

Ellwood Community Primary School

Believe, Achieve, Belong

Telephone: 01594 833232
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Our value this term is: Resilience

March 2nd 2023

Weekly Attendance

Our aim is to have our weekly attendance above 97% in line with the Local Authority's expectation. This week, our **whole school attendance was 95.5%**.

Well done to Beech **class** for getting the highest attendance again this week!

Please remember to report a child's absence before 9.30 a.m, ideally before the start of school by either phoning the school on 01594 833232 or emailing

admin@ellwood.gloucs.sch.uk

Thank you.

Oak	96.1%
Chestnut	94.3%
Beech	98.8%
Sycamore	92.3%
Willow	96.1%

The children are working really hard and a number of year groups are preparing for their end of key stage assessments, particularly phonics screening for year 1, year 2, year 4 multiplication check and year 6 SATs.

Please continue to help your child with any areas they need to work on, as this will help prepare them for their next stage in education, whether it is KS 1 to KS2 or KS2 to secondary school. It makes the transition easier for the children if they are secure in their current year groups objectives.

Thank you to those teachers that are running the KS2 SATs booster club, the children are working really hard to close any gaps, learn new things and revise!

Spaces

We have spaces in years R, 1 and 4 due to one of our lovely families relocating. This is very unusual so please spread the word if anyone you know is looking for a place. We also have a space in year 3.

Easter Raffle

Thank you to everyone for the chocolate donations, we have lots of lovely chocolate prizes ready for the Easter raffle.

Thank you to Mrs Genner-Morris and staff for making the hampers and organising everything. All funds raised go directly back to the children as will use the money to purchase resources and to fund opportunities for them.

Tickets will be on sale week commencing 20th March with more information to follow in the coming weeks.



Science Day Friday 10th March

As part of British Science Week, we are asking the children to come in dressed as scientists for the day. Please don't feel you need to go and buy anything, an old t-shirt or shirt works as a great lab coat.

This years theme is 'Connect' and looks at making science more accessible for all! I wonder how different all our scientist will look?

We will be taking part in a range of cross curricula science activities throughout the day as well as a whole school challenge in the afternoon. We had a great time last year and are looking forward to this years event.



Manor Adventure - Reminder

A reminder—Please make sure your payments for Manor Adventure residential are up to date. The 5th instalment of £50 was due on 3rd February totaling £200, the 6th and final instalment of £100 is due on 7th April. Please ensure the final balance is paid by this date.

Thank you.

Parent Pay

A reminder to pay for school dinners please, as children cannot be given a dinner if debts are outstanding . There is also still a large amount of money outstanding on parent pay for various other trips and activities.

It is coming to the end of the financial year and the school cannot fund these debts . This will impact on our budget for next year. Please clear any outstanding debts by Monday.

If you are struggling to make any payments, please contact Linda Edwards, (school business manager) and the school may be able to agree a payment plan to pay a set amount each week to clear the debts .

Dinner debts must be cleared as the money is owed to Caterlink. Schools don't have additional money to write off dinner debts unfortunately as it takes money away from others areas of the school such as; teachers, TA's and buildings and resources. We are currently looking at the budget for the next financial year with our governors. We are working hard to ensure we can sustain our current staffing structure, maintain the opportunities and continue to provide nice activities for the children, so every penny counts.

Reading

Please keep reading with your child at home. We would like to reduce the number of children attending reading club. Staff are giving up their own time to enable the children to practise their reading and we hope that parents are doing their bit to support their child with this important life skill. It is an expectation that all children read at least four times a week . It doesn't take very long and older children can read out loud and then a parent can ask the child a few questions about the text.

A few pages is better than not reading at all. Not reading regularly hinders children's progress in reading, writing and other areas of the curriculum.

Personal Development and Wellbeing:

PCSO Visit - stranger danger

On Wednesday PCSO Tom visited school and delivered an assembly to the children. It was very informative and helped the children realise the potential dangers when going out alone, particularly when it's getting dark and how to stay safe.

We now know who our trusted adults are.

Thank you PCSO Tom.



Mrs Marshall's Tree

Mr Marshall delivered her tree to us before half term. We are so grateful for this lovely gift and when the weather improves a little, Mrs Rees has some great plans for a lovely memorial area on our school field. We will keep you updated!

We are still receiving donations towards buying a lovely bench to go by the tree, so if you would still like to contribute, please send the money in to school in a labelled envelope.

All children will be able to benefit from this planned quiet area.

Random Act of Kindness - Friday 17th February

All classes took part in this year's national Random Act of Kindness day. This was a great time to reflect on all of the wonderful things and people in our lives and gave us time to think about all the little ways we can show kindness.



Year 1 pupils made thank you cards to their chosen member of staff and then hand delivered them, bringing lots of smiles around the school!



Year 2 chose to make some surprise thank you cards for some special people in their lives. They also baked some cakes and chose to give them to the midday supervisors as a little thank you for all their hard work.

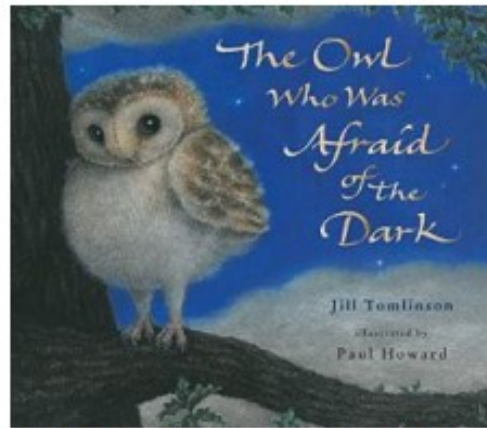


Year 4 decided to carry out lots of little random acts of kindness throughout the day, like passing on smiles, holding the door open for each other and making surprise notes.



English in Year 2

This week we started a new unit based on the fantastic book, 'The Owl who was Afraid of the Dark' written by Jill Tomlinson.



We were very lucky and grateful that a kind local resident visited school this week with her owl. The children loved meeting her and asking lots of questions about owls.



Parents' evening feedback sheets

We hope you found the recent parents' consultation evenings useful and you were given information about how your child is getting on and what they need to continue to work on this year. If you haven't completed the feedback sheet and returned it, could you please do so by Monday. Your feedback helps us to make any necessary changes or improvements.

If you were unable to attend a parents' evening meeting, please make contact with the class teacher and they will arrange to meet with you. It is important that all parents meet the teacher.

Thank you.



Young Poets & Storytellers Competition

Closing Date for All Competitions
Friday 26th May 2023

Write a poem in any form – up to a maximum 20 lines

Four age groups 5-8, 9-11, 12-13, 14-16 (*age on 31.8.23)

With book token prizes of £20, £10 and £5 for the first three in each group

On any topic, but suggested theme "Change"

Write a short story – up to a maximum 500 words

Age groups – Up to 11, and 12 & over. Prizes as for the poems

THE JOHN LIVESEY CUP

WILL BE AWARDED TO THE BEST OVERALL ENTRY

Please send your entries typed in Word or neatly handwritten with your name, age*, school or family contact details to contact@poetryfod.org or to Young Poets & Storytellers Competition, Mitcheldean Library, High St, Mitcheldean GL17 0HN

Competitions sponsored by Severn Dean Lions



Additional support from



World book day

We have had a fantastic world book day today, the children all looked fabulous in their costumes and have taken part in some fun activities. Below is a class photo of Oak (reception) looking great! More photos to follow.....



Clubs - Spring Term 2 2023

Clubs are underway this week. There are lots of opportunities for children to participate in an after school club and try out something new as well as developing news skills and talents.

Please make a note of the dates for clubs below.

Clubs – Spring Term 2 2023

All clubs will run for the dates listed below, unless otherwise stated.

Club dates: Monday 27th February – Friday 31st March (5 weeks)

Club	Day / Time	Year Group/Class	Staff Member
Yoga	Monday 3:15pm – 4:00pm	Year 1, 2 and 3	Caroline Rickards
SATs booster	Monday 3:15pm – 4:15pm	Year 6	Mrs Woodhouse
<u>Boardgames</u>	Monday 3:15pm – 4:15pm	Years 2, 3, 4, 5	Mrs Sheppard
Phonics	Tuesday 3:15pm – 4:15pm	Year 1 (invite only)	Miss Hek
Gardening club	Tuesday 3:15pm – 4:15pm £1 donation for whole half term.	Years 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 (places will be allocated termly on a first come first serve basis)	Mrs Rees
Drama club	Tuesday 3:15pm – 4:15pm	Years 3, 4, 5 and 6	Miss Briggs
Dance	Wednesday 3:15pm – 4:15pm	Years 4, 5 and 6	Progressive sports
Multi-Sports	Wednesday 3:15pm – 4:15pm	Years 1, 2, 3 and 4	Pro Stars
Lego club	Thursday Lunchtime	Year 2 and 3 (max 10)	Mrs Charles
Feel good Friday	Friday mornings 8:15am – 8:45am Includes breakfast.	All year groups (Max 30, first come first serve)	Mrs Charles
Badge club	Friday lunchtime 12:30pm – 1:00pm	Invite only	Miss <u>Chisman</u>
Colouring club	Friday lunchtime 12:30pm – 1:00pm	Years 3, 4, 5 and 6	Mrs Charles

Diary Dates

MARCH

- Thursday 2nd March - Gymnastics - Y4
- World book day. **Dress up** as your favourite character!
Book swap - bring a book in to swap.
- Monday 6th March - Parents in school week
- Thursday 9th March - Gymnastics - Y4
- Friday 10th March - Science day - **Dress up** as a Scientist
- Tuesday 14th March - Swimming - Y3/4
- Thursday 16th March - Gymnastics - Y4
- Friday 17th March - Rags2riches collection
- Thursday 23rd March - Gymnastics - Y4
- Tuesday 28th March - Swimming Y3/4

APRIL

- Monday 3rd April - HALF TERM