

Ellwood Community Primary School

BELIEVE, ACHIEVE, BELONG

December 8th 2022



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 90%.

Well done to Oak class for getting the highest attendance 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	97.5%
Chestnut	87.5%
Beech	85.4%
Sycamore	86.7%
Willow	95.4%

Importance of School Attendance:

In the UK it is a legal requirement that all children attend school between the ages of 5-16. When children and young people do not attend school and are not able to access a suitable education in other ways, it leaves them vulnerable to falling behind their peers, academically, socially and emotionally.

The phrase 'persistent absence from school' was defined in 2015 as less than 90 per cent school attendance. Being 'persistently absent' was reported to have economic, social and psychological costs for children and young people and their communities. In addition, children and young people who are absent from school, to any extent, are more likely to leave school with few or no qualifications and are more likely to be out of work, suffer mental health difficulties and become homeless.

Please come and see us if you need support in relation to your child's attendance.

If your child has attendance lower than 90% you may be contacted to be offered support.

Thank you!

Perrygrove

The children in Reception had a fantastic time at Perrygrove Railway last week.

A BIG thank you to Five Acres for lending us their minibus and to Mr Mainwaring for driving it.

Once again, thank you to parents/carers for supporting the trip to go ahead; it was a magical day out.



Nativity

Thank you to everyone who came along to watch the children's nativity on Tuesday. The children were all amazing and put on a fantastic performance. Thank you to the teachers for all of the effort they put in to organising such a fabulous day and evening.



Spelling Challenge

A reminder that it is the Spelling Challenge on Monday 12th December!



Christmas Cards

Monday 12th will be the last day for Christmas cards to be sent in. They will be handed out to the children on Monday.



Fundraising

Each day after school next week, we will be selling, sweets, books and light up bottles outside Willow class.

There will also be a tombola!



P.E

This term, to enhance our teaching and learning, Mr Clarke from Progressive Sports has been working with Miss Hek and Mrs Aston in delivering 'Ball Skills' in Beech Class and 'Fundamental Skills' in Chestnut Class. Mr Clarke has also supported our Sports Leaders at lunch time with teaching new games and running the after school Fencing club.

We are very grateful for this opportunity to develop our teaching of PE and the children have enjoyed their time with Mr Clarke. We are looking forward to working with Progressive Sports again in the Spring Term.

Miss Hek [PE Lead]



Rotary Shoeboxes

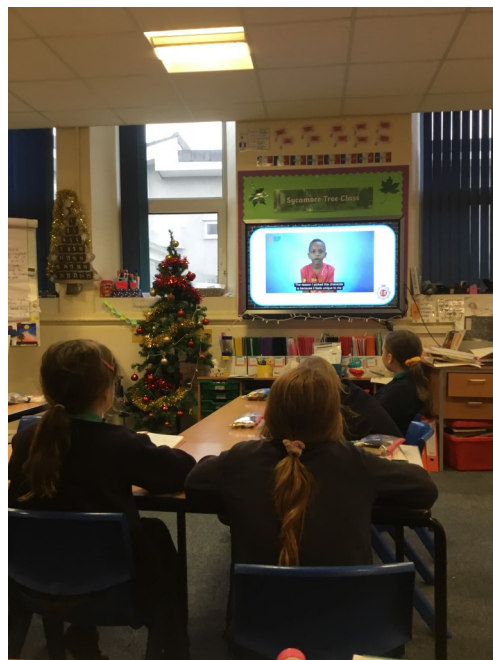
Oak and Chestnut's one act of kindness (OAKs) challenge has grown this year. We have been overwhelmed by the kindness and generosity of our school community.



Darren Peters - Internet Safety talk

This week we had PC Darren Peters in school to talk about online safety. He delivered some very engaging sessions to the children which they enjoyed.

Year 4 remembered a lot about staying safe online and gave great answers to questions they were asked today!



Pantomime reminder!

A reminder please to give consent and make payment on parent pay for the Pantomime trip on Thursday 15th December!

Please make sure your child arrives at school for 8am as we will be leaving at 8:15am promptly.

Please make sure they have a packed lunch, a drink and a snack to take with them.

The money from the Christmas Fair has helped us pay for the tickets for the Pantomime. Thank you to parents for contributing towards the cost of the coach.



Governor News

This term the school governors have been busy visiting the school, talking to staff and pupils and noting the great learning that is taking place.

There have been visits to look at Maths and problem solving and also English focusing particularly on Reading, and the excellent amount of resources and ideas that the school has to encourage children in the love of reading which is vital for all learning. The ideas include: reading raffle with the Golden Ticket, reading workshops, visits by authors, and a visit to the Cheltenham Literature Festival

A discussion has been held around supporting children in their gifts and talents, in academic subjects, sport and creative areas. The school actively encourages links with clubs outside of school as well as offering a wide range of clubs in school. Our aim is that all children believe in themselves and the unique gifts that they have.

There have been visits looking at behaviour, and the polite welcome by the children was noted as well as the pleasant atmosphere at playtime. Statutory checks have taken place to ensure that all children and pupils are safe.

Significant events have been fun to experience; it was great to see the children dressed as farmers for harvest and I am sure that the Christmas play will bring much enjoyment too.

It is a huge privilege being a Governor, walking alongside the pupils as they journey through this important stage of their lives. We have a vacancy for a parent governor, if you would like to know more about this, make enquiries in the office.

Rev Michelle Ireland (Chair of Governors)

Diary Dates

DECEMBER

- Friday 9th December - Christmas carol concert - Y 4,5 & 6 2:30—3:00pm
- Monday 12th December - Week commencing 12th Dec will be our Christmas shopping event!
- Wednesday 14th December - Christmas dinner day & Christmas jumper day
- Thursday 15th December - Whole school Panto trip to Courtyard Theatre, Hereford - 8am arrival for children
- Friday 16th December - Last day of term - **2pm finish**
- Class Party - bring a treat to eat and wear party clothes!

JANUARY

- Tuesday 3rd January - **INSET DAY**
- Wednesday 4th January - First day back in school

Reminder

A reminder that we are finishing at 2pm on the last day of term!