



Elburton Primary School

31st January 2020

Number 18



Message from Mrs Anderson...

Our children have been very actively engaged in a range of sporting activities/events across the City since the start of January. They have represented the school in Football, Indoor Rowing, Cross-Country and many other events. Next week we are delighted that some of our Year 5 children are participating in the Saltash Music Festival. They have been learning the clarinet through school since Year 4 and have made superb progress. As a result they have been encouraged to take part in this Festival. We would like to wish them the best of luck for Monday. Our youngest children are also visiting Nutley Lodge Care Home on a weekly basis, building wonderful relationships and developing their oracy skills. This is a truly magical time for our children and the people at Nutley Lodge. At Elburton, we are committed to having a rich and broad curriculum with a range of learning experiences.

New developments, Home Learning and Meal Manager...

Thank you for your support over the last few weeks with the introduction of Meal Manager. We know there were some teething issues as there always are with new systems but on the whole this system is working well in school. We are already noticing the impact selecting meals at home is having on meal choices, as there has been a significant rise in the main meal choices as opposed to jacket potatoes. Thank you to all of you for your support with this.

You will also have noticed the change to home learning and received your child's home learning grids for the term. We are having some excellent feedback from children and parents alike. We are hoping that giving clarity over reading and other types of home learning has been very beneficial to you as parents and for your children.

Parents Forum...

As a school we would really like to start a Parent Forum where we discuss key developments and changes, seeking views from you in a manageable way. In the summer we asked for representatives to come forward from each year group, but struggled to get volunteers. You might wonder what the commitment is... we would aim to meet once each term for an hours meeting during the school day. Please can you let me know if you would be interested by emailing me on manderson@elburton.plymouth.sch.uk by Friday 7th February. Please get in touch and say you would like to be involved.

Attendance...

Attendance at school is very important for all of our children, it is vital that our children have good levels of attendance and that they are at school to learn and don't have gaps in their learning. Our attendance level at the moment is **96.04%** - this is lower than the same time last year. Please can you help us with this, our target is 96.5% for the end of the year.

School Car Park and Klub Kidz Drop Off...

We are having a few congestion issues in the mornings when staff are coming to work and parents are dropping children off for Klub Kidz. From today, Friday 31st January 2020, can we please ask that you park on the road at the top and walk down. Due to the size of the school car park if staff do not park in a certain way we are limited to how many cars we can get in. For collection at the end of the day, if there is room we are happy for you to drive in. Please can you support the school with this as we need the staff to get in as quickly as possible and for the children at Klub Kidz to be safe in this area.

2019-2020

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!

Books for Schools

Thank you for sending in your vouchers from The Sun newspaper for the Books for School scheme. If you know of anyone that reads The Sun, please can you ask them to collect the vouchers for us and drop them off at the school reception.

Dates for your diary

- 13.03.20 Pig Race
- 20.03.20 Spring Disco
- 15.05.20 Duck Race
- 03.07.20 Summer Fair



Reading Champions



Dear Parents / Guardians,

Over the past two terms there have been many changes to how reading is being taught at Elburton and the children are very much enjoying their reading and benefiting from the changes in terms of their learning. We would like to thank you for your support with this and encouraging your child to read at home.

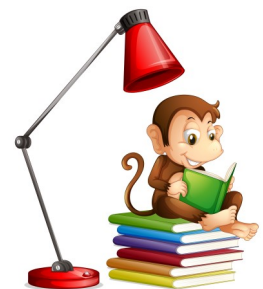
In order to further develop our reading for pleasure ethos and ensure children are reading daily at home and in school, we are introducing '**Reading Champion**' certificates throughout Key Stage 2 this term. The children will be given a certificate for every 15 books they read in lower Key Stage 2 and for every 10 books in upper Key Stage 2. These certificates will be awarded to the children during a Wednesday assembly so that their successes and efforts in reading can be celebrated. We hope this helps to motivate the children to read more frequently as daily reading is so beneficial to all aspects of their learning. They will be rewarded for reading banded books that have been recorded in their Reading Record. It would help us if you could write the titles of the books that your child is reading at the front of the book as well as commenting on reading on the record pages of your child's journal. As reading is such an important part of your child's learning and that they should be reading at least five times a week at home, it would be helpful if you could sign and date when your child reads on a weekly page of the Reading Record. Teachers and teaching assistants will then check your child's home reading on a weekly basis through this record.

The PTA have kindly donated money so that we are able to introduce Accelerated Reader throughout Key Stage 2. This programme has a proven track record of raising attainment in reading as it motivates the children to read regularly and helps improve comprehension through asking the children a series of questions about the books that they have read. We will provide you with more information about this when it's up and running properly; however, we wanted to let you know this as some of our books have been labelled with the Accelerated Reader level on the book spines. This level is not correlated with national book bands and is completely independent of this. Some of the children will also be sitting the Star Reading assessment to allow staff to identify their reading level over the next few weeks so they may tell you about this. We hope to get all children using the platform by Easter and will introduce it to our older children once the class libraries have been updated with the necessary stickers. This is an exciting development in our teaching of reading and we can't wait to start using Accelerated Reader with our learners.

Thanks you for your help and support,

Yours faithfully,

Miss Marriott





Dear Parent or Carer,

Celebrating World Book Day!

We will be celebrating World Book Day at Elburton on **Thursday 5th March** with a whole day of book or story related activities. There are lots of exciting events planned for the day which we hope will enthuse the children and encourage a love of books and reading!

This year, we are very fortunate to be having a visit from Elmer! St Lukes Hospice have very kindly allowed us to have Elmer, fresh from his big parade around Plymouth, for two days – Wednesday 4th and Thursday 5th March. The children will have the opportunity to read along with him and to spend time with him whilst he's in school and they will be completing some learning linked to Elmer's adventures. As a thank you for allowing Elmer to spend time in school, we are having a dressing up day on **Thursday 5th March** and are asking for donations to St Lukes Hospice on the day. St Lukes plays a crucial part in supporting people with cancer and their families throughout Devon and is one that would benefit greatly from any donations we are able to give. The children will be invited to dress up as a 'word' in order to take part in our 'Vocabulary Parade'. Vocabulary development is at the heart of what we do at Elburton and this parade will allow the opportunity to expand their vocabulary. If your child prefers, they can also dress as their favourite book character for the day, as this will help excite the children. We can't wait to see how many different characters we will have - who will your child come as? If your child does not want to dress up, they can wear mufti for the day; however, this must not be sports kit.

During the morning, all children will get the opportunity to take part in a range of activities linked to celebrating authors and books for example: drawing illustrations in the style of famous illustrators, singing songs from well-known plays and a range of drama activities. We hope there will be something for everyone to enjoy!

Just before lunch, the children will have the opportunity to share their favourite book with another year group. The Key Stage Two children need to bring in a book which is suitable to share with younger children, e.g. a much-loved picture book such as those written by: Julia Donaldson, Judith Kerr or David McKee or a traditional tale. The Key Stage One children can bring in their own book, which will be enjoyed with the older children when they read it together.

One of the children's home learning tasks on their grids for the next half term will be to create a book in a jar. There are some ideas for this attached to this letter. We look forward to sharing these book jars with the children when they bring them in on World Book Day.

At the end of the school day, each child will be given a £1 World Book Day voucher to redeem in any bookshop. They can also be used to purchase the special World Book Day books which are available from all good book stockists.

Items to remember for World Book Day:

- A copy of your child's favourite book to share with a 'buddy'
- A donation for St Lukes
- A costume or mufti (not sports wear)

There will be lots of other activities going on throughout the day to excite the children – we hope they share these with you afterwards. Of course, some of the children's learning opportunities will be available for you to explore on our website and Twitter page. Please look online after the event to celebrate World Book Day with us.

We hope it will be a fun day where stories and books can be enjoyed and celebrated.

Thank you for your support,

Miss Marriott

Ideas for the Vocabulary Parade



Book in a jar



Elburton Primary School

Spring Term Dates 2020

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| Monday 6 th January | New term starts |
| Tuesday 7 th January 2.15pm | Parent Workshop - foundation parents: Early reading, phonics and supporting your child with maths. |
| Tuesday 14 th January | Tempest: Class Photos |
| Friday 17 th January 2.30pm | Trutex uniform sale - school hall |
| Friday 14 th February | Last day of term 3 |
| Tuesday 21 st January 3.30 - 4.15pm | Parent workshop - F/KS1 focus on supporting your children with maths |
| Wednesday 5 th Feb 3.30 - 4.15pm | Parent workshop - KS2 Supporting your child with maths |
| Monday 10 th Feb 6.00 - 7.00pm | Parent workshop - Effective behaviours at Elburton |
| Monday 24 th February | New term starts |
| Wednesday 26 th February 3.30pm | PTA Second hand clothes sale |
| Wednesday 26 th February | PTA: Bags 2 School |
| Thursday 27 th Feb 2.00 - 3.00pm | Parent workshop - Phonics and Early Reading KS1 upwards |
| Monday 2 nd March | Parent Consultations |
| Tuesday 3 rd March | Parent Consultations |
| Thursday 5 th March | World Book Day - focus dress up/mufti |
| Tuesday 10 th March 2.00 - 3.00pm | Parent workshop - Supporting your child with reading at KS2 |
| Friday 13 th March | Comic Relief/Sport relief |
| Friday 13 th March | PTA Pig Race |
| Tuesday 17 th March 6.00 - 7.00pm | Parent workshop - Relationships in the digital age |
| Friday 20 th March | PTA Discos |
| Friday 27 th March | Last day of term 4 |
| Wednesday 15 th April | New term starts |

Details for Comic Relief and World Book Day, the events and opportunities for the days/weeks will come out nearer the time. The School Council will be involved in arrangements for Comic Relief at Elburton.

