, can all contribute to feelings of anxiousness and worry. We hope the children have all now fully settled into their new year groups, but if you do have any concerns, please contact your child's class teacher.

Extra-Curricular Clubs

Our new extra-curricular clubs started this week. We have tried hard to ensure a wide variety of clubs are on offer to children from Years 1 to 6. As we did last year, clubs will start for Reception in Spring term. We have a mixture of teachers, teaching assistants and external coaches running the clubs to enable a greater assortment of activities for the children.

Sport is something we are very passionate about at Ellington and we are continuously striving to develop the PE and sports provision in school. Last year, we were awarded the Silver School Games award for our PE delivery. This year, we are going for Gold!





COMMANDO JOE'S®

Realising your potential

During the teacher training days at the beginning of term, staff were trained by a Commando Joes instructor. Commando Joes is a programme that we will be using with children

from Nursery to Year 6. The programme allows children and young people to develop life skills, develop a growth mindset and build resilience by taking part in a range of activities and challenges. They will develop the 6 C's: **Character, Citizenship, Challenge, Communication, Collaboration and Critical Thinking.** We have some top-secret equipment in school that the children will use during their Commando Joe activities which will be linked to the current topics that they are studying in class.

It's Good to Talk!

In school, we want all children to feel happy, confident and safe. In every class, there is a worry box which is a place for your child to put their worries so they don't have to think about them all the time. Staff in school check these boxes frequently and then speak with the children to discuss their worries. We also have drop-in sessions available every lunch time with senior leaders in school. Around school, there are posters advertising this for the children so they know exactly who they can talk to every single day. Of course, all staff are always available to talk but the drop-in sessions are an additional option for children out of class time.



Diary Dates

Year 5 Class Assembly	26th September
Parent Consultations	19th October
Harvest Festival	
(EYFS & KS1 9.30. KS2 10.30)	21st October
Break up for half term	21st October
Return to school	31st October
Halloween Disco	31st October
Armistice Day	11th November
Anti-Bullying Week	14th November
Children in Need	18th November

More details about events will be shared closer to the specified dates. Further events are being planned and more information will be shared in future news bulletins.

Attendance

Our whole school attendance in the last academic year was **94.6%**. This was below the DFE's expected attendance target of **96%**. Absence from school can have a significant impact on children. If your child is absent, please telephone the school office on 01670 860769 by 9:00am.

Attendance 12/09–23/09

Reception	– 89.5%
Year 1	–99.4%
Year 2	–99.0%
Year 3	–95.9%
Year 4	–96.8%
Year 5	–94.0%
Year 6	–100%

Mr Hodgson—Headteacher

Nursery News

The nursery children have been amazing and have all settled really well. We are very impressed with them. We have had a busy start to the new term. The children have enjoyed exploring our lovely new setting. We are really excited about the changes to our outdoors and are looking forward to using the new equipment.

We have enjoyed finding out about ourselves. Everyone has been interested in our stories about super me. The story A Super Power Like Mine helped us to see what we were good at. The Colour Monster story has helped us to think about and describe our feelings.

We have found out about so many things. We have made self-portraits, face biscuits and listening ears. We have been on an Autumn walk and found out about conkers. We have done Write Dance and developed our fine motor skills. We have loved learning new songs and playing the instruments. We enjoyed going on a listening walk and have been working hard to learn phonics phase 1 tasks. We have explored the Busy Things activities on the whiteboard and used the Code-a- Pillars. Most of all we have had lots of fun together.



Next week we are going to find out all about our family and to see if we can draw the people who are special to us.

Reception News

The children have had an excellent start in Reception and we are so proud of how well they are all settling into school. We have had a fantastic time exploring our classroom environment as well as spending time getting to know our friends and learning about the rules and routines of Reception.



This half-term our topic is 'Superhero, Super Me!' which we will be linking to our learning across the curriculum. This week, we have been celebrating the similarities and differences between children in our class and we have talked about how we are all unique. We looked carefully at ourselves in the mirror and discussed our features before painting self-portraits for our class display.



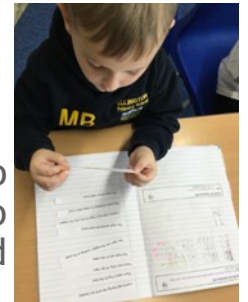
Mrs Cook is super impressed with Reception for their amazing effort in phonics! We have been learning lots of new sounds and writing them in our phonics books. We have also enjoyed sharing storybooks with our friends in front of the pretend fire and in our tipi!



Year 1 News

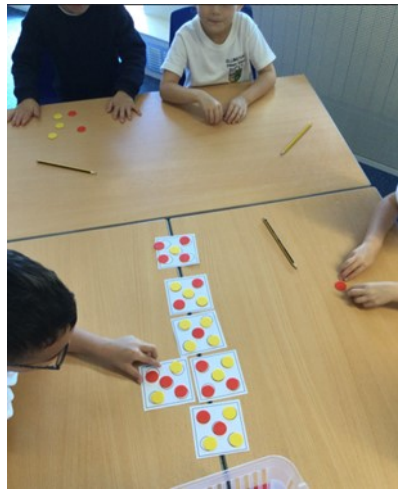
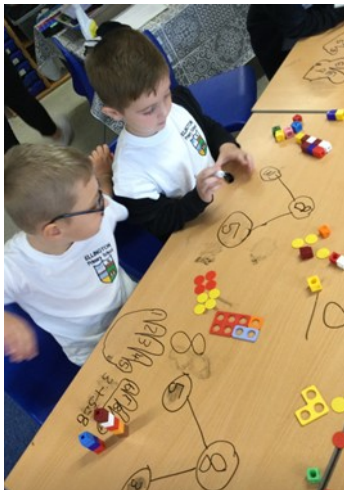
What a fantastic start to Year 1. The children have all settled really well into their new class and have adapted well into their new whole class teaching lessons.

We have dived straight in to our phonics, English and maths lessons and have already been so busy.



In English we are studying the book 'The Tiger who came to Tea' by Judith Kerr. I have been so impressed with their sequencing, performing and labelling of the book so far.

In maths we have worked on our fast recall of number bonds to 5, subitising of 5 and we have started looking at ways to make 6,7,8 and 9. We have used a range of new mathematical manipulatives to help us.



Thank you so much for coming and watching your child/children in their class performance. They all did wonderfully telling you about one of our school values 'Happiness'. I hope the parent meeting was useful and please be in touch if I can support in any way.

Mrs Horsley

Year 2 News

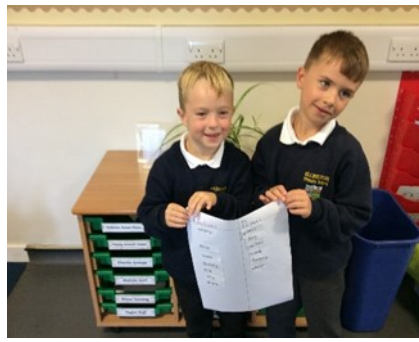
First of all, we would like to say a huge thank you to all the parents and family members who came to our Autumn performance and parents' information session. The children worked really hard to learn their lines, the song and the actions.

It has been a very busy first few weeks in Year 2. In Maths we have started our work on Place Value by focussing on numbers 10 to 100. We have looked at the equivalence between 10 ones and a set of ten, we have learnt to write numbers that are multiples of 10 in both numerals and words and we have estimated the position of a multiple of 10 on a numberline.

In English, we are back in the swing of our Read Write Inc. sessions for phonics and reading. We have also started our looking at our first shared text, Meerkat Mail by Emily Gravett. We received a postcard from Sunny the meerkat and he is staying in the class for the next couple of weeks. We have looked at the features of a postcard including the use of first person, the inclusion of opinions and feelings as well as facts. Through our SPaG work, we have also learnt about the difference between adjectives and nouns.

In History we have started learning about the Great Fire of London. We looked at the difference between events that have happened within living memory and events like the Great Fire of London that occurred beyond living memory. We looked at maps of the city of London as well as drawings/pictures of the city centres in 1666 and 2022 to see some of the differences.

Finally in Science, we have discussed what Science is and what a Scientist looks like. Children all drew what they think of when they hear the word Science and Scientist. Interestingly all but one of the class drew an old man in a lab coat so we discussed how anyone could be a scientist and learnt about Earle who is a famous marine biologist.

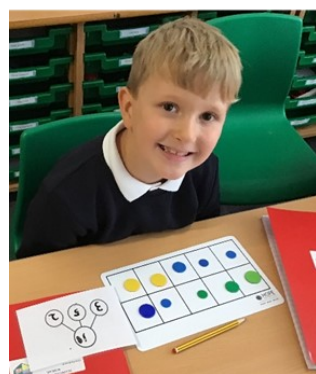


Year 3 News

We have had a wonderful first two weeks in Year 3! All of the children came back to school full of smiles and enthusiasm to learn.

Last week we spent some time thinking about our school values. Our class focused on the value of honesty. We are looking forward to showing you some of our work in our class assembly.

In English we have started our new text 'The Tunnel' by Anthony Browne. The first morning started with us having lots of fun exploring a tunnel in our classroom!



Our maths work has focused on consolidating our skills with addition and subtraction, including lots of practical activities.

Work in Geography has been to locate Ellington within the UK and we have revised lots of geographical vocabulary.



We also had an exciting Food Technology lesson where we found out about the climates needed to grow different fruits. We then prepared the fruits and made delicious fruit skewers!



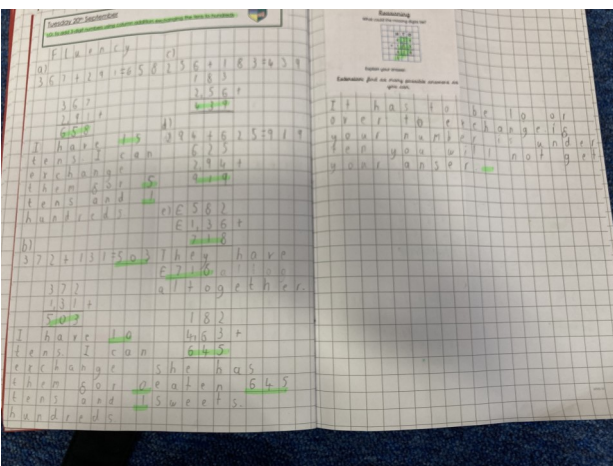
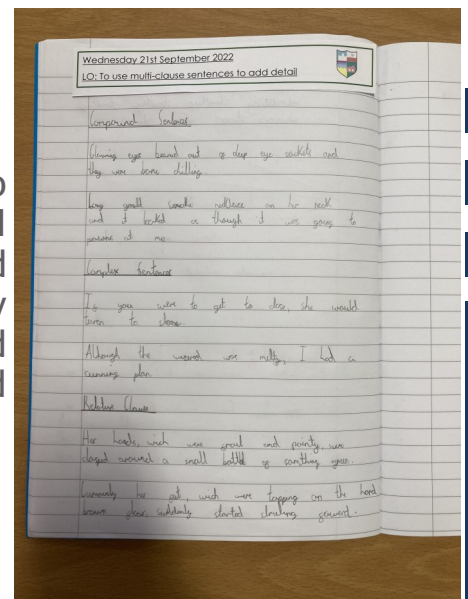
Year 4 News

We have had a lovely start to Year 4 and the children have been putting lots of effort into their learning.

We began our year by looking at the new school values with a particular focus on Pride. We created art about the things we're proud of and wrote a speech about people in our lives of whom we are proud.



In English, the children have been writing to entertain by working up to a character description. I have been very impressed with their vocabulary and we have been learning how to use it effectively through expanded noun phrases, compound and complex sentences as well as similes and metaphors.

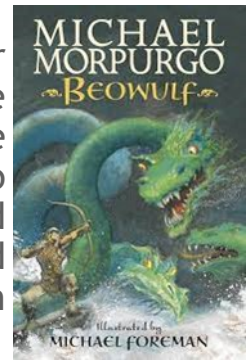


In maths, we have been recalling some of our learning from Year 3 for addition of 3-digit numbers with exchanges. We have been using stem sentences, bar models and part-part-whole models to deepen our understanding as well as introducing vocabulary such as addened, sum and commutative. Can you challenge your child to explain these meanings to you?

Year 5 News



What a fantastic start to the academic year we have had in our new class. We recently started our class text, Beowulf where we are eventually going to write our own Legend & Myth story. We have started off by exploring the front cover and the blurb before making our own predictions. Through other myth and legend introductions, we highlighted the key features we need in our writing which has enabled us to write our very own introduction.



In maths we have been focusing on tenths and fractions and decimals and how they can be composed additively and multiplicatively. The children have adapted very well to the high expectations of independent work in year 5. We aim to show resilience in order to complete problem solving tasks.

Our topic for this half term is Magnificent Mountains so we have recapped on earthquakes and volcanoes from what we were taught in lower key stage 2. The children have been identifying key mountain ranges on a map of Europe which has involved them developing their map and atlas skills.

The children thoroughly enjoy attending Ashington Leisure Centre on a Wednesday for their weekly swimming lessons and also doing PE on Thursdays with Mr Robertson.



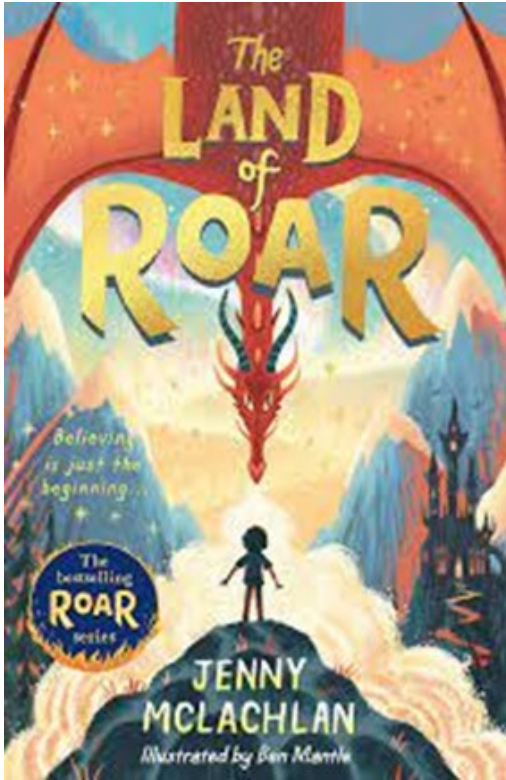
Year 5 have been focusing on 'respect' - one of the school's 7 values - where we have designed our own posters, created plays and all signed our year 5 rules and expectations document.

I have been so impressed with the children, their start to year 5 has set the standards very high so long may this continue.

Mr Todd & Mrs Mallaburn

Year 6 News

It has been a busy first few weeks in Year 6! We have settled in well and started to get stuck into our learning for the term.



In English, we have started reading 'The Land of Roar' by Jenny McLachlan. We used our inference skills to analyse the front cover and predict what the story might be about. There is a huge dragon on the cover, so we think he or she may be a main character. Miss Gray even spotted a dragon outside our classroom and managed to capture it on video! We used the footage to help us describe dragons and prepare for our writing out come which is to write a fantasy setting description. Watch this space.

In maths we are exploring multiples of 1000 and representing them in different ways - we have mastered ten frames now and can use them confidently.

Our history question is 'How did the Industrial Revolution and the ideas of the Victorian era impact modern Britain and the rest of the world?' So far, we have explored the question and made sure we understand the new vocabulary involved.



In Science we have been looking at the different types of scientific enquiry and focusing on planning investigations.

We have also been focusing on our school values - particularly resilience. We have been filling our 'Resilience Tool Box' with strategies to support us. 'Life is not about how fast you run, or how high your climb, but how well you bounce!'