



ELTON PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

DREAM TEAM

Contact us: Tel: 01244 981170

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Friday 6th May 2016
Visit: www.elton.cheshire.sch.uk

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Monday 9th May— Year 6 SATs start.
Friday 27th May—School closes for half term
Monday 6th June—Inset day school closed

ATTENDANCE NOTICE

ATTENDANCE FOCUS

Attendance for April - 92.36%

Government Benchmark for attendance - 95%

Attendance has improved slightly from last month and we'd like to thank those parents and carers who continually ensure their children maintain regular attendance and are on time. Morning registration is at 8.55am and we ask if your child is going to be late or absent that you call the school office in the first instance on 01244 981170. There is a voicemail facility on this number so please do leave a message if you ring out of office hours.

LETTERS HOME

Governors letter - All
Friends of Elton—All
Parking Restrictions—All
World Museum—Year 3 & 4
Chester Zoo—Year 6
Food tasting—Year 3 & 4



M&M THEATRICAL PRODUCTIONS



On Wednesday afternoon the children had a visit from M&M theatre productions, who performed the 'Little Princess'. The play was about anti-bullying and friendships, all the children enjoyed the performance.

YEAR 6 SATS

Year 6 begin their SAT's on Monday and we wish them all the very best. To minimise any stress and disruption for the year 6 class, it is imperative that all pupils arrive to school on time. Thank you for your cooperation.

ELTON CHILDREN'S CENTRE



Elton children's centre are holding a free six week course from 13th June to 18th July called Making Rhyme Bags. This is a chance to create a rhyme bag and ideas about sharing nursery rhymes and stories with your child. There will be refreshments and time to chat to other parents. This course is run by the 'Skills for Families, Life and Work' team. If you would like to book and need a creche place, forms are available from the children's centre.

ANGIES KIDZ CLUB



If you are stuck for childcare over the Summer holidays, why not give Angies Kidz Club a call. The holiday club will be open from 22nd July to 5th August and 5th September from 7:45am to 6pm. A full day is £26 per day and half day £13, also there are hourly sessions available on request. Children will be kept occupied with lots of activities, including arts and craft, baking, visiting the park and much more. To book please call 07805095781 to ensure a place.

THIS WEEKS WINNING TEAM IS DELAMERE ALL CHILDREN IN THIS TEAM CAN WEAR THEIR OWN CLOTHES ON FRIDAY 13TH MAY.

STAR OF THE WEEK

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

REC: Indiana



YEAR 3: Nikola

YEAR 1: Lucas

YEAR 4: Jessica

YEAR 2: Paddy

YEAR 5: Phoenix



YEAR 6: Jodie

CELEBRATE



We would like to wish Amari Y2 a very happy birthday. We hope you have a wonderful day.

LUNCH MENU NEXT WEEK - 4

Headteacher's Blog

Who doesn't love a 4 day week? The only thing is, school systems do not recognize Bank Holidays so we have to do 5 days work in 4! The wonderful thing is that our school is always working full on and staff rise to meet these pressures so well.

Tuesday was an awesome day with Reception moderation from the LA – and a big WELL DONE to Mrs Barnes, Mrs Williams and Miss Barlow for their superb work with some of our youngest members of school. I love it when we are externally validated, it makes everyone realise even more how impressive our staff are and the great deal the children get as a result.

On the same day we had the Hope University tutor in to observe and ratify our judgments of some of our student teachers and both were found to be outstanding, not least due to the guidance and opportunity offered here but also due to innate skill and talent that we nurture and develop. Well done to Miss Linwood who got an outstanding even with a year left of her course. She did a really good geography session using Kagan groups and iPads on Amazon research and wish her well when she leaves next Friday. And well done to Miss Kennedy who also got an outstanding!

I also met with 2 of our Governors and we began research into academy chains and sponsors as part of our desire to forge a secure and strong path for school going forwards. This was interesting and illuminating and we will continue to search for the right MAT for us.

I met with our school Business Officer on Thursday to discuss our budget which is now looking much more healthy than it has done in recent years as a result of changes we have made and new plans we have been able to organise for September. We are almost in a position to share these with you once the governors have 'okayed' them but it is exciting and the proposed changes will benefit our pupils long into the future which is what education should be about – not just short term financial fixes but authentic change to support educational need.

I am sure that you will have seen nationally that parents have boycotted KS1 testing and testing in general. I am aware of the pressures on children both as a head teacher and a mum and whilst I do not condone the pressures applied by the government and the use of the outcomes of the tests, we must abide by the rules and follow the correct channels in lodging complaints about tests and other educational things. We live in a democratic society where people can disagree and show their views by voting, which I do encourage you all to do. I am grateful to all of our parents for being supportive of school and not taking their children out, which also has an impact on school in terms of attendance, and would actively encourage you to contact your child's class teacher if they feel anxious in ANY way.

As for other news, that can all wait while I tell you the BIG news of the week, and that is, after spending over 25 years supporting Elton staff, parents, and children alike, Mrs Sykes has decided to put herself first and retire! I cannot tell you how great Mrs Sykes is at keeping us all organised and supporting wherever is necessary but the time comes when your grandchildren, and Mrs Sykes has 3 gorgeous granddaughters, and yourself have to come first and now is that time. I would like to personally thank Mrs Sykes for her support during the 3 years I have been head and also on behalf of all of the staff, Governors, parents and children for her devotion to our school and wish her well. She plans to retire at the end of the term so those of you wishing to speak to her or thank her you have plenty of time to do so.

It is always sad to see established staff leave and go on to pastures new but I am sure Mrs Sykes will pop back from time to time and help us, should we need it, and just let us know how she is getting on. Her skills are unique and extremely valuable so I am sure that it won't be the last that the education department, or any other admin department see of her! It also gives other opportunity for growth and development for other staff who can flourish and this is something that we are very good at so service will not be interrupted and I am sure the other office staff will rise to the challenge and continue to do the excellent work that Mrs Sykes has done for over 2 decades.

Thank you Mrs Sykes from ALL at Elton. Have a great weekend one and all.