



ELTHAM
CHURCH OF ENGLAND
PRIMARY SCHOOL
SINCE 1814

Spring 1 Newsletter February 2020

MESSAGE FROM MR BULPITT

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy Valentine's Day! Our times of collective worship this half term have all reflected on love, where we have considered Jesus's commands to be salt & light, that love is patient, kind, not jealous or boastful or proud, is not rude or demand its own way, is not irritable and doesn't keep record of being wronged. I am delighted that the culture of our school; its staff, children, parents and community is one of love and the ethos and atmosphere, and therefore the achievements and learning attitudes of the school are excellent.

I was proud to be able to host a meeting of the chairs of governors of all Royal Borough of Greenwich schools at Eltham Church of England Primary School this week, where they spent time visiting classrooms, looking at pupils' work and admiring the displays and achievements of our children. I was very proud of the children and their work, and I know that the governors returned to their schools with an amount of envy in having seen the achievements of those children who attend our excellent school.

May I wish you all a restful half term, and thank you as we continue to work and learn within the context of Micah 6:8 "What does the Lord require of you? To Act Justly, Love Mercy, Walk Humbly with our God".

I look forward to next half term and the outstanding curriculum that embeds our school and I trust that you enjoy reading about some of the celebrations of this half term. May I also remind you that there is a live celebration via our Twitter feed <https://twitter.com/ElthamCE>

Matthew Bulpitt
Headteacher

Charlie Rhodes
Deputy Headteacher

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Children return to school,
on Monday 24th February
2020



MESSAGES FROM THE OFFICE

Bikes and scooters

If your child brings a bike or scooter to school please can you remember to take these home at the end of each day. The school cannot take responsibility for any damage that may happen while they are left on the premises.

Nursery lateness

We would like to remind parents and carers that the morning session for nursery starts at 8:30am and finishes at 11:30am. Please can you collect your child on time. Staff have a half hour turn around time to set up for the afternoon session and take their lunch break. The nursery entrance is Archery Road. Only late children to be dropped off at the Roper Street entrance.

DINNER MONEY

The dinner money for next half term will be £78.00 and is payable in advance via SIMS PAY.

PACKED LUNCHES

Eltham Church of England Primary School promotes healthy lifestyles including what we eat. Cooked school lunches are balanced and include all food groups.

If you are providing a packed lunch we ask that you support this message and consider the balance of food that are included in your child's packed lunch box – i.e. crisps and chocolate biscuits at the expense of fruit and vegetables, or cakes in place of sandwiches and salads.

We would like to remind parents and carers that we are a nut free school due to some of our pupils having a nut allergy. Also, please do not put any fizzy drinks in your child's packed lunch.

If you would like more information on healthy packed lunches for kids please visit: <https://www.nhs.uk/change4life/recipes/healthier-lunchboxes>. Many thanks for your support.

UPDATING CONTACT DETAILS

If you have recently moved or changed your telephone number please could you notify the school office so we can update your details on our system.

CORONAVIRUS

The Department for Education have sent the following information to all schools to share publicly:

The Government and NHS are well prepared to deal with this virus.

Germs can live on some surfaces for hours.

To protect yourself and others:

- Always carry tissues with you and use them to catch your cough or sneeze.
- Bin the tissue, and to kill the germs, wash your hands with soap and water, or use a sanitiser gel.
- If you have arrived back from China within 14 days follow the specific advice for returning travellers.

This is the best way to slow the spread of almost any germs, including Coronavirus. Find out more at [gov.uk/coronavirus](https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus).

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

Please note that after schools clubs will be running as normal after the half term when the children return on Monday 24th February.

PARENTS EVENING

Parents evening will be held next term on 24th and 25th of March. You will be able to book your session via ParentMail (more details to follow) so please make sure you are able to log on. Please see the school office if you are having problems logging in.



PTA UPDATE

Dear parents and carers,

We would like to thank you again for your support and help during the events we organise throughout the year. This half term, we have had a successful film night, where children enjoyed spending time with their friends while watching Detective Pikachu. We also held a uniform sale, which is always welcome. We will hopefully have another one around Easter time.

We have a few events coming up (school disco and another film night) but our next big event is the Summer Fair which will be on Saturday 27th June 2020. This year we would like to theme the Fair around multi culturalism and raise awareness about the different nationalities and cultures represented in our school community.

We would like to have food, games and activities that include as many cultures as possible. We would love to hear from you if you have ideas you'd like to share with us!

UPCOMING EVENTS

- School Disco on Friday 6th March after school
- Quiz Night– Adults only Friday 1st May
- Film night - Friday 14th May
- Summer Fair: Saturday 27th June

Thanks

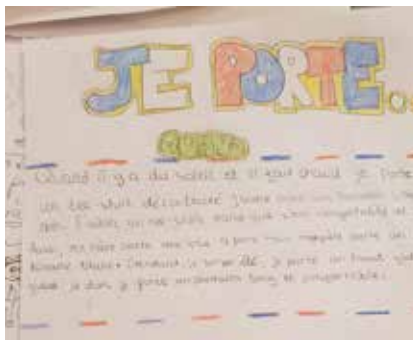
PTA

pta@elthamce.greenwich.sch.uk

HELP!

We welcome donations of unwanted uniforms, whatever their state. We have exciting projects for those that can't be sold, so please feel free to bring in all your unwanted uniforms.

WHAT'S NEW FROM FRENCH



FRENCH

As we approach the half way point of the school year, it is very pleasing to see how positively the children are working on their language learning skills across years 2 to 6. Year 2 have been very opinionated in describing which toys they like and dislike and are now ready to give their opinions about their favourite vegetables. Year 3 were very fortunate when learning about La Chandeleur in France, to try four different types of crêpe. They too were able to say what they thought of each topping. Year 4 wrote about their morning routines using the 12 hour clock and gave their opinions about characters from the Sleeping Beauty story. Year 5 have done quite a bit of speaking practice using positive and negative phrases about where they live and have been working on their phonics skills. Year 6 have wowed me with their writing skills using the key ingredients of information, opinions and reasons, so are gaining a good understanding of how to structure extended writing in French.

Please encourage your children to log on to <http://www.linguascope.com> during the holidays as it really makes such a difference to their vocabulary knowledge. The username is elthamps and the children know the password.

Madame Edwards



ATTENDANCE FOR SPRING 1 TERM

At Eltham Church of England Primary School we continue to promote and celebrate good attendance and punctuality. Not only is good attendance beneficial to pupils' achievements it is also an excellent 'life skill'.

We use the Royal Borough of Greenwich's Attendance Advisory Service to monitor and support our management of pupil attendance.

Under Fast Track, families will be informed when their child's attendance has crossed the threshold, even when all absences have been correctly documented and understood. If a child's attendance continues to decline and gives the Attendance Advisory Officer a cause for concern, then a meeting between the school, the parents and the advisory service is convened.

The school's target is to ensure that whole school attendance is consistently above 97% and better still above 97.5%

Can we remind parents that all absences need to be supported with a written letter outlining the reason for the absence as soon as your child returns to school.

Also, that all holiday will be recorded as unauthorised, however a child's overall attendance will be taken into account when consideration is given to the Fast Track procedures.

Class Attendance since September 2019

Corbett	95.7
North	96.5
Bek	96.5
Mills	96.5
Archery	97.7
Tarn	97.3
Sherard	96.8
Shaw-Brooke	97.4
Nesbit	96.4
Gregory	96.1
Chaucer	97.3
WG Grace	96.0
Roper	96.3
Avery	95.0
TOTAL	96.6

SAFEGUARDING

SAFER INTERNET DAY 2020

Tuesday 11th February 2020 was Safer Internet Day. New research from the UK Safer Internet Centre reveals young people's online experiences are an essential part of who they are offline, with 38% saying it's easier to be themselves online than offline.

To ensure your child uses the internet safely we would like to bring the following resource to your attention, *#Goldilocks: A fairytale for the digital age* by Jeanne Willis and Tony Ross. *#Goldilocks* is a modern twist on the classic fairy tale that offers a fun and accessible way for you to discuss all things social media related with your younger children. The book is designed to help educate children about the potential consequences of being unkind, getting carried away with selfies, or oversharing images, as we see Goldilocks getting into trouble with the three bears over her pursuit of likes on social media.

#Goldilocks Digital Book can be downloaded here:

<https://www.wearecoda.com/example-flip-book/mobile.html>

#Goldilocks Activity Sheet here:

<https://www.vodafone.co.uk/cs/groups/public/documents/webcontent/vfcon096114.pdf>

Parental Controls (Internet Matters)

<https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/>

The Best Parental Control Software for 2019

<https://uk.pcmag.com/parental-control-monitoring/67305/the-best-parental-control-software>

Best parental control apps for Android and iPhone 2020

<https://www.tomsguide.com/uk/us/best-parental-control-apps.review-2258.html>



SPORT AT ELTHAM

Here is a brief summary of the sporting activities that our children have taken part in during this half term.



SWIMMING GALA

In January twelve children from Year 6 took part in a swimming event at Shooter's Hill College.

The team consisted of six strong swimmers and six less confident swimmers. They took part in novelty races, swimming races, relay races and a raft race. All the children thoroughly enjoyed taking part.

Mrs Jones and Mrs Senner reported back that the children were all fantastic and they either won or came second in their races.

THOMAS TALLIS DANCE SHOWCASE

Miss Kerri's Cheerdance Club took part in the annual Thomas Tallis Dance Showcase.

The girls took part in a dance workshop, rehearsed their own dance then performed to Thomas Tallis pupils and staff.

Mrs Freeman and Mrs Jones accompanied the girls and reported back that they really enjoyed taking part in the workshop and performed their dance brilliantly to the staff and pupils at Thomas Tallis.

SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM

Our school football team plays fixtures at Meridian Sports Ground on a Friday after school.

Our current squad consists of 24 players across year 4, 5 and 6. We have played six matches and are unbeaten, conceding no goals. Our most recent matches we won 4-0 and 6-0. The boys play exceptionally well together and demonstrate great sportsmanship and teamwork.

We are very proud of the whole squad and we wish them luck for the upcoming fixtures.



WHAT'S NEW FROM HOPE CLASS



UNDER THE SEA

Nursery have had a fabulous half term on our topic 'Under the Sea'.

We have read some great stories such as Commotion in the Ocean, Sharing a Shell, Tiddler, The Rainbow Fish, The Fish who could Wish among many more. We painted our favourite sea creatures from the stories, decorated our very own rainbow fish and shared our wishes with our friends.

We also enjoyed baking and decorating biscuits and printing using our feet. What a fun and busy term!

We had a visit from Discover Storytelling workshop (courtesy of the PTA) who told us the story of Goldilocks and the Three Bears. The children took part in an interactive workshop and made bear mask to take home.

Our topic next term is 'Tradition Tales.'

WHAT'S NEW FROM RECEPTION



FOOD

Reception have had a fantastic half term with our learning focused around our topic of 'Food'. The children loved painting their tigers from 'The Tiger Who Came to Tea', reading 'Biscuit Bear' and designing, baking and decorating their own Biscuit Bear.

The restaurant role play area has been a hit and the children have worked very hard to apply their phonic knowledge in taking orders and making food at the outdoor 'bakery'. We even taste tested avocado when we read 'Avocado Baby'... the opinions were very divided!

Please keep reading with your child over the half term and we look forward to seeing them back well rested and ready for our 'Bears' topic after the break.



WHAT'S NEW FROM YEAR 1



GREAT FIRE OF LONDON

So far this term, year 1 have been learning all about the Great Fire of London! We are astonished at how much the children know already! The children have enjoyed a range of history/art lessons, including creating collages of the timber houses on fire, and writing an eye witness account in the role of Samuel Pepys. The children also enjoyed a fun drama workshop all about the Great Fire of London where they had the opportunity to act out/freeze frame the events. We are very proud of the children's hard work.

Have a lovely half term break.

Miss Dann and Miss Fryer



WHAT'S NEW FROM YEAR 2



FROZEN

During Autumn Term 2, Year 2 were learning about Polar Regions during our 'Frozen' topic. We learnt all about what conditions are like in Polar Regions, who or what might live there and took part in some Food Technology.

We designed and created ice lollies choosing the flavour of our juice, slicing fruit and learning all about safe food preparation. They were delicious!

We were also incredibly lucky to have a group of scientists take our school flag to Antarctica! We were able to follow the flag and look at photographs of the Antarctic wildlife through the organisation 'liketobe' - check out the school twitter account @ElthamCE for more info and photographs.

This half term, we are learning about Africa - ask us questions about a day on safari, the significant individuals Nelson Mandela and Desmond Tutu or how to perform a rain dance and we will let you know lots of information!

Mrs Rhodes, Miss Donnelly and Miss Gardiner



WHAT'S NEW FROM YEAR 3



ANCIENT EGYPT

Year 3 have had an eventful half term packed full of exciting opportunities to learn. The children have started weekly judo lessons from a judo coach during PE and have been loving every minute of it.

The children have thoroughly enjoyed being immersed in all things Ancient Egyptian this half term. They have been fascinated learning about Ancient Civilisations and have really impressed us with their memory skills throughout the topic. One of the highlights of the term was a trip to The Salter's Company for a brilliant mummification workshop. The children's behaviour was fantastic and they gave insightful answers to the guide at the workshop.

The children were also fortunate enough to see the hilarious show 'The Billionaire Boy' based on the book by David Walliams courtesy of the PTA.

We hope you have a restful break.

Many thanks for your continued support.

The Year 3 team

WHAT'S NEW FROM YEAR 4



THEATRE

Year 4 were lucky enough to go the see Billionaire Boy on the stage at Churchill Theatre this half term. The children loved the show and would love to say a huge thank you to the PTA who paid for all children to attend with front row seats and ice cream during the interval!



WHAT'S NEW FROM YEAR 5



ANCIENT GREECE

The New Year started with an immersive Ancient Greek experience. We were transported back in time to learn about all aspects of Ancient Greek life. The children tried on different types of clothing; they played games; they handled swords and shields and tried on armour; they passed around coins; they pulled each other around the hall using the pulley, which was invented by the Greeks, and finally battled it out both at tug of war and using pikes and shields. We had a lot of fun as well as learning a lot!

The Ancient Greek theme continues both in Literacy and Design and Technology. The children wrote fantastic quest stories for Odysseus, sending him off to fantastical places to complete impossible challenges and fight horrific monsters. We all enjoyed sharing in his adventures. Then in Design and Technology, the children sampled a variety of dips and using this experience and research about ingredients commonly found in Greece designed their own. They also considered the packaging, and the cost of making the dip, and what the final sale price might be. The final tasting session was a feast of flavours, and the children evaluated their work with a view to improving next time.

Mrs Fountain and Mrs Grattan

WHAT'S NEW FROM YEAR 6



THIS TERM IN YEAR 6

This half term Year 6 started their new topic of 'Fact or Fantasy'. The topic is art and design based and they have drawn some realistic British garden birds and made clay models of birds using a range of skills. This links to our new focus text in English which is *Skellig* by David Almond. We have written tension openings based on the book and tried to emulate the techniques of the author in our own writing. In science we have looked at circuits and we have been exploring how their component effect the brightness of bulbs. In indoor PE we have been doing gymnastics and worked in pairs to create short sequence involving shapes and balance.

Excitingly at the beginning of the term we had a visit from members of the village of Sint Annaland and a live video link up with the village school in Holland, where during the second world war a soldier from Greenwich died defending their village. Over the next half term we hope to continue the relationship with the school as they will be having VE day celebrations that Mrs Edwards will be attending. We wish you all a restful half term and look forward to the next!

Mrs Baily, Mrs Leonard and Miss Feeney



SCHOOL TERM DATES 2019 / 2020

SPRING TERM 2020

Half Term:

Mon 17th – Fri 21st February

Pupils return:

Monday 24th February

End of term:

Friday 3rd April

Easter holidays:

Monday 6th April to Friday 17th April

SUMMER TERM 2020

Pupils return:

Monday 20th April

Early May Bank holiday:

Friday 8th May

Half-term:

Mon 25th May to Friday 29th May

Pupils return:

Monday 1st June

End of term:

Friday 18th July

INSET DAYS:

Monday 20th and Tuesday 21st July

