



Ellingham Primary School

Monday 16th September

R.E.S.P.E.C.T Find out what it means to me!

We are so proud of the positive start to the term. Last week we welcomed our new Reception children into Team Ellingham and they have settled into their new routine successfully. Over the course of this term, we are going to spend some assembly time thinking about our core values at Ellingham. When our new building was opened, we focused on the Olympic values, to tie in with the London 2012 Games.

Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs

This week we are going to explore what 'Respect' means to us as both learners and citizens.



Dates for 2019

- Mon 16th Sept Meet the Teacher open evening 3.30-5.30pm.
- Thur 26th Sept Foundation Stage Coffee Morning for parents and carers 9.00am in school hall.
- W/B 21st Oct STEM (science, technology, engineering and maths) curriculum week
- W/B 28th Oct Half term
- Thur 31st Oct **Secondary School admission cut-off. Please ensure that you read the complete Admission to Kingston's Secondary Schools brochure online at www.kingston.gov.uk**
- Apply online at www.eAdmissions.org.uk**
- Mon 4th Nov INSET DAY
- Tues 5th Nov Children return to school
- Mon 11th Nov Individual and sibling school photos
- Tues 12th Nov Individual and sibling school photos
- Tues 12th Nov Parent / Carer's eve. Timings TBC
- Thur 14th Nov Parent / Carer's eve. Timings TBC
- Tue 17th Dec KS1 Christmas Performance in hall 9.00am
- Thur 19th Dec EYFS Christmas Performance in hall 9.00am
- Frid 20th Dec Last day of Autumn term

IMPORTANT:

Change of Bank Holiday

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

Curriculum Updates

'What are you learning?'

We are spending time in lessons talking to the children about what they are *learning* rather than what they are *doing*. This change of mindset encourages children to think about the value of their lessons. We will often ask children *why* they are learning a certain skill. For example, a Year Three child explained to me that they were learning how to count in 50s and 100s because if you were a builder measuring a floor, it would take you far too long to count every single centimetre. When you're talking to your children about their day at school, encourage them to tell you what they are *learning*, rather than what they are *doing*. The discussion this promotes will be really engaging!

Keeping Fit and Healthy

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SbFqQarDM50>

We hope you had a chance to try the home-workout we suggested last week. Another workout link is attached above. Remember, we would love to see photos of the children working out at home!

Pupil Voice

As we improve and refine our curriculum, we will be asking children to share their thoughts on what we learn at Ellingham. We will also be talking to children about the work in their books. We want Team Ellingham to feel 'listened to' in terms of what we do in school. From discussions last week, it is clear that our children really enjoy visitors coming in to school to talk about their careers. After the success of Inspiration Day in the Spring term, we want to build on this. Don't hesitate to contact the office team if you would be willing to talk to the children about your career!

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

Thank you for your patience and flexibility as we strive to refine our drop-off and pick-up arrangements. When the children line up in the playground in the morning at 8.40am, we would ask you to say your goodbyes and then leave, as this helps staff to get children to their learning promptly.

Year 5 and 6 are now leaving via the playground at the end of the day. Please remember to make your way round to the playground via the side gate rather than cutting through the school via the office. We will continue to review our safeguarding practices.

A time to read

In order to give time to the joy of 'getting lost in a book', all classes are sharing a story or novel at the end of the day. Some of the books shared are listed below.

We will share more in future newsletters:

*Felix Class – Charlie and the Chocolate Factory –
Roald Dahl*

Moses Class – The Creakers – Tom Fletcher

O'Sullivan Class – The Magic Finger – Roald Dahl

Weir Class – War Horse – Michael Morpurgo

*Yr 4 – The Boy who Biked the World -Alistair
Humphreys*

*Adlington Class -George's Marvellous Medicine –
Roald Dahl*

Grey-Thompson Class – Daily Picture Books

Nursery and Reception – Daily Picture Books

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 16th 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.

Correct clothing for PE

Please remember that earrings should not be worn during PE. This is to keep children safe and ensure that they can take part fully.

House Points

Our Year Six House Captains have started their roles with professionalism and commitment. We hope to have more house events throughout the year.

Topaz – 178

Sapphire - 124

Ruby – 134

Emerald - 129