



# Ellington Primary News

*Believe and Achieve*

Dear Parents/Carers,

It is hard to believe that it is the 1st of December today and Christmas is just around the corner! We have a very, very busy few weeks coming up in school with so many activities happening, starting with the Pantomime next Monday 4th December.

As always, the children have been working extremely hard and producing some excellent work. The standard and presentation of work continues to impress and improve because of the fantastic attitudes that the children consistently display.



## Careers Day

On Thursday 30th November, we had a careers day in school. This is something which we will do every term to ensure the children learn about a huge variety of potential careers for their futures. This is linked to one of our three curriculum drivers - aspirations. We want the very best for each and every child who attends Ellington and we want each and every child to have the highest of aspirations for themselves. We challenge the children to set themselves short-term and long-term goals and achieve these by always giving 100% effort.

This career day focused upon the health sector. Each class looked at different roles within the health sector:

Early Years: Oral Health/Dentistry

Year One: Doctors

Year Two: Physios

Year Three: Dieticians

Year Four: Optometrists

Year Five: Paramedics

Year Six: Midwifery/Neonatal Nurses



# Career Day

We have had visitors into school, virtual visitors and also have more visitors coming in over the next week. The children looked at what these jobs involve on a day to day basis. What qualifications you would need to work in these roles, how long you would need to study for and also what salary you would earn.

Each term, we will look at a new sector to ensure that the children can gain a knowledge and understanding of a variety of potential careers.



On Friday 8th December, we would like to invite you into school for a hot drink and cake/biscuit/mince pie. This is our Christmas Jumper Day and we are raising money for Save the Children. The school council decided that they wanted to have a Bake Sale so each class are going to be baking something Christmassy to sell on the 8th. Children can bring in some change to buy cakes/biscuits as each class will have the opportunity to go to the sale during the school morning on the 8th.

We would like to invite you into school after the morning drop off at 8:45 for a cup of tea/coffee and a little treat. You will be pleased to know that the items for parents/carers will be shop bought! After drop off, you can make your way into the main school hall and have a catch up with friends. All we ask for is a small donation which will go towards Save the Children.



Save the Children.

## Safeguarding

Each school has designated safeguarding leads in place to ensure that all children are safe. At Ellington, safeguarding is our number one priority and we have three fully qualified designated safeguarding leads. Mr Hodgson - Designated Safeguarding Lead. Mr McConville and Miss Gray are Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads. Mrs Milne, our new Early Years lead, is also going to be a Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead once she has completed her training this month.

If you have any concerns about a child at Ellington Primary School, please do not hesitate in contacting one of the Designated Safeguarding Leads.



## Extra-Curricular Clubs

All extra-curricular clubs have now finished for this term (except for Judo which ends on Monday 4th December). Before Christmas, we will share information regarding new clubs for next term. The school council are going to carry out a survey with their classes to decide what clubs the children would like to do.

## Attendance 20/11–01/12

Reception– 96.3%

Year 1–94.1%

Year 2–93.1%

Year 3–97%

Year 4–96.7%

Year 5–91.4%

Year 6–91.8%

Whole School–94.4%

**Down from 95.5%**

Mr Hodgson–Headteacher

# Christmas Events at Ellington

CINDERELLA PANTOMIME  
4TH DECEMBER

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CHRISTMAS MOVIE NIGHT  
6TH DECEMBER @ 4:15 -6PM

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CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY & BAKE SALE  
8TH DECEMBER

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NURSERY/RECEPTION 'WHOOPS-A-DAISY ANGEL'  
13TH DECEMBER @ 9:30AM & 2PM

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YEAR 1/2 'THE BETHLEHEM BAKE-OFF'  
14TH & 15TH DECEMBER @ 9:30AM

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CHRISTMAS DINNER (REC-Y6)  
14TH DECEMBER

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CHRISTMAS STORY NIGHT  
14TH DECEMBER @ 4:30 - 5:30PM

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CHRISTMAS PARTIES  
Y1/Y2 - 18TH      NUR/REC - 19TH  
Y5/Y6 - 20TH      Y3/Y4 - 21ST

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CAROL CONCERTS  
21ST & 22ND DECEMBER  
9:15AM

## Diary Dates

<u>Event</u>	<u>Date</u>
Cinderella Pantomime	4 <sup>th</sup> December
Film Night	6 <sup>th</sup> December (4:15pm - 6:00pm)
Nursery Parent Consultations	7 <sup>th</sup> December (1:30pm - 5:50pm)
Christmas Jumper Day	8 <sup>th</sup> December
Bake Sale	8 <sup>th</sup> December (8:45am)
Nursery/Reception 'Whoops-a-Daisy Angel'	13 <sup>th</sup> December (9:30am & 2pm)
Year 1 & 2 'The Bethlehem Bake-Off'	14 <sup>th</sup> December (9:30am) & 15 <sup>th</sup> December (9:30am)
Christmas Dinner (Rec-Year 6)	14 <sup>th</sup> December
Christmas Story Night	14 <sup>th</sup> December (4:30pm - 5pm)
Year 1 & 2 Party	18 <sup>th</sup> December
Nursery & Reception Party	19 <sup>th</sup> December
Year 5 & 6 Party	20 <sup>th</sup> December
Year 3 & 4 Party	21 <sup>st</sup> December
Carol Concert	21 <sup>st</sup> December (9:15am)
Carol Concert	22 <sup>nd</sup> December (9:15am)
End of term	22 <sup>nd</sup> December
Teaching Training Day (School Closed)	8 <sup>th</sup> January
Return to school	9 <sup>th</sup> January
School Photographs	12 <sup>th</sup> February

## Nursery News

Nursery has had a busy fortnight.

We have been learning some more about our class hero 'Ranger Hamza'. We discovered he was a wildlife photographer so we had a go at taking our own wildlife photos with the I-pad. We found things that interested us and took some photos. We had to be very still so they weren't too shaky.

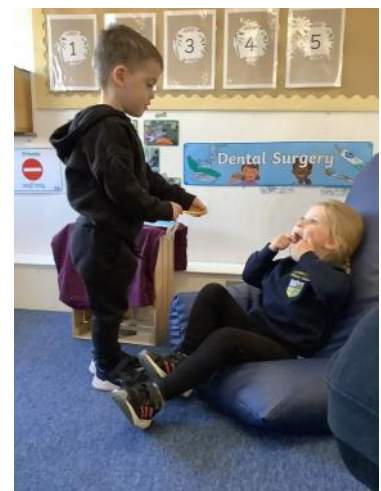
We've also been learning lots about Oral Health and the role of a Dentist. We discussed why it was important to look after our teeth! The children were really knowledgeable about what was healthy/unhealthy for our teeth! We then explored what decay looks like and why this might happen. We learnt about the role of a dentist and enjoyed pretending to be one in the role-play area. On career's day, we listened, via video link, to Zoe the Dental Hygienist who told us about her job. We learnt that she had to go to a big school called university to learn more about teeth before she could do her job. She told us how to keep our teeth healthy. Please see the poster below.

The children have also been doing some fantastic number work. We had some lovely discussion about how we knew it was the number 1 or 2. We are beginning to look at a five frame to help us support our maths knowledge.

'Look 1 space is filled, there's four more to make 5.'

'There's 2 spaces and 3 spaces empty.'

We have also been practising our Christmas Performance which we are all excited to show you on the 13th December.



## Reception News

Another fantastic and very busy fortnight in Reception. Last week we ventured out on our first trip of the year to Seven Stories in Newcastle. During our visit we read lots of lovely stories, dressed up as different characters, retold stories using puppets and completed some drawing activities. We loved the Tiger Who Came to Tea exhibit and even got to make the Tiger some tea for ourselves. We had such a busy day that some of us even fell asleep on the way home! The children were so well behaved, polite towards other members of the public and represented our school so well. What a wonderful time we had!

In school, we have had a very special visitor in our classroom. A penguin arrived with his suitcase from the south pole. He had a post card with him which said he was lost and he needed our help, we worked out that it was just like in the story Lost and Found by Oliver Jeffers. Penguin has been helping us learn all about the South Pole, how different it is to Ellington and how the huge icebergs are melting. We have learned about what penguins like and we have even watched some real life penguins on the live feed from Edinburgh Zoo. This week penguin went for a little adventure around Ellington to see if he'd like to stay here but we have decided he needs to go back to the South Pole where it's a bit colder and there are more fish for him to eat!

We have also been looking at the role of a dentist as part of our school wide careers day. We practised brushing our teeth, role played dentists and wrote about what happens when we visit the dentist. We were lucky enough to be sent a video from Zoe, a dental nurse, who talked us through her job and why the dentist does certain things- a big thank you to Zoe for taking the time out to do that for us!

Great work again team!



## Year 1 News

I cannot believe we are now in December. This is always a lovely, but very busy end to Autumn Term.

We are now well into the flow of our Christmas rehearsals for our performances of 'Bethlehem Bake Off' which will be showcased on Thursday 14th and Friday 15th December at 9.30am.

In English, we have been learning about Character Descriptions through the story 'Leaf Man'. The children have been using their knowledge of adjectives and nouns to help write an entertaining description.

We are continuing with the book 'Leaf Man' and are currently writing instructions on 'How to make a Leaf Person'. We have been out and about in Ellington collecting leaves and observing the Autumnal changes that happen.

In Maths, we have been learning all about 2d and 3d shapes. Again, we took a trip around Ellington to spot real life 3d objects. The children loved it and found lots of different shapes in our local environment.

In History, we have been learning all about 'What is my history?' We have looked at how we remember special events. We have also made a class memory box and each posted a memory that they children found special.

Thank you,  
Mrs Horsley



## Year 2 News

This week Year 2 have been working extremely hard, in addition to our usual lesson we are well underway with our Christmas rehearsals for our performances of 'Bethlehem Bake Off' which will be showcased on Thursday 14th and Friday 15th December at 9.30am.

In English, we have been learning about the features of a diary entry and have written our own diary entries based on the short film 'A Cloudy Lesson.' We are looking forward to publishing our diary entries next week! Every Tuesday and Thursday morning we have also been practicing our joint handwriting - it's looking good!

During maths this week we have focused on 2D and 3D shapes. We have discussed and named the following 2D shapes; rectangle, triangle, circle, oval and square. We have also discussed and named the following 3D shapes; cuboid, pyramid, cube, sphere, cone and cylinder.

We have loved recapping our Year 1 knowledge of the seven continents in Geography, the children are fantastic at naming the seven continents of the world using our very catchy song! We have also looked at the North and South Pole and the Equator.

On Careers Day we learnt all about what it means to be a physio. All of the children took part in a range of many different activities that helped them learn about the role of a physio and the people they help. Activities included: Bubble PEP experiment (a little water fun), physio assessments, the one-arm jumper challenge, a podcast, some challenging exercises and the balloon experiment (we were all a little tired after this one!).

Check out our pictures from Careers Day!



Well done for a brilliant week  
Year 2.

You have all shown great resili-  
ence and worked so hard.

Keep it up and keep learning  
those Christmas Performance  
lines!



Miss Brooks



## Year 3 News

It is hard to believe that we are already a full four weeks into the second half term of the year! We have certainly had a busy time in year three.

Due to some coincidences of timing, we ended up with two trips into Newcastle in the same week! We loved exploring the Great North Museum and looking closely at artefacts from prehistoric times, linking in with our new 'Stone Age to Iron Age' topic. Then two days later we were down at the Gateshead quayside rehearsing and performing with our cornets at the Glasshouse International Centre for Music.



We have been getting on brilliantly with work inside the school building as well. In English, we have just completed some extremely intimidating persuasive letters, writing as if we were Miss Trunchbull from Matilda. We have started having a look at our new focus text, 'Stone Age Boy', which ties in brilliantly with our history work, as well as reading the superb story 'The Iron Man' by Ted Hughes.

In maths lessons, we have completed our first unit of work on fractions and have now moved on to look at shape. We enjoyed using our rulers carefully to draw and explore different types of lines and various 2D shapes. It is a good challenge!

We are getting stuck into programming and coding in computing lessons and have started exploring the programming language of Scratch together.



On Careers Day on Thursday, we really enjoyed meeting Annabel, a clinical dietitian from the Northumbria Healthcare Trust. She told us all about her job and gave us some valuable experiences planning balanced meals, which provided an excellent link with our current science work.

## Year 4 News

Dear Parents and Carers,

Hope you are all well. This half term has flown by and amazingly we now only have three weeks to go before the (whisper it) Christmas Holidays.

We've had a few visitors over the past two weeks and we have continued to make excellent progress.

In English we have written, edited and published our short narrative based on the short film *Ruin*. There was some incredible descriptive language as well as suspenseful cliff hangers.

In Maths we have completed our work on fractions and have nearly completed our work on shape after looking at symmetry and the triangle family. We still have to look at perimeter in shapes.

In Geography we had Hannah from OSES visit to work with us on our geographical skills of orienteering. The course involved following a map of the school grounds and finding various facts about the amazing rainforest or a deciduous forest as we have in England. The children had to learn these facts before being quizzed by Hannah. In the second session we looked at Rainforest survival skills by working in teams to build dens. The children did brilliantly in some very windy conditions.

- For careers day we learnt about the career of being an optician or optometrist. We were visited by Dr Peter Frampton, Sam and Debbie from Aaron Optometrists. They told us all about what it's like to be an optician, how they trained and how opticians pay relates to the average wage in Britain.
- In Computing, we have been looking at programming using the programme Logo. This is a step on from the previous unit on Scratch Jr and Beebots that the children learnt about in previous years.

Finally, in RE we have been looking at the Hindu festival of Diwali. We looked at the story of Rama and Sita as well as why Hindu people pray to the goddess Lakshmi.



## Year 5 News

This week we had a great time viewing the Book Fair that came to school! The children picked out books that would be of interest to them and spent some quality library time reading new texts of a variety of genres.



In English, we completed and have published our Newspaper reports based on the book 'The Island' by Armin Greder. The children have been introduced to a Little People, Big Dreams book about Nelson Mandela. This week we have explored the text and have learnt the meaning of Apartheid and what it must have been like in South Africa for the 46 years during 1948 and 1994.

In maths, we have been learning how to find the perimeter of 2D shapes. The children are beginning to understand how to find and calculate the length of missing sides; either by using parallel lines or the known perimeter.

In PE, we have been implementing attacking and defending skills in dodgeball such as throwing with power and accuracy, blocking and dodging into game situations. We focused on skills such as; throwing with power and accuracy, blocking with a ball and also dodging. In gymnastics, we have been learning new vocabulary such as; counter balance, unison, canon and transition. The children have used the gymnastics apparatus to perform counter balances and are now developing the first part of a sequence.

In history we have started our topic 'What was Henry VIII like as a ruler?' The children analysed primary and secondary sources to conclude if Henry was a fair ruler or a tyrant. We also explored his six wives to understand the timeline of events during Henry's reign as King.

The children performed a drama based on the story 'Clockwork' by Philip Pullman.

Check out our QR codes!



Well done on another fantastic week Year 5! Keep up the hard work!

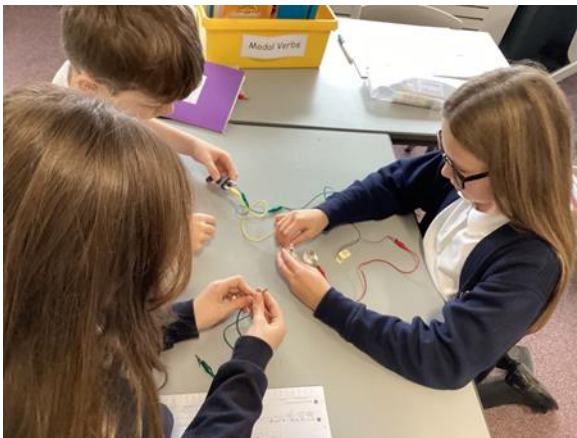
Mr Todd

## Year 6 News

Where have the last few weeks gone?! We've been so busy in Year 6 that time is flying by.

We took part in an inter-faith afternoon where each year group focused on a different religion and then presented our work to the rest of the school in an assembly. Year 6 focused on Old and New Testament stories and created some pieces of drama to perform - the other children were very entertained!

In PSHE, we have been exploring our health and well-being and have taken the time to set our future selves some goals as well as doing some mindfulness activities to help us relax, such as guided meditation, laughter and breathing exercises.



Science has had us using electricity to be able to tell the difference between complete and incomplete circuits as well as how components are affected by the contents of the circuit and voltage.

PE has seen us developing our football and gymnastics skills. There has been some excellent progress - especially with our ability to pass a ball and work tactically in a team to create space.

We are also very much enjoying our new book: *Private Peaceful* by Michael Morpurgo. The children have been excellent at getting to understand the characters, as was demonstrated when we "hot seated" Mother, Charlie and Tommo. We developed our skills in asking open questions that would allow us to use the text to answer as these specific characters might.

I'm sure it'll be the holidays before we know it with all the exciting Christmas events coming up over the next three weeks!