

Ellwood Community Primary School



Bulletin - September 24th 2021

Governor Visit

We are now in to our 3rd week of term already and it feels like we are getting back to some kind of normality. The children have settled well and are working hard which is lovely to see.

Mrs Ulyatt (Chair of Governors) and Mr Lord (a new experienced Governor) came to visit the school yesterday, they looked around each classroom and spent some time with Mrs Milford. The children were a credit to the school; they were all well-behaved, polite and friendly. We are looking forward to working together with the Governors again this year.

An Update from the Chair of Governors

On Thursday, myself and Mrs Milford welcomed a new Governor, Andy Lord, to Ellwood School. Andy brings with him huge experience of governance - he has been Chair of Governors at Parkend Primary School and is the current Chair of Governors at Wydean School. If that wasn't enough, he is Chairman of Lydney Hockey Club and is also a Parish Councillor. We look forward to working with Andy.

As part of Andy's induction, we gave him a tour of the school. It was lovely to be back in school rather than meeting virtually and we had lots of lovely waves and smiles from the children as we walked around. Thank you to all staff and children for making us feel so welcome!

During the Autumn term, the Governing Board will be focusing on ensuring that the school is implementing its catch-up plan, utilising the additional funding received from the Government to ensure that all children can meet the curriculum requirements for the academic year, despite any lost learning due to the pandemic. We will also continue to monitor the children's well-being as they integrate back into the school routine to ensure that all needs are met.

Now that we can be back in school, you will see the Governors popping up observing lessons, speaking to staff and children, and even inspecting the premises! We are all excited to be back in person and will be busy monitoring throughout the year.

Cotswold Wildlife Park - Reminder

Could those of you who are yet to consent to your children attending the Cotswold Wildlife Park trip kindly do so asap. You can do this via Parent Pay or you may have received a reply slip yesterday to return to school.

As a reminder, children need to arrive at school from 8:30 - 8:40am to ensure we can register the children and use the toilet before we depart at 9am. We will aim to be back at school for 5pm with pick up from 5:15pm.

Thanks.

Harvest Festival

Our Harvest Festival this year will be taking place on Wednesday 20th October. This year we would like to help the local food bank, so if you are able to bring in a donation for this very worthy charity that would be fantastic. Please only bring in tinned goods, packets, such as: pasta, rice, biscuits or toiletries, such as : toothpaste, shower gel, bath foam.

Children may also come dressed as a farmer if they wish to do so, this is optional.

Unfortunately, we can only allow one parent to come along to the Harvest Festival as we want to limit the number of people on the school site. If the weather is warm we will hold the Harvest Festival outside.

Reception, Y1, Y2 & Y3 2.00—2.30 p.m.

Y4, Y5 and Y6 2.40—3.10 p.m.



Scholastic Book Fair

From Friday 1st October to Wednesday 6th October we have a Scholastic Book Fair in school, you can find more details in the letter sent home earlier this week.

Portable Clothes Rail

Does anyone have a spare/old clothes rail we could have for school lost property and second hand uniform please? If so please contact the school office to arrange drop off. Thanks.

School Pick Up

Please could you ensure that once you have picked your child up you leave the school site straight away. Children should not be playing on the equipment, field or climbing wall. They need to stay with their parents/carer and then safely leave site. Thanks.

Uniform reminder

Please can we remind you that children should be wearing the correct uniform to school.

Can we also ask that:

- Nails are not painted
- No large colourful headbands are worn
- Try to tie long hair up to prevent head lice spreading

PE Kit - As a reminder, PE kit should include a white t-shirt and blue or black shorts. Plain blue or black hoodies are ok for the colder weather but no hoodies with logos please.

We are trying to be consistent and keep the rules equal for everyone.

Thank you!

COVID-19 Update:

Following advice from PHE if your child has any of the following symptoms you should arrange a PCR test as soon as possible:

- High temperature
- A new continuous cough
- Loss of taste or smell

Please **DO NOT** send your child into school with any of the symptoms listed above. Your child can only return to school if they have had a negative **PCR** test.

Information from gov.uk:

There are different tests you can get to check if you have coronavirus (COVID-19). The test you need depends on why you're getting tested.

The 2 main tests are:

- **PCR tests** - mainly for people with symptoms, they're sent to a lab to be checked

To book a PCR test visit:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

- **Rapid lateral flow tests** - only for people who do not have symptoms, they give a quick result using a device similar to a pregnancy test.

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing/regular-rapid-coronavirus-tests-if-you-do-not-have-symptoms/>

We have had a number of parents testing their symptomatic children with lateral flow tests which is not recommended. These children need to have a PCR test if they have any of the three main symptoms and stay at home until they get the results.

It is very hard for school staff to advise parents on the severity of a cough. We are not able to say if it is a cold or COVID, so please follow the guidance above.

Many thanks for your continued support.

School Raffle

Thank you to everyone who purchased a raffle ticket, there were over 150 prizes and the children really enjoyed taking part. With your kind support and generous contributions, we managed to raise £728 which is amazing. This money will be contributed towards our Cotswold Wildlife Park trip.

Thank you so much!

Rags2Riches

Just a reminder that our Rags2Riches collection will take place on Tuesday 5th October. Donations may be brought to school from Monday 4th October and left in the bike shelter at the front of school. Unfortunately, Rags2Riches will not be able to provide bags for collection, so please place items in bin bags or carrier bags. We are paid on weight, so the more bags we have the more money we can raise for school.

Thank you.

ELLWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL

Raise funds by collecting reusable clothes

RAGS 2 RICHES
Schools Clubs Groups

WE ACCEPT CLEAN, GOOD QUALITY, DRY, REUSABLE CLOTHING

- ✓ Adults, Childrens & Babies Clothing
- ✓ Jewellery and Accessories
- ✓ Paired Shoes and Footwear
- ✓ Belts and Handbags

A full list of reusable items is listed on our website
www.rags2riches4schools.co.uk

WE DO NOT ACCEPT

POOR QUALITY ITEMS SUCH AS DIRTY, WET, RIPPED OR SOILED CLOTHES.
PILLOWS, DUVETS, CURTAINS, BOOKS CDs OR ANY UNIFORM

If you are unsure what to put in the bags
STOP AND THINK
WOULD YOU WEAR IT?

Please use the clothing bag provided.
You can also use any additional bag if required.

Diary Dates

SEPTEMBER

- Friday 24th September - Raffle draw
- Wednesday 29th September - Scholastic Book Fair
-Wednesday 6th October
- Thursday 30th September - Cotswold Wildlife Park Trip (Y1—Y6)
Arrive at school 8.30—8.40
Pick up from school at 5.15 p.m.

OCTOBER

- Tuesday 5th October - Rags2Riches Collection
Swimming (Y5 & Y6)
- Tuesday 5th October - Swimming Y5 & Y6
- Tuesday 19th October - Nasal Flu Vaccination
R, Y1, Y2, Y3, Y4, Y5 and Y6
- Wednesday 20th October - Harvest Festival - further details to follow
- Friday 22nd October - Inset Day (Staff only)

HALF TERM

NOVEMBER

- Monday 1st November - Term 2 begins