



# ELSLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL

learning, sharing, achieving and respecting

May 2019

**Life at Elsley** continues to give our children a wide range of experiences. The children continue to impress staff and visitors with their excellent behaviour and respect for all, whilst working hard and learning well.

It is clear that our children are happy and thriving at Elsley; this newsletter gives a taste of some of the exciting things which have recently taken place. We are especially proud to have the Elsley farm up and running giving a very different experience to typical Wembley or London life!

It's a delight to know that our increasing popularity means new children continue to flock to the school. We opened an extra Reception class to accommodate the extra demand and Nursery for next year already has a waiting list.

I wish you all a pleasant Half Term. **Raphael Moss, Headteacher**

**Attendance /Punctuality** Since last September, 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](mailto: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.**

**London Borough of Culture (LBOC) 2020** will be a year-long collaborative cultural programme, looking into our past, present and future. Delivered by a broad, genuine and lasting partnership, everyone in Brent will have the chance to shape what happens next.

**2020 Culture Network:** The Network was established to support local artists, creatives, arts and cultural organisations and venues to make the most of the London Borough of Culture opportunity and ensure it leaves a lasting legacy. **If you would like to volunteer or get involved, email [info@lboc2020.com](mailto:info@lboc2020.com)**

**Anthem:** Anthem is a new project that will work with local young people, poets, community music groups and the Football Association to write and perform a new Anthem for the borough. They would like to hear from community music groups who would like to be involved in the Anthem project. **If you are part of a choir or community music group, or would like to volunteer or get involved in some way, email [info@lboc2020.com](mailto:info@lboc2020.com)**

**Do you love Reggae?** The Reggae Project will explore and celebrate Brent's reggae heritage and legacy. They want to hear stories, memories and experiences with Reggae in Brent, whether they are from artists, fans, producers, DJs, sound systems, to create a digital reggae archive. **If you wish to share a story, host an interview session or volunteer to help record, collect and transcribe memories, email [info@lboc2020.com](mailto:info@lboc2020.com)**

**Open meeting: Tuesday 30 July 6-8pm Harlesden Library**

**Request for artists:** They will commission ten artists to work with libraries, neighbourhoods and communities to uncover, explore and celebrate our borough. The commissions will draw new visitors to the Museum. Deadline is 12th July. For more info visit: <https://www.lboc2020.com/opportunities>



## NEWSLETTER

Follow us on @ElsleyPrimary



Download our App  
Search 'School Jotter'

Download on the  
App Store

ANDROID APP ON  
Google play

There is clearly much uncertainty about **Britain exiting from the EU (Brexit)**. As a school we always try to ensure we are as prepared as we can be for all circumstances.

If you're an EU citizen, you and your family will be able to apply to the EU Settlement Scheme to continue living in the UK after 30 June 2021.

In any event, we respect and value all families, and will continue to do our best for all of our children.

**Keeping our children safe** Mr Moss is the **DSL (Designated Lead for Safeguarding)**. Our Family Support Worker, assistant and deputy headteachers are all trained to the same high standard as the DSL.

**NSPCC Helplines:**

Help for adults concerned about a child  
0808 800 5000

**Help for children and young people  
Call Childline on 0800 1111 - it's free**

### MEDICAL NEEDS and ALLERGIES:

**The safety and well being of all children is of utmost importance to us.** If your child has an allergy, medical condition or takes any medication, please ensure you inform us and complete the forms so that we can ensure your child is safe and well cared for.

*Thank you*



**Well done to all of our Year 2s & 6s on completing their SATs this half term.** We are so proud of them all! Thanks go to Elsley staff and Tesco in Brent Park for supporting the Year 6 breakfasts during SATs week.

### Dates for your Diary

|             |                                       |
|-------------|---------------------------------------|
| <b>May</b>  |                                       |
| 27th - 31st | Half Term                             |
| <b>June</b> |                                       |
| 19th        | Careers Day                           |
| 20th        | Year 4 Camping                        |
| 24th-26th   | Year 5 Residential                    |
| <b>July</b> |                                       |
| 4th         | Summer Talent Competition             |
| 5th         | Digital Learning Fair                 |
| 11th        | Year 6 Production                     |
| 12th        | PSA Summer Fair                       |
| 15th        | Year 6 Graduation                     |
| 16th-19th   | Year 6 Residential                    |
| 23rd        | Last day of Summer Term (1:30 finish) |

#### Sports Days

EYFS - Friday 5th July  
KS1 - Monday 8th July  
KS2 - Tuesday 9th July

#### Residentials

Remember to return your form for Year 4,5 & 6's residentials!  
Speak to Mr Wilke for more information.



## FLUFFY, FURRY AND FEATHERY FRIENDS



**This term the children (and staff!) have been excited to welcome our new animals to Elsley Primary School.** The Elsley Farm now consists

not only of lettuces, carrots and strawberries but also of three sheep, three guinea pigs and chicks from five different breeds that began hatching last week. The sheep are staying with us until the Summer holidays when they will go back to Nightingale Community Academy, the school farm in Wandsworth that is lending them to us. The chicks will also return there in the Summer until some return to our coop in September. Meanwhile the guinea pigs will be with us for the rest of their lives.



Having the animals and plants onsite has many benefits to the children of our school. Children are learning to understand the needs of living things, how to look after them and how to stay safe, while also learning about where their food comes from. Research shows that time spent outside with plants and animals is linked to improved physical and mental health and well-being as well as better social and emotional development. It also helps them to understand their responsibility to protect the environment, for example by not wasting energy or dropping litter.

On top of this, having the plants and animals provides a context for teamwork and problem solving using real-life scenarios. For example, Year 1 have been working out how much food each guinea pig gets if we share 30g equally between them and Year 4 have worked out how much they should charge to make a profit if they sell the vegetables that they grow. These life-skills that they are learning will be useful in many different ways going forward.

Finally, looking after the plants and animals, and watching them grow is fun. They are helping all of us, children and adults, to feel more peaceful walking around the school grounds, while at the same time giving the children new experiences. We hope that the Elsley Farm will continue to be a joy as it grows in the coming months and years, and that you will enjoy watching your children develop in confidence and competence through their interactions with it.



Huge thanks go to our wonderful Outdoor Learning team - Ms Codner, Mrs Paton, Mrs Yamout & Mrs Sayed.

## THANK YOU MRS IQBAL

**We bid a sad farewell to our wonderful family support worker, Mrs Iqbal, this term.** Mrs Iqbal has worked tirelessly with us for five years, supporting parents, children and staff across the whole school. We thank her for everything she has done and wish her all the best.



## DENTIST ASSEMBLY

**KS1 & KS2 enjoyed an interesting assembly presented by a dentist.** Children enjoyed learning about what goes on at a dental practice and the best ways to look after your teeth.



## NEW MEMBER OF STAFF

**Miss Rioux is a new teaching assistant.** After graduating from Kingston University with a degree in Business Management, she worked in events for 4 years before deciding to pursue her passion of working with young children. Miss Rioux has a keen interest in Maths and is passionate about making learning fun for children. She has previously worked with young children of various abilities and is keen to develop her skills to eventually train as a fully qualified teacher at Elsley Primary School. Miss Rioux really enjoys baking, travelling, as well as staying active. She is really excited to be part of Elsley.



## CHOIR HITS ALL THE RIGHT NOTES

**Mrs Davies took our wonderful choir to the penultimate heat of the Brent 2019 Choir of the Year.**



Our children all sang beautifully during the competition. The event was run by Brent Music Service who presented the Elsley Choir with a Gold Certificate.

## A BOOK FOR EVERY CHILD

**Our wonderful library manager, Mrs Bourke, used book tokens from World Book Day to purchase over 600 books for the children to take home.** This means every pupil from Nursery to Year 6 received a brand new FREE book!



## AFRICA THEME DAY

Last month, Year 1 children enjoyed dressing up, drumming, dancing, cooking and creating African themed art as part of their topic.

## 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](mailto:parents@elsley.brent.sch.uk) with your name and the title 'newsletter.'