



Ellingham CE Primary School

Friday Flyer

28.11.25

Executive Headteacher's Update

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a heartbreakin week for us all.

We want to assure you that we are providing support to pupils during this difficult time.

Our heartfelt sympathies are with the Brown family and their friends, and we will continue to keep them all in our thoughts and prayers.

If you feel your child or children need any additional support, please let us know and we can access external resources, as needed.

Please keep a check on up-coming dates, as we have had to make some changes.

Thank you, as always, for your greatly appreciated support.

Warm regards,

Mrs Diane Lakey



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Attendance

Class	Weekly attendance	Annual attendance
Splash	100	95.8
Space Base	87.5	95.3
Earth Works	94.3	92.2
Time Zone	91.1	90.8

Did you know? Each pupil has 175 non-school days a year to spend however they like. The table below shows the significant impact of absence over time.

Days of school add up to lost learning						
Days in school	190	186	180	175	171	170
Percentage attendance	100%	98%	95%	92%	90%	<90%
	Excellent	Excellent	Good	Caution	Cause for concern	Serious concern

Absence Procedures If your child is ill, please keep them at home until they are well enough to return to school. Please notify us by phone call or email before 9.15am if your child is to be absent, and continue to inform us on a daily basis if they continue to be ill.

We have a continual focus on attendance and punctuality and this is of the utmost importance in your child's education. Please remember that our school gate closes at 8.55am as this is when our lessons begin. Anyone arriving after this time is classed as late and will miss valuable learning opportunities which take place immediately after registration, such as phonics.

What are the risks of missing a day of school?

'Being in school is important to your child's achievement, wellbeing and wider development. Pupils with the highest attendance throughout their time in school gain the best GCSE results. The higher a pupil's attendance, the more they are likely to learn, and the better they are likely to perform in exams and formal assessments.' The Education Hub - Department for Education



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Splash Class

This week, our fabulous clay workshop was a big treat, making christmas decorations with Keith from Ravn Clay. We listened carefully and enjoyed the clay experience. We have been learning about halves and quarters with playdough, sharing out our dough between 2 people, then 4. This week, we spent as much time as possible outdoors at Wellies&Wonder and enjoyed collecting mud and sticks to build miniature houses with Space Base. We enjoyed our hot chocolate and biscuits in the wild wind.





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Space Base Class

Space Base have been working hard once again this week! We have been finishing our explanation texts on seed dispersal and the children have done amazingly well. It's wonderful to see how much their writing is improving each day.

In History, we took our learning outdoors and explored which materials might be suitable for building a house like the Anglo-Saxons. The children have really enjoyed discovering more about Anglo-Saxon life.

On Wednesday, we had a special treat—making Christmas decorations out of clay! The children created fantastic pieces, including gingerbread men and baubles, and it has certainly added to the excitement for Christmas.





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Key Stage Two

We have had a very busy week, from blindfolded challenges in our Commando Joe's PE session, being creative in our clay workshop creating beautiful Christmas decorations with RAVN Clay and becoming experts of Science and DT with Mrs Dodds.





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Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 10th December 13:30	Nativity Play
Wednesday 10th December 17:00	Nativity Play
Friday 12th December	KS2 Christmas in the Forest
Monday 15th December	KS1 - Nursery Christmas visit
Tuesday 16th December	Professor Chris Done Astrophysicist visit KS2
Wednesday 17th December	Christmas lunch
Thursday 18th December	PTA Christmas Disco - Ellingham Village Hall 4.30pm-6.00pm
Friday 19th December	Christmas Jumper Day

Please remember, Breakfast club is available from 8.15am if anyone needs to drop off a child earlier. Please book in advance if possible. £2.50 includes cereal or toast.

If anyone who brings a packed lunch would like Christmas lunch on Wednesday 17th, please let Kathy know a.s.a.p. The cost is £2.50.

Please make sure that packed lunches from home are healthy. No fried food, fizzy drinks or sweets please.

Always remember we are a nut free school.



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Stars of the week

Names:

Splash: Freddie for working hard in the Nativity.

Space Base: Evelyn for always following the class rules and trying her hardest in every lesson.

Earth Works: Louie for great understanding and excellent explanations in Science.

Time Zone: Ella for great work with her times tables and working with fractions.

Don't stop yet, keep on scrolling. More information below!



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Christmas
DISCO WITH FOOD FOR THE
CHILDREN, GAMES AND
DANCING

DECEMBER 18TH
On Sale Now!

4.30PM-6.00PM
ELLINGHAM
VILLAGE HALL

Tickets: £3.00 in advance, £3.50 at
door
Contact: Kathy



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At The National College, we provide everything educators and trusted adults need to strengthen, manage and evidence their professional, and personal development, in one place, on one platform. This guide focuses on one of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.thenationalcollege.co.uk for further information and resources.

Tips for Supporting Children in DEALING WITH GRIEF

It's important that trusted adults feel able to help children and young people cope with grief – particularly at the moment, when we are a nation mourning the loss of a public figure who was treasured by so many. Children are seeing bereavement and sadness being featured heavily in the national news and in their favourite online spaces, and hearing it being talked about extensively among families and in the community. How can we help them in processing this healthily?



- 1 UNDERSTAND WHAT GRIEF IS**

Grief is emotional distress which is a normal response to the death of someone we care about, like or admired. It may feel overwhelming – especially for young people – and is often accompanied by feelings of shock, disbelief, anger or fear. These emotions may also mean that sleep, eating and our relationships with others could be affected.
- 2 MEET THE CHILD 'WHERE THEY ARE'**

This could be a child's first experience of grief and loss – or something they may have already encountered it several times. Make sure that any conversations you have with them, and the support that you give, are led by their experiences and their understanding of death – and in the context of their religious or community beliefs.
- 3 EXPLAIN CLEARLY WHAT DEATH IS**

It may often feel uncomfortable, but it's healthier to actually use the words 'death' and 'bereavement'. Abstract explanations of death can frequently create even more confusion – particularly for younger children, who are still trying to grasp this complex (and possibly unfamiliar) concept.
- 4 BE PREPARED FOR QUESTIONS**

On subjects such as this – especially when it involves a person who's well known to them – children and young people often have lots of questions, all at once. Some of these questions may not relate to the issue will occur to them weeks after the event. Be ready to answer their questions as honestly as you can, using language that's appropriate for their age.
- 5 FIND WAYS TO REMEMBER THEM**

It can help to talk to about the person who's died, even if that individual was a well-known public figure or the child's own life, such as a significant public figure, for instance. You and your child can discuss what that person meant to you, celebrate the things they achieved or go to a place where they can be remembered.
- 6 ENCOURAGE COPING STRATEGIES**

You can help a child or young person to identify what their usual positive ways of coping are when they have overwhelming feelings. For example, do they find that talking with someone, drawing, going for a walk or listening to music help when they're feeling upset? These same activities could form an important part of the grieving process.
- 7 REACH OUT FOR SUPPORT**

If a child or young person is struggling with grief and loss, and it's impacting on their everyday life, there are lots of expert organisations that you could reach out to for further help. Samaritans provides a listening ear for anyone in emotional distress; The Mix offers support for young people under 25; and Winston's Wish deals specifically with helping young people who are grieving.

SAMARITANS:
116 123

WWW.THEMIX.ORG.UK/GET-SUPPORT
0808 808 4994

WINSTON'S WISH:
08088 020 021

Meet Our Expert
Anna Bateman is passionate about placing prevention at the heart of every school, integrating mental wellbeing within the curriculum, school culture and systems. She is also a member of the advisory group for the Department for Education, advising them on their mental health green paper.



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