



Ellingham Primary School

Tuesday 14th January

Happy New Year

Welcome back to all our friends and families. Our children have started the new year committed to their learning and talking positively about what they hope to achieve as learners. Last week, all children from Year One upwards wrote about their hopes and dreams for the new academic year. It is wonderful to read about what our children hope to achieve and the steps they are going to take in order to realise their ambitions. Over the next few weeks in assembly, we are going to be focusing on one value at a time and thinking about how we can 'embody' that value throughout the week. Talk to your children about this and see what kind of examples they give you! Our values are written below to support this. This promises to be a busy and productive term. We will shortly be holding a Parents and Carers' forum which everyone is invited to share their thoughts and ideas about Ellingham. We are committed to giving your children the best schooling experience possible and your views are important in order for us to achieve this. Here's to a positive 2020!

Ellingham Values:

Determination Equality Courage Inspiration Friendship Excellence Respect

Curriculum Updates

Maths:

We are in the process of introducing a whole-school maths scheme called Power Maths. This will ensure access to research-driven teaching and learning methods which are recommended by the Department for education. Power Maths follows the White Rose Maths scheme which is a highly respected teaching model adopted by a significant number of schools across England. Once this is embedded, we will offer a parents and carers' workshop to explore the scheme more deeply.

English:

For this half term, all classes from Year 2 upwards are basing their learning on a very engaging, exceptionally high quality language-rich text with beautiful illustrations, based on a fairytale theme. The title of the book will be revealed to children as the lessons unfold to keep them intrigued and excited to keep on reading. We are sure that this text will inspire and engage our readers and writers of all ages!

Homework:

We want homework to be effective in supporting children's learning and also balanced so that they can enjoy their time at home. Having reviewed our approach against the research and Ellingham children's learning priorities, the focus will be on the core skills of reading, spelling and mental maths strategies in all year groups. Fluency in these areas frees children up to concentrate on comprehending and writing at a higher level, or tackling more complex maths challenges. As we are preparing Year 6 for secondary school, there will be additional homework set. You will see on Wednesday that although the homework format remains unchanged, we have streamlined the document to address these areas.

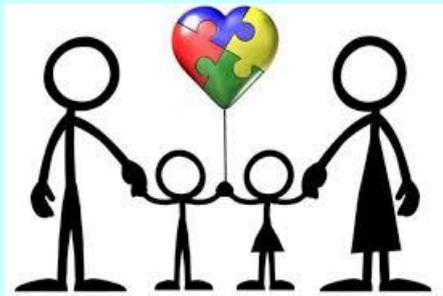
Computing:

Online safety is a very important aspect of our computing curriculum and parental support with this helps our children to understand the importance of boundaries in order to keep them safe. Please check your emails for a fantastic resource to help you keep your children safe online by setting parental restrictions on devices, tablets and phones. The attachment will contain QR codes which you simply screenshot in order to manage your devices.

Curriculum Topics and Focus For this Term:

Don't forget that our website has details of all learning in all subjects across all year groups. Here you can see what topics your children are exploring this term and also see where their learning fits into the whole-school curriculum.

ASD Parent Support Group



Wednesday 5th February 2020

**10.30am to 12 noon Grand Avenue Primary
and Nursery School Surbiton, KT5 9HU**

During this session you will have the opportunity to make visuals to use at home for your child. I will have laminators, Velcro and printed symbols! Please let me know if you are able to come.

Thank you, Jane Pidduck

(e-mail jpiddle2@grandavenue.kingston.sch.uk)

Quick Notices and Polite Reminders



Tissue request:

We would be grateful if children could bring in a box of tissues for their classroom. Thank you.

Remote-Control Toy Plea

If you have any remote-controlled toys which are no longer played with, we would love to give them a home. Please hand any donations into the school office. Thank you for your support.

Misplaced Jumpers and Packed Lunch Boxes

Please have a look through bags and check clothes labels to see if your child may have inadvertently taken home items which belong to someone else. Mix-ups with clothes and lunch boxes happen frequently, so please help us to get items back to where they belong by checking what you have at home! Thank you.

Calendar

Mon 13th Jan After school clubs start
Thurs 16th Jan School Nurse visiting Yr 6
Tues 21st Jan School Nurse visiting Yr 5
Thurs 23rd Jan School Nurse visiting Yr 6
Tues 28th Jan School Nurse visiting Yr 5
Thurs 30th Jan Parent / Carers' Forum 9.00am
Wed 5th Feb ASD Parent Support Group, Grand Avenue Primary, 10.30am-12.00
W/B Mon 17th Feb Half Term Holiday
Mon 24th Feb Term Commences

Attendance Reminder

Before the holiday, we had a significant number of children who didn't attend school. Whilst we understand that the Winter term often brings with it coughs, colds and nasty viruses, please can we remind families that attending school each day is extremely important. Each week during our Friday Celebration assembly, the class with the highest percentage of attendance across the week wins *Ellie the Owl*.

If your child is too unwell to attend school, please report this absence to the school office before 9am. Thank you for your continued support with this.

House Points

Topaz – 114

Sapphire - 104

Ruby – 70

Emerald - 13