



ELTON PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

DREAM TEAM

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Friday 21st October 2016
Visit: www.elton.cheshire.sch.uk

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



End of Term Disco — 27th October
Inset Day School Closed — 28th October (staff only)
Stay and Learn—Y4, Wed 9th Nov—Y6, Tues 15th Nov
Parents Panel— Thurs 17th Nov

LETTERS HOME

Young Voices—KS2
Bikeability Training—Year 5
Reading Club—All



STAY AND LEARN DATE



Year 4 — Wednesday 9th November at 9am. Year 6 — Tuesday 15th November at 9am.
We kindly ask that no sibling attend these sessions, thank you.

SECONDARY SCHOOL PLACES



Can we remind all Year 6 parents that the closing date for Secondary School applications is **31st October 2016**.

SCHOOL DINNERS

Sandwich choices for the week are as follows: Monday-Cheese, Tuesday-Tuna, Wednesday-Egg mayo, Thursday-Ham and Friday-Cheese, all served on assorted breads and subject to change due to delivery. If your child has any dietary requirements, parents are more than welcome to come along and discuss any issues with Mrs Perry.

Menu change for Monday 7th November, Sausage & Chips, Jacket potato or Cheese toastie, followed by Sticky toffee pudding.

ELTONS CHILDREN'S CENTRE

On Monday 24th October, the Creepy Crawly Show are visiting Elton Children's centre. If you would like the opportunity to meet and hold some creatures, they will be in from 10:15am to 11am. Further details can be found on the school website.

CHESTER SPOOK WALK

On Sunday 30th October, there is a Spook Walk at Chester race course. The first walk is from 5pm-6pm (less scary walk for under 10's), 6:30pm—7:30pm (even spookier! Aged 10 and over). Walk skip or run if you dare. Entry is £7.50 per person and all money raised will go to the Hospice of the Good Shepherd, further details can be found on the school website.

FRIENDS OF ELTON EVENTS

Friends of Elton's fancy dress school disco is on Thursday 27th October. Infants from 5pm to 6pm and juniors from 6pm to 7pm. The price is £2.50 per child, this includes drink and snack.

Thank you to everyone who supported the Barnardo's coffee morning, we raised an amazing £426!!!

OUTSTANDING DINNER MONEY

Please note any child with an outstanding debt of over £11.25 will need to bring a packed lunch for the following week.

THIS WEEKS WINNING TEAM IS DELAMERE ALL CHILDREN IN THIS TEAM CAN WEAR THEIR OWN CLOTHES ON THURSDAY 27TH OCTOBER.

★ STAR OF THE WEEK ★

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

Rec: Ava-Rose

Year 1: James

Year 2: Freya



Year 3: Issy

Year 4: Finnan

Year 5: Lauren

Year 6: Piers



CELEBRATE



We would like to wish Lewis Y4, Sami Y4, Jessica Y1 and Carmen Y5 a very happy birthday. We hope you all have a wonderful day.

LUNCH MENU NEXT WEEK— 2

Headteacher's Blog

The feedback from the 'Ethos Group' from last Friday's interviews was fab. Year 5 students interviewed felt that the English lesson they had about describing dragons was the best one! They loved working with groups and felt that lessons were fun and were annoyed when the 'naughty behaviour' of some children affected their lessons. They love having 2 teachers in their classroom too. Year 6 children interviewed said that they liked learning about Islam and thought it was important to "learn how other people live" whether you were religious or not; whilst others felt it was important learning about Christianity as they were Christian. I am keen to know more so our roving Ethos Group will be out and about more over the coming weeks interviewing children about anything and everything to do with our school.

Big thanks again to our Friends of Elton committee who last Friday did another coffee morning – this one was in aid of Barnardo's - and raised a whopping £427!!!!!! This is amazing and well done to all of our community for getting behind such a fantastic cause.

Monday saw us inviting the Y5 parents in to see their children doing their class assembly! It was on the topic of 'Making a Difference' which is the M in our Dream Team school motto. They asked us at the beginning to consider who our heroes were... Jessica talked to us about people who 'speak out against injustice and inequality, even if it upsets those in power'... The Y5's decided to link this assembly theme to a recent news article last month about Mother Theresa and her Sainthood from the Pope as Saints are considered 'Heroes of the Faith'. Georgia reminded us that we may not be called upon to live like Saints, and perform modern day miracles, or even sacrifice our lives in the support of others, but to live lives of 'quiet heroism'. This line, and the suggestions that followed, have left me somewhat reflective about the roles we have in life and their importance. Emily said we should 'stand up for what is right', Rhys said 'speak up when we know something is wrong', Brandon said we should 'make people aware of injustice in the world', and Roman said we should 'give our time and money'. When I thought about these ideas I realised that this is what each active member of our school community do. If you are involved in what we do as a school then all of these things are addressed alongside your children and messages that children receive from both home and school are messages that they will take into adulthood with them. Powerful stuff. And of course the song at the end, "Power in Me"... brilliant.

Hopefully you have all had chance to read the parent panel minutes from the meeting last Thursday. The next parent panel will be on November 17th and will be about RE/P4C teaching in school so if you have any points to make, either make them to me in advance via email or contact one of the above (in the yard or via the school office) to share your views so that they can make your view heard! May be worth checking out the website for information on this and ask your child about.

I actually had the privilege of teaching Year 2 this week and we had a fantastic time with Mrs Kinnear discussing whether poorly babies are always treated the same. The stimulus was an image with a child with malaria lying on a hospital bed in Africa. It was fascinating to watch the early development of lateral thinking, rationalisation and opinion forming! Some of the children are really adept at doing it already and made comments such as "I think that baby lives in a poor country", "Hospitals in our country have machines that help keep people alive", "that is why we give money to charity...". Really great stuff. I am sure that over the year we will see dramatic progress in question development and understanding concepts and big ideas!

I also watched Mr Manning and Mrs Barnes teach RE to Y6 and Y4 and I have to say I was blown away with the children's behavior in class and their attitude to learning. I love discussing meaty topics with children and really challenging their thinking, and it is always a pleasure to watch another professional teach and see how brilliantly they do it (especially when standards are your bread and butter)!

Parent's Evenings are always a real treat for staff, they are the chance when they officially get to tell you all the wonderful things that your child has done so far this term. I know that it is awful sometimes getting a call from your child's school, and if there has been an incident then trying to follow it up, but there should be no shocks on Parent's Evening, only nice surprises! I do hope that if you were unable to attend that you have rearranged a meeting with your child's teacher as soon as possible.

Next week will be Inclusion Week in school (nationally it is 'Anti Bullying week'), and is also Black History week for us (nationally it is Black History Month). I will be welcoming one of our Governors in on Wednesday to speak with me about all the work we do for your child's social, moral, spiritual and cultural development so it is quite appropriate that this will be during the week that we are recognizing inclusion.