



ELTON PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

DREAM TEAM

Contact us: Tel: 01244 981170

Email: admin@elton.cheshire.sch.uk

Friday 27th November 2015

Visit: www.elton.cheshire.sch.uk



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- 4th December— Christmas Fair
- 9th December—Christmas Dinner
- 10th December—Year 1 & 2 Nativity at St James
- 11th December- Year 1 & 2 Nativity at School (over 18's)

LETTERS HOME

- Email address -Year 6
- Year 1 & 2 Nativity—Year 1 & 2
- Tree Planting—Y5 & Eco Warriors



CHRISTMAS FAIR



All the children have been busy making things to sell at the Christmas fair this week. The fair is on Friday 4th December and will start after school.

CHRISTMAS DINNER



Wednesday 9th December, is Christmas dinner and Christmas jumper day. A menu has been sent out this week. Dinners can be ordered on the day and jumpers can be worn with school uniform.

SICKNESS AND DIARRHOEA



Can we please remind all parents that if your child has been sick or has diarrhoea, that it is school policy that your child **MUST** be kept at home for **48 hours** after the last bout of illness. All school policies can be found on the school website.

ANGIES KIDZ CLUB

Table Top SALE On Sunday 6th December Angies kidz club are having a table top sale. You can buy a table for £5 and sell anything you like from it. The sale is being held in the community centre from 11am to 1pm. To book a table please contact Angie on 07805095781.

PDS DANCE COMPETITION



PDS dance took the after school dance group to Helsby High last night for a Street Dance Competition. All the children were fantastic and made the school very proud. Well done to Tyla in Year 3 for winning an individual award.

HOLIDAY CLUB



Angies Kidz club will be open from Monday 21st December to Wednesday 23rd December from 7:45am to 6pm. A full day is £26 per day and half day is £13, also there are 3 hour sessions for £8.50. Children will be kept occupied with lots of fun activities including arts and crafts, baking, visiting the park and much more . To book please call 07805095781.

APPLYING FOR SCHOOL PLACE- RECEPTION 2016



If your child is born between 1st September 2011 and 31st August 2012, applications can be submitted for a school place in Reception 2016. Applications can be made by visiting www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/admissions or you can call the central admissions team on 0300 123 7039. Please note, the closing date for all primary school applications is **15th January 2016**, thank you.

STAR OF THE WEEK

This week's Star of the week is for "Teachers choice" and we would like to say congratulations to the following children:

- Nurs: Keelan
- Rec: Samuel
- Year 1: Rhys
- Year 2: George



- Year 3: Isaaleen
- Year 4: Ivan
- Year 5: Veronicanne
- Year 6: Louis

CELEBRATE



We would like to wish Lacie Y1, Yasmin Y6, Lucas Y6 and Adam Y4 very happy birthday. We hope you all have a wonderful day.

LUNCH MENU NEXT WEEK IS - WEEK 1

Headteacher's Blog

So, it is National Tree week starting Saturday 28th! Perfect time to think about putting up my own Christmas tree! Usually I put the tree up on my birthday but this year we have all kinds going on in school: Governors meeting and Christmas Fair to name but a couple! So I think I will focus on my tree a little earlier...

First introduced in 1975, National Tree Week is the UK's largest tree celebration annually launching the start of the winter tree planting season. 'National Tree Week' is a great chance for communities to do something positive for their local 'treescape'. Each year, The Tree Council's member organisations such as local authorities, up to 200 schools and community groups, over 8,000 Tree Wardens and many others, support the initiative by setting up fun, worthwhile and accessible events, inspiring upward of a quarter of a million people to get their hands dirty and together plant around a million trees. This year, Miss Blake and Martin Dickinson have organised to plant 30 saplings in the area surrounding the park in Elton. But that is just a small activity within school - all events can be found on the 'Near You' map. To find out about the kind of activities which took place in your area last year, for inspiration, you can look at past events. If you're interested in organising your own event, read further to get some useful tips on how to organise successful tree planting activities and don't forget to list your event on the website, so that other people can come and join you! <http://www.treecouncil.org.uk/Take-Part/National-Tree-Week>

Talking about Christmas Preparations, please take a moment to check out the up and coming events for Christmas this year specifically for your children. Unlike some schools who have decided, under national pressure for attainment, to abandon the traditional nativity and all things 'Christmassy', we have decided that children deserve this enjoyment at such a wonderful time of year and drama, creativity and singing are as important as maths and literacy for the development of the 'whole' child. A rounded education and in an ethos of supportive challenge and safety is what we aspire to here and I am happy to say that all of the children continue to work on things right up until the last day. Caitlin in Year 6 has won the Parish Christmas Card competition, run by the Church, and Reverend Ruth, who also happens to be one of our Governors, chose the winner of the competition, with her parishioners, last week. We congratulate this budding young artist and look forward to seeing her design on cards all around the commuting this festive season. My friend Owen Chamberlain, also on my Doctoral programme, recorded the choir, and the whole school, singing Christmas carols on Thursday last week and these will be ready in time for you to buy from the Christmas Fair next week. SO excited for the Fair!!! The staff, children and Governors PLUS the PTA in particular have been in overdrive for weeks sorting it out in their spare time! Cannot wait. Festive fun in our fab school.... don't forget to see if you can get an hour off work and come and see what is on offer on Friday afternoon!

Years of research show that art and creativity are closely linked to almost everything that we as a nation say we want for our children and demand from our schools: academic achievement, social and emotional development, civic engagement, and equitable opportunity. Involvement in the arts is associated with gains in maths, literacy, cognitive ability, critical thinking, and verbal skill. Arts learning can also improve motivation, concentration, confidence, and teamwork. Some would argue that the intrinsic pleasures and stimulation of the art experience do more than sweeten an individual's life -- according to the report, they "can connect people more deeply to the world and open them to new ways of seeing," creating the foundation to forge social bonds and community cohesion. Strong arts programming in schools helps close a gap that has left many a child behind: from Mozart for babies to tutus for toddlers to family trips to the museum, the children of affluent, aspiring parents generally get exposed to the arts whether or not schools provide them. Socially deprived, vulnerable children, often, do not. Arts education can enable those children from a financially challenged background to have a more level playing field with children who have had those enrichment experiences. So we will continue to invite in guest speakers such as Marathon Man, and artists, such as Jim Flemming, dancers like PDS, musicians such as Fidler Music to work with, and hopefully inspire ALL of our children- simple because it is the right thing to do.

This week Michelle Massey and I should of hosted a Safeguarding Supervision at Elton, we attend the sessions twice per term and they are lead by the LSCB. We share practice and other skills with head teachers from a range of schools and always come away feeling like we are doing a very very good job of safeguarding our children, whilst never being complacent. The LSCB offer us support at the end of the telephone, email, and via lots of training events that they have which go on throughout the year. Mrs Kinnear and Mr Manning have attended many of the training events and continue to do so, the more people trained to a high level our school has the better able to protect our young people we will be. Educational professionals today expect highly diverse groups of children in their schools. Most deeply appreciate the value of such diversity for the learning communities that a school and classroom represent. What many may not be prepared for is the profound nature of the life experiences many students have faced or are facing that form the basis from which they will try to frame their futures. Many of the diverse faces in the classroom have grown up in circumstances that make them highly vulnerable, that can undermine their ability to learn and progress in school, or that make them unable to connect with adults and peers. This may not be news to a teacher who has worked to pull a struggling student back from the brink of failure. But it is a very timely subject for communities across the nation that face staggering social and economic costs resulting from the growing numbers of children with highly complex barriers to learning. Our LSCB try to keep us updated with how we can identify issues and support families to ensure the best outcomes for children. We work in partnership with our Children's Centre to do this and are blessed that their staff feel as we do - children first.

Finishing on a high note I was delighted for Becky our Y6 teaching student who gained an 'outstanding' in her lesson observation this week from Liverpool Hope, and I had a lovely email from the Educational Psychology team thanking me for allowing Toni Deakin to go and present the fantastic work she does here to a huge room full of aspiring ELSA practitioners. I was proud of the children who have worked hard in Y4 this week and been to show off their work to me. I was delighted to hear from the PTA that last week's quiz was a huge success and am excited for this time next week when we welcome everyone into school to the Elton Christmas Fair!