



A Small School with a BIG Heart

Ellingham C of E
Primary School

Autumn Term 2019
Newsletter 1



Welcome back to the new school year and especially to our new starters.

From this year our Creative Curriculum is split into year groups and will be as follows

Splash (EYFS)	Miraculously Made
Space Base (Y1/2)	Coming and Going
Earth Works (Y3/4)	Mountains and Poles
Timezone (Y5/6)	Water World

Well done to the children who brought back their holiday homework.

We are delighted with the enthusiastic start that all of our new pupils have made to this exciting, new school year. We want you to feel part of our school community, so please let us know how we can be of help.

Thank you for your support in sending your children smartly dressed in their uniforms and well prepared to learn.

A warm welcome to our new parents throughout the school. Please ask us if anything is unclear. Queries can be dealt with quickly by Kathy in the office, or an appointment can be made if you would like to see a teacher. We have an open door policy and are always happy to help.

All new parents will have been sent an invitation by text to sign up to PMX Parentmail. We urge you to do this as soon as possible. All newsletters and important texts are sent out via this method. We do not have access to your information, so you must remember to keep it up to date. Our Facebook page is used for reminders and links to our web site. If you have not already signed up for the closed group, please do so as soon as possible, Ellingham School PTA - FACES.

Please remember we start school at 8.55am; the door will lock and registers will close at 9.00am and the first lesson will start then. Please don't bring children before 8.30am.

We don't allow mobile phones in school. If your child needs to bring in their phone, to receive an important message, they must leave it in the school office. We are always happy to pass on messages and this would be a better option. Please don't allow the children to bring in Fitbits or other expensive items we cannot be held responsible for their safe keeping.



All money needs to be sent in to school on a Monday morning in a clearly marked envelope detailing what you are paying - please do not send in loose cash with a child who has just been told 'give it to Kathy', or cheques that have no indication of what they are paying! All cheques, unless advised otherwise, need to be payable to Northumberland County Council.

You are able to pay in school or over the phone with your credit or debit card. This facility is only available on a Tuesday.

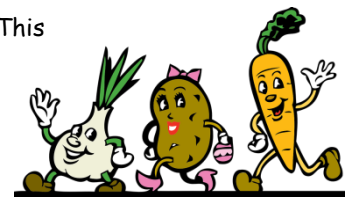
R - Y2 continue to have free school meals as part of the government initiative.

Lunch costs this term are £2.30 per day for Y3/4 and Early Years and, £2.60 per day for Y5 and 6 (this includes a piece of fruit at breaktime)

For Y3, Y4 and Early Years, the cost is £11.50 per week. £87.40 for the first half of the term, £78.20 for the second half and £165.60 for the whole term.

For Y5 and Y6, the cost is £13.00 per week. £98.80 for the first half of the term, £88.40 for the second half and £187.20 for the whole term.

Please pay milk money (YR - Y4), £14.30 per child, on Monday if you have not already done so. Milk remains free for all the children who are under 5 for the whole term and is available to all children who have school lunch, as an alternative to water.



Please have a PE kit in school. Always bring a coat. Don't forget your kit if you are swimming on Thursdays. Please stay away from school for 48 hours if you have been sick or have diarrhoea.



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Y3 and 4 are swimming this term. There will be a total of 14 swimming lessons this term at a cost of £4.00 per session. We are now subsidising swimming ourselves. We are very grateful to those parents who pay on a regular basis and would ask those parents that are struggling, to at least make a donation. No earrings are permitted for PE or swimming. Please make sure your child can take their earrings out themselves. If they have only just been pierced, please speak to Kathy if you have not already done so.

The Fairtrade healthy tuck shop is open on Thursday lunchtimes, so that snacks and drinks can be purchased to eat after swimming. Muesli bars cost 50p and fruit juice 50p. Giant cookies are £1.00 The Y5 and 6's will be responsible for running it. The tuck shop is open to the whole school.

For those children bringing a packed lunch from home please remember we have Healthy School status. Please try and make the lunch as healthy and varied as possible. No fried snacks, fizzy drinks or sweets will be allowed. Please get in touch if you are not sure what you can send.

WE ARE A NUT FREE SCHOOL and also have a child in Key Stage 2 with a severe egg allergy. If you are considering sending in a birthday cake, please speak to Kathy first.

This term Timezone will have PE on a Wednesday and Friday, Earthworks on a Monday with swimming on a Thursday. Spacebase on a Monday and Friday. It is a good idea to have a PE kit in school all the time to allow for spontaneous sessions.

Our After School club is still running on a Thursday until 4.30pm; please speak to Kathy for a booking form.

Our sports clubs have got off to a good start.



If you have signed your child up for any of the after school Sports clubs please remember there is a charge of £2.50 per session.

13 sessions of Badminton, (£32.50) **Spaces are still available for Y3,4,5 and 6**

7 sessions of Gymnastics, (£17.50) this club is now full. Each session can be paid individually or up front. Any sessions not paid for will be invoiced towards the end of the term.

Mrs William's 'Story Craft' club starts next Monday. Reception - Y3 have been sent home with details. There are still spaces.

Your child's access to all of our online resources, eg. School 360 and Purple Mash (R - Y6), is all done now by one username and password. This is usually username: first name . surname, passwords start with a capital letter and end in 1 or 1 and another digit.. Your child will be given a reminder card in the next couple of weeks.

Homework in upper Key Stage 2 - Years 5 and 6

Year 5 and 6 pupils have each been given a 'Student Planner'. This needs to be with pupils at home and school each day. Pupils will be expected to record their reading and homework in their planner. Parents are requested to check their child's planner, and **sign it weekly**. The planner should be signed and returned with their homework on a Tuesday. Written homework should be completed neatly, by the pupil, in either pencil or blue pen if they are using pen in school routinely.

Homework in lower Key Stage 2 Years 3 and 4

Homework will be set on a Wednesday and is due in on a Monday.

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