Ellingham CE Primary School

Friday Flyer

22.10.2026

Executive Headteacher's Update

We have made it to the end of a very busy half term at Ellingham and what a lot we have achieved! The children have learnt so much, made fantastic progress and we have already come such a long way. We are incredibly proud of them all and everything they have accomplished.

A huge thank you must also go to all our staff, both teaching and support, who make Ellingham such a special place to learn. We really do have a formidable team who work tirelessly to provide the very best opportunities and experiences for our children. Their dedication, commitment and care make such a difference and it is wonderful to see the impact of this in school every day.

Thank you to all our families for supporting the changes to the start of the school day. We really appreciate your patience and cooperation as we continue to make improvements to our daily routines. A reminder that, after half term, all children should be dropped off at the front door, with the exception of W&W. Thank you for helping us to ensure that the start of the day runs so smoothly.

We have also received a lovely thank you from Alnwick Food Bank following our recent collection. It was a fantastic effort from such a small school and we are incredibly proud of the generosity shown by our families. Your donations will make a real difference to people in our local community, so thank you to everyone who contributed.

Looking ahead to the next half term, we will be introducing our new menu choices. We have already trialled some of the changes and these have been successful, so we are looking forward to giving the children more opportunities to choose their meals. We will keep you updated as we move forward with the new arrangements.

Finally, we have some exciting reading news! All pupils in Years 5 and 6 have been gifted a copy of *Impossible Creatures* by Katherine Rundell as a special early Christmas present from Queen Camilla. What a wonderful gift to receive! We hope the children enjoy getting lost in this magical adventure and that it inspires plenty of reading over the coming weeks.

We finished the week with our new wonderful Hot Chocolate treat and our final Celebration Assembly of the half term, recognising and celebrating the children who have gone above and beyond. It was a lovely way to bring a very busy and successful half term to a close!

I hope all our families enjoy a well-deserved half-term break. Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We look forward to welcoming everyone back for another busy and exciting half term!

Mr Shaw

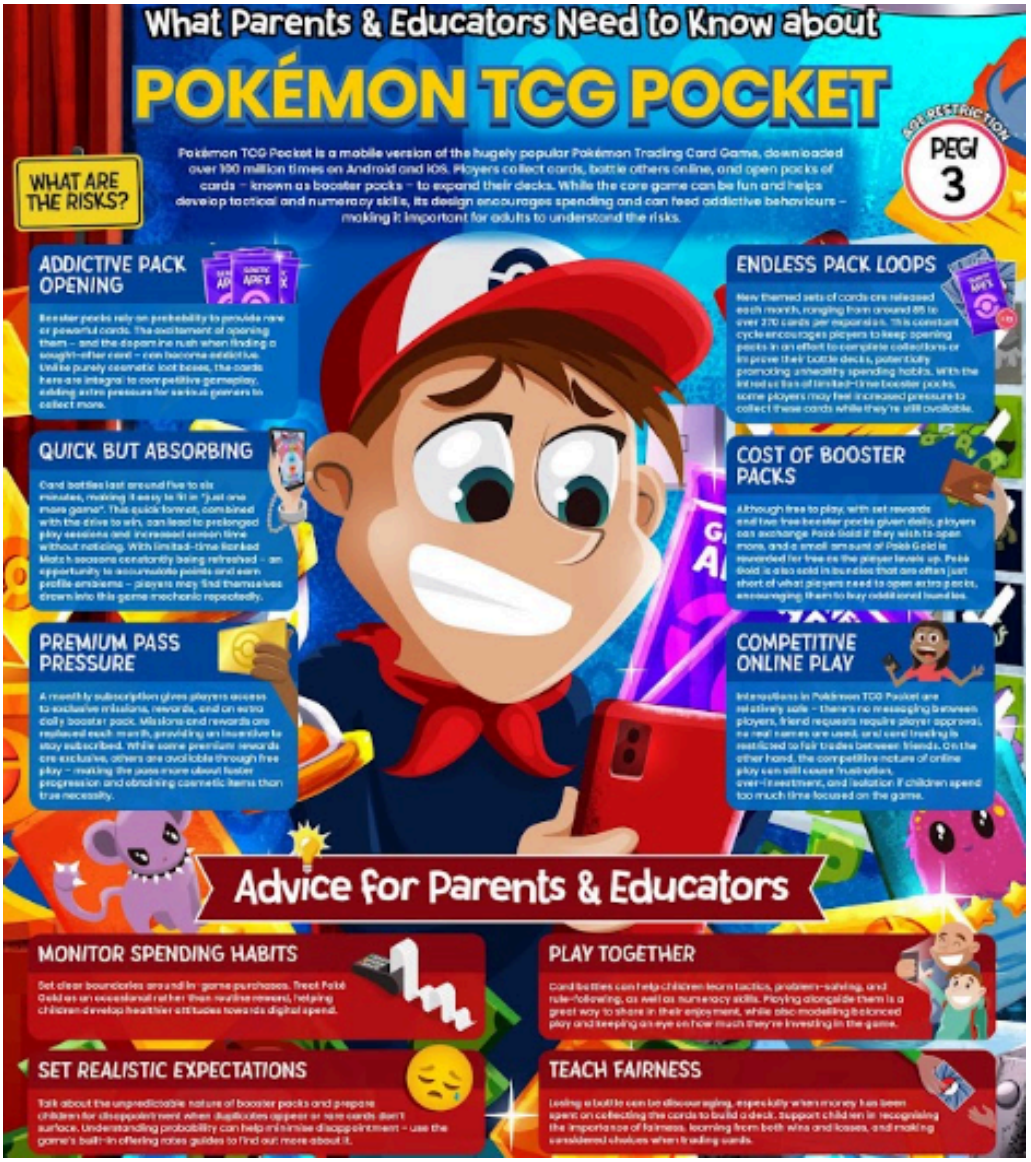
After half term I am planning to be in school on Thursday and Friday.

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Safeguarding

Ellingham Primary School is committed to keeping all children safe. Our staff regularly participate in safeguarding training and are fully aware of how to keep our pupils safe and what signs to look out which underpin safeguarding. It is our paramount priority to keep all children healthy and safe. Remember our Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSL) in school are **Mrs Senior and Mr Shaw.** Our pupils know they can share any concerns and we have robust policies and procedures in place.



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Attendance

As parents and carers we want to share our attendance figures because it is you who can make the big difference. Our children are entitled to a full and balanced education and at Ellingham we feel we provide one of the best experiences possible.

Current Whole School attendance is 97.1% Our target for Whole School Attendance is 98%

Class	Weekly attendance	Annual attendance
Splash	**96.4**	**99.2**
Space Base	**94.4**	**96.1**
Earth Works	**100**	**97.3**
Time Zone	**100**	**98.9**

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 and Space Base

What a fantastic first term we have had in Space Base and Splash! It has been wonderful to see all the children playing together and working so hard. Every child has shown a genuine eagerness to learn, which is clear in the amazing work they have produced.

This week, Splash enjoyed a new continuous provision area where they made pumpkin soup. We have also been focusing on numbers 1–5, practicing how to write them and matching the numbers with the correct quantity of objects.

Space Base have also been working hard this week. The children have been practicing addition and subtraction using various resources to support their learning. In PE, Space Base had the opportunity to design their own obstacle courses for Splash. They created fantastic courses that involved weaving in and out of cones and throwing beanbags into buckets. It was wonderful to see the children working together and coming up with creative games to play.

Both Splash and Space Base have worked exceptionally hard this half-term, and they deserve a well-earned rest!







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Earth Zone

A Fantastic Start! 🚀 ⭐

What a fantastic start to the new school year! We have had a brilliant first half term, and it has been wonderful to see the children return after the summer break with such positive, enthusiastic attitudes. Their eagerness to learn, explore, and dive into new challenges has filled our classrooms with great energy every single day. We are so proud of how quickly they have settled back in and can't wait to see all the wonderful things they achieve next term!





🎨 Colour, Paint, Action!

Art class was full of color as we painted last week's batik creations using vibrant acrylics and fun sponge techniques.

Harvest Celebrations! 🍂 ✨

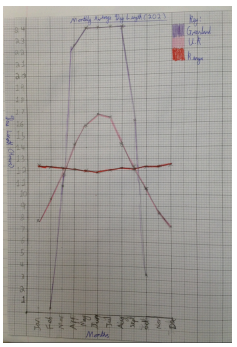
A huge well done to all of our pupils, who were absolutely amazing during our Harvest Festival celebrations! Their performances and thoughtful contributions made it a truly special occasion for our whole school community.

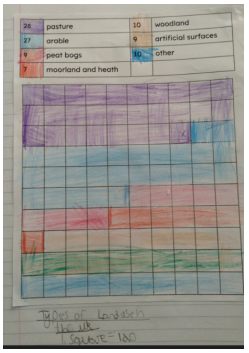
Rugby Fun & Community Collaboration! 🏉

Our Year 3/4 children had a fantastic time participating in the Touch Rugby Festival in Alnwick alongside pupils from Embleton School! It was a brilliant day of teamwork, skill-building, and sportsmanship.

📊 Charting Success: Data Handling in Action!

It's been a fantastic week of hands-on data handling across Key Stage 2! In Science, Years 3 and 4 created bar graphs for their sound volume experiments, while Years 5 and 6 built comparative line graphs tracking annual daylight hours across the UK, Kenya, and Greenland. Meanwhile, in Geography, pupils explored UK land use using various visual techniques—from Year 3's 100-square diagrams to Year 4's bar charts and Years 5 and 6's detailed pie charts—finishing the week with engaging discussions on which graph formats communicated information most effectively!





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🏆 Action-Packed Sports Week!

What an extraordinary week of sport across the school! Our Year 3 and 4 stars showed unbelievable energy and sporting spirit at the Tag Rugby Festival, while our older pupils stepped up as sports leaders—designing and running dynamic PE sessions for our younger children. Using our fantastic brand-new PE equipment, everyone pitched in to boost teamwork, sharpen communication, and master amazing new game skills. It's been an inspiring showcase of active learning, leadership, and pure fun!









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Dates for your Diary

Friday 23rd October	**TEACHER TRAINING DAY**
Monday 26th October - 30th October	HALF TERM
Monday 2nd November	**TEACHER TRAINING DAY**
Friday 13th November	Pudsey Bear Day! Wear your spots and bring a donation
Thursday 19th November	Skipping Festival for KS2
Thursday 3rd December	PTA Canapes and Candles Evening at Carnabys More information closer to the time
Weds 9th December	Morning Nativity performance for Grandparents and younger siblings
Thursday 10th December	Evening Nativity performance for parents
Tuesday 15th December	Whole school N-Y6 to Alnwick Playhouse
Thursday 17th December	Christmas Lunch / Christmas Jumper day
Thursday 17th December	PTA Christmas Disco at Ellingham Village Hall
Friday 18th December	**School closes for Christmas at 1pm**
Monday 4th January 2027	**Return to school**

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.

After School Club Fees and Nursery payments are now in your Parentmail accounts.
If you are paying these through your HMRC Tax Free Childcare account please let us have the code so that we can trace the payment

Please could your online accounts be brought up to date before the next half of term.

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☕ Hot Chocolate with the Headteacher!

Five star pupils enjoyed an extra special morning today, joining Mrs Senior for a delicious hot chocolate treat loaded with whipped cream, marshmallows, and plenty of sweet goodies. After earning their titles as "Star of the Week," these lucky children had their names drawn from a hat, making them the very first to kick off this wonderful tradition!

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ALNWICK PLAYHOUSE

Schools Go Free
AT ALNWICK PLAYHOUSE

We're excited to share a fantastic opportunity for your pupils and their families as part of Alnwick Playhouse's **Schools Go Free** initiative!

60 FREE TICKETS
for pupils and their parents to see

Gaby Gulliver's Travels
AT ALNWICK PLAYHOUSE



EVENT DETAILS

Gaby Gulliver's Travels – Alnwick Playhouse

PLEASE NOTE:
This offer is available for the **Saturday performance only.**

HOW TO CLAIM YOUR FREE TICKETS:

BOOK ONLINE:
Visit the event page and use the code **SGFGABY** when booking.

BOOK BY PHONE:
Contact Alnwick Playhouse directly on **01665 660550.**

There are 60 free tickets available, so we encourage families to book early to avoid missing out.

Help more families access and enjoy live theatre!

Thank you very much for your support.