



# ELSLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL

learning, sharing, achieving and respecting

December 2015

## NEWSLETTER

### Achievement Awards

**Headteacher's Message** It is such a privilege to be Headteacher at Elsley. The children continue to impress me with their manners and how much progress they are making, supported by our dedicated staff. The atmosphere in school is really positive and children are learning at every opportunity.

As we finish this term we wish farewell to Miss Esguerra who has gained a promotion and a new job, starting in January. Miss Esguerra has made a valuable contribution to Elsley, teaching many classes as well as leading Music and French. We wish her every success. We are delighted to welcome Mr Sterling as a new Year 3 teacher before the end of term. Mr Sterling has already been working with the team and especially children in Year 3 Argentina, so we are confident of a smooth continuation in January.

I'd like to take this opportunity of wishing all pupils, parents, staff and governors, warmest Seasons Greetings. Have a Happy Christmas holiday and New Year and I look forward to welcoming you back, full of energy, in 2016.

**Attendance /Punctuality** School starts at **8.55am** for juniors and **9am** for infants.. If your child is unwell and not attending, please inform the school office either by email [absence@elsley.brent.sch.uk](mailto:absence@elsley.brent.sch.uk) or from 8.30am by telephone, on 0208 902 8003.

**After-school Tuition at Elsley, every Wednesday, run by KEW Tuition Restarts January 13th.** Registration by telephone on 07742 345 880 or at Wembley Primary on Monday Jan 11th 5:30pm - 6:30pm or at Preston Park on Saturday 9th 10:30am - 12 noon.

**Anti-Bullying** This theme of this year's Anti-Bullying Week was 'Make a Noise about Bullying' and Mrs Cassiano and Mrs Hamilton ensured that Elsley children did exactly that.

In class and during a workshop the children were taught about the effects bullying has on self-esteem. Each class explored an area of bullying which led to the pupils showcasing their learning in a special assembly dedicated to the topic.

We were thankful that a member of Brent's Inclusion Team came in to watch the assembly. As a school we have adopted the 'Anti Bullying Alliance's' definition for Bullying which is *the repetitive, intentional hurting of one person or group by another person or group, where the relationship involves an imbalance of power.* The children are becoming familiar with what this means.



**Nursery and Reception Class Applications**  
The deadline for Nursery and Reception applications is Friday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2016

**Nursery 2016 applications**  
Applications are now being accepted for morning or afternoon Nursery places starting in September 2015. If your child was born between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2012 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2013 please collect an application form from the school office.

**Reception 2016 applications**  
Applications for Reception places starting September 2015 are now being accepted online by Brent School Admissions. If your child was born between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2011 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2012, you must apply for a Reception place online. There is no automatic transfer from Nursery to Reception. Visit: [www.eadmissions.org.uk](http://www.eadmissions.org.uk) to register and complete the online form. You must apply before the closing date. Please ask if you need any help with this process.

Congratulations to all the children who were awarded certificates in the 'I Can Be Anything I Want To Be' Achievement Assemblies Well done to all of them - and well done to all the children for a great Autumn Term.

Congratulations to our partners and neighbours at TfL's Depot at Stonebridge, for the award of TfL's HSE Environment Award for our joint project on improving the footpath by Wembley Brook.



### Expansion of Elsley - Update

There was a public showing of the new buildings plans on December 3rd. Local residents as well as parents took the opportunity to see what the new school will look like. The application for planning permission is due to be made in early January 2016. Once planning approval is granted, building would commence in the Summer 2016.

### Elsley Uniform - WINTER CLOTHES and BOOTS.

During the winter months please make sure your child has a warm coat, hat, gloves and scarf. They are expected to wear their coat during break times. Children may wear outside boots to come to school but these are not permitted inside the building and children should bring regular school shoes to change into.

### Grateful thanks to...

**Tesco, Brent Park.** We are once again grateful to Tesco's Community Champion, **Neelam Patel**, for supporting us in several ways: Our Year 3 pupils benefited from a Farm To Fork visit where the children learned about Fair Trade which enriched their curriculum. The Elsley Eagles Cheerleading team were given the opportunity to raise money for their outfits by packing bags at Tesco's. Tesco have also donated some gifts towards the end-of-term discos.

**School Money** Parents can now make payments online for school lunches at [www.schoolmoney.co.uk](http://www.schoolmoney.co.uk) using the password already sent to you. Please ensure you have updated the office with your current mobile number and email address. Thank you.

### Dates for your Diary

#### January 2015

Monday 4th	INSET Day
Tuesday 5th	Spring Term Starts for Pupils
Wed 13th	KEW Tuition restarts after school (registration required)
Friday 15th	Deadline for Nursery and Reception applications

#### February

Wed 10th	Parent workshop: 'Managing fighting and aggression'
Mon 15th - Fri 19th	Spring Half Term Break

#### March

Thursday 24th	Last Day of Term (Summer Term starts April 11th)
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**Slash Sugar** Brent is urging people to reduce the amount of sugar they eat and drink. We have high childhood and adult obesity, and some children's oral health is poor.

The healthiest drinks for children are water or milk. Please avoid high-sugar drinks - even at home. More healthy living information can be found at:

[www.brent.gov.uk/healthyliving](http://www.brent.gov.uk/healthyliving)



## SPORTS at ELSLEY

### Football

The boys finished this half of the season against Ark Academy. We played our best football yet! We had the most amount of shots on goal of any match this season and we dominated the first half. However, it wasn't to be for us this time. The boys continue to play with determination and spirit and most importantly - they never give up.



**Hockey & Netball clubs** will resume in January; you will receive more information closer to the time. More girls are needed to join hockey club from Years 5 & 6, so please see Mr Wilke if you are interested.

**Year 6 students** worked with a poet, Thomas Owoo, during Anti-bullying week.

The children were given opportunities to think about how bullying affects people involved (bully, victim, bystander). The children also wrote their own anti-bullying poems. The highlight of the workshop was when they performed a song while Mr Owoo performed his own rap.



## Parent Consultation - proposed changes to Admission arrangements for 2017-2018:

Parents are invited to look on the Brent website regarding the Consultation on admission arrangements for 2017/18.

A consultation process allows opportunities to raise any concerns about proposed admission arrangements. Consultees include parents of children between the ages of 2 and 18

### Consultations on changes to oversubscription criteria for Brent community primary schools 2017/18

The council, as the admission authority for Brent's community Primary schools, seek your views on changes to the oversubscription criteria to give priority to children:

- of staff
- who qualify for the pupil premium

The consultation will close on **Monday 4 January 2016**.

If you have any queries please contact the School Admissions Team on 020 8937 3110 or email [school.admissions@brent.gov.uk](mailto:school.admissions@brent.gov.uk)

## Parent Governors

We would like to thank **Haresh Hirani**, whose term of office as a Parent Governor has come to an end, for all his time and effort over the years that he has been part of the Governing Body. Haresh has been Chair of Governors and Chair of the Finance committee. During his term of office he has overseen the recruitment of the new Headteacher and the Governing Body's decision to go ahead with the school expansion.

**Following the recent elections, the new Parent Governor is:**

**Joycy Fernandes**

**Year 5 Mosaic Mentoring** The girls travelled to central London where the event was hosted at the offices of Norton Rose Fulbright Solicitors. The key note speaker was famous author Jenny Garrett who is a motivational speaker. Jenny worked very hard to achieve her dream to gain a degree and now speaks on radio and TV as well as events to inspire women.



Children from KS1 performed the Nativity Story

## Christmas Performances

It was a pleasure to see so many parents coming to support their children and watch the end-of-term Christmas performances. The children excelled themselves with their confident renditions, clear voices and musical talent.

As a community we share and celebrate together, respecting people of all faiths, or of none. We hope that the way Elsley children learn to share and have respect for each other can be a model for peace throughout the world. **Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!**



**Keeping Safe (Safeguarding)** Mrs Sarkar is in charge of Safeguarding. If any child or adult has any concerns they can speak to their own teacher or other trusted adult - or go directly to Mrs Sarkar.

## Classes for Parents/ Carers

- 'Improving English Conversation Classes' - details from the Office.
- **Keep Fit Ladies Only** Every Thursday 9:15am - 9:45am Just 50p
- **Supporting Behaviour** - in 2016 we will be running some workshops for parents to help you with behaviour. The first one is 'Managing fighting and aggression' on Wednesday February 10th

**Newsletter via email** If you would like the newsletter to be sent to you each month, 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.'