



Elburton Primary School

18th October 2019

Number 15



Message from Mrs Anderson...

We were very lucky to welcome Jackie back from the library to school last Friday to celebrate the children's participation in the Summer Reading Challenge. She visited the school in June to promote the Summer Reading Challenge dressed as a person from space, the theme of the challenge this year was 'Space Race.' Our children took part fully in this, we had 119 children who completed the challenge which is a huge achievement and higher than last year. All of the children were given a certificate to mark this achievement. Thank you for supporting your children with this.

Many of you will have now received the new school menu for school meals. It is wonderful to see the changes to the menu and how this is based on feedback children in all of our schools. Last week Foundation and Key Stage 1 children were sampling the new menu. Next time we aim to develop this with our Key Stage 2 children as well. The younger children were very good at trying new things, it will be interesting to see if they try a wider selection of foods following this.

I hope that you all have a great half term with your families, hopefully we will all be able to enjoy some sunny days. We will see the children back at school on Monday 28th October. A reminder to you all, Friday 1st November is a Non-Pupil Day, so an extra long weekend for you all.

Key Dates for your diary

Open Afternoon : Tuesday 5th November 1.30pm

Flu Vaccines in school : Friday 8th November

Parent Consultations : Monday 11th and Tuesday 12th November

Christmas Shows and Events

Foundation Nativity to parents : Friday 6th December 2pm

PTA Christmas Fair : Friday 6th November 5pm - 7pm

Key Stage 1 Christmas production : Tuesday 10th December 2pm

Key Stage 1 Christmas production : Wednesday 11th December 4.30pm

Christmas Dinner Day : Thursday 12th December

Christmas Jumper Day for 'Save the Children' : Friday 13th December

Key Stage 2 Christmas Performance in the Church : Monday 16th December 2pm, Tuesday 17th at 6.30pm and Wednesday 18th December at 6.30pm

Friday 20th December - Last day of term

Anti-bullying and E-safety week: Monday 11th to Friday 15th November

We would like to invite you into class on Friday 15th November at 2.15pm until the end of the day. This will be a time to share the learning during the week with you as families, so please do come in and take part in this. It will also enable you to see the new Interactive Whiteboards.

Donation Request

Our Pupil & Family Mentor, Jo Williams is running some clubs at lunchtimes which include the wellbeing and mindfulness colouring club. This club has been an excellent success. However, children are overflowing onto the floors. As a solution Jo would like to add floor based comfy areas for the children to relax. Do you have any bean bags and scatter cushions that are no longer used that you would like to donate to us? If you do, please can you drop them into the school office.

2019-2020

04-09-2019 - 18-10-2019

Non-Pupil Day: 1st November

28-10-2019 - 20-12-2019

06-01-2020 - 14-02-2020

24-02-2020 - 27-03-2020

15-04-2020 - 22-05-2020

01-06-2020 - 17-07-2020

08-05-2020 May Bank Holiday

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

Twitter

Do follow us on @ElburtonSch. and add to our 425 followers!

Absence

If your child is absent from school or has an appointment where they will be late coming into school, please can we remind all parents to ensure you call the school by 9am.

Toys

If you have any unwanted games or toys, please can you take to Reception where they will be distributed.



Children's entry to school

We really need your support..... as a school team we are having a real focus on developing our children's independence, developing their skills to regulate their own behaviours and developing smooth transitions. This also links directly with ensuring our morning sessions start smoothly and that our staff can focus on the children immediately.

One of the key actions we have, is for the teachers to meet the children at the classroom door, to welcome them into class, so that we have immediate contact with every child before learning starts. If the teachers are talking to other adults this cannot happen as effectively as it should.

Please can you support us by encouraging your children to come into school independently, they have done this brilliantly since Foundation and really are experts.

If you have a query, concern or something that the teacher needs to be aware of, please let the office know, who will be only too pleased to pass this on. You can also email your teachers directly, it that is easier. After school, is generally a much better time to see the team.

Linked to this, it is vital that we know who is in the school building during school hours. People who are in the building must all have ID or a visitor badge at these times - this is to keep everyone safe. Thank you for your support with this.

Class Assemblies

Once again we would like to invite you to one of your child's class assemblies this year. These assemblies begin at 2.30pm and finish by the end of the school day. Below you will find the date for your child's class, so please save the date.

- Foundation: FSJ and FCS 13th March 2020
- Year 1: 1EG on 24th April 2020 and 1JH on 1st May 2020
- Year 2: 2AC on 7th February 2020 and 2EL on 3rd July 2020
- Year 3: **3AB 11th October 2019** and 3NG 22nd May 2020
- Year 4: Both classes on 31st January 2020
- Year 5: Both classes on 15th May 2020
- Year 6: Both classes on 17th January 2020

Foodbank Year 6 School Council Trip

After the Harvest Assembly on Friday the 4th October, Year 6 school council (Freya, Beth, Ethan, Arthur) took a visit to Plymouth Foodbank who provide families with help during hard times. As well as this generous offer, they also provide a learning environment in order to give people the support they need to find a job that provides sustainable lifestyles.

None of our school representatives realised how much this amazing charity impacted families lives. With a guided tour around the building, the Year 6's saw: thousands of pounds worth of food generously provided by Plymouth, ICT and learning rooms, support counselling rooms, sanitary rooms and a volunteer run café.

We would like to thank Mrs Moulding, Mrs Court and Mrs Williams for taking us there and delivering our donation. We also thank parents and carers for the 371.32 kilos of food donated.

It is their biggest donation yet and they are extremely grateful.

Thanks again,
Freya and Beth

Race for Reading

As a school, we wanted to write to express our thanks to you for supporting the Race for Reading as it was a wonderful event that brought the whole school together to raise money for books for our learners. Over the past few weeks, the money has been flooding in and we now have counted all the money and we have a grand total; altogether the event has raised an incredible **£3,216.97**. What a wonderful amount of money for our school library areas!

We have already started putting in orders for new books which will begin arriving on the shelves and in book bags after the half term break. We can't wait to see the children reading the new books which we are sure will help them to develop a real love of reading throughout the school.

Thank you once again for all your support and generous donations; it will make a huge difference to the children's learning and help us promote a reading for pleasure culture throughout the school.

Year 6 Bikeability 13th - 17th October 2019

This week, Year 6 have been participating in the Bikeability cycle training programme. They have been learning practical skills and understanding how to cycle safely on today's roads.



On Day 1, the children started the session on the playground in order to work towards their Bikeability Level 1. This is a course which aims to develop mastery in cycle handling in an off-road environment and prepare riders for cycling on the road safely. Everyone got involved and had a great time – some of the children even learned to ride a bike for the first time!

Throughout the next three days of the week, the children worked on their Bikeability Level 2 course which is a certification aimed at developing riders' skills and confidence for cycling on single-lane roads and simple

junctions in and around the Elburton area – you may have even seen them out and about during the week!

If children were struggling to ride a bike, they were lucky enough to have enough instructors to help them learn to be even more confident on their bikes throughout the week on the playground. It has been a great week and all Year 6 children would like to thank everyone who has made the week of safe on-road cycling such a great experience.



Bikeability Balance Foundation 7th – 9th October 2019

Our Foundation children have been very lucky to have had the expert tuition from Plymouth School Sports Partnership. Over the three days all children in Foundation completed the Balanceability course. Bikeability Balance is a programme aimed at 4 - 6 year olds with the intention of them riding a pedal bike by the end of the course.

Initially, the children focussed on a range of balancing activities; standing on one leg and balancing on stepping stones. Then they learned how to mount and move safely on a balance bike. As their confidence grew, they were able to glide on the balance bikes, whilst imagining that they needed to keep their feet out of the water in case the crocodile nibbled their toes. On the final day, all children progressed to a pedal bike. The progress that all children made was incredible with many confident to ride without the support of an adult next to them. We have all been excited to see the photos and videos that are being sent into school via the children's online learning journals, Tapestry. This has enabled the children to show their classmates them enjoying riding on their bikes in different parts of the city.

