



**ELTHAM**  
CHURCH OF ENGLAND  
PRIMARY SCHOOL  
SINCE 1814

# Autumn Newsletter October 2019

## MESSAGE FROM MR BULPITT

Dear Parents and Carers,

It was a joy to celebrate our children's achievements this half term at our Golden Book Assembly on Thursday where we acknowledged the incredible outcomes in Reading, Writing, Mathematics, French, Science, History, Geography, PE. I want to use this newsletter to remind you all about our school's commitment to providing an outstanding curriculum offer, meaning that children throughout the school are taught an exciting, contextual and broad curriculum from the moment they arrive at our school, to the day that they move onto their secondary school. We are proud that the curriculum is never narrowed, and all children develop their skills in maths, English, Science and Languages as well as Art & Design, History, Geography, RE and PE.

Part of our outstanding curriculum offer are the Themed Weeks that the whole school enjoy, that extend and allow children to immerse themselves in a topic. On Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October children will return to school as we embark on our next themed week "How do things work?". Children will investigate questions such as "How does gravity effect everyday objects?" and "How do germs spread?" will be tackled during the week!

I look forward to seeing the children's projects and creations during HOW week, and the exhibition of all the projects on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> November.

Have a great half term break

Matthew Bulpitt  
Headteacher

Charlie Rhodes  
Deputy Headteacher

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Children return to school,  
after the half-term on  
Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October  
2019.



# MESSAGES FROM THE OFFICE

## PARENTS EVENING

Parents evening will be held on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> November and Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> November. We are introducing a new booking system for parents evening, this will be managed via your ParentMail log in. Further details will be sent out early November.

In the meantime, can you please ensure that you are able to access ParentMail so that you will be able to reserve your appointment for Parents Evening. If you need to reset your password please click on the 'forgotten your password' link. If you still cannot log on please contact the school office

## RELIGIOUS ARTEFACTS

If any parents/carers have any unwanted religious artefacts at home and would like to donate them to the school, we would be very grateful. Please leave them at the school office.

## DINNER MONEY

The dinner money for next half term will be £101.40 and is payable in advance via SIMS PAY.

## SCHOOL PHOTOS

The school photos are now being held on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November. Please note you will still receive them in time for Christmas.

## TWITTER

Please follow us on Twitter (@ElthamCE) to keep up to date with photos of some of the trips, school visitors, news and celebrations which take place each week in school.

## HOW WEEK

HOW Week begins on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October. please refer to your individual class letters for details of the following 'off site' visits:

- Mon** Sherard Class visit to Institute Of Civil Engineers  
Nestbit Class visiting the Salters Company  
Avery Class visiting New London Architecture Group
- Tue** Gregory Class visiting the Salters Company
- Wed** Bek & Mills Classes visiting the London Transport Museum  
Tarn & Archery Classes visiting London Bridge  
Shaw-Brooke visit to Institute Of Civil Engineers
- Thu** Chaucer & WG Grace Classes visiting the London Transport Museum
- Fri** Roper Class visiting New London Architecture Group

On Friday 1<sup>st</sup> November there will be an opportunity to view the competition entries at an exhibition that is being held after school. Details to follow.

## OWN CLOTHES DAY

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November will be 'Own Clothes' day. Details will follow shortly.

## NATIVITY PLAYS

The nativity play for nursery and reception children will be held on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December. Details will follow shortly.

The KS1 Nativity Play will be on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December at 2pm in St John's Church.



# PTA UPDATE

## A word from our Chair, Karine Sadaka

Your PTA is back in action! Since September 2019, we have been busy organizing the Macmillan Coffee Morning, a uniform sale, a competitive yet friendly Quiz night and a fun film night. We hope you and your children enjoyed these events.

It's now time for a well-deserved break but be reassured we have more fun ready for when school returns!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Please mark these events of your calendars! More details to come soon:

- School Disco – Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2019
- Christmas Fair with Santa's Grotto– Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2019
- Christmas Shop – Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2019 (during school time)

## FUNDRAISING

This year, the PTA would like to focus our fundraising efforts towards extracurricular activities such as days out and theatre trips. We also have different projects such as funding rugby kits for our school team or developing awareness around waste and recycling, with new recycling bins.

To achieve this fundraising objective, we rely upon the support and generosity of parents and carers! We will be asking for donations throughout the year and we hope you can support us.

Currently, we welcome donations of Christmas jumpers, unwanted gifts or bottles of drink for our tombola.



## CALL FOR SKILLS

If you have any specific skills or ideas you would like to share with the PTA, please get in touch! It could be that you're crafty and creative and can help us build a new game for our fair or donate some homemade items.

We welcome any suggestions and would love to hear from you! You can contact the PTA at anytime at [pta@elthamce.greenwich.sch.uk](mailto:pta@elthamce.greenwich.sch.uk).

Have a lovely half term!

PTA



## ATTENDANCE FOR Autumn 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	95.5
North	97.1
Bek	97.4
Mills	98.4
Archery	97.5
Tarn	97.6
Sherard	97.7
Shaw-Brooke	98.0
Nesbit	96.0
Gregory	96.6
Chaucer	97.3
WG Grace	95.9
Roper	98.5
Avery	95.6
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>97.1</b>

## SAFEGUARDING

### SAFEGUARDING TIPS FOR THE AUTUMN TERM

As the nights draw in and it becomes darker earlier, please ensure children are aware of how to stay safe when walking home from school, particularly our Year 5 and 6 students who may be walking by themselves. It is vital to teach children good road safety basics from an early age. Explain to children why they should not run across the road, show them how to identify safe places to cross and reinforce the importance of looking both ways before crossing. Children should be discouraged from having headphones in their ears and should not be concentrating on their phones when crossing the road. Think about what your child is wearing, children are safer if they are visible and you can easily add high-visibility reflective strips on their clothing, school bags or bike helmets. Remind children riding their scooters home to stay close to their accompanying adult and learn to stop at junctions and driveways.

Bonfire night is also fast approaching, please follow these top tips to ensure children stay safe:

- Keep everyone well back from firework displays or bonfires.
- Never return to a lit firework.
- Keep fireworks in a closed metal box.
- Always hold sparklers at arms length and wear gloves when handling them.
- Don't hold babies and young children while you're holding a sparkler – they can reach out unexpectedly and grab at them.
- Don't give sparklers to children under 5. They're too young to hold them safely and don't understand why they might be dangerous.
- Older children can be trusted with sparklers, but need supervision. Teach them not to wave sparklers near anyone else or run while holding them.



## SPORT AT ELTHAM



### TAG RUGBY

10 pupils went on a morning trip to Colfeians at Lee to play tag rugby. It was an amazing morning with every pupil trying their best, they had a fantastic time!

Overall, the team came 4th which was amazing!

## CODING



### CODING

There are several exciting new opportunities for budding young coders at school this term. The Digital Ambassadors (Year 6s) have been leading a lunchtime Coding Club for Years 1 & 2, guiding them in their programming on Scratch Junior and Alex apps on the iPads.

There is also an after school Coding Club for Years 5 & 6. Years 3 & 4 will get their turn soon!



# EDIBLE PLAYGROUND

## EDIBLE PLAYGROUND

We are excited to announce that that our school is lucky enough to be having an Edible Playground built. Edible Playgrounds transform school grounds into vibrant outdoor teaching gardens that inspire hands-on learning and get children excited about growing and eating healthy food.

The build will start at the end of October on the grass site at the end of the KS1 playground. The children will attend an assembly to find out all about the Edible Playground and will be invited to workshops once the build is finished, before using this new and exciting space as part of their curriculum. You are invited to find out more information at school on **Friday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2019 from 3.30pm - 5pm** or by clicking on the link below

<https://www.treesforcities.org/our-work/edible-playgrounds>

# STUDENT VOICE

## STUDENT VOICE

We welcome our new Student Voice representatives for this year from:

- Bek - Rosa Baugh
- Mills - Zachariah Kapundu
- Tarn - Alexandra Bailey-Clarke
- Archery - Emmie-Mae White
- Sherard - Lola Cook
- Shaw Brooke - Caitlin Mendelsohn & Harry Hemment
- Gregory - Alfred Goldie
- Nesbit -Elom Kwame
- Chaucer - Esther Aluko
- WG Grace - Thomas Rabourdin
- Roper - Danny Gopisetti
- Avery - Teresa Roman and George Clark

We have already been very busy and the passage below has been written by Esther Aluko to explain what we have been up to this half term.

## NSPCC

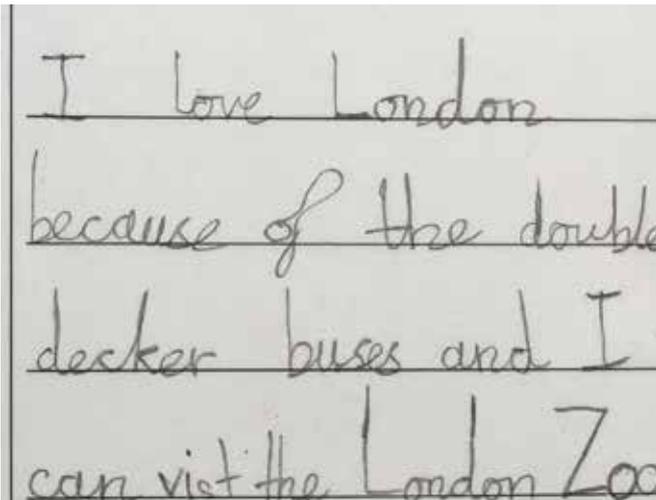
For the NSPCC we helped to raise money for the people who haven't been treated well by their family or other people. To do that, we had to decide whether to do some sports or a sponsored dance-a-thon . We decided to do a dance-a-thon. At the end it turned out well and we managed to raise a lot of money, £3,575.69.

## Food bank

We helped deliver a lot of food to our local food bank and we got to see that there was a whole room full of pasta that could last up to until about 2022.



## WHAT'S NEW FROM FRENCH



### FRENCH

Year 2 have got off to an amazing, enthusiastic start in French and have already written their first sentences about animals. Year 3 have also hit the ground running and are now able to say the whole date in French which is quite a feat as they have had to learn at least 31 numbers of the month. Year 4 have been delving into French dictionaries as they search for emotion adjectives, but they have also written postcards to children in a school in Germany about why they love Eltham/London. We can't wait to get our replies. Years 5 and 6 continued with work started in the Summer term and have made some great progress translating from English into French and learning grammar skills which will apply to most languages they will learn later on at secondary school. Books which Year 6 children wrote in Year 5 about themselves have been received by schools in France and La Réunion (an island in the Indian Ocean between Madagascar and Mauritius and an overseas department/region of France). We are waiting with great anticipation for our replies.

Please encourage your children to log on to [www.linguascope.com](http://www.linguascope.com) regularly to boost their learning. The username is elthamps and the children know the password.

Madame Edwards

## WHAT'S NEW FROM THE CHOIR



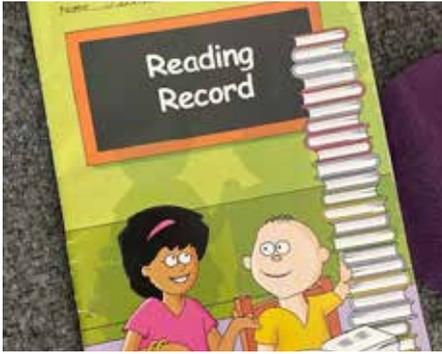
### Choir

What a fantastic start to the year for the choir! Miss Fryer and I have thoroughly enjoyed picking the songs and love the enthusiasm from all the children. Our first song, True Colours by Cyndi Lauper, this year has some very difficult harmonies, but, like always, the children have risen to the challenge and already sound amazing. With Christmas coming ever closer, we have already started rehearsing a beautiful song which has lovely melodies and the opportunity for some solos. As well as that, the children will be rehearsing a Christingle song. We look forward to performing these songs at the church and on the High Street.

Mrs Fountain and Miss Fryer



## WHAT'S NEW FROM HOPE CLASS



### DIFFERENT JOBS

The children have had a great start to the term, they have settled brilliantly and made lots of new friends.

Next half term we will be looking at the topic 'Ourselves'. If you haven't already, please send in a family photo for our display.

### REMINDERS

- Please leave your child's reading record in their bag every day.
- PE will be on a Tuesday morning and Thursday afternoon, please ensure your child is not wearing a dress or skirt on these days.
- Lastly, please do let me know if your Tapestry log in isn't working.

## WHAT'S NEW FROM RECEPTION



### OURSELVES

Children in Reception have had a wonderful start to the year getting to know each other, making new friends and showing off their talents. It has been wonderful to see the children show their own characters and develop their confidence. We have been looking at the text 'Leopard's Drum' and the children loved painting their own fierce leopards.

We have also had a visitor who was a storyteller for Black History Month, and the children loved the interactive story of 'Anansi and the Talking Watermelon'. The children have worked so hard this half term and have earned a well-deserved rest. Our new topic after half term will be 'Transport'. Please keep reading with your children over the half term, and if you have time we would love for you to take an autumn walk and complete the sheet provided. Have a great break!

From the Reception Team



## WHAT'S NEW FROM YEAR 1



### FARM ANIMALS

This half term we have been very busy settling into Year 1 school life. We have enjoyed learning all about The Lord's Prayer in RE, identifying animals in science and we have really enjoyed learning all about the farm. We read the book 'Farmer Duck' and have done lots of writing, including a diary entry, a recount and even a job description.

We loved going on our trip to the farm and seeing all the amazing farm animals. Feeding them was so much fun! Miss Fryer and Miss Dann are very proud of all our hard work this half term and how well we have all settled in!



## WHAT'S NEW FROM YEAR 2



### BOLLYWOOD

This half term Year 2 have been learning about India and were very excited to take part in a Bollywood workshop. They created some very informative reports on tigers as well as their own tiger poems. We learnt about Diwali and the story of Rama and Sita then created our own diva lamps.

For RE we have been reading the Bible story Noah's Ark and created some beautiful rainbows with our own special promises on them. Some of the promises we made involved showing kindness to others, being understanding and always trying our best.

We have enjoyed learning all about animals and their habitats during our science lessons and thought carefully about why different animals are suited to particular habitats. We even got to explore a local habitat and look for different mini-beasts discussing which micro-habitat we found and why we think those animals might live there.



## WHAT'S NEW FROM YEAR 3



### RAINFOREST

Year 3 have made a fantastic start to the academic year! The children have had a busy and exciting half term full of opportunities to learn in different ways. They have shown great enthusiasm and have thoroughly enjoyed learning all there is to know about the Rainforest. The children have become Rainforest experts in Geography and have produced amazing non-chronological reports full of technical vocabulary and fascinating facts. A highlight of the term was the trip to London Zoo where the children had the opportunity to see animals from the rainforest first hand. They were particularly excited to get up close and personal with a real life sloth and its baby.

Many thanks for your continued support.

The Year 3 Team.

## WHAT'S NEW FROM YEAR 4



### ROMANS

This half term in Year 4, we have been exploring the exciting topic 'Romans'. We began by learning about who was in Britain before the Roman invasion in 43AD.

We have been looking at how the Roman soldiers protected their troops and were so effective in battle. In order to learn more, Gregory and Nesbit became Romans and Celts respectively and made shields which we were able to re-enact in a battle, including different formations and commands.



## WHAT'S NEW FROM YEAR 5



### SCIENCE

This half term, Year 5 have been studying Earth and Space in Science. We have been looking at simulations of the orbit of the Earth around the Sun, and making metre-long diagrams to show the relative distances between the planets in our Solar System. We had a fantastic trip to the Planetarium in Greenwich Park, where we did a workshop on Shadows and Sundials and saw a show all about the Universe on our Doorstep.

In Literacy, the children made 3D representations of the island where Michael (the main character from our text this term, *Kensuke's Kingdom*) is shipwrecked. They imagined themselves as Michael, waking up on the shore of the island and were inspired to write some fantastic descriptions using all their learning about descriptive techniques.



## WHAT'S NEW FROM YEAR 6



### THIS TERM IN YEAR 6

This term Year 6 began their learning for their Creative Curriculum topic 'Her Story' with an immersive learning workshop from the History Man, David Cardle. Children were able to handle artefacts from World War One and dress up like soldiers and nurses to fully understand what it must have been like. It was a fantastic day and the children really jumped started their learning and understanding in this area.

In English writing lessons we have been studying 'War Horse' which links with our Creative Curriculum topic. The children have had the opportunity to write diaries in role, persuasive letters and a hybrid non-fiction text presented in the form of a guide for World War One soldiers on how to survive the trenches. In our English Reading lessons Year 6 have thoroughly enjoyed reading the whole text 'The Boy in the Tower' by Polly Ho-Yen. They have been developing their key reading skills of retrieval, inference and understanding authorial choice.

Finally as part of the PE curriculum the children have been learning Judo. They are quickly developing their skills in holds, pushes, pulls and throws! It has been such a busy half term and we are looking forward to the term ahead and How Week - don't forget to get those projects completed to bring them in the first week back after the half term break!



## SCHOOL TERM DATES 2019 / 2020

### AUTUMN TERM 2019

**INSET DAYS:**

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2019

**Half Term:**

Mon 21<sup>st</sup> October – Fri 25<sup>th</sup> October

**Pupils return:**

Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October

**End of term:**

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December

### SPRING TERM 2020

**Pupils Return:**

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January

**Half Term:**

Mon 17<sup>th</sup> – Fri 21<sup>st</sup> February

**Pupils return:**

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February

**End of term:**

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April

**Easter holidays:**

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> April to Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April

### SUMMER TERM 2020

**Pupils return:**

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April

**Early May Bank holiday:**

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May

**Half-term:**

Mon 25<sup>th</sup> May to Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May

**Pupils return:**

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June

**End of term:**

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> July

**INSET DAYS:**

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> July

