Ellwood Community Primary School

Believe, Achieve, Belong

Telephone: 01594 833232
email: admin@ellwood.gloucs.sch.uk
Website: www.ellwoodschool.co.uk

Our value this term is: Responsibility

Sept 21st 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 96.4%**

Well done to **Oak class** for getting the highest attendance this week, what a great achievement for our youngest class!

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

admin@ellwood.gloucs.sch.uk

Thank you.

Oak	98.8%
Chestnut	98.4%
Beech	96.1%
Sycamore	93.8%
Willow	95.4%

Open Evening

Thursday 5th October 4:00–5:30pm

at

Ellwood Community Primary School

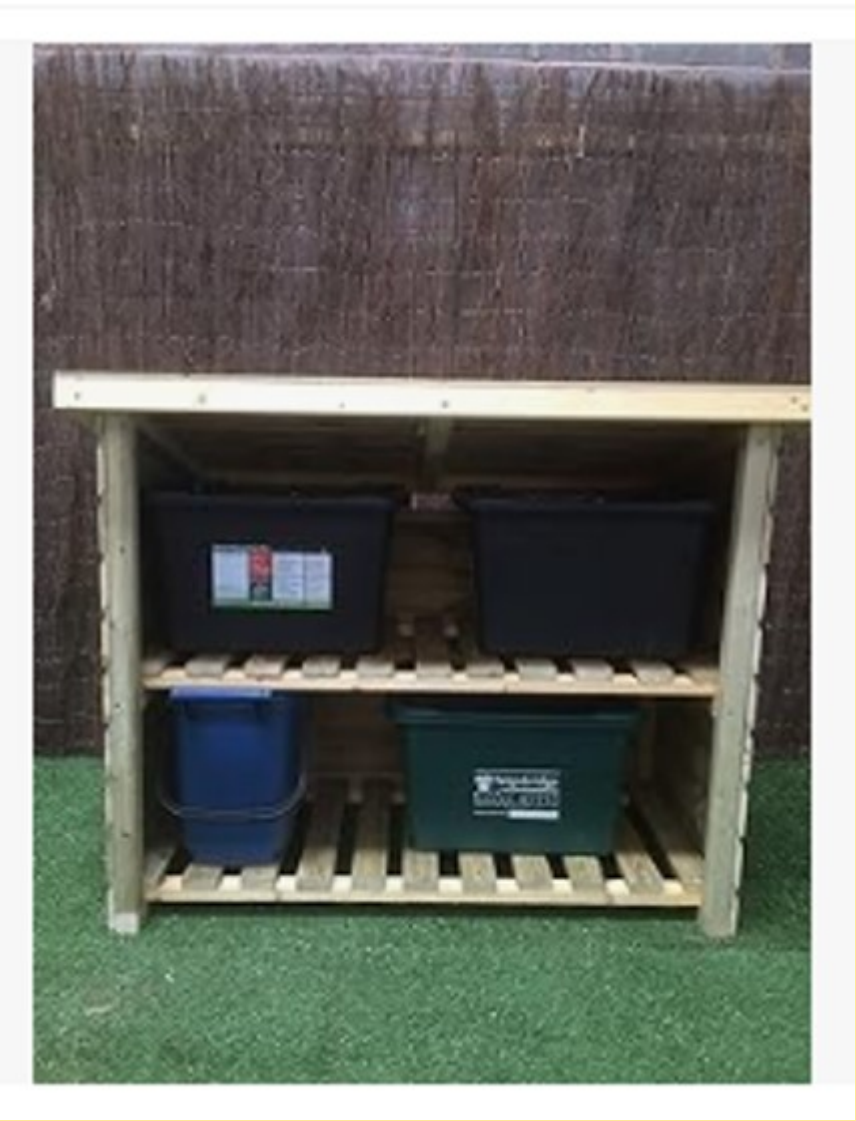
We will be holding an open evening to give prospective parents/carers the opportunity to look around the school and meet staff before they are required to apply for a school placement in 2024. There is no need to book an appointment. Please just arrive between these times. Please make sure you attend if you want to see the school as we do not have any other open evenings planned.

Help wanted!

We are in need of a bin shelter similar to the one below. We are wondering if anyone would be able to make one out of pallet wood for us.

Our eco club need to store their bins in something like this to stop them getting blown away in the windy weather!

If anyone can help, please contact the school on 01594 833232 or admin@ellwood.gloucs.sch.uk



At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

Top Tips for SETTING BOUNDARIES AROUND GAMING

If your child loves video games, then you'll probably be aware that how long they spend gaming – and what they're actually playing – can occasionally become a source of concern or conflict. The UK's trade body for interactive entertainment, Ukie, has recently launched a campaign to promote safer and more responsible gaming among young people – with parents and carers helping by setting sensible and fair boundaries. Our guide has tips on key areas where you could agree some healthy ground rules for your child's gaming activity.

PROMOTE SAFER GAME CHOICES

Deciding which online games are OK – and which should be avoided – is tricky. Some titles allow children to cooperate or compete with strangers, which creates potential risks. Watching your child play online for a while could provide good insight into a particular game, while the parental controls on most consoles allow you to limit who can chat to your child or send them friend requests. Remind your child of the hazards around strangers online when you discuss this boundary with them.

ENCOURAGE REGULAR BREAKS

Help your child understand the need to take regular breaks, playing in shorter bursts rather than marathon sessions. Bear in mind that some games (such as role-playing games) require time investment from the player, while others (online team games, for example) can't be stopped or paused at a moment's notice. A quick break every hour or so is good practice, and you could suggest some things to do in these breaks, such as having a drink of water or getting some fresh air.

AGREE SPENDING LIMITS

There's no doubt that gaming can be expensive, and younger players often don't realise how much paying for digital items and subscriptions can add up to. Many young gamers love to buy new skins or upgrades for their character, so you could settle on a fixed amount that your child is allowed to spend on in-game items each week or month. This sort of boundary will not only help your child to manage their expectations but will also make you more aware of the price of these items.

DISCUSS AGE RATINGS

Children often ignore the age ratings on games – or are unaware they even exist. If you're happy with your child playing a particular game even though it's rated above their age, then establish that as a boundary: remind them that you've made an exception, and talk about what age ratings mean and why they're important. You could add context to this boundary by browsing games boxes together while shopping, discussing why some games might have earned certain age ratings.

FACTOR IN FRIENDS

If your child is a keen video gamer, the chances are that they'll have other gamers among their social circle. Yet, when friends visit, do they instantly dash to their console or computer? You could put boundaries in place before their guests arrive by agreeing on a length of gaming time. Bear in mind, though, that they may try to extend this once they're together. Try coming up with activities or challenges for them during screen breaks – if they join in, they earn a little extra time on their game.

ENJOY GAMING TOGETHER

Setting time aside to play video games together can be an enjoyable bonding exercise. Undeniably, some young gamers may be less enthusiastic about a parent or carer joining in, but it can be a productive way of encouraging them to share their hobby with you. Setting goals or tasks might be useful: if they love Minecraft, choose something to build together; if Fortnite's their favourite, ask to try out some of the fun game modes, like Prop Hunt, which don't require high skill levels.

TALK ABOUT EMOTIONS

Help your child to monitor their emotions as they play. Discuss what is (and isn't) an acceptable level of competitiveness to show while gaming. Are they allowed to trash talk other players, for example? Can they notice when they get angry if they lose? Do they think these emotions are healthy? Some games can provoke anger, but others can bring joy, humour and the thrill of overcoming a challenge. Try to steer your child towards games that tend to produce these more positive feelings.

BE PREPARED FOR TROLLS

A frequent problem when gaming online is other players who are deliberately troublesome. Make sure your child knows how to report and block someone who makes their experience a negative one. Between you, decide if or how they should deal with these online trolls. Talk about where your child's boundaries are in terms of what they think is acceptable: what behaviour by other users is merely frustrating, and what crosses the line to become upsetting or abusive.

Meet Our Expert

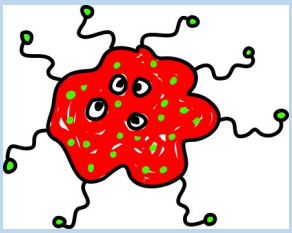
Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 15.03.2023

Nasal Flu Vaccinations

Please could all flu consent forms be handed back in to school by tomorrow.

Vaccinations are taking place on Thursday 28th September. We need every child to have a form sent back in to school stating whether or not you give consent.

Thank you.



Holidays in term time

We have seen an increase in holidays being taken during term time. We are required to inform the Local Authority of any absence request that is 5 days or more. In these instances, you will likely incur a penalty notice issued by the Local Authority.

Parent pay

A reminder to please pay any outstanding payments that may be due on parent pay for activities, trips and lunches etc.

We would like to make you aware of The Online Safety Bill – which is currently being finalised and it is hoped that this new set of laws will help to protect children and adults online. It will make social media companies more responsible for their users' safety on their platforms.

The Bill will make social media companies legally responsible for keeping children and young people safe online.

It will protect children by making social media platforms:

- remove illegal content quickly or prevent it from appearing in the first place. This includes removing content promoting self harm
- prevent children from accessing harmful and age-inappropriate content
- enforce age limits and age-checking measures
- ensure the risks and dangers posed to children on the largest social media platforms are more transparent, including by publishing risk assessments
- provide parents and children with clear and accessible ways to report problems online when they do arise

The online safety laws will mean social media companies will have to keep underage children off their platforms. However, parents will need to ensure that children are not making fake accounts with an older date of birth.

Social media companies set the age limits on their platforms and many of them say children under 13 years of age are not allowed, but many younger children have accounts. This will stop. Please ensure your children are not accessing Apps and site which are set for a 13 years age limit. Although this Bill will help, it is still parents responsibility to supervise, monitor and check their child's use of social media as some companies may still breach these new rules. Please don't rely on them and assume children are unable to access inappropriate content. We want to ensure that all children remain safe and online dangers are the main dangers for our pupils at the moment.

https://www.gov.uk/guidance/a-guide-to-the-online-safety-bill

Diary Dates

SEPTEMBER

Thursday 21st Sept	-	Gymnastics - Year 2
Tuesday 26th Sept	-	Chestnut & Beech class trip to Dean Heritage Centre
	-	Internet safety talk with PC Greg Steer - Year 6
Thursday 28th Sept	-	Gymnastics - Year 2
	-	Nasal flu vaccinations (whole school)

OCTOBER

Tuesday 3rd Oct	-	Swimming - Year 5 and 6
Thursday 5th Oct	-	Gymnastics Year 1
	-	Open evening for prospective Sept 24 parents 4:00pm—5:30pm
Monday 9th Oct	-	Cheltenham Literature Festival Years 1 –5
Tuesday 17th Oct	-	Rags2riches collection
	-	Swimming - Years 5 and 6
Thursday 19th Oct	-	Gymnastics Year 1
Wed 25th Oct	-	Parents' evening
Thurs 26th Oct	-	Parents' evening
	-	Gymnastics Year 1