



ELSLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL

learning, sharing, achieving and respecting

November 2018

NEWSLETTER

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We were all incredibly proud to host important guests for an official opening of our new buildings and enhanced facilities.

As you can see in the photos below, it is two years since the building work began. We were always clear that the decision to expand our school must not just provide additional school places but rather must improve the facilities and the overall quality of education for all of our children. With an enormous sense of pride, and gratitude and appreciation to the team of staff and governors who made this happen, we were able to celebrate the opening of the buildings, and to see the school flourishing through the process. All of this impacts positively on our current pupils, and will do for future pupils.

There are lots of exciting events during the next few weeks before the winter holidays. I hope you can join us for some of them.
Raphael Moss, Headteacher

Attendance /Punctuality All year groups from Reception to Year 6 have the same start time of **8:55am** with soft start commencing at **8:45am**, except on Wednesday mornings. If your child is late please bring them to the office and sign them in the late book. If your child is unwell and not attending, please email absence@elsley.brent.sch.uk or telephone 0208 902 8003.

Persistent Absence is attendance below 90%. This is equivalent to half-a-day missed every week or 4 whole weeks missed in year. Over a 5 year period, your child would miss half a year. Pupils with less than 90% attendance may be referred to the Education Welfare Service.

Holidays during term time are not permitted. In exceptional circumstances, leave may be permitted by submitting a form in advance. **The full attendance policy is on our website.**

School Lunches

Cooked fresh on site every day, by Chef Lucia and her Harrison Catering team.

HARRISON
food with thought

The meals are excellent. They meet all the healthy standards as well as being very tasty. All Infant children receive a Free School Meal. You still need to complete an application form if you have not already done so - please visit the school office for a form.

For KS2 children, the daily price is just **£2.30 PER DAY.**

*** POWERFUL PARENTING ***

Bond in the boat! Sit on the floor with your child between your legs looking at you. Join hands, make eye contact and sing Row, Row, Row your Boat! Rock back and forth. Sing it fast, slow or in silly voices! Enjoy laughing and bonding together.

Keeping our children safe

Mr Moss is the designated lead for safeguarding. All of our assistant and deputy headteachers are trained to the same high standard as the designated lead. All our staff have regular safeguarding training and refreshers to ensure our children are safe and well-cared for. Please raise any concerns with a member of staff.



BERKHAMSTED BLOCK OFFICIAL OPENING



In November 2016, the builders began construction at Elsley. Exactly two years on, we welcomed parents and special community guests to officially open our new building, the Berkhamsted Block, as well as our renovated areas in our exciting building.

After an introduction and school tour lead by Mr Moss and other school leaders, we welcomed the Mayor of Brent, Cllr. Arshad Mahmood to officially open our computing suite. Teach First founder, Brett Wigdortz opened our staffroom and *Rastamouse* author, Michael De Souza, opened our library.

We also welcomed back previous headteacher, Nicola Arundell, who prepared a time capsule along with Mr Moss.



Nursery Spaces Elsley Primary is a very popular school with waiting lists in most year groups. However, we do have spaces in our Nursery. If your child was born between September 1st 2014 and August 31st 2015, they can start in the Nursery. **Children who attend Elsley Nursery achieve higher at the end of Reception, than those who start the following year.**



ZEEK INSPIRES FITNESS

International long jumper Ezekiel Ewulo inspired Elsley children with a fantastic assembly followed by training sessions for KS2. Children also raised over £200 for the charity, Sports For Champions.



December

Dates for your Diary

4th - EY & YR 1 Winter Disco (3:30)

6th - YRS 2 & 3 Winter Disco (3:30)

7th - Wizard Theatre production

10th - Rocksteady Concert @ 9:15am

11th - KS2 Music Concert (Yr 3 & 4 @ 9:30am) (Yr 5 & 6 @ 2:30pm)

11th - YRS 4, 5 & 6 Winter Disco (3:30)

19th - Class Parties

20th - Year 1 Nativity Assembly @ 9:30am

20th - End of Autumn Term. School closes at 1:30pm

January

7th - Staff training (school closed for pupils)

8th - Spring term starts for pupils



HEALTH & WELL-BEING WEEK

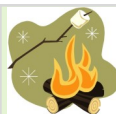
The week of 19th November was Health & Well-Being week. Activities across the school included an assembly, a free healthy breakfast hosted by our well-being team and a Health & Well-Being fair after school on Thursday. Thank you to all the parents who attended the fair. Community representatives included Impact Dance, an oral hygienist from Wembley Centre for Health, local charity Sufra and a yoga instructor from Brent Community Learning. Elsley representatives included Eco Club who were giving out samples of vegetables grown in the school's vegetable beds by the pupils and Mr Fraser, who was handing out online safety posters to parents.



PARENT/TEACHER CONSULTATION DAY

Thank you to all of our parents who met with their child's teacher this month.

Meeting your child's teacher is important as it strengthens communication between school and home and you can also find out how best to support your child at home.



KEY STAGE 1 EXTENDED DAYS

At the end of November, Year 1 & 2 had consecutive extended days. Starting at 3:30, Year 1's 'Dark' extended day activities included toasting marshmallows on a bonfire, a picnic in the dark, making silhouette pictures and an exciting night time treasure hunt.

Year 2 had a 'Superhero' themed extended day. The children dressed up as their favourite heroes and took part in activities that included mask and badge making, word searches, superhero mission cards and a rescue mission! The evening ended with a feast fit for a hero!



CHOOSE RESPECT - ANTI-BULLYING WEEK



The week of 12th November was Anti-Bullying Week at Elsley. Children had an assembly which highlighted the importance of kindness and respect towards each other. Children then continued their learning in class during their PSHE activities. This included creating posters and writing poems. Staff and pupils also raised awareness by wearing odd socks.

A VALIANT EFFORT

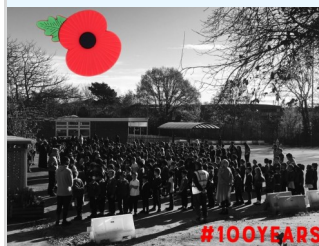
Year 6 boys took on Robert Southwell at Hendon FC on November 5th.

Throughout the match the boys tried their best, making some important tackles, learning to mark attackers and passing with purpose.

Our best chance on goal came in the last minute, but it wasn't to be. Despite losing 7-0, the boys learned a lot and look forward to their next fixture.



ELSLEY PRIMARY REMEMBERS 100 YEARS ON



Children and staff stood together in a minute's silence to remember all those who have fought and died in war. The silence took place just after 11am on the Monday after Remembrance Sunday. This year we also sold remembrance stationery.

STONE AGE DRAMA

As part of their history topic, Year 3 enjoyed a stone age drama workshop run by The Drama Hut.



FANTASTIC FLYING FILM

As part of their journeys topic, Year 4 enjoyed private cinema screening of *Flying The Nest*.



ANYONE FOR TENNIS?

Year 5 attended the ATP Tennis semi-finals at the O2 Arena. They enjoyed cheering on Jamie Murray in the doubles who progressed onto the finals.



Newsletter via email

If you would like the newsletter to be sent to you, in colour, via email, send a message to parents@elsley.brent.sch.uk with your name and the title 'newsletter.'

HAVE YOU GOT YOUR DISCO TICKETS YET?

Tuesday 4th Dec at 3:30 - 5:00 - EY & Yr 1 Disco

Thursday 6th Dec at 3:30 - 5:00 - Yrs 2 & 3 Disco

Tuesday 11th Dec at 3:30 - 5:30 - Yrs 4,5,6 Disco

*** FOOD * DRINKS * GLOW TOYS * GROTTOS ***