



# ELLEL ST JOHN'S CE Primary School

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## Ellel Newsletter

LENTEN JOURNEY

**'Loving, living and learning in the light of Christ'**

*Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven. ~ Matthew 5:16*

**Issue No 11 - Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2023**

Dear parents. Welcome back after the half term holiday! I hope you all had time for rest, relaxation and some family time. It is lovely to be back in school with the children and to be looking forward to the upcoming half term. This half term is always an enjoyable one as we journey through Lent and do our best to think about others (something that the children are very good at) and look forward to Easter while enjoying the many signs of spring and better weather. There are still lots of illnesses and bugs about so please be vigilant in looking for signs in your children and only send them into school if they are well enough to be here. You should have received a notification about Parents Evening on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> March via Parent App. We look forward to welcoming you into school for this. If you require an alternative date or a longer meeting, please contact your child's class teacher to arrange this. Have a lovely weekend! Mrs FitzGerald

### ADDITIONAL BANK HOLIDAY: 8 May 2023

As you are probably aware, the Government has announced a one-off bank holiday on **Monday 8 May 2023** to mark the coronation of His Majesty King Charles III. Schools are not expected to remain open on this day, and it will be treated as any normal bank holiday. For those children in Oak Class, SATs week was scheduled to begin on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> with the last test on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup>. Schools have been advised to push the tests back and they will now run from Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> – Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May. It is essential that Y6 children are in school during this period.

### Attendance

As a school, we are working hard to improve overall attendance and punctuality to ensure that every child's attendance at school is as good as it possibly can be.

**National Attendance Target = 96%**

**Ellel Attendance:**

**W/B 30<sup>th</sup> Jan – 94%; W/B 6<sup>th</sup> Feb – 93%**

**Class Attendance:**

W/B 30 <sup>th</sup> Jan	W/B 6 <sup>th</sup> Feb
Acorns 95%	Acorns 91%
Beech 90%	Beech 99%
Holly 90%	Holly 93%
Hazel 97%	Hazel 97%
Willow 97%	Willow 92%
Sycamore 96%	Sycamore 92%
Oak 91%	Oak 92%

Last half term, Beech Class had the best attendance overall and will receive a 'Fun Friday Treat' today.

### St. John's Hospice Fun Run

As you know, all the children took part in a fun run to raise money for St. John's Hospice on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> February.

The children really embraced the opportunity and ran brilliantly, challenging themselves to complete as many laps of the running track as possible.

We would like to thank you for your kind and generous donations. We now know the final total raised: **£412!**

Thank you so much for your generosity!



### Driveway Access

A polite reminder that vehicles must not use the driveway **between 8.45 and 9.15 and 2.45 and 3.15** for everyone's safety. Thank you for your support and understanding.

### NEU Strike

A reminder that school will be open to all children next Tuesday (28<sup>th</sup>). We will let you know about any potential impact of the further strike days (Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March) nearer the time.

Participating staff will not be picketing at school on Tuesday as they are attending the Northwest rally in Manchester, in solidarity with regional members.

A leaflet for parents from the NEU explaining the reasoning behind the strike action will be shared with you via Parent App next week.

### REMINDER

#### School of the Week – Free Football Tickets!

Ellel St John's has been nominated to be Lancaster City FC's School of the Week. All parents, staff and children get free tickets for the game this Saturday - 25<sup>th</sup> February. Don't miss out!



### Willow Class Celebration Assembly

A date for your diaries...

The Willow Class Celebration Assembly will take place on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March at **2.15pm**. Parents of Willow Class pupils are invited to watch. We will also present any awards and certificates that children from across school have achieved. Please send these into school from Monday 20<sup>th</sup> March.

### FORTHCOMING DATES

March	
Thurs 2 <sup>nd</sup>	World Book Day
Fri 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Worship Council visit Methodist Church for World Day of Prayer service – 2pm
Tues 7 <sup>th</sup>	Lancashire Library Service Bus to visit school and workshops for KS2 Parents Evening
Mon 13 <sup>th</sup>	Full Governor's Meeting – 4pm Y4 Residential Meeting for parents – 5.30pm
Fri 17 <sup>th</sup>	Comic Relief – more info to follow
Wed 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Y4 Music Festival – 6.30 drop-off for a 7pm start. More info to follow
Fri 24 <sup>th</sup>	Willow Celebration Assembly – 2.15pm
Tues 28 <sup>th</sup>	Y2 Residential Meeting for parents – 5pm
Fri 31 <sup>st</sup>	Easter Church Service – parents welcome. School closes for Easter