



Elworth CE Primary – News Bulletin

Week Ending: 29th September 2023

'Love God, Love Learning, Love One Another' Matt 22:37-39



Verse of the Week: Jer 29:11

'For I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. '

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have had a very challenging few weeks since I last wrote to you with many of the Elworth staff team struggling with the effects of COVID again. However, learning and enjoyment levels have been excellent and the children have begun their swimming lessons with Mrs Keeble, educational visits to Macc Forest and Safety Central, and the Y1 have had wonderful Forest school days with Mr Thorpe and Mr Pitt. It has been a very active and energetic few weeks.

Please can I ask parents who are accessing Early Birds and Night Owls provision to drop off and pick up through the visitor car park and not to use the staff car park. Also please watch your child carefully at drop off as there have been a number of reports where children have been playing close to the road. Since the summer holidays we have had a problem with litter on the playground. Please could you speak with your child/ children about caring for our environment.

The PTA events start again soon with Chocolate Bingo, followed by Quiz Nights and then the Christmas programme. Heather will be writing to you all soon about how you can help and support the PTA and get involved. My thanks to Jenny Acda for all her hard work and commitment being PTA treasurer last year- we will be looking to appoint new committee members and form a new team at this year's AGM.

Please could I ask you all to name tag all school uniform items as we have been inundated with lost property concerns. Nicola Ruck who organises our 'Love Elworth' project will be advertising lost property items for you to reclaim or re-own. We hope later in the term to do the Bring and Buy Christmas toy sale and also a Bring and Buy Bike Sale - all to make our Christmas as excellent and affordable as possible.

Next week we prepare for Harvest- as we do each year I will be asking you all to donate as much food and toiletries as you can to give to the wonderful Sandbach Food Bank. There is a massive growing need for items and I will communicate this with you next week. It's in times like these that every generous hearted person comes to the fore- I will say *thank you* in advance as I know the wonderful response we always get from the Elworth family.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend!

Yours Sincerely,

Mr Neil Garratt

Headteacher



Diary Dates

Tuesday	3rd October	SEND coffee morning ' St peters
Friday	6th October	Caterpillars class trip to Sandbach Library
Tuesday	10th October	Individual School Photographs
Friday	13th October	Ladybirds class trip to Sandbach Library
Tuesday	17th October	PTA chocolate bingo
Thursday	19th October	PTA Chocolate bingo
Friday	20th October	School finishes for half term
Monday	30th October	School opens
Tuesday	31st October	Y3 trip to Tatton

Office News & Reminders

SCHOOL DINNERS

Week commencing 2nd October will be the new summer **Menu Week 3**. You can find menu choices from Mellors on our website. **Please pay online via Arbor and can we kindly ask that accounts are cleared on a regular basis so balances don't build up.** The price for a school dinner is £2.30.

Anybody wishing to discuss their child's meal balance please contact the school office





Elworth CE Primary School – Term Dates 2023-24

HOLIDAY PERIOD	DATE OF CLOSING For Children	DATE OF OPENING For Children	INSET DAYS Children do <u>not</u> attend
		Wednesday 6 th Sept	Monday 4 th Sept Tuesday 5 th Sept
Autumn Half Term 2023	Friday 20 th October	Monday 30 th October	
Christmas 2023	Friday 22 nd Dec	Tuesday 9 th Jan	Monday 8 th January
Spring Half Term 2024	Friday 16 th Feb	Monday 26 th Feb	
Easter 2024	Thursday 28 th March	Monday 15 th April	
Summer Half Term 2024	Friday 24 th May	Tuesday 4 th June	
Summer 2024	Friday 19 th July		Monday 22 nd July & Tuesday 23 rd July

Bank Holidays: (School is closed to Staff and Children)

- Monday 25th December 2023
- Tuesday 26th December 2023
- Monday 1st January 2024
- Friday 29th March 2024
- Monday 1st April 2024
- Monday 6th May 2024
- Monday 27th May 2024
- Monday 26th August 2024



Phase News



This week the children in EYFS have really enjoyed starting our new topic 'The Naughty Bus'. We had our first storybox sessions, where we met the bus and talked about what might happen in the story. The children then did a super job designing their own bus and working together in a group to build a bus using the large construction blocks in the outdoor area. The children have also pretended to go on a journey on the bus and created a postcard for their journey, working hard on their name writing skills to sign their postcards. In our Maths lessons we have been learning to subitise to 3.

Ks1

The children in Year 2 have been busy writing their own stories based on a river journey. They have been using lots of super words to make their writing more interesting. They have also been looking how the season is changing and looking for signs of Autumn. In art the children have been printing with a variety of vegetables. Please note that homework is now available and the children should have their logins at the front of their reading records.

In Year 1, we have been reading a different version of our story 'Old Bear' and finding ways that the writer made their story exciting. In Maths, we have been comparing numbers, and numbers of objects, using the symbols < > and =. We have begun our new Science unit 'Everyday Materials', and the children have sorted, selected and hunted for materials in and around the school. We have also begun describing them by using words such as soft, bendy, rough and smooth. Thank you to all of you who came to the Phonics evening and those that have responded to the survey. The children have gone home with logins for Edshed (Spelling Shed and Maths Shed), as well as a login for Oxford Owl. Homework is now set and will be updated every Monday.

LOWER Ks2

On Monday, our Year 3 children took part in SingFest. Mrs Palethorpe, from Love Music Trust, spent the afternoon working with the Year 3 children where she taught them a range of songs which they thoroughly enjoyed learning.

The children in Robins are thoroughly enjoying their music lessons with Mr Birch which take place every Thursday afternoon. During these lessons, the children are learning how to play a brass instrument and later in the term the children will be given the opportunity to take their instrument home each week. Robins will continue with their music lessons until February half term. After February half term, Blackbirds will then start their music lessons with Mr Birch.



Our Year 4 children thoroughly enjoyed their visit to Macclesfield forest this week. The sun made an appearance and the children took part in a range of field work such as measuring the speed, width and depth of the river. The children behaved impeccably and were a real credit to the school.

At Elworth, we really value the importance of reading. Reading opens your mind and gets your mind working across different areas. Please support us by ensuring your child reads at home a least 3 times a week for 20-30 minutes at a time. Our Year 4 children also need to be practising their times tables, ideally daily. The expectation is that all Year 4 children know all their times tables up to 12 x 12 by the end of Year 4 and have a quick recall. There is a statutory Year 4 multiplication check towards the end of Year 4 which the government introduced a few years ago.

UPPER Ks2

Year 5 and 6 have had a super couple of weeks. We have been busy learning about the Viking and Anglo-Saxon invasions of Britain, and what life was like for people in Britain during that time. Our reading lessons have been teaching us all about Viking life and we have really enjoyed reading our class novel 'How to train your dragon'. In English, we have been planning our own Viking myth based on our English text 'Arthur and the Golden Rope'. We're looking forward to reading about some really scary monsters and some heroic protagonists.

We have busy organising our pupil responsibilities this week and we are looking forward to our UKS2 children leading the school in their chosen areas - playleaders, librarians, sports captains, prefects, E-safety champions, eco-warriors and Diversity champions are all ready to go and we can't wait to see their impact on life in school.

Just a reminder that English and Maths homework is set on a Monday to be completed by the following Monday. Reading at home, spellings and times tables are also a valuable part of your child's learning and need to be completed regularly.



PE TIMETABLE - Autumn Term 2023

	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Monday							
Tuesday							
Wednesday							
Thursday							
Friday	Fitness Friday - all pupils come in PE Kits						



PTA News

PTA Events

Good afternoon all,

We are delighted to announce our PTA events for this half term:

Event	When	Who
Dress Down Day for Chocolate Bingo	Friday 13 October	All children
Chocolate Bingo	Tuesday 17 October, 6:15-8pm Thursday 19 October, 6:15-8pm	All school children and their families
Quiz Night and AGM	Thursday 9 November, 7:30-9pm	Parents only

More details, including how to book your seats at Chocolate Bingo will be shared on Monday 2 October via a special PTA events email and on our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/elworthcepta>

How can you help?

The PTA is here to raise money by holding fun and exciting events for all our children to enjoy and in order to do this we need your help. If you can attend meetings to help with the organisation of events, spare half an hour of your time to lend a hand with running events or have links to companies that can provide us with raffle prizes we would be extremely grateful. Anything, no matter how big or small, is always gratefully received!

Don't forget to like our Facebook page to ensure you get the most up-to-date news and information!

PTA Committee Team Update

We wanted to let you know that our Treasurer, Jenny Acda, will be stepping down at the end of September. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Jenny for the incredible work she has done over the last year making our financial processes run more smoothly and her involvement in all events.

The role of Treasurer is an important part of the PTA Committee, if you feel that you could support our team in this role please reach out to a member of Committee (Heather Williams, Lucy Fitzgibbon, Jenny Acda and Emily Dalton) or email: ptaelworth@outlook.com to find out more about the role. We will be looking to elect a new individual at our Annual General Meeting (date to be confirmed).

This year are hoping to be able to expand our team with the addition of Parent Class Link roles. This will help us to make sure that every class and year group has the opportunity to put forward fundraising ideas and benefit from our activity. If you are interested in support as a Parent Class Link please speak to a member of the committee.

Your PTA







**With your support our activities
this year have raised:**

£2428
Summer
Fair

£407
Break
the Rules

£895
Easter
Chocolate
Bingo

£809
Valentine's
Disco

£531
Christmas
Cards, Mugs,
etc.

£865
October
Chocolate
Bingo

£1960
Christmas
Film Night
& Discos

Thank you

All National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

Top Tips for SETTING BOUNDARIES AROUND GAMING

If your child loves video games, then you'll probably be aware that how long they spend gaming – and what they're actually playing – can occasionally become a source of concern or conflict. The UK's trade body for interactive entertainment, UKIE, has recently launched a campaign to promote safer and more responsible gaming among young people – with parents and carers helping by setting sensible and fair boundaries. Our guide has tips on key areas where you could agree some healthy ground rules for your child's gaming activity.

PROMOTE SAFER GAME CHOICES

Deciding which online games are OK – and which should be avoided – is tricky. Some titles allow children to cooperate or compete with strangers, which creates potential risks. Watching your child play online for a while could provide more insight into a particular game, while the parental controls on most consoles allow you to limit who can chat to your child or send them friend requests. Remind your child of the hazards around strangers online when you discuss this boundary with them.

ENCOURAGE REGULAR BREAKS

Help your child understand the need to take regular breaks, playing in shorter bursts rather than marathon sessions. Bear in mind that some games (such as role-playing games) require time investment from the player, while others (online team games, for example) can't be stopped or paused at a moment's notice. A quick break every hour or so is good practice, and you could suggest some things to do in these breaks, such as having a drink of water or getting some fresh air.

AGREE SPENDING LIMITS

There's no doubt that gaming can be expensive, and younger players often don't realise how much money for digital items and subscriptions can add up to. Many young gamers love to buy new skins or upgrades for their character, so you could settle on a fixed amount that your child is allowed to spend on in-game items each week or month. This sort of boundary will not only help your child to manage their expectations but will also make you more aware of the price of these items.

DISCUSS AGE RATINGS

Children often ignore the age ratings on games – or are unaware they even exist. If you're happy with your child playing a particular game even though it's rated above their age, then establish that as a boundary: emphasise that you've made an exception, and talk about what age ratings mean and why they're important. You could add context to this boundary by browsing games' boxes together while shopping, discussing why some games might have earned certain age ratings.

FACTOR IN FRIENDS

If your child is a keen video gamer, the chances are that they'll have other gamers among their social circle. Go, when friends visit, do they instantly dash to their console or computer? You could put boundaries in place before their guests arrive by agreeing on a length of gaming time. Bear in mind, though, that they may try to extend this once they're together. Try coming up with activities or challenges for them during screen breaks – if they join in, they earn a little extra time on their game.

ENJOY GAMING TOGETHER

Setting time aside to play video games together can be an enjoyable bonding exercise. Understandably, some young gamers may be less enthusiastic about a parent or carer joining in, but it can be a productive way of encouraging them to share their hobby with you. Setting goals or tasks might be useful. If they love Minecraft, choose something to build together; if Fortnite's their favourite, ask to try out some of the fun game modes, like Prop Hunt, which don't require high skill levels.

TALK ABOUT EMOTIONS

Help your child to monitor their emotions as they play. Discuss what is (and isn't) an acceptable level of competitiveness to show while gaming. Are they allowed to trash talk other players, for example? Can they notice when they get angry if they lose? Do they think these emotions are healthy? Some games can provoke anger, but others can bring joy, humour and the thrill of overcoming a challenge. Try to steer your child towards games that tend to produce these more positive feelings.

BE PREPARED FOR TROLLS

A frequent problem when gaming online is other players who are deliberately troublesome. Make sure your child knows how to report and block someone who makes their experience a negative one. Between you, decide if or how they should deal with these online trolls. Talk about where your child's boundaries are in terms of what they think is acceptable: what behaviour by other users is merely frustrating, and what crosses the line to become upsetting or abusive.

Meet Our Expert

David Upchurch is a writer specialising in technology, video gaming, virtual reality and related. He has also written 19 guidebooks for children, covering games such as Fortnite, Apex Legends, Warframe, Roblox and Minecraft. With work published by the BBC, PC Gamer, Kotaku, Pocket Gamer and VICE, he has reviewed more than 50 games and products over the past year.



Source: <https://hepat.app/about/davidupchurch/>

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#WakeUpWednesday

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TRICK'S & TREAT'S

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