



Elworth CE Primary – News Bulletin

Week Ending: 25 September 2020

'Love God, Love Learning, Love One Another'

KEY DATES:

Continuous Weekly Events			
Friday afternoons	Weekly Class Celebration (children only)	Whole School in classes	14:30
October 2020			
Friday 09 October	Year 6 DofE Activity carried over from last year - details to follow	Year 6	All Day
Friday 16 October	Chocolate Bingo (children only)	KS2	Afternoon
	Golden Time - further information coming soon	KS1	
Thursday 22 October	Harvest Prayer Space	Whole School	All Day
Friday 23 October	INSET DAY & Break up for Half Term		
November 2020			
Monday 02 November	School Re-Opens after Half Term		
Weds 04 November	Individual Photos - Tempest (TBC)	Whole School	Morning
Weeks beginning 09 November & 16 November	On-Line Parents Evenings - more information to follow	Whole School	Evenings
Monday 09 to Friday 13 November	Remembrance Week	Whole School	All Week
Monday 16 to Friday 20 November	Anti-Bullying Odd Socks Week - all children to wear odd socks this week!	Whole School	All Week
Monday 30 November	The Great Elworth Bake-Off.....with a difference!!! Details TBC	Whole School	
December 2020			
Monday 07 December	Our Christmas programme begins in school!	Whole School	

HEADTEACHER NEWS:

Welcome back to another school year at Elworth. I hope you and your family enjoyed some valuable time together over the holidays. We are all very aware of the challenges facing us at the moment and it would be easy to fill up space with a focus on this but the focus has to be and always will be the children and their learning. We have been very focused on providing the children with a happy, stable, exciting start back to their academic year. I hope that we have managed this. Each day the children are starting the day with a well being activity which leads into their lessons. Our new school Chaplain Cathryn Houghton leads worship times across the school- our focus in Worship is Generosity and we are looking at how we can be kinder to all people. Next month we will be introducing the Random Acts of Kindness Challenge where children will be encouraged to do extraordinary as well





as very ordinary acts of kindness. We are hoping to see a real change in the way we live and I am looking forward to seeing remarkable changes. As you know we have managed to open the swimming pool, engage in sports again, enjoy wider opportunities such as Forest school and Music tuition as well as whole class music lessons. Tough as this season continues to be, we will hold onto our mission statement of ‘Love God, Love Learning, Love One Another’ - the staff all are striving towards making our school environment the happiest place it possibly can be. The levels of love have continued to rise as we seek to ensure all children get the possible chance to reach their fullest potential.

I am very pleased with the care being provided at Early Birds and Night owls- the children are really enjoying the provision and the staff are providing a superb place for children to both start their day and also rest after a busy day in school. I would like to welcome all our new parents of children in EYFS- I know that the transition this year has been longer than previous years and this has been a challenge but in light of the situation we are in both Mrs Buckley and I believed a slower and more measured approach was better for all the children.

Although the government's announcements this week cast a grave shadow over the coming months I believe that learning and life at Elworth will continue to flourish; we are well prepared for eventualities and have spent time reviewing the process of home education for those families and groups who need it if and when pressures mount. Because of the present situation, we will continue to schedule our events as per normal but we may well change the way they are run, for example parents evenings will be conducted using Google Meet rather than face to face. We will update you nearer each event with how this is to be managed- however we will do our utmost to ensure all things go ahead!

I look forward to seeing many of you over the coming months and please feel free to contact the class teacher or phase leader.

Building Update:

The work on our 4 class extension is going well. The concrete foundations are being poured in as we speak and the steel frame is being constructed ready for erecting later in October. The work is planned to finish in summer 2021.

Special Partnerships:

Our brilliant PTA is yet to meet this term- if you are interested in becoming part of this team please be patient there will be news coming soon. The PTA paid for all the new playground equipment in the EYFS play area. Thank you.

Parent Council is also a fantastic way to be further involved in school. This a forum of parents who help advise and inform me of ways in which we can improve school- again further information to follow.

Governors: as you will already know there is a space for a new parent governor on the Elworth Governance board- see previous letter sent to all parents from Mrs Beeley.

Special Celebrations:

This term there are a number of celebrations which include: Harvest Prayer Space, Chocolate Bingo, Anti Bullying Week, Remembrance week, The Great Elworth Bake off and culminating with Christmas- very, very busy!

PHASE NEWS:

EYFS -

We have had a fantastic start to school and the children have settled really well into their new routines. It has been a very big week for all the children, as they met all of their new classmates for the first time, had longer days in school and have sat down together in the hall to have lunch. Thank you for sharing and discussing their lunch choices with them. They have been superbly behaved during lunchtime and are all enjoying their choices - especially the ice cream! They have also been learning their first sounds in phonics (m, a and t) and had their first





maths lessons! They have met the Naughty Bus and a builder and have come up with lots of ideas of how to help him and the people of Toy Town. Next week, we will be thinking about all the people who can help us in our community, and alongside this we will be teaching them about road safety. It is a great opportunity for you to talk about and practise safe crossing rules with them too.

KS1-

The children have settled into Key Stage 1 in a really positive manner. The children are enjoying our exciting Fire and Dragons topic. We have been looking at lots of dragon stories. Our favourite has been The Dragon Machine. The children have been creating some amazing artwork based on a dragon's eye. They look very scary ! We are delighted with how the children have embraced our new phonics scheme. The enthusiasm around reading is a pleasure to see. Next week we will be starting to look at The Great Fire of London.

LKS2 -

The children have made an excellent start back to school and we are very pleased and proud of how well they have settled into their new classes and routines. The children have been history detectives learning about the Stone Age, and have thoroughly enjoyed examining artefacts to find out all about how the Stone Age people lived. As we move through the topic, the children will examine how life changed from the Stone Age through to the Iron Age and compare this with our own lives today. Class 4 have also started their music sessions with the Love Music Trust and it has quickly become the highlight of their week! Classes 5 and 6 will get the same opportunity later on in this academic year and the children can't wait to begin.

UKS2 -

It has been lovely to welcome back the children in to Year 5 and 6 and see them renewing friendships and making new ones. The children are really enjoying our new topic 'Is it right to fight?' and are learning all about the human impact of war through their studies of evacuees and refugees. So far, we have looked at the causes of World War 2 and the situation in Germany in the 1930s. We have also studied the ways in which Britain prepared for war. Year 5 have been enjoying completing the navigation aspects of their Junior Duke of Edinburgh award - learning to navigate around the school grounds. We are looking forward to our local walk next week, where we will be using our skills to navigate a route in the local area.

WHOLE SCHOOL NEWS:

Admin: As we all - parents, children and staff - settle back into having a full school, we are all aware that some things need to be done differently. The main entrance door will remain closed and only pre-booked visitors will be allowed access to school, and then they must follow the guidelines advised. We ask that, to minimise contact, you keep visits to an absolute minimum. An intercom has been installed to enable visitors to speak to the office. If your child forgets an item, please consider if it is necessary. If it is, please place it in a named bag and leave it in the blue bin outside reception.

E-Safety: We can't stress enough the importance of checking and monitoring your child's use of social media whilst using their mobile phone.

<https://nationalonlinesafety.com/guides>

