

Welcome to Ellwood Community Primary School

Oak Class of 2024-2025



Our Vision at Ellwood Community Primary School

At Ellwood Community Primary School, we strive to be the best we can be. We have high aspirations for all our pupils, staff and the community. We want our children to be confident individuals, lifelong learners and global citizens enabling them to achieve their very best.

Our school motto is: *Believe, Achieve, Belong*

- **Believe** - We believe all children have potential and should believe in themselves. We believe in them, our staff, parents, governors and community. We believe together; we achieve more.
- **Achieve** - We want every child to succeed and achieve their full potential. This could be academically, personally or socially. We also want the school community to achieve their very best.
- **Belong** - We want our children to belong. We want them to belong to their class, school and community and to have a sense of belonging and to feel they will always be welcome at Ellwood and will feel valued.

Meet the Team

**Mrs King – EYFS
Class Teacher**



**Mrs Chiswell –
EYFS HLTA**



**Mrs Rees – PPA
Cover Teacher**



**Mrs Woodhouse –
Special Educational
Needs Coordinator
[SENCO]**



**Mrs Milford -
Headteacher**



Summer Taster Day

- We are inviting the children into school during the summer term for a two hour session with Mrs King to spend time in their new classroom.

Summer Taster Day

Friday 12th July

Butterfly 

9:00-11:00

Friday 12th July

Ladybirds 

1:00-3:00

September Starting Arrangements

Settling Period – Home Visits

- At Ellwood Community Primary School, we offer a home visit before your child starts school.
- Home visits are planned to take place on the 3rd, 4th and 5th September.
- If we are not able to carry out home visits you will be invited into school for a meeting on one of the dates listed above.



September Starting Arrangements

Stay & Play

Friday 6th September 9:30a.m. – 11:30a.m.

- We are offering parents/carers and children the opportunity to come into Oak class together and spend time with us and to become familiar with our learning environment (please return your reply slip).
- We will also be holding a short informal phonics workshop during this time to inform you about how we teach your child to read and write, enabling you to support your child at home.
- This is also a great opportunity to meet other parents and children.

September Starting Arrangements

Settling Period 9th - 13th September

- We have planned for the first week of school to be a settling period before your child starts school full-time.
- We are aware that some children will have attended full-time day care and therefore you may feel they will cope with full-time school right from their very first day. However, it is important to understand that school is very different to nursery and is much more physically and mentally draining. We are also required to complete a 'Reception Baseline Assessment' individually with every child for the Department for Education which will be carried out during the settling period.

For the first week the children will be split into two groups



(Ladybird or Butterfly).



September Starting Arrangements

Settling Period 9 th – 13 th September		
	AM	PM
Monday 9 th September	9:00-12:00 [Ladybird]	1:00-3:00 [Butterfly]
Tuesday 10 th September	9:00-12:00 [Ladybird]	1:00-3:00 [Butterfly]
Wednesday 11 th September	9:00-12:00 [Butterfly]	1:00-3:00 [Ladybird]
Thursday 12 th September	9:00-12:00 [Butterfly]	1:00-3:00 [Ladybird]
Friday 13 th September	9:00-1:15 (including lunch) [Ladybird and Butterfly]	

ALL children to start full time (8.45am-3.20pm) from Monday 16th September.

Uniform

Our school uniform can be ordered through 'Brigade':

<https://www.brigade.uk.com/>

Uniform Requirements:

Grey skirts, shorts, trousers, pinafore dresses.

Jade polo shirts (preferably with school logo).

Navy blue sweatshirts or cardigans (preferably with school logo).

Green check dresses may be worn in the summer, if preferred

PE kit – plain white t-shirt, navy shorts, black daps or plain trainers.

Footwear – children are expected to wear sensible 'safe' shoes, not fashion shoes. Socks should be grey/black or white.

Please ensure every individual item is clearly labelled with your child's full name.

We encourage the children to be independent in their self-help skills, therefore, please consider the following points when purchasing uniform:

- Try to avoid braces or belts on trousers.
- If possible, shoes should be velcro.
- Coats should have a hoop for hanging on coat pegs.
- Coats with easy fastenings are best for little fingers to manage (please encourage your child to practice doing up their coat).

Please send spare clothes in your child's book bag if you feel they may need them.

Lunches

- All children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are offered universal free school meals.
- From Monday 16th September your child is entitled to a free school meal if you wish. You will receive a menu from 'Caterlink' in September.
- Your child will order their lunch each morning in school. It would be helpful if you could talk to your child about the lunch choices so they can familiarise themselves with the options.
- If you do not wish for your child to have a free school meal, please send them into school with a healthy lunchbox.



Healthy Living

- Every child needs to bring in a named water bottle each morning. **Please ensure that it is filled with water only.** This water bottle is available throughout the day for your child.
- All children in Reception are provided with a fresh piece of fruit or raw vegetable for their morning break. Children are welcome to bring their own piece of fruit or raw vegetable if you wish.
- Please remember that if sending grapes they must be cut in half.
- If you would like your child to drink milk at snack time it needs to be ordered through 'Cool Milk'. Milk is free until the week of your child's 5th birthday. Your child can still have milk daily once they are 5 years old however, there will be a small charge for this.
 - For more information about milk please visit 'Cool Milk':
<https://www.coolmilk.com/>

The logo for 'Cool Milk' features the words 'Cool Milk' in a blue, cursive script font. The 'C' in 'Cool' is large and loops around the 'o'. The 'M' in 'Milk' is also large and loops around the 'i'. The text is set against a white rectangular background.

Book Bag



- All children will be given a book bag which they must bring into school each day containing their reading wallet.
- We will also use your child's reading wallet to share letters and important information with you.
- The majority of information will be sent to you **electronically** - please ensure we have current email addresses for both parents with parental responsibility.

The School Day

- The school day starts at 8:50a.m. Children must be in school and ready to learn by this time. Children who arrive after the register is taken, will be marked as late. Late marks count against your child's overall attendance percentage.
- The gate at the bottom of the playground connecting the playground and the car park is opened at 8:45 a.m. for access onto the playground.
- The school day finishes at 3:20p.m.
- Children will not be able to leave the classroom at the end of the day unless a parent/carer is waiting for them at the Oak classroom door.
- If someone different is collecting your child, please inform the class teacher in advance otherwise your child will not be able to leave the school site until this is confirmed. Only contacts named in your child's permission booklet will be permitted to collect your child without prior notification.



Medical Matters



- If your child has had sickness or diarrhoea, they must not attend school for 48 hours from the last bout of sickness or diarrhoea.
- If your child is absent from school, please ring the office by 9:30 a.m. to provide a reason for your child's absence.
- Medication will only be administered if a medication record is completed by a parent/carer. Non-prescribed medicines will not be administered unless in an emergency or if authorised by the Headteacher.
- If your child needs an inhaler for asthma, please ensure their asthma plan is completed in the 'parental permission booklet'. Your child's inhaler needs to be kept in school in a named bag/wallet.

The Big Brush



What's happening at school

Your child will be brushing their teeth each day in the classroom, but need to brush at home too!

We're committed to improving children's oral health. The aim of the supervised toothbrushing programme is for every child to brush their teeth with fluoride toothpaste once a day in the classroom and also twice a day at home, developing healthy habits which can last a lifetime.

We've trained Oral Healthcare Champions in your school and have supplied all materials, including toothbrushes, toothpaste, toothbrush racks and more!

Looking after your teeth

- ✓ **Sugary food and drinks can damage teeth.** Limit these and have at mealtimes only.
- ✓ Between meals, **drink water or milk** and try not to snack.
- ✓ **Dental check ups** are important, and everyone should have regular dental visits.



 **AT HOME DENTAL** www.athomedental.co.uk

www.bigbrushclub.co.uk

- All equipment is provided by the NHS Big Brush Programme. We are fully trained Big Brush Champions.
- The aim of the programme is to support children in developing life long good oral hygiene habits from a young age.
- We have introduced toothbrushing into our daily routine this year, the children have really enjoyed it and have learnt a great deal about the importance of looking after their teeth. Tooth brushing has also be welcomed by parents too.
- The children will brush their teeth after lunch everyday.
- Children will also receive a free toothbrushing pack to use at home.
- There is further information within your packs, including a consent form. Please return this so that stock can be ordered ready for September.

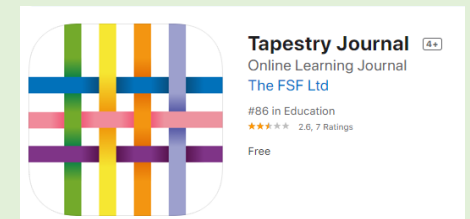
Tapestry

- At Ellwood Community Primary School, we use Tapestry to share your child's learning journey with you. Throughout your child's time in Reception, you will be able to have an insight into their learning and development by accessing a secure account to view your child's learning journey.
- We encourage all parents/carers (with parental responsibility) to have an account through Tapestry so they can contribute and share their child's learning journey.

<https://tapestryjournal.com/>

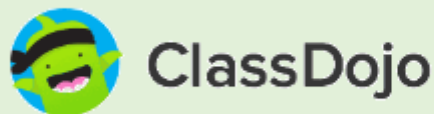


Download the Tapestry App!



Class Dojo

- At Ellwood Community Primary School, we use Class Dojo to share information with you about our school.
- We encourage all parents/carers (with parental responsibility) to have an account with Class Dojo so everyone can keep up to date with what is happening in school.
- You will also be able to see your child's house points and a 'class story' which will give you an insight into your child's classroom activities.
- We DO NOT use the messaging service on the Class Dojo platform.



Early Years Foundation Stage [EYFS]

Play allows children to use their creativity while developing their imagination, dexterity, and physical, cognitive, and emotional strength. **Play** is **important** to healthy brain development. It is through **play** that children at a very early age engage and interact in the world around them.

- The EYFS sets standards for the learning, development and care of your child from birth to 5 years old. The EYFS curriculum is followed within Reception at Ellwood Community Primary School.

Areas of Learning & Development	
Prime Areas:	Specific Areas:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Communication and Language• Physical Development• Personal, Social, Emotional Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Literacy• Mathematics• Understanding the World• Expressive Arts & Design

Children in the EYFS learn by playing and exploring, being active, and through creative and critical thinking which takes place both indoors and outside. You can find more information about the Early Years Foundation Stage on the curriculum section of the website.

Outdoor Learning



- In Oak class we regularly access outdoor learning opportunities.
- To enable your child to access the outdoor learning opportunities we ask that parents/carers provide a pair of wellington boots for their child which can be kept at school throughout the year (please ensure each wellington boot is clearly labelled with your child's full name). Please also provide a waterproof suit for your child for 'Forest Adventure' sessions.
- Please also ensure your child has a suitable coat as we access outdoor learning opportunities in a range of weathers.

The best classroom and the richest cupboard are roofed only by the sky.

Preparing for school

- Be able to go to the toilet independently (including wiping their bottom).
- To be able to put on their coat independently.
- To be able to recognise their own name.
- To be able to listen to stories with increasing attention.
- To be able to listen and follow a two-part instruction.
- To be able to take off and put on their own shoes.

Bedtime routine

- Please ensure your child has an appropriate bedtime.
- Limit screen time before bed.
- Enjoy a bedtime story together.

Join us on Facebook

- We have a Facebook group to share updates and reminders with our parents/carers.
- Please note we do not use the Facebook page as a method of two-way communication. Please telephone the office (01594 833232) or email admin@ellwood.gloucs.sch.uk for general queries.



Ellwood Community Primary School

<http://www.ellwoodschool.co.uk/website>



Please visit the website where you will find all the relevant information about starting school.

Useful Information

- Ellwood Community Primary School office number: 01594 833232
- Class email address: oak@ellwood.gloucs.sch.uk
- Admin email address: admin@ellwood.gloucs.sch.uk