



# ELSLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL

learning, sharing, achieving and respecting

November 2015

## NEWSLETTER

**Headteacher's message** Staff and children have been working hard and it's a pleasure to see all the good learning taking place.

Please do make sure that your child is reading every day at home - this makes such a difference to the progress they will make.

Earlier this month, we were saddened by the terrible events in Paris. In KS2, we revisited the **British Values** of Individual Liberty, Democracy, Rule of Law, and Respect for the faiths and beliefs of others. We saw the similarities with the French motto of Liberté, Egalité, Fraternité and being in Wembley we had all seen first-hand Wembley Arch lit up with the colours of *Le Tricolore*. We joined the rest of Europe in holding a minute's silence and reaffirmed our school value of **Respect** for everyone.

During November our school community demonstrated how we respect the beliefs of others. We had a Diwali assembly and celebrations; we also had an assembly focusing on Islam with the beautiful song of *salam alaykum* (peace be upon you). We look forward to marking Christmas with concerts and other end-of-term activities. Finally, I am often by the main gates before or after school so if you have anything you wish to discuss, please approach me or ask the office for an appointment.

**Attendance /Punctuality** School starts at **8.55am** for juniors and **9am** for infants. The gates are open from 8.45am. 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 inform the office by email [absence@elsley.brent.sch.uk](mailto:absence@elsley.brent.sch.uk) or from 8.30am, on 0208 902 8003.

**Attendance Policy** - Holidays may not be taken during term time. In exceptional circumstances you may need to ask for leave - please ask the office for a form.

### School Uniform

The full uniform list is available in the School Handbook or please ask at the school office.

At the moment the weather is dry but once it turns wetter, children may wear black boots or rain boots to travel to school. They should bring their school shoes to change into. Trainers are only for use during PE lessons and lunch playtimes.

For girls wearing a hijab/headscarf, these should only be plain white, black or green, to match the school colours.

When required, children should wear a sensible coat for wet/ cold weather.



### School Expansion

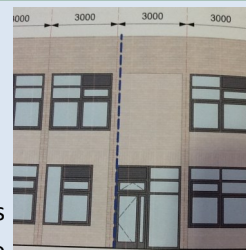
**- See the plans for the new school**

**Thursday December 3rd**

**Anytime between 3:30pm and 7pm**

This is an opportunity for parents and members of the public to see the plans and excellent new facilities in the new school.

You will have a chance to see the plans and your comments will help to finalise the design. After this a formal application for planning permission will be made. *Your views are really important so please do come.*



**SAFEGUARDING - Your children's safety is important to us... Mrs Sarkar is in charge of Safeguarding.**

We are disappointed that some parents have been parking and driving inconsiderately. Please allow yourself enough time to park safely and walk to the gates. It is unsafe and unacceptable for you to expect to drive up to the school gates. Police and Parking Attendants have recently given several penalty notices.

**Park Responsibly and Drive Safely.**

### Nursery Spaces

Elsley Primary is a very popular school with no spaces in any year group. However, we do have spaces in Nursery. If your child was born between September 1st 2011 and August 31st 2012, they can start in the Nursery. Evidence shows children attending Nursery achieve more highly than those who start in Reception. Please tell friends and relatives. Ask the office for details.

### End-of-Term Discos

#### Early Years and KS1

**Tuesday December 15th**

**3:15pm - 4:30pm**

£1 entry

Food and goodies for sale

#### KS2

**Thursday December 17th**

**3:30pm - 5:30pm**

£1 entry

Food and goodies for sale

### Governors' Corner From Ross Beaton, Chair of Governors

I became the Chair of Governors in October. In my day job, I'm a lawyer, and I got involved with Elsley in my spare time because I think that a good education is very important and I want to help make sure that all of the children at Elsley have the best education they can have.

This year we have several new governors. They will introduce themselves through the newsletter and the website. Some of you may already have met some of them at parents' evenings.

I look forward to hearing what parents and children think of the school, which things you are proud of and which things you think we need to make better. You can always get in touch with me by giving the school reception a note to pass on to me, or just come and talk to me at a school event.

*Ross Beaton*

### School Lunches - Now Cooked fresh on site every day, with Harrison Catering

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 junior children, the cost of a school lunch is still **£10 PER WEEK, £2 PER DAY**.

Please remember to send lunch money on Monday in an envelope marked with their name and class. If you wish to change their lunch arrangement, please inform the office.

**Parent Classes and Courses** - ask at the office for details

**Ladies Keep Fit** - Thursdays 9 - 10am

**Adult basic numeracy** classes available - please register your interest.

**Parents' Caring and Sharing class** - ask at the office for details.

**Vitality Half Marathon** Places are available for children to join the squad to run the last mile of the Vitality half marathon in Wembley. The children will run to the finish line which is inside Wembley stadium and receive a medal and t-shirt for their efforts! It's on the 20th March 2016 and costs £10. Registration forms can be found in the school office. See <http://www.northlondonhalf.com/> for more info.

### Dates for your Diary

#### December

Thursday 3rd 3:30pm - 7pm. See the Plans for the new school.

Tuesday 8th KS2 End-of-Term Concert. Parents invited in the afternoon

Tuesday 15th EY&KS1 End-of-term disco 3:15pm - 4:30pm

Thursday 17th KS2 End-of-term disco 3:30pm - 5:30pm

Friday 18th Last day of term.

#### January 2016

Monday 4th Staff INSET training

Tuesday 5th School reopens for pupils

### EARLY YEARS - Reception

In Reception we have started our 'Smart Talking Groups.' The children have learnt that to help us listen, we need to sit properly, look and think.



**Hockey club** is off to a flying start! The children are really into the game and have managed to pick up dribbling, passing and receiving skills very quickly. I look forward to the first competitive matches in 2016. We do need more girls to join the squad; hockey is played as a mixed sport at primary level, so if you are a year 5 or 6 girl and you are interested, please see Mr. Wilke.

**Netball** has had a more challenging start, but with the enthusiasm of children and staff we will make up for lost time!

**Year 4** have been learning about **electricity**, looking at how to make a complete circuit and experimenting to find out which materials are suitable for conducting electricity.

In **History** they have been looking at immigration in Britain in the 1950's and the experiences of people who journeyed on the **HMS Empire Windrush**.

*If anybody has first-hand experience of this and would like to speak to the children, it would be greatly appreciated.*



**Year 2 classes** performed a wonderful assembly to help us celebrate **Diwali**. All the pupils participated in the assembly and impressed everyone with their confident speaking, acting, singing and dancing. There was also a themed lunch prepared by Chef Lucia and her team to help the celebrations continue.



**Children in Year 3** learned a huge amount on their **Farm to Fork** visit to Tesco to learn about the origins and significance of **Fairtrade** products.



### Year 6 Boys Football League

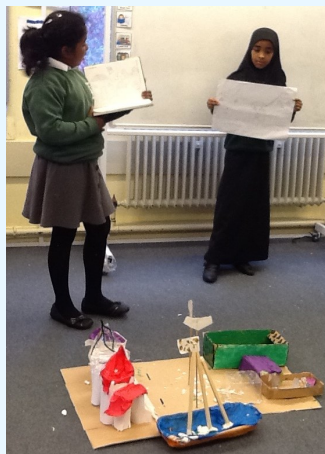
The boys continue to improve with each match. They are playing with strength and determination. We scored our first league goal against St. Joseph's last week and are looking forward to a cup tie against Goldsmith's on the 4th of December and a league match against Oakington on the 16th.



**The Year 5 classes** hosted an **Architectural Exhibition** for their parents and carers. The competition was to design and build a model of an Expedition Centre in the South Pole, based on their learning about Shackleton. The winners were announced at the exhibition.

Poland Class - Umama and Salma received first prize

Albania Class - Nancy, Avi and Taya were the lucky winners!



### Safety Awareness in Year 6 - preparing for High School

As part of our support to prepare Year 6 pupils to go to High School, the children participated in a safety awareness workshop.

The children explored how to **use the tube and bus safely**, what to do in the case of a **fire or accident** and how to **act responsibly** when **using the internet**.

They participated enthusiastically and learned lots.



### 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 with the title 'newsletter.'