

Autumn Term 2021 Newsletter 1



Message from Mrs Lakey:

Thanks to everyone for helping us get off to such a happy, safe start to the new school year.

There is still a Covid-19 section on the school website where I will put updated risk assessments and links to what to do if you or your child / children have symptoms. Just click on 'Covid-19' on the top banner to access the links.

Kathy will continue to produce these regular newsletters and I will update you via my Headteacher blogs. Effective communication routes will enable us all to keep as safe and well as possible.

Please check for PMX Parentmail emails. All newsletters and important texts are sent out via this method. We do not have access to your information, so you must remember to keep it up to date. Our Facebook page is used for regular reminders and links to our web site.

Queries can be dealt with quickly by Kathy in the office via phone/email, or an appointment can be made if you would like to see a teacher. We are always happy to help.

We look forward to welcoming you to our open evening next Tuesday, 3.10-5.15pm

Our Creative Curriculum is split into topics and will be as follows

Splash (EYFS) Miraculously Made
Space Base (Y1/2) Coming and Going
Earth Works (Y3/4) Earth Matters
Timezone (Y5/6) Living Locally

More detailed information is in the curriculum section of our website.

Well done to the children who completed Brenda's Reading Challenge over the summer. Prizes have now been awarded.

Please remember we start school at 8.55am; the door will lock and registers will close at 9.00am and the first lesson will start then. Please don't bring children before 8.40am, as staff will not be able to supervise them.

We don't allow mobile phones in school. If your child needs to bring in their phone, to receive an important message, they must leave it in the school office. We are always happy to pass on messages and this would be a better option. Please don't allow the children to bring in Fitbits, or other expensive items, as we cannot be held responsible for their safe keeping. Smart watches with cameras are also not allowed in school, for e-safety reasons.

All money needs to be sent in to school on a Monday morning in a clearly marked envelope detailing what you are paying – please do not send in loose cash with a child who has just been told 'give it to Kathy', or cheques that have no indication of what they are paying! All cheques, unless advised otherwise, need to be payable to Northumberland County Council.

You are able to pay over the phone with your credit or debit card. This facility is only available on a Tuesday. During the current circumstances, if it is possible to pay by cheque this would limit the amount of money that has to be handled by the office.

We have signed up to the Morrisons – 'It's Good to Grow' scheme which will enable us to purchase free gardening equipment. Up until 24th October, if you download the MyMorrisons app and head to the It's Good to Grow section you can nominate our school to donate your tokens to. When searching for our school you have to use **Ellingham CE Primary School** - there are quite a lot of similar schools!



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R – Y2 continue to have free school meals as part of the government initiative.

Lunch costs this term are £2.30 per day for Y3/4 and Nursery and, £2.60 per day for Y5 and 6 (this includes a piece of fruit at break time)

For Y3, Y4 and Early Years, the cost is £11.50 per week. £75.90 for the first half of the term, £78.20 for the second half and £154.10 for the whole term.

For Y5 and Y6, the cost is £13.00 per week. £85.80 for the first half of the term, £88.40 for the second half and £174.20 for the whole term.



Milk will be charged at the end of the term retrospectively. Milk remains free for all the children who are under 5 for the whole term and is available to all children who have school lunch, as an alternative to water.

Unfortunately, we are unable to provide a menu for this term. Our suppliers are reporting shortages and Josie has to cook with the available ingredients, not necessarily the planned menu. We will of course continue to provide lovely home cooked meals.

For those children bringing a packed lunch from home, please remember we have Healthy School status. Please try and make the lunch as healthy and varied as possible. No fried snacks, fizzy drinks or sweets/chocolate will be allowed. Please get in touch if you are not sure what you can send.

WE ARE A NUT FREE SCHOOL and also have a child in Key Stage 2 with a severe egg allergy.

Please send your child with a clean, named water bottle every day.

Y5/6 Parents have been sent information about a residential trip. Please ensure the slip is sent back by Monday.

Thank you for sending your children in with PE kits. Cricket and Supastrikers football have got off to a great start and there are still a few places for the After School Clubs.

Outdoor craft for KS2 , after school starts this Thursday – there are still a few places.

If you are parking at school in the back car park, please do not park, at any time of the day, where the yellow school transport signs are displayed. (Nearest to the small gate, and the hedge that is adjacent). These spaces are to enable school transport to operate safely. In the afternoon, once school transport has moved away, please can the parents in the back car park come into the front courtyard to collect your children. It is very difficult to see you behind the hedge!