

Ellwood Community Primary School

Believe, Achieve, Belong

Telephone: 01594 833232
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Our value this term is: Kindness

May 18th 2023

Weekly Attendance

Our aim is to have our weekly attendance above 97% in line with the Local Authority's expectation. This week, our **whole school attendance was 97.7%**

Well done to Beech class for getting 100% attendance this week with Sycamore and Chestnut just missing out. Lets keep up this great work!

Please remember to report a child's absence before 9.30 a.m, ideally before the start of school by either phoning the school on 01594 833232 or emailing admin@ellwood.gloucs.sch.uk

Thank you.

Oak	95.6%
Chestnut	97.4%
Beech	100%
Sycamore	99.6%
Willow	95.3%

KS 1 SATS - Well done to all year 2 children for working incredibly hard this week with their end of KS1 SATS testing.

Thank you to Miss Chisman for all of her hard work and to Mrs Rees and Mrs Olley for supporting Miss Chisman and the children this year. They have worked incredibly hard to prepare the children for year 3 when they move on to the KS2 national curriculum.

WELL DONE!

Staffing and class allocation for September. As the end of the year is approaching, we will be looking at the staffing structure and class allocation for September in the next few months. As you are aware Ellwood School is a 5 class school but due to the good leadership and financial management of the school, we have been able to provide 7 classes in the morning to teach the children in very small discrete year groups. We are confident, at the moment, that we should be able to sustain this in September. Although, we cannot guarantee how many more years we are able to sustain this due to financial constraints on schools.

Please be reminded that 7 classes in the morning is really a luxury and is not the norm. As you know, year 2 and year 5 are split in the afternoons. The younger year 2's remain in Chestnut class and the older Year 2's move across into Beech class. The younger Year 5's remain in Sycamore and the older year 5's move across to Willow. The allocation of children to classes is not negotiable and the decision is final. Class allocations will be out later in June in preparation for transition days and pupils will then be made aware of their new class teacher for September and have the chance to meet them.

After half term - we have lots of lovely activities planned for the children after half term and we will keep you up to date with all the exciting things we have planned.

Whole school trip - We have our whole school trip to Wild Place on **11th July**, please remember to give permission and make payment on parent pay. You are able to pay in 2 instalments of £5 if it is easier however, we do need everyone to contribute to ensure the trip can go ahead. We will review the permission and the payment after half term to see if everyone has contributed and then we can cancel or confirm and finalise the booking.

Viney Hill - year 4 - there are still payments outstanding and unfortunately this trip will not be able to go ahead if all parents do not contribute. Please make payment on parent pay asap. We are unable to subsidise anymore for this trip unfortunately as we are covering the cost of the activities and are asking parents to contribute towards the cost of the coach. We will review the payments made after half term and see if this trip is also able to go ahead.

Sporting celebrations- A big well done to Izzy, Isabella, Riley and Zac who competed in the School Games MTB competition on Tuesday.....and won!! Just look at those amazing results! Well done to all of you, we are so proud!

1st	Ellwood	14.54.73
2nd	Tutshill	15.52.21
3rd	Yorkley	15.59.16
4th	Lydney	16.04.69
5th	St Briavels	16.19.11
6th	Primrose Hill	16.19.30
7th	Blakeney	17.01.23
8th	Pillowell	18.52.87



'Seed Swap' after school each Friday in May. Bring along any unwanted seeds or just take seeds that you will grow. We have a number of climbing French beans that we harvested in the Autumn that you are welcome to and now is the time to get sowing.



Also, the **plant stall** will be at the front of the school soon which raises money to fund the garden.

If you have any spare seedlings or plants please leave them at the front of the school or see Mrs Rees.



Thank you



Picture News

Each week classes look at a 'Weekly Picture News' story. Let's have a look at this week's story...



Should all animals be treated equally?

Let's look at this week's story

Blackpool Zoo is looking to hire a team of people in an attempt to scare away nuisance seagulls - by dressing them in bird costumes. Blackpool Zoo says the birds have been persistently stealing food from visitors and animal enclosures. The role, which would be housed within the Zoo's Visitor Services team, will involve someone dressing up as an eagle and keeping seagulls away from the main visitor dining areas.

Learn more about this week's story [here](#). Watch this week's useful video [here](#).

This week's story looks at events related to ...



Reflection

Whilst all animals should be treated with respect, there may be times when measures need to be put in place to ensure safety for all.



Mutual Respect and Tolerance

Seagulls are known for stealing food and can be a nuisance! Not everyone will feel this way. We can show respect to people who have different beliefs and opinions.

Protected Characteristics

A person's religion or belief can impact their regard for certain animals. This should never cause us to be treated unfairly.



UN Rights of a Child

We have the right to live in a clean and safe environment. Sometimes animals may damage our clean and safe environment, so measures need to be put in place to prevent this.



Useful vocabulary

Deterring

Preventing or discouraging someone or something. Can you come up with any alternative ideas for deterring seagulls?

Enclosure

An area of land surrounded by a wall or fence and that is used for a particular purpose. Blackpool Zoo says the birds have been persistently stealing food from visitors and animal enclosures.

Hire

Employ someone or pay them to do a particular job. Blackpool Zoo is looking to hire a team of people in an attempt to scare away nuisance seagulls.

Inconvenience

Something that causes a problem or difficulty. Discuss how different animals may cause different inconveniences.

Nuisance

Something or someone that annoys you or causes trouble for you. Have you ever found them a nuisance?

Persistently

Happening repeatedly or for a long time. Blackpool Zoo says the birds have been persistently stealing food from visitors and animal enclosures.

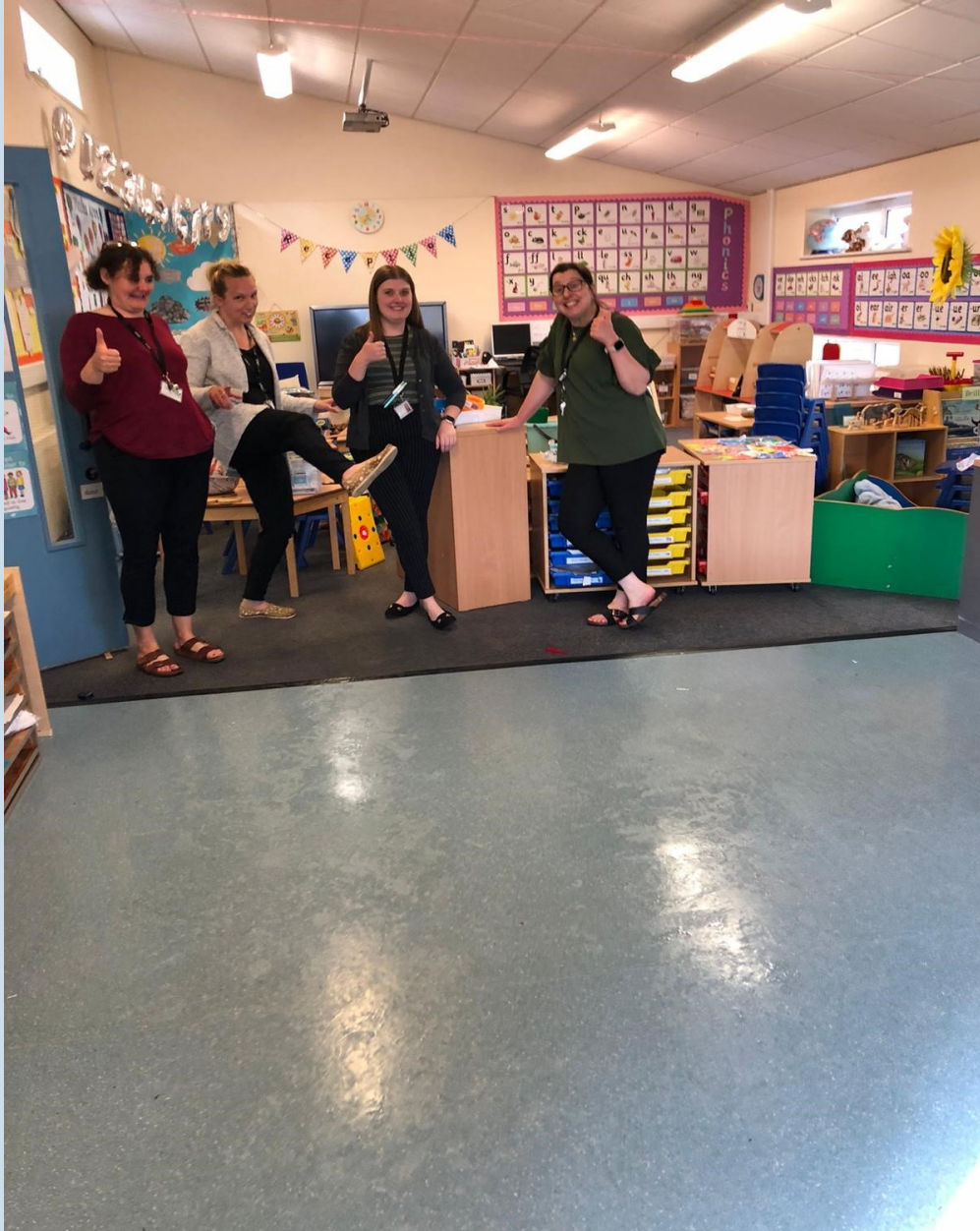


Celebrations - Well done to Izzy and Esmee who got through to the K'nex final that was held at The Innovation Centre!

Thank you to Izzy's mum for these photos of the girls exploring the centre!



The joys and never ending job description of being a teacher!



Thank you to staff for rescuing Oak class this week after we had a leak from a pipe causing a flood!

They are multi talented bunch!

Reminders

Chestnut Class - Reminder to return the below form which has previously been sent home.

As part of our Geography topic, we are holding an Africa Day on Friday 26th May during which the children will learn about life in Kenya.

As part of this cultural experience, we would like to give the children Kenyan names, from the Luo community. Many African community groups name their children according to the time of day when they were born, or if there was an event taking place during their birth e.g. a storm, harvest time etc. Please could you complete the slip below and send back to school so that we can give the children a Luo name for the day.

Please complete this information form and return it to school with your child.

Name of Child:

Time of day at which they were born:

Was there any unusual event taking place during their birth:

Beech class will also have this opportunity after May half term.

Thank you.

School disco - replies are needed by **tomorrow 19th May!!**

Fundraising Friday - Ice pops will be on sale **tomorrow for 25p!**

Parent pay - Please process any outstanding balances for trips asap so that we can confirm whether or not the planned trips can go ahead.

Diary Dates

MAY

- Thursday 18th May - KS1 SATS
- Fri 19th May - Manor Adventure Y6
Mon 22nd May
- Thursday 25th May - School disco (5pm-6pm Oak, Chestnut & Beech.
6:15pm - 7:15pm Sycamore & Willow)
- Friday 26th May - Non school uniform for raffle tombola prizes
for summer fair
- Monday 29th May - HALF TERM
Friday 2nd June

JUNE

- Monday 5th June - INSET DAY
- W/C Mon 12th June - Year 1 phonics screening
- Year 4 multiplication check
- Friday 16th June - Pyjamarama day (wear pjs into school to donate an
optional 50p to books trust)
- Wed 21st June - Sports day 1:15pm - 3:15pm
- Friday 23rd June - Non-uniform day in exchange for chocolate
donations for the school fair