



Last Friday, we were very happy to welcome Jayamini de Silva back into school for a Multi Faith Art day. The children created some lovely items.

The younger children were delighted to meet Jammi for the first time and made Rangoli patterns and Hannukah menorah. The older children made a tiled canvas for their classroom, and origami turbans. Pictures can be seen on our twitter feed.

We continue to use our school PTA Facebook page as the quickest way to relay information to parents. We try to answer questions on the same day and have found it useful for reminders, or clarifying timings for homework etc.

Newsletters will continue to be sent through PMX Parentmail. If anyone needs to speak to a teacher, or has any concerns, this can be dealt with quickly through Kathy. Mrs Lakey will continue to post regular updates on our Facebook page so please remember to look out for them. The more you interact with our page the more likely you are to get the alerts in your feed.

If you want to contact the teachers directly, please use their email addresses, not Facebook messenger.

Splash Class (Nursery/Reception):	karen.swinbank@ellingham.northumberland.sch.uk
Space Base (Y1 and 2)	chloe.baines@ellingham.northumberland.sch.uk
Earth Works (Y3 and 4)	zoe.williams@ellingham.northumberland.sch.uk
Time Zone (Y5 and 6)	jill.dodds@ellingham.northumberland.sch.uk
Earth Works/Time Zone	diane.lakey@ellingham.northumberland.sch.uk

Kathy, is still contactable through Messenger but may not answer on a Sunday night or before she gets up in the morning!

Important update re school day timings:

In order to increase our school week to 32.5 hours, in line with new Government legislation, (from the summer term) our school day will begin at 8.45am and end at 3.15pm. This is possible from the summer term, as the school transport contracts are being reissued then. In order to make it easier for families of nursery aged pupils, we will not charge for this additional time and pick-up/drop-off will match that of older pupils. After School clubs will continue until 4.15pm.

Lunch costs this term will be as follows:



For Y3, Y4 and Early Years the cost is £2.30 per day; £11.50 per week; £69.00 for the first half of the term; £57.50 for the second half and £126.50 for the whole term.

For Y5 and Y6, the cost is £2.60 per day; £13.00 per week; £78.00 for the first half of the term; £65.00 for the second half and £143.00 for the whole term.

Payments can be made over the phone on a Tuesday, after 9.30 am, or a cheque sent at any time.

We are continuing to take cash, but if at all possible, we would prefer a cheque or a telephone payment. Cash needs to be sent in to school on a Monday morning, in a clearly marked envelope, detailing what you are paying.

Always bring a coat. Don't forget swimming on Friday for Earthworks. Please stay away from school for 48 hours if you have been sick or have diarrhoea.

Spring 2023 Newsletter 1



Milk this term, will be charged retrospectively at the end of the term. Any child who paid for milk last term will be charged again this term, unless you have spoken to Kathy

Y3 - 4 are swimming this term. There are a total of 11 swimming lessons this term at a cost of £4.00 per session, £44.00 for the term.



We continue to run a well-attended After School club each night until 4.00pm. There are still spaces available for all the clubs. It is also usually possible to arrange short notice, ad hoc sessions if you suddenly need additional child care. Sports clubs cost £2.50 an hour (subsidised with our government PE grant), Music, Forest Craft and Film club £5.00 an hour. Please speak to Kathy if you would like more information. Invoices for ASC will be sent out shortly.

On Sunday 29th January, we will be planting trees at school. Come along and help us create a wonderful new woodland space for your children, 11am - 3.00pm. Please come and help us there will be free food and drink.



On Thursday 2nd March, it is World Book day and we are asking the children to dress up as a book character, if they would like to.

We are celebrating Red Nose Day on Friday 17th March. We plan to have Red Noses for sale prior to the date and we will be holding a non-uniform day and collecting donations. Wear something red, if you have it, and take part in some of the challenges that will be held in school. We will let you know when Red Noses are available.

As mentioned on Facebook, we now have a Clothes Bank in school. You can donate clothes, shoes (pairs), hats, belts, jewellery etc. Everything needs to be put in a bag and dropped into the bin. This is a very easy way to fundraise for school and look after our planet at the same time. Since the introduction of the Clothes Bank we have raised over £200.

It seems likely that the weather will remain very cold. Please make sure your child has a warm waterproof coat, hat and gloves in school. In the event of school bad weather closure, information will be sent by text, and will be on the school and NCC website, Radio Newcastle and the school Facebook page.

Attached to this news letter you will find details about Newcastle United football sessions through half term. If you would to book these please use this link

[NUFC](#)

The first Alnwick Story Fest will take place 24th-26th February. There are events for children and adults. The information is attached or check out their website. [Alnwick Story Fest](#)

There is now an App available for our website making it easier to view on a mobile phone.

Search for "eSchools Lite" in the **App Store (Apple)** or **Google Play (Android)** or use the handy QR code and download for **FREE!** **Make sure you are downloading the correct schools' website! There are quite a few similar named schools.**

Once you put Ellingham into the search, ours is the third one down and says Ellingham C of E Aided Primary School, Chathill, NE67 5ET



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