



ELTON PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

DREAM TEAM

Contact us: Tel: 01244 981170

Email: admin@elton.cheshire.sch.uk

Friday 9th September 2016
Visit: www.elton.cheshire.sch.uk

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Friends of Elton PTA meeting—Tues 6th Sept 7pm
Academy Photography—Friday 23rd Sept
FofE MacMillan Coffee Morning—Friday 30th Sept

LETTERS HOME

Lunch Menu—All
Achievement for all—Year 4 & 5



WELCOME!



Welcome to all new and existing parents of Elton Primary School & Nursery. We hope you have all had an enjoyable summer and are looking forward to the year ahead. Should you have any queries regarding school, please do log onto our fantastic website which is full of information or give the school a call on 01244 981170.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS



As you know good attendance links directly to good achievement in school. This year the attendance percentage has increased to **95%**. Should your child's attendance fall below this threshold, the EWO will be notified. The Education Welfare officer (EWO) reviews our registers on a regular basis to identify pupils who arrive late or are often absent from school. The EWO has lots of help and support to offer to families to get attendance back on track.

If your child is poorly and unable to attend school then please telephone the school office immediately on Tel: 01244 981170. There is an answerphone so you may ring at anytime. Please note school can not authorise holidays during term time. Parents risk a hefty fine and the absence is recorded as being unauthorised.

SCHOOL LUNCHES



Don't forget, if your child is in KS1(Reception—Year 2), they are entitled to a free school meal under government legislation. For pupils in KS2 (Years 3-6), school meals are charged at **£2.25 per day** and cash payment can be sent into school in a named envelope. The menu is available on the school website and copies can be obtained from the office.

FRIENDS OF ELTON



The next PTA meeting takes place at school on Tuesday 13th September at 7pm and we would like to see as many of our parents as possible attend to help plan fundraising initiatives for the rest of the academic year. We hope to see you there!

TWITTER



You can keep up to date with all the latest school news by following us on twitter @Eltonprimary.

THIS WEEKS WINNING TEAM IS DEE ALL CHILDREN IN THIS TEAM CAN WEAR THEIR OWN CLOTHES ON FRIDAY 16TH SEPTEMBER.

St JAMES HOLIDAY CLUB



Over the summer St James church held a holiday club and Rev Ruth Ackroyd has contacted Ms Carr to tell her what a great holiday club it was and how Elton children were a real credit to the school. The children were BRILLANT on Sunday in worship. They sang 'Today I choose to follow you' with actions and were truly excellent. Rev Ackroyd has asked us to congratulate the following children: Oscar, Tegan, Reece, Jack, Josh, Kyle, Ashley, Natalie, Nathan, Jasmine, Ashton, Rhys, Charlie and Alesha.

ELLESMERE PORT RUGBY CLUB



If your child is interested in playing Rugby, Ellesmere Port Rugby club are looking for children from Year 2 upwards and are desperate for new players. As we have a lot of Tag Rugby coming up, this is a great way to tap into the sport and offer a chance for young people to get fit and healthy whilst making new friends. Training is on a Tuesday 6-7:30 and Sundays 10-12 at Whitby Sports and Social club. For more information call Phil on 07775831480.

CELEBRATE



We would like to wish Oliver (Y1), Chloe (Rec), Sophie (Y2), Roman (Y5), Sophie (Y6), Max (Y2), Nathan (Nur), Katie-Ann (Y6), Isaaleen (Y4), Tyrone (Nur) and Tylia (Y3) a very happy birthday. We hope you all have a wonderful day.

LUNCH MENU NEXT WEEK—2

Headteacher's Blog

A warm welcome back to you all and a big welcome to our new parents and children who started with us this week in pre-school, nursery and reception! It was delightful to greet all of the children on Tuesday in assembly and see how smart they were and compliment them on how mature and sensible they behaved as we settled into the new term and, indeed, the new year! Such an exciting time, and in a school like ours, where there are many opportunities for children to get involved in directing their learning, shaping what we do in addition to academic pursuits and also participating in the wider community, it is even more exciting. The children will be busy applying to be team captains, school council reps, PALs, music monitors for assembly and many other roles across school that have a big impact on their self-esteem and understanding of community living and also on how our school runs. I for one am super proud of each of them and very excited about what is set to be another superb year.

In assembly this week we reminded the children about our school motto – something that the children devised when I arrived almost 4 years ago. DREAM TEAM. This motto underpins everything that we aspire to and aim to do on a daily basis. I talked about the **D** of DREAM TEAM and what it meant to us. D is 'Doing the Right Thing'. This is an abstract concept to most people because when you stop and think about it, what does it actually mean? What does this look like in real, everyday life? Well, with the children's help we came up with what it looks like for us, in our school, from a range of perspectives. I spoke to them about when I pop in unannounced, on my own or with visitors, and they are always working hard and on task – and said this was their teachers and them 'Doing the Right Thing' when nobody was looking. We spoke about clearing up plates and cups at home for mum and dad and how this was also an example of 'Doing the Right Thing'. I said that another word for this is 'integrity'. We spoke about inviting others to play, including them in games (*especially* when they looked fed up or were new), and how this was 'Doing the Right Thing'. We talked about finding money and handing it in was 'Doing the Right Thing', and how for some people they are rewarded and actually the money is handed to them if nobody claims it. We talked about how, sometimes 'Doing the Right Thing' can create issues, however, and when it may involve going to tell an adult so that they could take action. In the news this week in Pensby on the Wirral a mum was stabbed in the back because she tried to stop a gang of boys in the park bullying her child. Whilst she was clearly 'Doing the Right Thing', approaching gangs or people when on your own is not a good idea and we also discussed keeping safe and how to do so as a child if you see something that is not right – telling an adult wither at home or in school so that they can deal with trickier situations. It is truly amazing what our children know about being good citizens in a modern world and keeping safe, and I am sure you are as impressed as we all are when they tell us about how to do the right thing when using the internet, when playing in the park at the weekends, and when they are at home as well as when they are in school.

I really enjoyed my lunch duty with the Y5/6 children who were very vocal about their summer holidays and what they were looking forward to. There will be a member of the teaching staff on duty each lunchtime in addition to mid-day staff and Mrs Barnes (based in Y4) has taken on the mantle of behavior and rewards in school instead of Mr Budd. Other tiny changes involve all staff and children having the opportunity to lead assembly this year and celebrate things they have been learning about. The celebration assemblies will also offer opportunity for parents to be involved so watch out for letters from Mrs Caldecott and Miss Blake who have an overview of this.

You will all notice that we have a new website! We have been working on this for some time and whilst many elements are up and running it may take a few days to ensure that it is all up to speed. Bear with us, let us know if there is something you cannot find so that we can put it right, and give us some feedback on what you think of it! Talking about feedback, I am keen to establish a more formal parent panel this year to do just that – give us feedback. In the past we have done these on a randomised invitation basis, but when done like this you don't always get lots of people. If you would like to be involved in the life of the school in such a way that your views are taken into consideration in policy making and improvements, then please get in touch and I can let you know when the parent panel meetings will take place.

In so far as it is possible to do this, we have created an annual calendar of events to help you plan ahead for important dates such as sports day, plays, parents evenings etc. please look out for this in your child's bag over the coming week. If you lose it, don't worry as you can access it from the website, or ask at the office for another copy. We held our first INSET day on Monday and were lucky enough to have trainers from the local authority who refreshed our Safeguarding training, our governors and all volunteers and trainees attended so that we, as a tightknit community, all have the same message and the same commitment to your children and their wellbeing. We also met as a team to review the successes of last year and discuss how we can build upon them this year, we love a real team ethic here and in the same way that we start the year off on the right foundation with children, we do the same with all of our grownups who help us to run the school so successfully.

You will also be receiving a letter with regard to staff roles and responsibilities so that you know who we all are and what our specific jobs are. Watch out, also, for the clubs information which should come out next week at some point.

And finally a little reminder that this year we will be fully electronic for bill paying so lunch money, trip money etc. will all be able to be paid online through the 'tucasi' system. Look out for the letter regarding this, we will then ensure that all lunches and trips are paid for in advance so that we can make definite plans for enrichment for children and also not spend lots of time bothering busy parents who would rather pay online by chasing outstanding money!