



ELSLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL

learning, sharing, achieving and respecting

December 2019

NEWSLETTER

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December has been packed full of amazing events and initiatives! This newsletter captures some of the highlights. Christmas has been celebrated with a traditional Nativity performed by Year 1, there was a tasty Christmas lunch, Santa's Grotto and the famous Elsley discos. For the first time, we also opened our doors to the local community for our winter warmer and were delighted to share and offer hospitality to local residents, a pre-nursery, and residents from a local care home.

We were able to teach the children about the democratic process with our **mock election** - without being political. Read more on this page.

I'd like to take this opportunity of wishing all of you seasons greetings, and Merry Christmas to those who celebrate. See you in 2020!

Raphael Moss, Headteacher

School Performance Data At the end of last week, the government published data about primary schools performance in 2019. Our combined KS2 for Reading, Writing and Maths was our **highest ever** and means we were in line with national and averages. Out of 70 or so primary schools in Brent, for progress in Writing, Elsley was 12th highest, for progress in Reading, Elsley was 10th highest and for progress in maths, Elsley was the 4th highest!

Although this is only looking at the tested subjects, this is excellent recognition of the quality and standard of our education. Congratulations to all!

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 new daily price is just **£2.30 PER DAY**.

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.



CHRISTMAS AT ELSLEY



We have had a fantastic array of Christmas events this year across the school.



Huge thanks go to our PSA lead by Mrs Hersi and Mrs Butt who organised two Winter Discos for the children. Thanks also go to Elsley staff who volunteered to run stalls and worked in the grotto. The discos raised over £2830 which is more than double on last year's profits. The PSA will spend the profits on resources for the school.

We also held Christmas jumper day with everyone coming in wearing something festive and donating £1 to the charity, Save the Children. We raised over £400.



Chef Lucia and her fantastic Harrison kitchen staff cooked up a delicious Christmas lunch with all the trimmings. This was thoroughly enjoyed by children and staff.

Children enjoyed their class Christmas parties during the last week to celebrate their hard work during the year. Parents and children enjoyed Year 1 performing their Nativity assembly and Reception performing their Christmas show. Well done to everyone involved in the seasonal celebrations.



ELSLEY MOCK ELECTION



In line with national events this month, Year 6 launched a mock election. After explaining the process in an assembly, Ms Burrell introduced

the Year 6 leaders of the four Elsley parties - Tomorrow, Progress, Vision and Transform. Children and adults in school had to register to vote and receive their polling card.

We then had a couple of days of campaigning as parties frantically tried to secure votes across the school. On the Friday after the real election, a polling station opened in the studio and children and staff cast their votes

on their ballot papers. The winning party was announced on the following Monday with the Vision party winning the

election. Congratulations to party leader, Miamiee and her Vision team. Children were very impressed with their policies. This was a great opportunity to get children involved in politics and have a better understand of how democracy works.



January

Dates for your Diary

6th - Staff training Day. School closed to pupils.

7th - First day back for pupils

February

17th - Half Term



YEAR 6 LONDON EYE EXPERIENCE

Year 6 had an incredible trip to the South Bank in Central London. Linked with their book, *The London Eye Mystery*, they got to ride on the Eye and view it from the river on a boat cruise. Huge thanks to The London Eye for an unforgettable experience.



WINTER WARMER SUCCESS

Thank you to everyone who attended our Neighbourhood Winter Warmer. We had a really impressive turn out as we welcomed neighbours,

local community groups, nurseries and care home residents to Elsley for a morning of tea, coffee, and a mince pie, followed by a tour of our Elsley Farm and the school. Huge thanks go to Ms Codner for organising the event.



INVITATION TO THE MAD HATTER'S TEA PARTY



During the last week, staff performed another surprise pantomime to all the children over two performances. After the last two successes of *Cinderella* and *Harry Potter*, this year's show was the imaginative world of *Alice in Wonderland*. Huge thanks goes to Mr Fraser who wrote and directed the show. Also everyone who helped backstage and starred on stage. People are already guessing what's lined up for next year...!



***** ONLINE SAFETY TOP TIP *****

> Over the holiday, limit your screen time on tablets and phones. You can set parental controls on most devices.

DOCTOR DOLITTLE

Reception and Years 1 to 3 enjoyed a new production by returning theatre company, Wizard Theatre. Their new show told the story of Doctor Dolittle whose talent was to talk to animals. We look forward to their return with a new show, next year.



YEAR 3 EXTENDED DAY



Year 3 had a rockin' time staying late after school for their Stone Age themed Extended Day. The children

made fruit bread, drew cave drawings and went on a mammoth hunt!



GOODBYE GOLDEN GUERNSEY GOATS



We were sad to have to say goodbye to our 3 Golden Guernsey goats as they returned to Nightingale Farm this month. We have loved

looking after them on the Elsley Farm. Keep an eye out in the Spring Term for new residents moving in...

SEASONAL SINGING



Our choir have had their busiest month so far, performing at a local care home, the London Designer Outlet and at our Brent

Music Service Winter Concerts along with Key Stage 2.



Newsletter via email

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