

# Ellwood Community Primary School

*BELIEVE, ACHIEVE, BELONG*

November 10th 2022



Parents/Carers,

We are at the end of week 2 already and it feels as though Christmas is just around the corner. We have some lovely learning activities planned for the rest of this term for the children which I'm sure they will all enjoy.

We are proud to announce that we have 16 new laptops and a new laptop trolley. This now gives us a fully working, class set of computers to be used in classes to support other lessons/subjects and to help teach our computing curriculum. We did have a class set, but some were quite old and a bit prehistoric! Thank you to the governors for approving the funding for this, it will make such a difference!

Our next task is to ensure we can get linked up to gigaclear ASAP, as our internet speed is not good and never has been. We hope we can get connected soon. It is lovely being in the forest but it also has a few technical disadvantages!

Our new computing lead is Miss Hek and she is working closely with our external ICT technicians to continue to improve our computing curriculum. If you would like to know more about our computing curriculum, please see the school website.

## 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 98.7% which is over our target of 97% so well done everyone!

We also have 3 classes this week with 100% attendance which is amazing! Well done, Oak, Chestnut and Willow class.

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](mailto:admin@ellwood.gloucs.sch.uk)

Thank you.

Oak	100%
Chestnut	100%
Beech	98.3%
Sycamore	95.8%
Willow	100%

We are reviewing the attendance again over the next few weeks and children with under 90% will be contacted to discuss their child's attendance.

Before half term we had a significant number of pupils who were classed as having a persistent absence. Some children had attendance as low as 75 - 80%. Obviously this cannot continue and we are in touch with the local authority. It could be that these families require external support from the inclusion team and early help.

If your child is well enough to attend school, please send them to school and we can inform you if they become unwell throughout the day. Please don't send children in for 48 hours after sickness or diarrhea.

Thank you to all the parents who are ensuring their child/ren attend school and are on time.

Having good attendance helps children to build resilience, make academic and social progress and prepares them for secondary school and work in the future.

## School Values

This term's school value is friendship. Friends can help you celebrate good times and provide support during bad times. Friends increase your sense of belonging and purpose and have the power to encourage you to be the very best version of yourself. At Ellwood we know how important healthy friendships can be to a young person's life and strive to encourage and educate our children on how to be a good friend. We look forward to seeing all the children who achieve a school value certificate this term.



## Sports Leaders

Say hello to our Sports Leaders! We are very lucky to have such organised and dedicated leaders who are taking their role very seriously! The girls have been working hard to promote **kindness** and **friendship** by teaching younger children playground games. They are showing **responsibility** by organising the play time shed and the games they are teaching the children. Well done girls!



## School Council

The School council have been chosen for this academic year and are listed below. We have had a couple of meetings and decided on some ideas that we want to carry out throughout the year.

Year 6- Oscar and Esme  
Year 5- Abbie Grace and Edith  
Year 4- Gavin and Ruby W  
Year 3- James and Archie  
Year 2- Mya  
Year 1- Freddie and Lucas

On the week of the 14<sup>th</sup> November, we are raising money for Children in Need. Children from school council will be holding a basketball shoot out competition. This will run for KS1 and KS2 at break times. 50p a try and this will run Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday for one final "shot" at a prize!



# Fire Safety

In the lead up to bonfire night, the whole school learnt about fire safety. Years 4, 5 and 6 took part in the national Resus Ranger's Fireworks Safety Assembly. EYFS and years 1, 2 and 3, learnt about fire safety rules around fireworks, bonfires and sparklers. EYFS then applied their knowledge to safely enjoy a sparkler in their outside area!



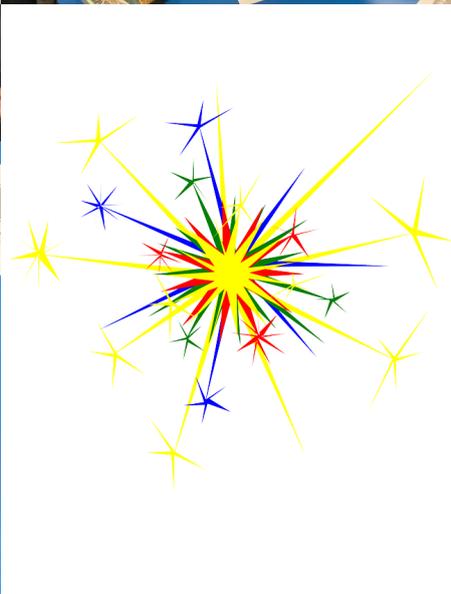
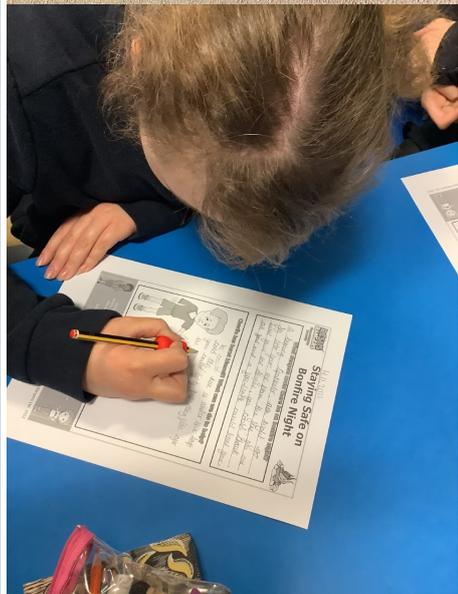
Bonfire Night Safety

- Never throw fireworks.
- Keep pets indoors.
- Always wear gloves with sparklers.
- Keep fireworks in a closed box.
- Stand well back.
- Never go back to a lit firework.

On Bonfire Night I see...

From beginning to show accuracy and care when drawing 03.11.22

National Firewatch National Firewatch



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National Firewatch National Firewatch



## Eco Council

Eco Council are getting together after school on the Fridays in November to get things sorted on our action plan.

We started by replanting the tree from the front of the school into the ground as it hadn't coped well with the drought this summer. We also made a new planter for the front of the school.

Well done to the Eco Council for organising the rubbish so that it can be recycled properly and thank you to all the children for helping.

Mrs Rees



We'll be wearing odd socks with the **Anti-Bullying Alliance** and their patrons, **Andy and the Odd Socks**, on **Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November** for **Odd Socks Day**. Will you?

**Odd Socks Day** 



**#AntiBullyingWeek**  
**#OddSocksDay**



### **Children in need - Friday 18th November**

Children are invited to wear PJ's on this day and we will have limited merchandise on sale after school.



## Rotary Shoebox Scheme

Boxes are available now to collect from reception, or please let us know if you would like one sent home with your child. Historically we have always taken part in the shoebox appeal and are so grateful to all of our generous parents/carers for supporting it. You can choose whether to send your box to a boy or a girl as well as the age. The box requires £2 to be taped to the front of it and children can decorate the boxes at home if they wish

*Spreading a Little Happiness*  
All Year  
Not just at Christmas



Sending boxes full of gifts to children, teenagers, families, and even new babies, who are disadvantaged in Eastern Europe



**Rotary Shoebox Scheme**

This Shoebox has been given by: \_\_\_\_\_

Please tick one of the following boxes:

<input type="checkbox"/> CHILD	<input type="checkbox"/> BOY
<input type="checkbox"/> TEENAGER	<input type="checkbox"/> GIRL
<input type="checkbox"/> BABY (0 - 1)	AGE:- _____
<input type="checkbox"/> HOUSEHOLD	

Please DO NOT include alcohol, weapons or anything illegal

Rotary Great Britain & Ireland  
Spreading a Little Happiness  
www.rotaryshoebox.org

## Rotary Shoebox Scheme



[www.rotaryshoebox.org](http://www.rotaryshoebox.org)

Registered UK Charity 1091507

Supported by  
**Rotary**  
Great Britain & Ireland



## Goodrich Castle

Chestnut and Beech visited Goodrich Castle. The children dressed up as Pages and had the role of checking if the castle was safe and clean. On our tour we identified key features of the castles and discussed how the soldiers used the arrow slits. We discussed that the castle is on a hill and near a river which makes it harder to attack. We discussed how Pages would have helped cook and clean in the castle and serve the Lord and Lady. We had such a fantastic day!





## *Diary Dates*

### **NOVEMBER**

- Monday 14th November - Odd socks day - Anti-bullying week
- Thursday 17th November - Ashmolean Museum (Sycamore & Willow) 8:15 leave 4:15 return
- Friday 18th November - Children In Need - Children can wear PJ's for a £1 donation and limited items on sale after school
- Wednesday 23rd November - No pens day
- Monday 28th November - Rotary Shoeboxes returned to school

### **DECEMBER**

- Thursday 1st December - Christmas fayre - Details to follow
- Tuesday 6th December - Christmas Performance - KS1 - R, Y1, Y2 & Y3
- Monday 12th December - Week commencing 12th Dec will be our Christmas shopping event!
- Wednesday 14th December - Christmas dinner day & Christmas jumper day
- Thursday 15th December - Whole school Panto trip to Courtyard Theatre Hereford