

Ellington Primary News

Believe and Achieve

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to our second news bulletin of the academic year. There are lots of events coming up this half term and I hope you can join us in school as much as possible.

Teacher/Parent Meetings (Years 1 to 5)

Next Friday, 6th October or Friday 13th October, we would like to invite you into school for a meeting with your child's class teacher. The meetings will take place in your child's classroom and will begin at 8:50am after the morning drop-off. The class teachers will share information with you which will help you support your child/ren and it is also an opportunity for you to ask any questions that you have. The meetings will last for no more than 20 minutes. The meeting will be the same on both days, so parents/carers of children with more than one child can attend.

Please note, we held a welcome to Reception meeting in Summer term and a Year 6 meeting last week so these meetings are for Years 1 to 5 only.

Online Safety

Next Wednesday, 4th October, we would like to invite you into school for an Online Safety Workshop at 8:45am.

We have Martin Bailey coming into school who will be delivering Online Safety Workshops to all children during the course of the day.

Martin a real expert in his field and we are excited to have him in school. Online Safety is a serious issue in 2023 and at Ellington we are determined to ensure that all children know how to stay safe online.

Please attend our workshop with Martin where he will share advice and guidance with you to help you keep your children safe online. There is no charge to attend and we will provide free tea/coffee and biscuits.



Martin is also an ambassador for Mental Health and we will be supporting Beyond (We are Beyond) by wearing football shirts on Wednesday 4th October, in return for a £1 donation which will go directly to supporting the work Beyond do with young people across the UK. *If your child does not own a football shirt, they can wear non-uniform in return for the £1 donation.*

Nursery

Mrs Cook has now started her maternity leave and is expecting a baby girl very soon! Mrs Redpath is now the Nursery teacher until our new Early Years lead, Mrs Milne starts on November 6th.

Parent Consultations

Autumn term Parent Consultations will take place on Wednesday 25th October for Reception to Year 6. Please book your appointments via School Cloud. Appointments open from 7pm on Monday 2nd October.

ellingtonps.schoolcloud.co.uk

Please note, Nursery parent consultations will take place at the end of November with our new Early Years Lead, Mrs Milne.

Reading Workshops

At Ellington, we believe that teachers and parents working together is key to success. We would love you to come into school regularly to see what your children are doing and to join us for a variety of different activities. This year, we would like you to join your child/ren in some lessons!



The first of these will be reading lessons on October 9th (EYFS), 10th (KS1) and 11th (KS2). Mrs Sanders will be sharing more information with you in a separate letter but please keep these dates free if you can. These will take place between 8:45am and 9:45am.

Music Mark

We are delighted to announce that we have once again been awarded the Music Mark for 2022/2023 for showing our commitment to Music. At Ellington, all children have the opportunity to learn how to play an instrument. We also have whole school weekly singing, music lessons in every year group and a mini-band who have a specialist music teacher.



PROUD TO BE A
MUSIC MARK
SCHOOL

2022 - 2023

New Roof

Work on our new roof continues to be frustrating. The completion date is now October 25th.

We appreciate that the parking around school has been affected by this but can we please ask that you don't block the drives or residents when parking. Please be considerate of the residents in the streets surrounding the school.



International Walk to School Month

In October 2021 and 2022, we took part in International Walk to School Month where we encouraged all children to walk, scoot or cycle to school every day. I appreciate some children do not live in Ellington and cannot walk all of the way to school. However, for those children, we could encourage you to park and stride to school. The walking bus is still going strong on a Tuesday and Thursday morning too.

This October, we have the following themed weeks:

October 2nd - 6th is Let's get walking

October 9th - 13th is Bring your wheels to school

October 16th - 20th is Be Bright, Be Seen

October 23rd - 27th is Clean up our environment

During October, we will have various activities in school linked to this great initiative.



Diary Dates

Online Safety/Mental Health Day	4th October
Online Safety Parents Workshop 8:45am	4th October
Teacher/Parent Meeting	
Year 1—Year 5 8:50am	6th October
EYFS Parents Reading Workshop 8:45am	9th October
KS1 Parents Reading Workshop 8:45am	10th October
KS2 Parents Reading Workshop 8:45am	11th October
Teacher/Parent Meeting	13th October
Year 1—Year 5 8:50am	9th October
Year 6 Cragside Trip	17th October
Parent Consultations	25th October
Harvest Festival (EYFS & KS1 9.30 KS2 10.30)	27th October
Break up for half term	27th October
Return to school	6th November

Attendance 18/09—29/09

Reception— 92.6%

Year 1—96.1%

Year 2—85.8%

Year 3—93.8%

Year 4—96.3%

Year 5—91.9%

Year 6—93%

Whole School—93%

Down from 95.5%

Mr Hodgson—Headteacher

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about HOW TO COMBAT ONLINE BULLYING



Defined as "ongoing hurtful behaviour towards someone online", cyber-bullying makes its victims feel upset, uncomfortable and unsafe. In the digital world, it has numerous forms – such as hurtful comments on a person's posts or profile; deliberately leaving them out of group chats; sharing embarrassing images or videos of someone; or spreading gossip about them. Cyber-bullying can severely impact a young person's mental health – so, in support of Anti-Bullying Week, we've provided a list of tips to help trusted adults know what to look for and how to respond to it.



1. GET CONNECTED

Playing online games together with your child or connecting with them on social media (providing they're old enough) is not only fun but also an excellent way of establishing some common ground to discuss things you've both seen or done online – as well as keeping an eye on who your child is communicating with in the digital world.

2. KEEP TALKING

Regular chats with young people about their online lives are good practice in general, but they can also be an excellent refresher to help prevent cyber-bullying situations. Topics you might want to revisit include why it's important to only connect online with people we know and trust, and why passwords should always remain secret (even from our best friends).

3. STAY VIGILANT

Observe your child while they're using technology and just after they've used it. Are they acting normally, or out of character? Possible signs of a problem may include seeming quiet or withdrawn, jumpy or anxious, angry or repeatedly checking their phone. When you feel it's the right time, you may want to check in with them to see if everything is OK.

4. MAKE YOURSELF AVAILABLE

If an online bullying incident does occur, it may take a while before your child is ready to open up about what happened. Just gently remind them that they can always come to you with any problems – and that they won't be in trouble. You might also suggest a trusted family member they could turn to, in case they feel too embarrassed to tell you directly.

5. BE PREPARED TO LISTEN

When conversations about online bullying do take place, they're likely to be difficult, emotional and upsetting for both you and your child. Actively listen to your child while they're bringing you up to speed, and try not to show any judgement or criticism – even if they haven't dealt with the situation in exactly the way you would have hoped.

FURTHER SUPPORT AND ADVICE

If you or your child need additional help with an online bullying issue, here are some specialist organisations that you could reach out to.

Childline: talk to a trained counsellor on 0800 1111 or online at www.childline.org.uk/get-support/

National Bullying Helpline: counsellors are available on 0845 225 5787 or by visiting www.nationalbullyinghelpline.co.uk/cyberbullying.html

The NSPCC: the children's charity has a guide to the signs of bullying at www.nspcc.org.uk/what-is-child-abuse/types-of-abuse/bullying-and-cyberbullying/ and can be reached on 0800 800 5000

6. EMPOWER YOUR CHILD

Depending on their age, your child might not want a parent 'fighting their battles for them'. In that case, talk through their options with them (blocking the perpetrator, deleting the app and so on). By allowing your child to choose the path they take, you're putting them in control but are also demonstrating that you're there to support them along the way.

7. REPORT BULLIES ONLINE

Cyber-bullying often takes place through a particular app, social media platform or online game. If this is happening to your child, encourage them to report the offender to the app or game in question – ideally with screenshots to support their complaint. Most games and apps have reporting tools specifically to stamp out abusive behaviour and protect users.

8. ENCOURAGE EMPATHY

Protecting themselves online is the priority, of course, but young people should also feel empowered to help if they witness other people falling victim to cyberbullying. Even if they don't feel confident enough to call someone out on their abusive behaviour online, they can still confidentially report that person to the app or game where the bullying occurred.

9. SEEK EXPERT ADVICE

Victims of online bullying frequently experience feelings of isolation and anxiety, a loss of self-esteem and potentially even thoughts of self-harm or suicide. If you think that an incident of cyber-bullying has affected your child's mental wellbeing, then seek psychological support for them. There are some useful contact details in the central panel below.

10. INVOLVE THE AUTHORITIES

If the nature of any online bullying makes you suspect that your child is genuinely in imminent physical danger – or if there are any signs whatsoever of explicit images being shared as part of the bullying – then you should gather any relevant screenshots as evidence and report the incidents to your local police force.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



NOS National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday

Reception News

Reception have had such a busy couple of weeks since our last newsletter. We have started our phonics lessons and are doing amazingly well with remember the sounds and forming our letters correctly. We have even started using these sounds in some writing in our literacy lessons where we have been thinking about our families, drawing pictures of them and using the first sound in the word to help us label our pictures. We have also been thinking about different parts of our body and faces and how these link to our senses. We coloured our photos in to help us label different parts of our face, we laughed so much once we were finished!



In maths we have been looking at subitising to 3 and we have been creating some golden rules for counting, they are:

1. say one number at a time
2. count one thing at a time
3. stop counting when you reach the last thing
4. remember the last number you counted!

In our PSHE lessons we have been learning about the zones of regulation and how they can help us to understand our feelings and emotions. We worked together to create feelings jars with each colour representing a different zone of regulation. We have also introduced a feelings wall so we can place our picture on the coloured space on the wall to represent how we are feeling throughout the day- we've been green all week!



Year 1 News

We have had another busy couple of weeks in Year one. We are now well underway with our whole class teaching. The children are adapting well to this. For some children, this has been a hard transition, however it will get easier as we now follow a weekly routine.

In English this week we have been looking at the book 'I want my hat back' written by Jon Klassen. The children have worked hard, predicting what the story is going to be about, and making puppets to help us with a group performance retelling the story.

In maths, we start every lesson with our CLIC session, recapping things previously taught and learning something new in our learning time.

We have managed to get outside to do a lot of outdoor learning this week, in Science we have drawn around human bodies and labelled them with the correct body part names. In Geography, we use a school map to go and find different features using our map key. We have been discussing aerial views and why they are important.

In PSHE we have continued learning about friendships and families, discussing emotions and how we can help our friends who show these different emotions.

In PE, we have been working on agility and balancing. Please ask your child at home what the terms agility and balancing means.

Thank you for your support with reading and homework. Please continue to read at least three times a week and sign in the reading record. Homework is handed out every Friday and should be completed by Wednesday, if this is not complete children will stay in at break time on the Thursday.

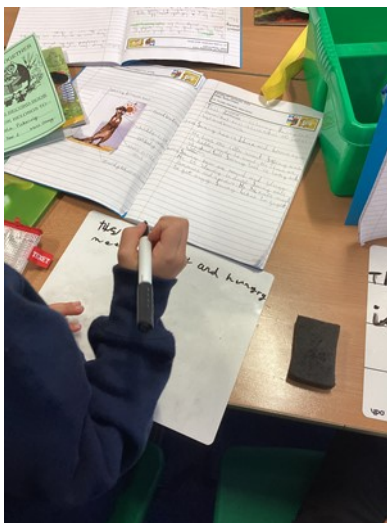
Mrs Horsley.



Year 2 News

Year 2 have continued to work hard since our last update.

We are super at our new maths CLIC sessions and have already made progress in our weekly Beat That! Challenges.

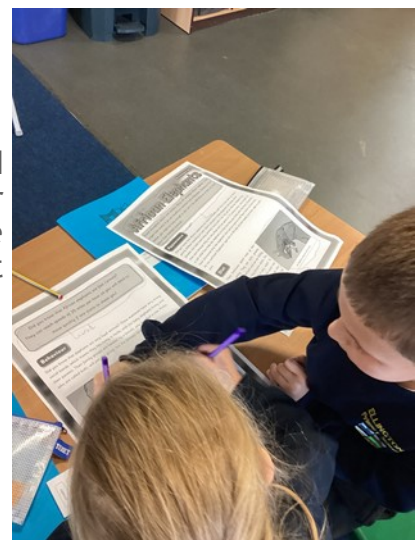


In science, we have now learned about the needs of fish in addition to birds and mammals. They need the same four things to survive (food, air, water and shelter) but how they get these things is very different. Why not ask a Year 2 to explain this to you?

In history, we are now looking how our school has changed over the decades. We are writing questions to ask former pupils. If you would be willing to come in and chat to the class about your time at Ellington Primary, please contact Miss Gray.

Have a fabulous fortnight!

Miss Gray



Year 3 News

We've had another couple of exciting weeks in Year 3.

Our English work on 'The Tunnel' has been completed by the children 'publishing' some wonderful setting descriptions. We are now starting a unit of work based around the short video, 'Once in a Lifetime'. We have also thoroughly enjoyed having Roald Dahl's 'The Twits' for story time, we thought it was really funny!

In maths, we have just completed our unit of work on place value. The children have also been enjoying our new 'CLIC' sessions at the start of each lesson. Next we are going to learn about column addition and subtraction.

This week we have had some very exciting afternoons. In Geography, we were learning about volcanoes. The children did some research and were amazed by our classroom volcano!



PE has been based around a unit of work focusing on 'mindfulness'. The children have worked really hard with their partners to create expressive dances. They have also practised some relaxation techniques.

On Tuesday, we had a very exciting visitor in our classroom to help us learn about animals with exoskeletons in our science lesson. Ollie brought in his pet jumping spider! We all enjoyed using the magnifying glasses to look very closely at his exoskeleton.



Year 4 News

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you are all well. It has been, as usual, a very busy couple of weeks in Year 4. The children have continued to make a fantastic first impression on myself and Mrs Mallaburn. I wanted to start by talking about the visit we had from Pearl of Africa Choir. The choir came to school to teach the children some traditional African songs and how to play a drum. It was amazing to see how quickly our class started to sing these songs and play some very catchy beats.

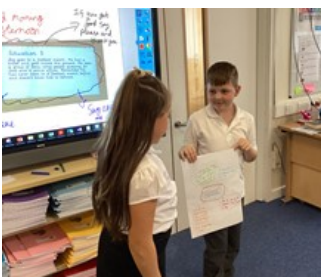
In English, we have now written, edited and published our first big write of the year. The children wrote a very pleasing recount of The Present and they looked at how they could incorporate rhetorical questions and sentences that show, not tell the reader how they are feeling.

In Maths, we have been continuing with our Big Maths CLIC sessions to start each lesson. We have also been completing work on place value including finding numbers to 10,000 on a numberline and finding 1, 10, 100 and 1,000 more and less of a given number.

In Science we have looked at using classification keys to sort animals. Children had to come up with closed questions to separate a variety of different animals. This year our Science work has been informed by White Rose Science materials to help support the planning and delivery of Science across school. After only a few weeks, we are really seeing the benefit of this in class.

In History we have been looking into how childhoods have changed over time. We have looked at the concepts of continuity and change and looked what had changed and what had stayed the same in schooling in Ancient Rome and the Victorian times. In our last lesson, we looked at what it was like to be a child in Tudor times. We learnt why Tudor children would take on apprenticeships and some of the different types of apprenticeships available to Tudor children including glovers, fletchers and blacksmiths.

Finally, in PSHE we looked at how we can show good manners. The children worked in teams to read through different scenarios and write down a list of tips on how they could show good manners in each situation. The children then presented this to the class.

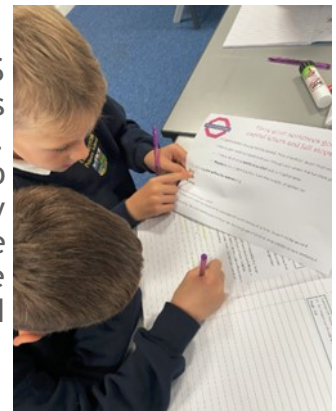


Year 5 News

In English this week we have finished our first person narrative titled 'Rock, Paper, Scissors'. Children were writing from various perspectives; Scissors and Paper. We worked hard to use expanded noun phrases and fronted adverbials into our writing, alongside also implementing parenthesis too.



In maths, the children are doing an excellent job with their CLICS and Learn Its each week. We have been practising our times tables learning how to partition numbers using our place value knowledge. We compared and ordered 4-digit numbers before progressing to comparing and ordering numbers up to one million! Our geography unit for this half term is 'What is life like in the Alps?' and we have been exploring the human and physical features within the alps. We identified benefits from living in a mountain range which included access to large areas of land, forests and rivers.



In PE, our two units this half are Game Sense Invasion and Health-Related Exercise. For Game Sense Invasion, we have exploring the importance of effective attacking and defending. The children were learning skills to beat defenders whilst also focusing on how to man-mark players out of a game. For Health-Related Exercise, we completed baselines assessments for cardiovascular, strength and flexibility. This included doing a

continuous running test, speed test, sit and reach test and also a squat test.

Well done year 5 on another fantastic week.

Mr Todd

Year 6 News

Busy, busy, busy!

Since our last newsletter, we were visited by the Pearl of Africa choir and had a lovely time watching them perform as well as taking part in a workshop. The children taught us a song and some rhythms on the djembe drums.



We have also finished our “Brothers Grimm” style fairytales in English and are truly enjoying our novel, Another Twist in the Tale. We have noticed how the author uses specific language to reflect certain characters’ occupations and situations as well as learning a lot of new vocabulary, such as “modest garb”.

In PE, we have been testing and improving our fitness by doing circuit training. Everyone tried incredibly hard to get their cardiovascular systems going!



Meanwhile, in PSHE, we have been exploring the idea of respect: how it is lost and gained; giving respect to get respect; as well as the kinds of people we respect and why. Currently, we have a challenge going to see how many respectful acts our class can be identified as doing in one week - if you see any at home too, please send a Dojo!