

Ellwood Community Primary School



Bulletin - September 17th 2021

SCHOOL TRIP TO COTSWOLD WILDLIFE PARK - Year 1 to Year 6

On Thursday 30th September, Year 1 to Year 6 are going to Cotswold Wildlife Park. This trip was postponed from the Summer Term, so we are so pleased that we will be able to go this term!

We will leave school at 9:00 am prompt; please ensure your child is in school a little earlier on this day so we can register the children, get them ready and be on the bus ready to leave at 9.00 am.

Drop-off times

Arrive 8.30-8.40 a.m. through bottom gate as normal.

Collection times

We will be returning to school at approximately 5pm. If this changes during the day, we will inform you but we will aim to be back to school for 5pm.

Pick up 5.15 p.m. from the back playground as normal.

Please send your child in their **school polo shirt/jumper** (the children can wear something comfortable otherwise such as; shorts/trousers/jeans/leggings) with comfortable shoes/trainers. Please keep an eye on the weather forecast.

Your child will need:

2 x drinks

A packed lunch

2 x snacks

Sunhat and sun cream, if hot weather (please apply cream before and also send in bag)

If weather is wet, please send a waterproof coat

If your child requires any medication such as inhalers, creams etc, please send in your child's bag and let their teacher know.

We have enough staff to supervise the children and due to COVID, we are unable to take additional helpers, who are not regularly helping in school.

The trip will be fully funded from the school's fundraising achievements - so thank you for this wonderful support! There are workshops included, an ice cream and a goodie bag for each child.

We are following all the COVID guidance, there are extensive risk assessments in place both for the trip and the COVID requirements. We have also obtained and reviewed the Wildlife Park's risk assessment. Staff and children will be briefed on these prior to the visit.

Please complete the permission, medical and contact information form on Parent Pay. This is an easy way to give permission. There is no cost and children do not need to bring any spending money.

Thank you!

Chestnut Class

Learning about the Great Fire of London

On Monday the children had an online lesson from Elizabeth who works for the National Archives! Elizabeth showed the children maps of London we found St. Pauls Cathedral, Pudding Lane, London Bridge and the river Thames on the map. The children were able to talk about why the fire spread quickly and using their knowledge of materials.



Year 2

Year 2 had an unexpected delivery this week...a treasure map! We worked together to follow the map until we reached 'X marks the spot'. Unfortunately, when we found the treasure chest it was empty. Has anyone seen our missing treasure?



Year 6 Leavers Celebration

It was lovely to see the Year 6 children able to have their Y6 leavers celebration at last. It looks like they had a lovely time.

We would like to wish them luck in the future and hope they are enjoying their new schools!



COVID

Please refrain from asking staff or phoning the office to find out names of children who have tested positive for COVID. This information will not be disclosed as it is confidential. Unfortunately, it is inevitable that we will have more positive cases, especially after the relaxing of restrictions and the colder months approaching. The positive cases as far as we know have not been transmitted within the school but from external contacts. We closely follow the Department for Education, Public Health England and NHS guidance. All of the information and guidelines are available on their websites, if you require further clarification.

DfE : <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/schools-covid-19-operational-guidance>

PhE: <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/public-health-england>

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

If your child is unwell

If your child is unwell with a temperature and continuous cough please do not send them to school. If they have a high temperature and/or continuous cough, then a PCR test should be taken. Booking a test is simple and results are usually returned the following day.

To book a PCR test visit:

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

If your child is feeling unwell and not exhibiting any of the main COVID symptoms, you can always carry out a Lateral Flow Test for your peace of mind. Lateral Flow Tests may be ordered online for home delivery.

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

School Raffle

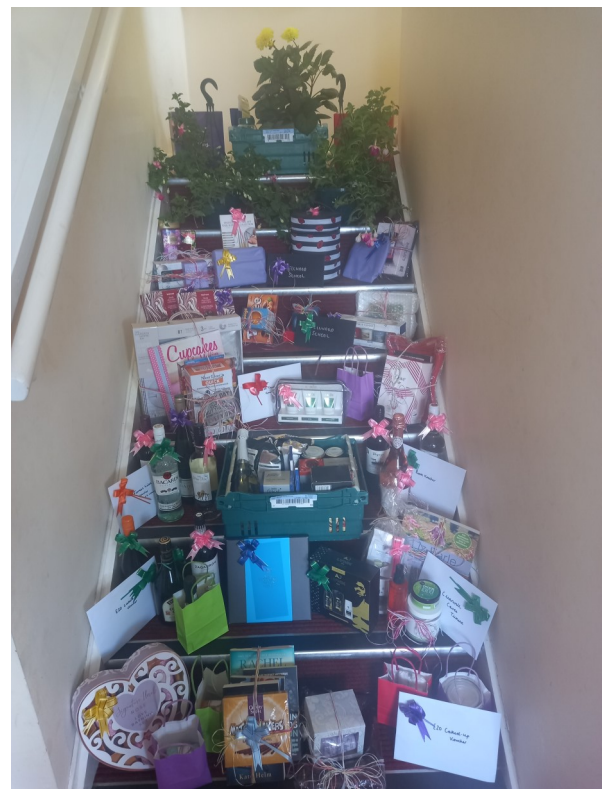
Just a reminder that it is not too late to enter the school raffle. If you would like to buy some tickets please send money into school in a named envelope, stating whether you would like tickets for the children's or adult's raffle. All money raised will be going towards funding the Cotswold Wildlife trip.

The Raffle will be drawn on Friday September 24th.

Children's Raffle Prizes



Adult Raffle Prizes



School Gate at Morning Drop Off

Please can we remind parents/carers to stand away from the gate once their child/ren has gone through the gate.

Parents/Carers should avoid gathering at the gate to chat and allow others to get through. If possible we should still be maintain some social distance, especially with the number of positive cases rising nationally. Face coverings are optional and may be worn if you like to and feel safer doing so.

Many thanks for your continued support.

Nasal Flu Vaccinations

Tuesday October 19th

A nasal flu vaccination consent form and information booklet has been sent home this week with each child. Please complete as soon as possible and return to school.

If you have any questions or concerns about the vaccinations please contact the immunisation team directly on: 0300 421 8140 or email: FLUImmunisation@ghc.nhs.uk

Please be reminded that school only facilitates the vaccination programme.

Thank you.

Holiday Free School Meal Scheme

For the October half-term, Gloucestershire County Council is providing vouchers to parents who have signed up to our Holiday Free School Meals (FSM) scheme. These vouchers are provided by Gloucestershire County Council as part of its commitment to 'no child goes hungry'. The vouchers are funded through COVID-19 grant funding we have received and is separate to that of the term time free school meals.

Parents who have signed up to the scheme will receive a voucher for £15 for each child who is eligible for FSM, which will cover the half-term week.

Parents who have signed up previously do not need to re-register, they have already been included, but, to ensure we get all who are eligible, we are encouraging new parents to sign up as soon as they can.

Applications for Holiday Free School Meal Vouchers for October Half Term is open from Monday 13 September until midday Friday 24 September. Vouchers will be sent out between Monday 27th September and 30th September. Vouchers are being sent out this early due to Covid grant stipulations.

For more information and to sign up if you haven't already please visit Gloucestershire County Council's website: the **Holiday School Meal vouchers** page on their website.

For any queries please contact: childrensfund@gloucestershire.gov.uk

Uniform / PE Kit

Overall the children are looking fantastic, so please keep this up. Thank you!

Please may we remind Parents/Carers about the correct PE kits.

Children should be wearing:

- Plain white t-shirt
- Navy shorts/joggers/leggings
- Plain trainers or black daps
- School logo sweatshirt/cardigan

No coloured leggings/joggers or hooded tops.

Thank you.

Applying For Free School Meals

(Information from Gloucestershire County Council Website)

Why should I apply?

For every child that is entitled to free school meals the school receives extra funding to enhance provision and improve progress and outcomes for children. So please apply even if you do not wish to take up your free school meal.

What are the qualifying criteria for Free School Meals?

Your child might be able to get free school meals if you get any of the following:

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

Children who get paid these benefits directly, instead of through a parent or guardian, can also get free school meals.

Infant free school meals in England

Your child will be able to get free school meals if they're in:

- reception class
- year 1
- year 2

We still ask that you apply for this via the normal free school meals applications so as to prevent your child's school missing out on additional funding.

How long will it take to get a response?

You will receive an instant response as to whether you are entitled to free school meals once you have submitted your claim. All you need is your National Insurance Number and a current email address.

When your application is received, your eligibility will be checked with the Department for Education, Department for Work and Pensions and HM Revenue and Customs. If unsuccessful, children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will still receive universal infant free school meals.

If you think your child/ren may be eligible please visit:

<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/education-and-learning/school-transport-and-free-school-meals/apply-for-free-school-meals/>

Rags2Riches—Tuesday 5th October

Further to the information that was sent home last week. Rags2Riches have informed us that they will not be sending us bags to send home due to COVID. Therefore, please send any donations into school in either a black bag or carrier bag.

Please be reminded that clothing should be of good quality, dry and reusable.

Bags may be brought to school from Monday 4th October and left in the bike shelter at the front of school.

All money raised goes towards our school fundraising.

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.

Reception Class - 1 space available

Unexpectedly a space has become available in our new Reception Class. If you know of anyone who would be interested in this space, please get them to contact the school as soon as possible. It would be lovely for the Reception class to be full and a new child to have the opportunity to attend Ellwood at the start of the academic year.

Labelling School Uniform

Could Parents/Carers please ensure that all uniform is clearly labelled, so that any lost uniform can be returned easily to the correct child.

Please also check that your child has come home with the correct cardigans/jumpers, as sometimes children pick up others by mistake. If this happens, please bring it back to school so that we can return it to the correct child.

Thank you for your continued support.

Governor Monitoring Visit

Rev. Michelle spent the afternoon in school this week looking at the outside area, talking to pupils and observing some small group interventions. We are very pleased with our high adult to pupil ratio and the additional support and attention which is offered to our pupils. Our Teaching Assistants are highly trained and have a positive impact on the children's progress. We are lucky to have such a great staff team.

We really enjoyed having Rev. Michelle in school and she finished off the afternoon with a lovely assembly which the children really enjoyed. We would like to thank Rev. Michelle for her support as a Reverend and a school governor.

Thank you Rev. Michelle!

Diary Dates

SEPTEMBER

- Tuesday 21st September - Swimming (Y5 & Y6)
- Friday 24th September - Raffle draw
- Wednesday 29th September - Scholastic Book Fair
-Wednesday 6th October (More details to follow)
- 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
- Friday 22nd October - Inset Day (Staff only)
- HALF TERM
- Monday 1st November - Term 2 begins