



ELTON PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

DREAM TEAM

Friday 9th June 2017

Contact us: Tel: 01244 981170

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Wednesday 14th June — Year 5 Parent Lunch
Friday 16th June — Year 2 Stay and Play
Thursday 22nd June — Chester Zoo Y3, 4 and 5
Friday 30th June — Chester Zoo KS1

LETTERS HOME

Parent Lunch—YR5
Chester Zoo - KS1
Chester Zoo - KS2
Christopher Winters — All



PLAY IN A DAY



Today Year 5 have been busy rehearsing and learning lines for a play called "Pack Up Your Troubles" with Jeff from Centre Stage. The play is a World War 1 story, which the children performed in assembly this afternoon.

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO DONATED TO RED NOSE DAY, WE RAISED £291.94.

SUMMER FAIR AND SPORTS DAY



Thank you to everyone who came along to support Sports Day and the Summer Fair, we raised a fantastic £1565.87! With special thanks to the PTA ladies, staff and parents who helped make this a great event!

PARENT LUNCH



Year 5 parents are invited into school on Wednesday 14th June to enjoy a delicious roast dinner. We kindly ask that you arrive at school for 12 noon to be seated at 12.15 pm. Please note due to health and safety reasons we cannot allow young siblings to attend.

CHESTER ZOO



Can you please ensure all reply slips and payments for Chester Zoo are returned for Y3, 4 and 5 by **Thursday 15th June** and Rec, Y1 and 2 by **Wednesday 21st June**.

HOLIDAY CLUB



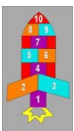
Over the Summer holidays there will be a holiday club at the church hall in Elton from Wednesday 16th August to Friday 18th August. Children aged 6-10 years are welcome, from 9am to 3:30pm. To book a place, application forms are available from Reverend Ruth at the vicarage.

SCHOOL UNIFORM



Now we are in the summer term and September is fast approaching, don't forget school uniform is available to order from myschoolstyle.com. Please note we only have large sizes in school.

NEW PLAYGROUND GAMES



This week on returning to school the children were excited to see the newly painted playground with lots of fun new activities to do such as snakes & ladders, hopscotch, number and letters games. Thank you once again to the Friends of Elton who have so kindly organised this with help from local businesses.

STAY AND PLAY DATES



On Friday 16th June, Year 2 have their Stay and Play at 9am. We kindly ask that no siblings attend this session, thank you.

ALZHEIMERS CAKE SALE



On Thursday 15th June, cakes will be available for 50p each at break time instead of snacks to raise funds for the Alzheimers Society.

THIS WEEKS WINNING TEAM IS DELAMERE ALL CHILDREN IN THIS TEAM CAN WEAR THEIR OWN CLOTHES ON FRIDAY 16th JUNE.

CELEBRATE



We would like to wish Joel YR1, Ruby YR1, Connie YR3 and Alfie YR4 a very happy birthday. We hope you all have a wonderful day.

Headteacher's Blog

The end of last half term was a fabulous extravaganza of a day where we all enjoyed a sunny sports day (the first in 4 years) and a really brilliant Summer Fair. Of course, it wouldn't be a summer event without a list of calamities so naturally the caretaker set off for her holidays, a child bumped his head, an external fire door fell off and needed urgent repair, the FoE gazebos all blew over and snapped in the hot wind of the day and thankfully the Scouts were able to come to our rescue, and the boiler went on the blink again and ended up heating the school up all afternoon – luckily we were outside! All of this was resolved of course, with the help of the office staff and the governors, who all took to the phones whilst I helped set up egg and spoon races. So if I looked a little frazzled, and neglected my usual raffle ticket sales job, now you know why! All in a day's work! Meanwhile, the FoE raised a whopping £1565.87!!!! AMAZING work and you can see the impact of some of that fund raising work in the yard which had new markings painted on it over the holiday, the Treasure Chest in the junior yard, and the artificial grass (and my special request 'Hobbit House') in the EYFS.

As a result of events of the week, we must issue another reminder – IT IS VITAL THAT WE HAVE THE MOST UP TO DATE CONTACT INFORMATION FOR YOU. Please can make sure that you ring the office or email them to inform them of any changes of number or address and also remember to let Angie's Kidz Club know too – we all need this information to ensure we contact you in cases of emergency.

This week is Child Health Week and on Monday the children enjoyed an assembly by Mr Manning on Health and our Children's Centre also had a visit from Cheshire Fire Service to kick the week off in style.

One of the things I have been meaning to let you know about for a while is the feedback of the annual Parent Feedback Questionnaires that several of you completed last term. There were 20 less than the year before but still a good number of responses so we all looked carefully at them and I can let you know the following:

You said that website access via mobile phones was tricky; we have ensured that all data is correct on our database and have arranged log on details for each of you to ensure that you are able to access the website from your phone. These will come out in the next week or two. You said that you didn't see myself or the governors, in comparison to seeing teaching staff each morning, and therefore we offered not just parent panels half termly where we discuss pertinent issues, and not just appointment meetings with me, but an open surgery with the Governors present, although nobody attended, we will continue to offer these sessions, half termly and continue to be visible on occasions such as sports day, and community events and for meetings via appointment. It may be frustrating if you cannot see me or a governor immediately, but one thing it may be worth saying here (although this was discussed at the parent panel and also kind of mentioned in my weekly blogs) is that the Governors work outside of school, they work in banks, in offices, in healthcare settings, in the church, in industry and their Governor work is voluntary. They are brilliant at being available by appointment, as am I, but not immediately as their dairies are often as full as mine for a week at a time. All that our Governors do for school is done in the evening, and in their own spare time, to support the school and help me to do the best job that I can do by following policies set by government and also those which are directly relevant to our school and our values. If you look at the website under GOVERNORS you can see who each one is and familiarize yourself with them, also, if you find yourself in the foyer, you can see their photographs.

As for me, it may come as a surprise to know that I do work for the teaching school alliance that our school benefits from (Ignite), and have also been invited to work for the local authority as a school improvement associate and this involves working off site (more about that later). I also assess other schools for REQM, both of these activities pay our school money and in a time where we are having to make serious decisions about staffing and budgets, I prefer to make work for myself and go out and make money for school rather than lose staff – unfortunately, this can mean that I am catching up on my day job, which is often email and paperwork based as I no longer teach, during the evenings and at the weekends. If I am not available in the mornings before school, it is often because that is the time that professionals from the police, social services and the local authority begin to contact school and it is not because I do not want to be, but that my responsibility involves the wider scope of the school whereas for teachers it is individuals in their classes. I always catch up with the children during the day and visit classrooms so that I am visible. I also check in on staff first thing and ensure that information I have dealt with the night before is passed on so that they can do the best job that they can do when your child comes in before lessons. I hope that this helps.

Year 5 had Play in a Day today and the children enjoyed seeing the performance of "Pack Up Your Troubles" to reflect their WW1 topic.

Talking about Ignite earlier (the Teaching School Alliance we are part of), we had a visit from one of my colleagues who came in on Wednesday to evaluate our Infant and early years provision. I will repay the favour in her school shortly, but it is a great experience and very affirming for all concerned when we can talk about our children and our school, when we know the children inside and out, when we demonstrate our passion and our dedication to the school to those outside. It was lovely! Have a great weekend and see you bright and breezy on Monday – one of the Y6 children reminded me that it is only 30 more get ups until the summer holidays and couldn't understand why I was freaking out! Whereas children are looking forward to the holidays, I just see a colossal mountain of work to do before then!

Finally, happy 40th to our gorgeous Mrs Wright from the office.