



Elburton Primary School

15th September 2020

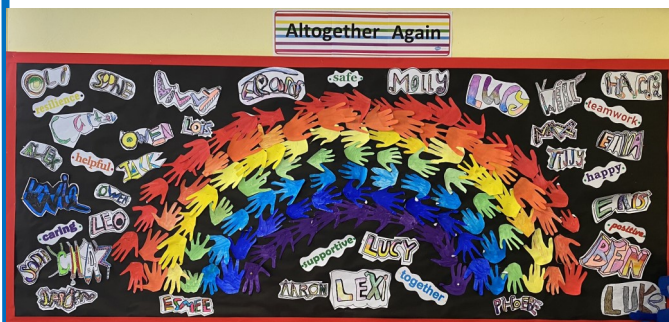
Number 1



Message from Mr Smithers...

And just like that we are back to school and into our 'new normal.' Thank you so much for your patience, positivity and words of kindness over the last week or so. The team really appreciate your support during a challenging period for us all. I am absolutely delighted to report that the children have returned with smiles on their faces and a willingness to learn and adapt to the new routines. It always amazes me how resilient our children are and we couldn't be prouder of them.

All of the classes have been settling back into school life and have implemented the Rainbow Recovery Curriculum which I sent to all parents last week. In addition to this, the children have been creating some lovely art work as seen below.



Transitions...

Children have started the transition into their new classes. They visited their new class and class teacher on Thursday and Friday last week. They will visit these classes later this week. It was lovely to welcome our new Foundation starters into school.

Reading Books...

New reading books and reading records will start coming home when the children are in their new classes permanently, week beginning 21st September.

PTA

You may have noticed that the playgrounds have started to be updated and improved. This work is not yet complete but already the outdoor spaces are looking far better. A huge thank you to our hard working PTA and all parents that support their events. The fundraising is having a direct impact on the children's experiences at school.

Snacks...

Some of our older children are becoming hungry before lunchtime due to their longer morning in school. If you believe this to be your child, please ensure that they come to school with a larger, yet healthy snack to sustain their stamina throughout the morning.

Sweets/treats/birthdays...

Historically, it has been lovely to celebrate a birthday by sending in treats, cakes, sweets for the class. Please can we refrain from doing so at this current time in order to reduce to an absolute minimum items that are travelling to and from school.

Website...

Our website has been updated with a COVID-19 Guidance section. This has been completed and there is information for parents with the very latest Government guidelines and advice.



2020-2021

03-09-2020 - 23-10-2020
02-11-2020 - 18-12-2020
05-01-2021 - 12-02-2021
22-02-2021 - 01-04-2021
20-04-2021 - 28-05-2021
07-06-2021 - 20-07-2021
03-05-2021 May Bank Holiday

2021-2022

06-09-2021 - 22-10-2021
01-11-2021 - 17-12-2021
06-01-2022 - 18-02-2022
28-02-2022 - 08-04-2022
26-04-2022 - 27-05-2022
06-06-2022 - 22-07-2022
02-05-2022 May Bank Holiday

Twitter

Do follow us on @ElburtonSch. and add to our 556 followers!

Dates for your diary

- **17th & 18th Sept** - Transition afternoons to new classes.
- **23rd September** - PTA AGM and first meeting of the year (7:30pm)
- **25th September** - Getting to know you videos uploaded to the school website
- **30th September** - Tempest children's photos
- **6th October** - SCITT Trainee teacher open evening (5:30-5:30pm)
- **13th October** - Bags to School collection
- **9th & 10th November** - Parents Evenings
- **11th November** - PTA Meeting (7:30pm)



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Parent Sharing...

As we are unable to invite parents into school this term to meet their new teachers we will be sharing information on our school website. Each class page on the school website will be updated with videos from the team and relevant information for the forthcoming year. These pages will be updated on Friday 25th September. If you have any particular questions which you would like to know before or indeed after viewing these webpages, please do not hesitate to contact the school so we can answer these for you. No question is too big or small when making the transition to a new class.



Friday Celebration Assemblies...

These have continued every Friday but have taken the form of virtual assemblies. I have been beamed into each classroom where I have been able to share a story, message, praise and Headteacher's awards. Special achievements at home, from clubs etc. are always lovely to share in school. If you would like a photo of an award to be shared please email this to our admin team. I will share this during my assembly.

Entrances and Exits...

Thank you so much for your patience and understanding with these, particularly on the first evening where it became quickly apparent we needed a rethink. As your child moves into their new year group we will

ask parents to adhere to the route and timings already established for the year group above where they currently are.

Parking...

Please do not park in the bus stop on Elburton Road when collecting children before or after school.

Mrs Lakey

I would like to congratulate Mrs Lakey on her appointment as Headteacher of St Andrews C of E Primary School in Buckland Monachorum. Mrs Lakey will continue to work at Elburton School until Christmas before starting her new position. The recruitment process will begin this month in order for Mrs Lakey to support a smooth transition for a new Assistant Headteacher/SENCO to join our school community in January 2021.

Communication with Parents...

A reminder that all school communication is sent electronically using ParentPay. If you would like to add a second contact to receive this communication please inform the admin team. From 28th September, no communications will be sent out via the school email, all communication will be sent out via ParentPay so please ensure you contact the school office to arrange a second contact. Our parents evenings will be held virtually on 9th and 10th November 2021. This will mean that the teachers will have taught their new classes for five weeks before meeting with you. Although November feels a while a way, I feel that holding meetings at this time gives teachers sufficient time to develop relationships with their class and to understand each child's learning needs before sharing this information with parents. Should you wish to contact your child's class teacher over any matter at all, please email or phone the school and they will make contact with you. I would always encourage dialogue between parents and their child's teacher if there are any concerns to take place at the earliest opportunity. Please do not feel you need to wait until parents evening in November to contact us.

Mobile Phones...

If you require your child to bring a phone to school, please write a letter addressed to Mr Smithers informing him as to the reason why this will be necessary. Once an agreement has been signed, your child may bring a phone to school where it will be stored securely throughout the school day.