



Ellington Primary News

Believe and Achieve

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have reached the end of another half term and have had so much to celebrate in school. It is the time of year when teachers can look back and see the amazing progress the children have made again this year. We are all very proud of how hard the children at Ellington work and the commitment they have to continuously improve.

We have a number of events coming up next half term and you will find information about many of those in this newsletter. We hope you have a fantastic half term break and will welcome the children back to school on Monday 3rd June. There will hopefully be a surprise waiting!

Miss Gray

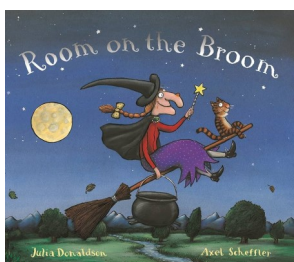
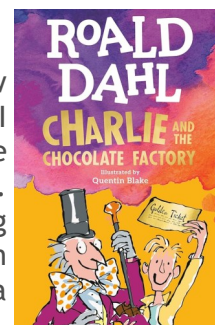
Miss Gray is leaving Ellington at the end of this week. She has been here since September 2022 but is leaving for personal reasons. She worked in Year 6 last year and worked in Year 2 at the beginning of this year. We wish her lots of luck in the future.

Miss Gray wanted to say: It's with sadness that I write this but after serious consideration, I have decided to leave Ellington Primary School as of 31st May. Ellington is a wonderful school. The progress that has been made in the last few years is incredible. The children are amazing and make Ellington such a rewarding place to work.

Book Recommendations

Mrs Horsley

"One of my favourite books that I have enjoyed reading, teaching and now reading to my own children is Charlie and the Chocolate Factory by Roald Dahl. I particularly enjoy the humour within the story and how different characters are portrayed. I like how it creates imagination and it teaches important lessons. Wonka's factory is full of surprises, and each child learns a lesson about being greedy or selfish. It made me think about how we should treat other. The main message behind the book is that being kind, honest and humble will get you a long way in life."



Poppy Mc from Year 1, has recommended Room on the Broom:

- "I like this book because it is funny! Willow the witch goes on an adventure with lots of different animals on her broom! But, her broom snaps after meeting a big bad dragon! Luckily she was saved by the animals who made her a new broom!"

Safeguarding at Ellington—Water Safety

It was devastating to see the death of two children in Northumberland last weekend. As a school, we think carefully about contextual safeguarding and what we can do to ensure the children of Ellington are not only safe in school but also in the local community. We have had visits from the Transport Police, Fire Brigade, Ambulance Service, Dogs Trust, Bikeability, Local PCSO's and RNLI. This week in school, we had an assembly focusing on water safety and the dangers of playing in/near water. We talked about how dangerous

Primary Science Quality Mark

We are proud to announce that we have been awarded the Primary Science Quality Mark. We have been awarded this to celebrate our commitment to excellence in science leadership, teaching and learning. PSQM is a comprehensive evidence-based professional development programme that effectively develops science leadership, ensuring teachers have the knowledge, capability and support they need to transform science education and shape future generations. A special thank you must go to Mr McConville who has worked incredibly hard to achieve this award for Ellington.



Move up Day—2nd July

We will be holding our Move Up Day on July 2nd. This is when the children will meet their new teachers and spend the day in their new classrooms. They will each study an artist and create a new art gallery for our hall.

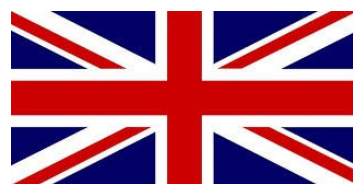
Wear Something Yellow Day -21st June

On Friday 21st June, we are having a 'Wear Something Yellow Day' in school. This is to raise awareness and funds for Cystic Fibrosis. All children are invited to wear something yellow on and we are asking for a £1 donation with all monies raised going to the Cystic Fibrosis Trust.

The logo for the Cystic Fibrosis Trust, with the words 'Cystic' and 'Fibrosis Trust' stacked vertically in a bold, black, sans-serif font. The text is set against a yellow rectangular background.

D-Day 80th Anniversary—6th June

The 6th of June 2024 marks the 80th anniversary of D-Day, a highly significant day in the history of Great Britain. We plan to hold a celebration in school to commemorate this day. We will have a red/white/blue themed non-uniform day for children and staff as well as afternoon tea for school dinner.



EYFS Open Day—22nd June

On Saturday June 22nd, we will be holding an open day for Early Years (Nursery/ Reception) between 10am and 1pm. This is for parents/carers with young children who would like to see our Early Years provision. Please spread the word and encourage as many people to attend as possible! Our forecasted numbers for Nursery are quite low and we would love more children to be joining Ellington!



The poster features a blue background with colorful bunting at the top. In the top right corner is the school crest. The main text is centered and reads: 'ELLINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL FAMILY FUN' in white, followed by 'EYFS OPEN DAY' in blue on a yellow banner, and '22ND JUNE 2024 10AM-1PM' in white. Below this, it asks 'ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A NURSERY PLACE FOR SEPTEMBER 2024?' and 'COME ALONG AND SEE WHY OUR AMAZING SCHOOL IS FOR YOU!'. At the bottom are three circular images: a boy reading a book, two girls in a garden, and a girl painting.

For more information visit:
www.ellingtonprimaryschool.co.uk



Sports Day / Summer Fair—28th June

This is another reminder that this year we are combining Sports Day with our Summer Fair. Both will take place on Friday 28th June. Our sports activities will take place from 9:00 to 10:00 (EYFS) and Years 1 to 6 (10:15 - 12:00) with our Summer Fair taking place from 13:30 to 15:30. More details will be shared closer to the events, but please save the date!

Attendance 13/5–24/5

Reception	82.6%
Year 1	90.9%
Year 2	89.8%
Year 3	92.5%
Year 4	96.9%
Year 5	98.4%
Year 6	94.3%
Whole School	92.4%
	Down from 93.2%

Diary Dates

End of summer term 1	24th May
Return to school	3rd June
D-Day Anniversary	6th June
Wear Something Yellow Day	21st June
EYFS Open Day	22nd June (10am–1pm)
Sports Day AM /Summer Fair PM	28th June
Move Up Day	2nd July
Y6 Residential	5th–7th July
Summer term reports	12th July
End of summer term 2	19th July

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.

Mr Hodgson—Headteacher

Nursery News

Also, I know there is the Reception meeting at 5pm on the 1st July, however just put the Stay and Play in on this date from 3:30-4:15pm if that is okay.

Nursery have continued their learning about real life superheroes and have enjoyed taking their learning within the outdoor garden. We've created police cars and put out 'fires'. The children are able to say what superhero qualities the real life heroes have too.

The weather has been glorious enough to go into our smaller garden and explore the mud kitchen! We have been making different recipes as well as developing our imagination, communication and fine motor skills.

The older nursery children have been working really hard in phonics and have now learnt 15 sounds!! We are really trying hard to say the 'pure' sound and identify the initial sounds in words. We are also fine tuning our ears to orally blend cvc words too.

Our younger children have been developing their listening skills and identifying environmental sounds. They've been on listening walks, played Mrs Goodall has a box and played guess the sound games.

Well done Nursery! Another half term successfully completed!

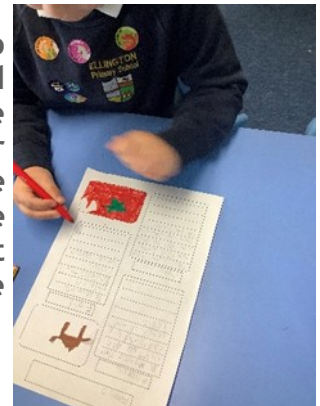


Reception News

Reception have had a fantastic two weeks since our last update. To finish off our learning about London we made clay models of famous landmarks, the children practised their modelling skills by rolling, pressing, pinching and shaping the clay to make either Big Ben, the Tower of London or a London underground sign. The models turned out brilliantly and the children are super proud of them! We also went on a local area walk to find landmarks in Ellington, we sketched them while we were out and had a great time in the sunshine.



- We have also been learning about Morocco and comparing Morocco to Ellington and London. We have asked questions that we would like to find out about the country, used the iPads to answer these questions and then used the information we found out to write our very own fact files. The children loved finding out about the different animals that live in Morocco, the types of foods the people enjoy, how their schools work and the different celebrations they do and do not take part in. Ask us about what we have found out, I am sure the children will be keen to tell you!



In maths we have been learning about coins and shapes. Last week, we named and identified each of the coins and thought about how we could make amounts using 1ps, some of us even swapped some 1p's for coins with a higher value! The children were amazed to find out about how many 1p coins we could swap for each of the other coins, especially when we made £2 with 1p coins! This week, we have recapped our knowledge of 2D shapes including how many sides and corners they have. We have also been introduced to 3D shapes and have enjoyed looking for real life examples of each shape.

In our provision we have enjoyed making necklaces inspired by Moroccan jewellery, making mosaic tiles and painting the Moroccan flag.

Well done Reception! You have all earned a well deserved rest over half term- have fun!

Year 1 News

What a crazy, busy half term we have had! It has seemed to fly over.

The children have worked incredibly hard this half term and produced some phenomenal work and should be extremely proud of themselves.

Last week we concluded our writing on 'Little Blue Riding Hood'. We created a comic strip using speech bubbles, caption boxes and scream bubbles. The children loved this unit of work and blew me away with their writing.

In Geography, we have been learning all about physical and human features. We have found different examples in our local area and went on a walk to find these within Ellington. We have then looked at China as our Non-European country and looked at what life is like in Shanghai.

We have been working incredibly hard on our attacking and defending skills in PE. We understand the basic principle of attacking and defending and have applied this in a range of exciting games, we can explain why these roles are important within different invasion games.

I am so impressed with the children's enthusiasm in our daily run. The children can explain the benefits of this and also push themselves to run more than once to increase their daily steps.

- In our final term for Year 1 after the half term, the children will be having their National phonics screening check. Please continue to read as many times as possible with your child. Games you could play whilst reading is: How many red words can you read in a minute? How quick can you read the speedy green words? Who can use the best story telling voice when reading the story?



Year 2 News

Year 2 has had a fantastic start to the Summer Term, all of the children have worked extremely hard and produced some excellent pieces of work which they should be very proud of.



In English, all of the children created their own narrative based on 'The Bear and The Piano' by David Litchfield. The children enjoyed learning about direct speech, and descriptive language and we will continue to work on this next term. We have also been working hard on our joint handwriting, this is something I encourage the children to practice whenever they have the chance - we have some beautiful handwriting in the making!

During Maths we have been focusing on fractions, the children started to look at adding and subtracting halves, thirds and quarters. During their CLIC sessions, the children have been working on their rapid recall of counting, addition, subtraction, multiplication and division facts. I encourage all the children to use TTRS and practice their timetables as much as possible as timetables are key to success!

We have come to the end of our History unit 'What is a Monarch?' Year 2 have displayed great interest within the topic and have wowed myself and Mrs Curtis with their fantastic subject knowledge. We ended the unit creating some salt art work of monarchs and their castles.



We also have completed our PSHE unit on 'Citizenship', during this unit we looked at our local community and school environment. We have discussed the importance of keeping our school and local environment tidy and we talked about the responsibilities we have. We also were lucky to have a special visit from Northumbria Police's Mr. Belshaw. Mr Belshaw is a Police Diver and Drone Pilot and shared the role he plays in helping the local community. We even got to try on school special police gear.

Miss Brooks

Well done for a brilliant term Year 2.
You have all shown great resilience,
happiness and teamwork.
Keep reading and practising on TTRS!

Year 3 News

It is hard to believe that we have already arrived at that final week of this half term, and that the children are now about to enter the final stage of year 3! Time has flown!

In English, we have been busy writing some excellent descriptive paragraphs based on our focus book, *Leon and the Place Between*. It has really sparked our imagination and we have used some fantastic language. Earlier in the half term, we used drama techniques to help us come up with ideas for two-way dialogues in our narratives. We have worked so hard to use speech marks correctly in our writing as well.



We have returned to fractions in maths and have been building on and extending our knowledge brilliantly.



Our new science topic has got off to a good start, learning all about plants. We spent last Thursday setting up an experiment to see whether sunflower growth would be affected by how many seeds were planted in each pot, and we can already see the sunflower plants starting to grow and look forward to measuring them each week to observe what happens over time.

In computing, we have developed our use of Scratch to design drawing programs and we will be able to finish these off (and hopefully share them) just after half term. It always amazes Mrs Richardson the way lots of the children expand on the code we have learnt about and add to it to put their own spin on the programs we design.



Along similar lines, we had a special DT day with Mr Bailey on Thursday this week which crossed over with our computing work, programming Micro:Bit controllers to create road safety focussed wearable devices and designing end products.

Along with finishing our geography, RE and music topics off, this has certainly been a very busy half term! Enjoy the week's break!

Year 5 News

We've had a busy week leading up to the May half term holidays. The children thoroughly enjoyed their computing morning with Mr Bailey where they worked hard to explore selection whilst designing and coding a quiz on Scratch. Our design and technology day this half term was based on our Cooking and Nutrition unit where the children had to describe the process of beef production, research a traditional recipe and make changes to it, add nutritional value to a recipe by selecting ingredients and prepare and cook a selected meal.



In English, we have produced an impressive first-person narrative based on the Literacy Shed video 'Road's End'. We have worked hard to incorporate direct and indirect speech into our story to show the persistent questions prompted by the driver of the vehicle. The children also used their grammar knowledge to use simile starters, relative clauses and a variety of complex sentences within their writing.

In maths, we have recapping converting units such as grams, kilograms, millimetres, centimetres and meters. We then used coin cards to calculate conversions between metric and imperial units of distance and weight. Most recently, the children have been developing their problem-solving skills in the context of money.

Another excellent week in year 5, keep up the hard work everyone!

Mr Todd

Year 4 News

Dear Parents and Carers,

This newsletter has been written by Mr. Freedman, I have been working in Year 4 for five weeks now and have thoroughly enjoyed my time so far. All the children have been so impressive with their positive attitudes towards all subjects and the fantastic work that they produce. Thank you for taking time to read the second newsletter of the Summer Term.

In Maths, we have begun our fractions unit, including counting fractions of any denominator, converting improper fractions into mixed numbers and finding fractions of an amount. The children have applied their knowledge of division facts and times tables very successfully here.

In English, we have been continuing with our unit of work on Flotsam by David Weisner. Children have now written three pieces of writing based on the book. The first write was based upon a small crab being picked up by a child at the beach. The second was about a mysterious character and what big reason the character was at the beach for. Finally, the last write was the aftermath of the big event and the thoughts and feeling their character had proceeding the big event.

In Computing, the children have completed the Unit of work with Mrs Richardson and Mr Bailey. This culminated the children making and testing a game that contained count controlled and infinite loops on Scratch.

In History, we have continued our learning about Vikings, specifically based on Viking Longboats, why and what Vikings traded and what were the consequences of the Anglo-Saxon and Vikings struggle for Britain.

In P.E, we have continued with tennis and football. The children have all applied what they have learnt in the series of lessons to apply these skills into game situations.

Finally, on Thursday, we completed our Design Technology Day focussed on electrical systems. The children built torches using plastic bottles. They applied their learning from their science work on electricity and designed their bottle to meet a design criteria. They built a switch from split pins and used tin foil to create a reflector.



Year 6 News



Year 6 were superstars during SATs week! Every single child put in 100% effort and were not phased by what was put in front of them or - if they were - they handled it with our school values of happiness and resilience! We began each day a little earlier to get everyone together and geared up for the day ahead with a breakfast, some music and warm-up revision. As a reward for their hard work not only on the week itself but those leading up to it, the children had an afternoon of rounders, a film morning as well as a pizza party! Needless to say, there were smiles

and enthusiasm all round.

Since then, in maths we have started a “Theme Park” maths project where we will be planning a theme park to a budget, calculating running costs as well as profit and loss. As the project continues, there will be opportunities to improve the theme parks in order to boost revenue. This project allows the children to strategise, decide how to spend money wisely as well as apply their calculation skills to potentially real-life situations. It has been really interesting to hear their conversations and decide how to get the most for their money as well as making their theme park appealing to customers.



The children have also taken part in an art day where they used sculpture to create art that represents themselves and their memories. They used their sketchbooks to make initial designs and explore the work of different artists, then brought those ideas into 3D using cardboard and other materials.

In other areas of the curriculum, we have done some drama based on our class novel *Once*; we have finished our unit of work on where energy comes from in geography; and have been learning how to say “I have” and “I have not” in French in relation to pets that we do/do not own.

I hope you all have a wonderful half term break and there’s a very exciting final half term coming up for Year 6 afterwards!