



Elton Primary School & Nursery

School Lane
Elton
Chester
CH2 4LT

Telephone: 01244 667750

Email: admin@elton.cheshire.sch.uk

Website: www.elton.cheshire.sch.uk

Headteacher – Mr Kevin Manning

Our Ref: PARL 1109

20th March 2023

Dear Parents / Guardians

Before I just share some information, can I say a big thank you for all the support that you have continued to give to our school this term. We have been delighted to see so many of you at this term's stay and learn sessions. The feedback from parents and guardians has been fab and I know that the children really look forward to welcoming you all into their classrooms. If you haven't been able to attend one yet, Yr1 and Nursery still have their sessions to complete over the next week and then all classes will be offering a third stay and learn session next term.

Can I also say thank you to everyone who attended parents evening appointments last week – once again, the turnout was very high which was really pleasing to see. These sessions are a great way of ensuring communication between home and school is as strong as possible which all helps to ensure the best possible progress for our children.

Staff Changes

As you will probably have noticed by now, Miss Duncan is expecting and is due to start her maternity leave once we break up for Easter. I know you will all join me in wishing her the best for her maternity leave.

When we return in April, Miss Fletcher will teach in Yr1 on Thursdays and Fridays. Many of you will know Miss Fletcher from when she taught our Yr4 class in September and October of this year. She has also been our regular supply teacher this year and so knows the school well.

We are still completing a recruitment process for a teacher to cover Miss Duncan's Yr3 commitments and I will inform parents as soon as interviews are completed in the early part of next week.

Another member of staff who is leaving is Ms Leath. Ms Leath has been with us for just over a year and has worked as a TA mainly in Yr3 and Yr6. Ms Leath is leaving the world of education for new horizons. We thank her for all her hard work – especially in promoting reading across school – and wish her well for the future. Ms Leath finishes this Friday but has asked to volunteer for the following week at dinner times to complete some work with our librarians! Once again, we are still completing a recruitment process and I will inform parents of Ms Leath's replacement as soon as interviews are completed in the early part of next week.

We are still looking to appoint a cleaner and a Mid-Day Assistant in school. If you know of anyone who would be interested in these roles then please ask them to contact school for more information.



Strikes

You may have heard over the weekend that the NEU has promised no more strikes between now and Easter. This is because the government has now entered into talks with all teaching unions. Teachers have been striking for several reasons - one of which is the need for pay increases to be fully funded by the government. Currently this year's, and next year's, pay increases have been unfunded which means that schools have had to find the money for these pay increases from their existing budgets. This has put a massive strain on what was an already difficult financial situation for our school. Fingers crossed that the unions and the government find a solution during their talks this week.

School Trips

One good piece of financial news we have had recently is that we have been successful in a bid we completed to the Protos Community Benefit Fund for money to fund some school trips. I would like to thank everyone who was involved in generating and approving the bid. All classes from Reception up to Yr6 are now busy booking their class visits for next half-term. We know how much the children enjoy these trips and how big a part they play in their engagement with the curriculum. The money will pay for the full cost of transport, entrance fees and tour fees!

Free School Vouchers

Once again, school has been given funds to support our free school meal children during the Easter holiday. As ever, we have used this money to purchase Tesco vouchers. There are £30 vouchers at the office which can be picked up from today for all children who are eligible for free school meals (note this does not include children who get free school meals as part of the universal free school meals to all infant children).

PTFA

A quick thank you to everyone who helped out and/or attended the bingo night on Friday evening: I won't give up my day job just yet for a career in bingo calling! Thanks also to everyone who has supported events like the discos, film night and cake sales. These have ensured that the PTFA has gotten off to a fantastic start since its formation.

Holiday Club

You should have received information about a holiday club that is taking place over in the Community Centre for six days during the Easter holiday. This club does have some fully funded places available. For more information, contact either the school office or the Community Centre. The school isn't involved in the club but we can share some details.

Twitter and Facebook

Just a reminder that you can catch up with what's going on daily in school by checking our Twitter and Facebook pages. Last week's highlight has to be the post about our talented and very brave Yr5 dancers who performed their routine so expertly in front of a packed Civic Hall!

I will just end by reminding you that we finish for the Easter holiday on Friday March 31st at the normal time of 3:15 and reopen on Monday 17th April.

Kind regards



Mr Manning

