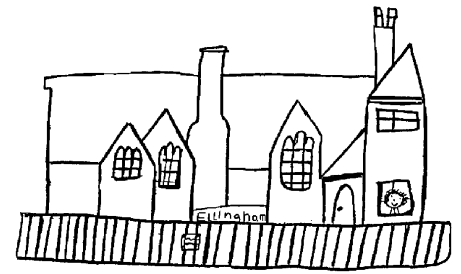


# Newsletter

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> September



Ellingham VC Primary School

## Maths Whizz, Spelling Challenge and Reading Challenge

Next week we will be handing out the Maths Whizz certificates in assembly for the years 2 to 6. Can we remind parents to encourage their children to use Maths Whizz on a regular basis. Year 1 children have only just been given their log in details and so will start to receive their certificates shortly.



Today in assembly the children were shown the badges which they can earn for the new Year 1 to 6 'Going for Gold' Spelling challenge. This has now started so please help your children to learn the spellings set for the week.

The Reception children will be completing the 'Reading Challenge'. If they read daily for two weeks they will earn a certificate. The first time they earn a certificate, they will also receive a Star badge for their efforts. Don't forget to complete child's reading record!



## Sparrows

This week we have started our topic 'The Sky at Night'.



We read 'Whatever Next' by Jull Murphy. The reception children wrote name rockets in literacy, while the year 1 children wrote a list of things to take to the moon.

In Maths, reception children looked at positional language and where Baby Bear was in relation to his rocket. Year 1 children played a space themed 'roll, add and colour' game, where they practised their addition skills.

We did P.E for the first time yesterday, which the children loved. Please could we ask that you encourage your children to get dressed and undressed independently as often as possible.

## Skylarks

What a great start to the year we have had! Year 2s are being super role models to our Year 1s and the Year 1s have settled in very well. We've looked at handwriting families, written all about ourselves and Y2s have been learning about adjectives and nouns. In maths we have been counting and learning Place Value using Numicon and Base 10 equipment.



Already the children have become engaged in learning about the Great Fire of London and can remember lots of historical facts. Well done Skylarks. Have a lovely weekend, Mrs Ward 😊 and Mrs Sayer 😊.

### Swifts

This week in Swifts we have been working on Place Value in Maths. In English we have been learning about The Willow Pattern story. We have written our own versions of the story and made our own Willow Pattern plates, which are on display in our classroom. We also had a very special visitor this week when Mr Elias brought his new baby, Henry, to meet us. We have all enjoyed working with Mrs Wells for the past two weeks, but we are looking forward to welcoming Mr Elias back on Monday.



### Swallows

All the children have settled in quickly and are working hard.



### Literacy

This week we have been writing a setting description of an Egyptian tomb, thinking particularly about using powerful vocabulary and joining sentences using prepositional phrases. We have also been recapping our grammar knowledge and realising that we need a refresher - hence the homework!

### Maths

We have been working on place value in 5 and 6 digit numbers, considering what each digit is worth, rounding to the nearest 10, 100, 1000, 10,000 and 1,000,000, and adding and subtracting one digit at a time.

We expect the children in Swallows to now be more responsible in looking after their belongings and ensuring that letters are taken home and returned on time. We therefore do not expect to issue 2<sup>nd</sup> copies of any letters.

### Wellies and Coats

Please can all children have in school a pair of wellies, clearly labelled with their name in.



As the weather is now getting wetter, the children will need wellies in order to play on the field.

Children should also have a coat in school at all times.

### Values for Life

Each half term we look at a value for life in assembly, with a focus theme each week. This half term we are looking at 'Creation' and the theme for next week is 'Carers of Creation'.

From next week we will be putting the value for life we are looking at with the following week's theme at the top of the newsletter.



### Batman Special Lunch - Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October

The children have brought home letters regarding a special Batman lunch on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October. Please return these to the school office by Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> September.



### Free School Meals

If you are in receipt of certain benefits, you may be entitled to free school meals. This is a separate scheme to the Universal Free School meals for reception and KS1 children. If you think you may qualify, please pop into the school office for a form to complete.

### Travelling Book Fair

We will be holding a book fair from Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September until Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October. In previous years, these have been a huge success. The books on offer are on sale at great prices and our school earns money to spend on books for the classrooms and library. We will be sending home more information soon and will advise you of the opening times in next week's newsletter.



### Contact Details Form

We are still awaiting a few of these to be returned. Please can you check these as soon as possible and return them with any changes. It is very important to keep us updated with any changes to your contact details. If you have no changes, please still return the form for our records. Thank you.

### Lost Property

Last term we ended up with a staggering amount of unclaimed property. All items were either not labelled at all or written in pen which had faded and could not be read. These items were either put in the school clothes bank or given to the PTA to sell. It is very important to label everything with your child's name and check if using a pen that it is still legible after each wash. We cannot return lost items to your children if they are not labelled.

We still have the following items which we have put in the foyer in reception. We will keep these for two weeks and then dispose of them. Please come in and have a look if you think the following items may belong to you;

- A pair of black plimsolls size 8
- A Clarks Bootleg right foot shoe, black, size 5
- A beige bear bobble hat with pom poms.
- A pink and black Slazenger draw string sports bag
- A pair of black Walkright plimsolls size 12
- A pair of black Clarks Doodles plimsolls size 12F
- A pair of black F&F boys shoes size 10
- A pair of black & pink trainers, size 11
- A left foot trainer, black, silver and pink, size 13
- A TU right foot trainer, white and blue, size 13
- A Clarks left foot black shoe size 12G
- A red cape with black spider web design
- A pair of Nike goalie gloves in white and grey
- One black and purple fingerless glove with a penguin flap
- A pink animal print fleece hat with ears



### Jeans for Genes Day - Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> Sept

Next Friday children are allowed to come into school wearing jeans in return for £1. This will go to the charity Jeans for Genes who support children with genetic disorders. Please note that full school uniform and school shoes need to be worn with their jeans.



### School Times

A reminder that our school day starts at 8.40am and ends at 3.15pm. Please can we ask that children who are allowed to come to school unaccompanied do not arrive before 8.30am.



### Menu Changes

We have been advised by Norse of the following menu changes.

Week 1 - Wednesday - there will be mixed vegetables instead of carrots & broccoli.

Week 2 - Wednesday - there will be Mixed vegetables instead of carrots and cabbage. Thursday - there will be carrots instead of broccoli.

Week 3 - Tuesday - there will be swede and sweetcorn instead of cauliflower and sweetcorn.



Please note that the menu is subject to change in exceptional circumstances.

### Dates for the Diary

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> September** - Jeans for Genes Day - Bring in £1 and wear your jeans

**Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September until Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October** - Travelling Book Fair

**Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October** - Batman Special Lunch - See letter sent home for details

**Monday 9<sup>th</sup> October** - Swallows trip to Norwich Castle - Egyptian Workshop

**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October** - Harvest Festival 2pm in school hall - More details to follow

**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October** - Last day of this half term

**Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October** - First day back at school

**Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> October & Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> November** - Parents Evenings - More details to follow

**Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November** - 9am Sharing assembly for all classes - More details to follow

**Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November** - Tempest Photography in for school photos - More details to follow

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December** - 2.30pm - Sparrows Christmas Performance

**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December** - 2.15pm - Skylarks Christmas Performance

**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December** - Last day of the autumn term

**Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January** - First day of the spring term

