



# Elburton Primary School

5th February 2021

Number 9



**Message from Mr Smithers...** I feel I should congratulate everyone for completing another week of home learning, well done! One more week until half term and then you can pack the laptops away and enjoy some quality family time together every day. Last week, 95% of our children engaged in the lessons which are being set which we are delighted with. If you require any support at all regarding learning or any other matter, please do not hesitate to contact the school. If you are a key worker yourself, please protect our community by only sending your child into school if this is absolutely necessary. The safest place for all children at this current time is at home.

**Infant Playground Refurbishment...** I am delighted to inform you that some significant changes will be made to our infant playground area in the near future. We have arranged for the green astroturf areas to be removed and tarmacked. In addition to this, the decking area on the playground will be removed to create a quiet area for the children. After Easter, we will update the children's play area where the wooden train currently resides. This will be replaced with updated play equipment and safety flooring. This project is being supported by our school PTA. Without their hard work to fund raise this would not be possible. A huge thank you to our amazing PTA members and to everyone that supports their events. The money raised at these events continues to have a direct impact on the children's learning and well-being in school.

**Ecoracing's Valentine's Day Virtual Balloon Race...** The PTA are continuing to fund raise for school improvement despite these challenging times. We have been entered into a virtual balloon race! Children, staff and parents can pay £3 for a virtual balloon and then track its progress. Launch day from Paris is on the 14th February and the race lasts for 7 days. It's £3 a balloon. National prizes for the balloons that travel furthest are; £500 Cash, Apple iPad, 10 lucky winners of £10 Book Tokens. The PTA are also offering a hamper of goodies as a prize for the balloon bought for Elburton Primary School that travels the furthest. Please click on the link to participate. <https://ecoracing.co/user/page/1380>

**Live Teams Etiquette...** Please can I ask parents to support the school, and their children, by ensuring that children joining any live Teams session do so with their day time clothing (not pyjamas) and also ensure the children are not in bed during these sessions. Despite not being in school, we are attempting to replicate the routine as much as we can. This includes the Daily Connection time and any 1:1 or group sessions being led by a member of teaching staff.

**Meet the Governor: Dr Caroline Adams...** *I am a retired university lecturer in psychology. My main areas of personal interest in psychology are child language acquisition and development. I have been a governor for 16 years. Working to improve teaching and learning for pupils through strategic support and challenge is a role that yields both responsibility and reward. I have always believed that education is a collective responsibility and schools need to listen to their community, to all views, no matter how diverse. This helps our own knowledge and development. I am passionate about raising educational standards, ensuring that education is broad and enriches children's experiences. More recently I have come to appreciate the importance of creativity (in all its forms) in education. Educators often battle the balance of a prescribed national curriculum alongside creative teaching and learning. In recent years I have perceived a slight national trend towards greater creativity at primary level. Elburton has been quick to respond and as a governor I support all efforts that work towards a greater broad and balanced (and creative) curriculum and learning environment.*



## 2020-2021

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 594 followers!

## Dates for your diary

- **Friday 12th February**  
Break up for half term
- **Sunday 14th February**  
Virtual Balloon Race begins
- **Monday 22nd February**  
Spring term 2 begins

Tour of the Foundation Stage for prospective Parents can be found at: [https://www.elburtonschool.com/web/virtual\\_tour/518203](https://www.elburtonschool.com/web/virtual_tour/518203)

