



# Ellingham Primary School

## Monday 9<sup>th</sup> September

### Welcome Back!

We hope you've had a good summer break and enjoyed the sporadic sunshine that this summer brought us! It is lovely to see so many happy, relaxed and smiling faces amongst our children and staff. The children are already showing a fantastic attitude to their learning. In the short time that we have been back, lessons have included story-writing, scientific classification and revision of place value. Classrooms exude a sense of purpose and focus, and high expectations for all are evident. This promises to be an action-packed term. We already have a cross-curricular STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) week planned and trips are being organised. For our Year Six families, we have a PGL meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> September at 3.30pm and for all families, don't forget our forthcoming 'Meet the Teacher' evening next week. This will give you a full insight into the learning and expectations in each year group. Here's to a wonderful term ahead!

### Dates for 2019

#### Bank holiday

- Thur 12<sup>th</sup> Sept PGL info meeting for Year Six families  
3.30pm
- Mon 16<sup>th</sup> Sept Meet the Teacher open evening  
3.30-5.30pm.
- Thur 26<sup>th</sup> Sept Foundation Stage Coffee Morning  
for parents and carers 9.00am in  
school hall.
- W/B 21<sup>st</sup> Oct STEM (science, technology,  
engineering and maths) curriculum  
week
- W/B 28<sup>th</sup> Oct Half term
- Thur 31<sup>st</sup> Oct **Secondary School admission cut-off**  
**Mon 4<sup>th</sup> Nov INSET DAY**
- Tues 5<sup>th</sup> Nov Children return to school
- Mon 11<sup>th</sup> Nov Individual and sibling school photos
- Tues 12<sup>th</sup> Nov Individual and sibling school photos
- Tues 12<sup>th</sup> Nov Parent / Carer's eve. Timings TBC
- Thur 14<sup>th</sup> Nov Parent / Carer's eve. Timings TBC
- Tue 17<sup>th</sup> Dec KS1 Christmas Performance in hall  
9.00am
- Thur 19<sup>th</sup> Dec EYFS Christmas Performance in hall  
9.00am
- Frid 20<sup>th</sup> Dec Last day of Autumn term
- Further INSET dates will be available on our website  
by the end of this week.**

#### IMPORTANT:

#### Change of Bank Holiday

**Following the Government's announcement to  
move the early May Bank Holiday from Mon 4<sup>th</sup> May  
to Frid 8<sup>th</sup> May 2020 to mark the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of  
VE day, this means the early May Bank Holiday will  
now fall of Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2020**

### Curriculum Updates

As part of our commitment to school improvement, we are in the process of reviewing and improving our curriculum. We are so lucky to live on the outskirts of London and we believe that our curriculum offer should reflect this. Learning should be brought alive by making links between the past and present, by speaking to people who ignite our interest and by feeling inspired to ask questions. It is important that our children understand where Britain fits into the global picture and British Values remain at the forefront of our teaching and learning. Our curriculum is committed to encouraging healthy lifestyles and equipping our children to make the right choices to keep themselves and others safe and healthy. Kindness towards others is integral to this. As part of our drive to encourage active lifestyles, we are going to share weekly workouts on the newsletter for families to enjoy at home. Joe Wicks (The Body Coach) has created workouts specifically for children which are available on this online channel. See the link below:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d3LPrhI0v-w>

If you want to bring in photos from home in relation to this, we would be delighted to receive them!



### **Explorers Breakfast and After School Provision – some places left – don't miss out!**

Our breakfast and after school provision continues to be a popular, well-loved facility and, this year, has been expanded to care for even more children. In addition, we are now offering an after-school session from the end of the school day until 4.30pm. The price for this shortened session is £7.50 per day. Please speak to the office if you would like to book a place.

### **Start and end of the school day organisation**

We are aware that there was some confusion over timings at the start of the school day and for this we apologise. The playground is open from 8.30. The first bell will ring at 8.40. At this point, children should say goodbye to their carers and make their way to line up. Once children are lined up, their teachers will take them up to class. Register and morning learning commences at 8.45am.

KS1 children finish for the end of the day at 3.05pm and KS2 children finish for the end of the day at 3.15pm. We understand that incidents occur from time to time which can affect pick-up. However, if pick-up is difficult for you on a regular basis, our Explorers provision is available as wrap-around care and is now available as a short session until 4.30.

### **Stop the spread of Measles**

Please see advice from Public Health England below:

*Measles is a very infectious viral illness that spreads by coughs and sneezes and can be incredibly serious. The symptoms include fever, sore red eyes and rash. It can be a serious infection for some people. Measles can spread easily between pupils and staff if someone comes into school whilst they are infectious. People with measles are infectious from four days before, until four full days after the rash so they can pass measles on BEFORE they get the rash.*

*Please seek advice from your family doctor should your child develop a rash illness; telephone ahead before attending general practice, Urgent Care Centres or the Emergency Department and report to reception on arrival.*

The school has a duty to report any incidences of measles.

### **Quick Notices and Polite Reminders**



#### **Parking:**

**PLEASE** do not park on the red zone. It is vital, for the safety of our children, that parking guidelines are followed.

#### **Name Labels:**

Please make sure all clothes, shoes, water bottles, lunch boxes etc are clearly labelled.

#### **Medicines:**

**If your children require medicines to be kept in school, it is vital that they are brought in ASAP and the correct documentation is filled in. Documentation is available in the office. Please ensure medicines are in-date.**

#### **Homework:**

Homework for years 1 – 5 will commence W/B 16<sup>th</sup> September 2019. As before, it will be emailed out to families on the Wednesday, to be returned into school the following Monday. For children who would like some support to complete the tasks, there will be lunchtime homework clubs running on Thursdays. If homework is not handed in on a Monday, children will attend Monday lunchtime homework clinic, where the work can be completed, supported by a member of staff. Homework in Year Six will be shared with children separately.

#### **Grounds Maintenance:**

We are currently working with the local authority to make sure the area outside of our school building is clear and well-maintained for our families to walk through.

### **British Basketball League Ticket Offer!**

Our school has been given 100 reduced-price tickets for the 2019 British Basketball All-Stars Championship, which takes place on Sunday 13th October at The Copper Box Arena, London. All tickets are priced at £5.00. Adult tickets are usually £24 and child tickets are usually £12 so this really is a fantastic offer! If you would like to attend, please order your tickets from the school office.

