



ELSLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL

learning, sharing, achieving and respecting

September 2016

WELCOME to a new year of learning. Welcome to new children and parents joining Elsley. We are confident that your children will learn a huge amount and achieve many things whilst they are pupils at the school.

As we continue to expand the school, we are pleased to welcome talented new members of staff to our team, all of whom are dedicated to caring and supporting our children. Please see page 2 for profiles of these members of staff. **Congratulations to Miss Vaghela and Miss McDonnell** on completing their Induction Year of Teaching.

Over the summer, new classrooms were built for Year 1, the boundary fence was moved to give us more playing space and the builders have almost finished creating an all-weather, Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA).

We are delighted that the children have settled well, are engaged with their learning and the positive atmosphere and ethos of our school is clear to see.

Attendance /Punctuality Since September, all year groups from Reception to Year 6 have the same **start time of 8:55am**. The gates are open from 8.45am and we encourage children to be in their line early. 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 Uniform

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

Website Update

www.elsley.brent.sch.uk

This year we are endeavouring to make our website more helpful and easier for parents to navigate. We hope that this further improves our communication and keeps parents up to date with the latest events at the school as well as more resources to help support children at home.

On the home page, we now have a News Feed with upcoming events and reports on trips, visits, special occasions and sports events. Below that, is a list of the next 5 upcoming events linked from our new calendar page.

Under the 'About Elsley' tab on our home menu, we have our new calendar page which will give you a monthly overview of events ahead and an updated staff page which now features photos. As our team continues to expand with the school, we felt this would help parents recognise staff members around the school and know their responsibilities.

Under the 'About Elsley' tab, we have a new E-Safety page, complete with guidance for parents to download to help keep their children safe online.

In our new 'Parents' tab on the home menu, we now have updated news from Ms. Iqbal, our Family Support Worker and we have updated our parent workshops and courses page with the latest information.

More updates will be coming soon.

Please also follow us on Twitter by searching for @ElsleyPrimary. We hope you find our new website features helpful and we always appreciate your feedback. You can email parents@elsley.brent.sch.uk

Support for Secondary School Applications

If you have a child in Year 6, you need to apply for a secondary school place. **The deadline is 31 October 2016** To apply, you need an email address, then go online to: www.brent.gov.uk/admissions

If you would like support with the online application process, our Family Support Worker, Mrs Shaeen Iqbal, will be available for this on **Thursday 20 October, 9-10am or 2-3pm**. Please advise her or the office if you wish to attend.

We are also organising a High Schools information event for children and parents of Year 5 and Year 6. This will take place at Elsley on **Wednesday 12 October 2016 3.15-4.30pm**

NEWSLETTER

Follow us on **twitter** @ElsleyPrimary

WELCOME!

School Lunches

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

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 cost is still just **£2 PER DAY**.

A new recent addition is Fruity Friday where children can taste a variety of different fruits at the end of their meal.

Parent Classes and Courses -

Details from Mrs Iqbal, Family Support Worker, or from the office .

English for beginners - Tuesdays 9 - 11am, crèche available

Story Sacks: Mondays and Tuesdays, 1 - 3pm, crèche available

This course involves you making Story Sacks which will help your children enjoy stories and develop their language skills

Ladies Keep Fit - Thursdays 9 - 10am

Strengthening Families, new course helping you reduce conflict, begins Tuesday November 8th, 9 - 12:15pm, crèche available..

Daniel's Den - parent and toddler group, Tuesdays 9- 10.30am.

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 2012 and August 31st 2013, 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.**

Please tell your friends and relatives. Ask at the office for details.

KEW Tuition was established in 2007.

We tutor children of all abilities in English, Science and Maths.

Educating children and young people to aim high and achieve.



Your child will be taught in small nurturing groups to maximise their learning.

Sessions are located here in the Study Centre at Elsley every Wednesday after school

from 3:30pm. For more information or to register your child please call us on **07742345880** or email info@kewtuition.co.uk

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.

Keeping children safe is everyone's responsibility

If you think that a child or young person in Brent is at risk of harm, neglect or other abuse you must:

Call 999 if they are in immediate danger

If you are worried that they have already been abused or may be harmed in the future call **The Brent Customer Services Contact Centre 0208 937 4300**

Then select the option for Children and Families Services. To raise your concern by email please contact customer.services@brent.gov.uk

Dates for your Diary

October

Wednesday 12th

Thursday 20th

Monday 24th

Monday 31st

Black History Month

3:15-4:30pm High Schools' Showcasing Event

9-10am, 2-3pm Support for Secondary Applications

School closed for Half Term

Staff INSET training (closed for children)

November

Tuesday 1st

Start of Autumn II term for children



Mr Fraser is our new specialist computing teacher. He began his career as a class teacher 8 years ago, working in Years 2 and 4 with four years leading his current passion of Computing at his schools. Prior to this, he studied his other passion of Drama at university and worked as a drama teacher.

Mr Fraser is really excited to be joining Elsley and have the opportunity to specialise his computing skills. He is looking forward to bringing in new and innovative technologies into the school, make computing more accessible to the children and inspire the next Steve Jobs or Mark Zuckerberg!

Outside of school, Mr Fraser likes to spend time with his family and friends, watching films and writing plays.



Mr Owoo is our new behaviour specialist and spoken word teacher. After graduating with a psychology degree from Coventry university, he has taken on roles such as Citizenship Coordinator, Inclusion Manager and SEBD Advisory Teacher for Brent Council. He has trained schools nationwide in behaviour management and has provided individual and group interventions for pupils who find it hard in school. He is also a multi-slam winning performance poet and rapper who loves table tennis and Liverpool FC.



Miss Vasdev is a new teacher in Year 1. She has previous experience in other schools, both Early Years and in KS 1. Prior to this, she also worked in many other environments, including nurseries and summer camps.

In her spare time, Miss Vasdev enjoys going to the gym and taking part in Zumba classes. She looks forward to working at Elsley and getting to know both parents and other members of staff!



Mrs Salama is a new teacher in Year 1.

She has been teaching for six years, with experience across different year groups. She started out as an Interior Designer and, having a passion for helping children, decided to train as a teacher. She enjoys working with children of all ages. Mrs Salama also has a strong passion for music and Art, having previously led Art and DT. In her spare time she enjoys oil painting and visiting art galleries and museums. She feels very happy to have joined Elsley Primary School.



New Members of Staff



Miss Williams is a new teacher in Reception. She decided to follow her passion for teaching children after completing a psychology degree at university and various placements in schools across London.

She is dedicated to making learning exciting and interactive for all children; creating fearless individuals who are eager to try new things.

Outside of school, Miss Williams enjoys travelling. She is very excited to start her career here at Elsley Primary School.



Mrs Obaydi is a new teacher in Year 4.

She started working with children in 2005 whilst also supporting youth programmes and mentoring in high schools. Mrs Obaydi is passionate about improving children's learning in an enjoyable and engaging manner.

Mrs Obaydi enjoys travelling, adventures and exciting experiences. She is also passionate about yoga and art and looks forward to sharing these interests with the Elsley community.



Miss Holmes is a new teacher in Year 3. After completing her degree at the University of Birmingham, Miss Holmes spent several years working in the retail industry as a clothing buyer for companies such as F&F. She decided to move into education following a charity volunteering project to Nicaragua in 2015. During this trip she led educational groups with children of a variety of ages and discovered a real passion for teaching after watching the children learn and succeed.

Miss Holmes subsequently worked as a Teaching Assistant ranges before deciding to train as a primary teacher. She is looking forward to seeing the children grow in confidence and become better learners as the year goes on.

Outside of school Miss Holmes enjoys spending time with family and friends, travelling, baking and reading.



Ms Mulligan is a new teacher in Year 4.

She comes to teaching from a background in mathematics. Whilst at university working on communicating maths projects which inspired her to begin working with children.

Outside school, Ms Mulligan enjoys baking, running and travelling to new places.

Having grown up in Wembley she is delighted to become part of the Elsley community.



Mr Al-Daghir is a new teaching assistant in Year 4. He studied civil engineering and worked in the construction industry. However, his passion for teaching encouraged him to change his career to work in school and support children. Mr Al-Daghir believes that all children deserve a bright and secure future.

In his spare time, Mr Al-Daghir likes to meet his family members and friends; chatting and eating together. He also enjoys reading scientific articles, going for walks and swimming.



Ms Paton is a new teaching assistant in KS2. She's originally from London, with Scottish heritage and spent some time living in Singapore as a child where she volunteered at a Speech and Drama school.

She studied English Literature at St Mary's University, undertaking voluntary work placements in schools. She has two teenage children and will be celebrating 18 years with her husband this year. In her spare time she enjoys gardening, sewing and reading. She is really looking forward to getting to know everyone at Elsley Primary School.



Miss Ojo is a new teaching assistant in Year 3. She grew up in Ireland and studied at Dublin City University before transferring to Middlesex University, where she is training to be a teacher.

She hopes to gain new experiences working with pupils and staff at Elsley. Miss Ojo has felt very welcome at Elsley by the children and staff, and she hopes to give back as much as they have already given her.

In her free time, Miss Ojo enjoys travelling, reading, discovering different types of music, and cooking.



Mrs Mahmood is a new teaching assistant in Year 1. She started her career as a volunteer at Elsley Primary School and completed her NVQ Level 2 in Supporting and Teaching in Schools last year. She is now pleased to be a permanent member of staff.

Mrs Mahmood is extremely passionate about working with children and providing them with strong foundations in key communication skills.

In her spare time, she is extremely creative! She is a henna artist and loves to paint canvasses.

Newsletter via email

If you would like the newsletter to be sent to you, in colour, via email, send a